



Mayank Dhungana/Index

Sophomore first baseman Matt Herrick hits a ground ball to third base against Maryville University last Friday. Later in the game, he hit a three-run walk-off homerun to give the Bulldogs a 7-5 win. It was Herrick's first homerun of the season. Truman then beat Lincoln on Tuesday for its second straight win, the first time that has happened since early in the 2007 season.

JONES | Outfielder leads team in most hitting categories, errorless in the field

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team with 172 at-bats, while hitting .297. Last season he kept up the production offensively by hitting .291 again with a team-high of 11 doubles.

In addition to leading the team in batting average this season, Jones also leads the team in doubles (6), RBIs (22), total bases (42), slugging percentage (.462), on-base percentage (.394) and is second on the team lead with two home runs. Jones also leads the team by hitting .400 with runners on base.

"I call him clutch," sophomore first baseman Matt Herrick said. "He's the guy I would say I want in clutch situations. He seems to pull through in those situations."

Although there never was any

doubt that Jones could hit, his defensive play has helped mold him into an all-around player. So far this season, Jones has yet to make an error in 40 attempts. He also added an outfield assist earlier this season. In fact, Jones never has had trouble making the adjustment from behind the plate to the outfield. During Jones' career, he has made only three errors.

"I call him clutch. He's the guy I would say I want in clutch situations."

Matt Herrick
Sophomore first baseman

"That's a pretty tough transition for a guy who's used to squatting behind the plate," Jones' high school coach Dennis Knoop said. "But I think that the upside there is you are involved in the game so much as a catcher that it transfers to the outfield. You are always going to be in the game — know what's go-

ing on, where the ball's got to go. The thought process is there. ... He's the kind of kid you want to have in your program. He did everything you asked of him. He was a hard worker."

As Truman tries to build a winning program under Davis, Jones continues to do his part to make sure the future of Bulldog baseball is bright. He said he hopes the team can break their streak of 27 straight losing seasons. And before he graduates, he hopes to help get the Bulldogs to the MIAA Tournament, a place the 'Dogs have never been in the eight-year history of the tournament.

"It's been tough because we haven't won many games since I've been here," Jones said. "It seems like my first couple years we really weren't expected to win a lot of games, so changing that attitude where we are expected to win games will help a lot."

MEN | Bulldogs win 7-2 on Tuesday, only lose two close singles matches

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Rusk's No. 6 singles match was left unfinished because of limited court time.

Freshman Eric McCollough was involved in two of the closest matches: a 9-8 loss in doubles and a 4-6, 6-4, 10-4 win at No. 4 singles. In doubles, McCollough said he and Rusk lost the momentum late in the match, which led to the loss. The opposite occurred in the singles match.

"Second set I played a little more consistently, and I didn't go for as many winners, and I ended up winning that set," McCollough said. "In the tiebreaker I won a few points really early, and I ended up winning it fairly easily."

In the Washburn match, the injury to Rothfusz did not make a difference in the outcome. The clos-

est match was an 8-5 loss at No. 3 doubles and Truman was down a set in each of the four unfinished matches.

Kendall said Washburn is one of the three best teams in the conference, along with Northwest Missouri State University and Southwest Baptist University, which the 'Dogs lost to 8-1 on March 24.

"Probably in a dual match, [Washburn is] the toughest," McCollough said. "But there's been better teams at tournaments, but one-on-one matches, pretty sure they're the toughest one."

Truman won three games or less

in three of the five finished matches. They have not defeated Washburn since 2001.

After the Washburn loss, Boswell said it was nice to get the victory against Missouri Valley four days later.

"Washburn is a really tough team — we knew what we were getting into."

Colin Boswell
Sophomore

"I think [the win yesterday] gave us a little bit of confidence," Boswell said. "Washburn is a really tough team — we knew what we were getting into."

The 'Dogs play tomorrow at home against Grand Valley State University (Mich.) before traveling to the University of Missouri-St. Louis on Sunday for a dual match.

BASEBALL | Herrick hits walk off blast on Friday

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reached on an error, and the second reached by a walk. But Garwood settled down to strike out the next two batters. Garwood then hit the next three batters, allowing two runners to cross the plate. With the winning run at the plate, the next batter grounded out to third base, ending the game.

Both Truman and Lincoln finished with seven hits and a combined seven errors. Sophomore center fielder Kenny Swanson was 2-for-4 and drove in two runs.

Sophomore pitcher Logan Frame picked up the victory. He threw two innings of relief and allowed just one hit.

The Bulldogs found themselves in a familiar situation in their last at-bat Friday. But this time around sophomore first baseman Matt Herrick made sure the Bulldogs had a happy ending.

Herrick drilled a 1-2 fastball with two outs in the bottom of the ninth that barely made it over the left field fence for a three-run homer, securing a 7-5 come-from-behind walk-off victory against Maryville University on Friday afternoon.

It was the Bulldogs' first walk-off home run since Matt Over went deep in a game against Fort Hays State in 2007.

"The main thing is I was just trying to put something in play to get those two runs in," Herrick said.

Until Friday, the Bulldogs had been unable to come up with late game heroics. The 'Dogs have lost in their opponents' final at-bat four times this season. They also have had the tying or winning run at the plate in the three previous games before Friday and failed to push them across in each game.

"We've had a bunch of games this year where we've had [walkoffs] against us," junior outfielder Keaton Jones said. "[Friday's win is] good because it helps our morale and confidence."

Maryville put the Bulldogs behind early when the Saints scored three runs in the second off Bulldog freshman starting pitcher Seth Hunninghake.

Truman tied the score in the bottom of the inning with a two-run triple by freshman catcher Pete Jurich, followed by an RBI single by sophomore outfielder Jeff Danielson.

With the score tied at five in the top of the ninth, Davis brought in Garwood to pitch. It was Garwood's first pitching appearance at the collegiate level. He allowed two hits in the inning, and was close to getting out unscathed, until a throwing error by senior third baseman Eric Mathews allowed a run to score. Herrick's walkoff in the bottom of the ninth took Garwood off the hook and gave him his first career victory.

Maryville out-hit Truman 14-9 for the game, and the Bulldogs committed two errors.

The Bulldogs rotated in and out all game, using a season-high 20 players. Davis said that was his plan from the beginning — he wanted most of the team to see playing time.

The Bulldogs return to MIAA play this weekend as the No. 19 University of Nebraska-Omaha Mavericks visit Kirksville for the first time as an MIAA team. The forecast of bad weather Sunday forced movement of the series from its original schedule. The teams will play two seven-inning games beginning at 1 p.m. Friday, followed by two seven-inning games at noon Saturday.

Game Notes:

The baseball team has found a new pitcher. Sophomore third baseman Drew Garwood picked up the victory in Friday's 7-5 win against Maryville University (Mo.). Head coach Dan Davis said Garwood approached him a few weeks ago to ask if he was going to pitch this season.

"I threw him in the bullpen, and he threw pretty hard and has a good curveball," Davis said. "The other day we brought him in and he was probably 86 to 89 with a good curveball. As he gets more experience I think he'll be pretty good."

Davis said Garwood did not pitch during junior college last season, but did pitch some this summer. He said he expects to continue to put Garwood in the pitcher position more this season.

WOMEN | Win against Missouri Valley comes after weekend split with Washburn and Emporia State

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handedly. Even in the closest doubles match, an 8-4 win at No. 1, Truman once had a 7-2 lead. Walther dropped just three games in her No. 2 singles match even though she said she did not play her best.

"I felt pretty confident the whole time," Walther said. "I didn't play that great the second set — I still felt in control, but I wasn't playing as well."

The wins ended a three-match losing streak for No. 1 senior Lindsay Blair, and it also extended sophomore Kelsey Kuykendall's win streak to 10 and freshman Ellen Russell's win streak to eight.

The win against Missouri Valley came on the heels of a split of two dual matches last weekend. On Friday, the Bulldogs defeated Emporia State University 5-4, and Saturday they were defeated by Washburn University 6-0. Both matches were played in Topeka, Kan.

Against Emporia, the 'Dogs won just one doubles match, but came back to win four of six singles matches to take the victory. The 5-4 win equaled the score of the same dual meet last year.

"I think it was a really big win because last year was the first year we have beaten them in a long time, and I think it was a real confidence booster for us to do it again this year," No. 6 singles Kuykendall said.

For the most part, the score was closer in the matches Truman lost compared to the matches they won. They lost both of the match-deciding tiebreakers in No. 1 doubles and No. 5 singles, while No. 2 Walther and Kuykendall did not drop a game in either of their singles matches.

"I thought that we may have taken

them a little lightly, and that's what made the score close," Kendall said. "I felt we should have won that match by a bigger margin."

If the 'Dogs gained any momentum from the ESU meet, it did not carry over into Saturday. Washburn showed why Kendall said they are one of the top two teams, along with Northwest Missouri State University in the conference, in a dominating performance.

The Ichabods made quick work of the 'Dogs in a match that was shortened because of limited indoor court time. Washburn won No. 2 and No. 3 doubles

by only one break, but its No. 1 doubles duo took control in each of their matches. They won 8-3 in doubles, and each dropped just one game in their singles matches. The losses were the worst this season for Blair and Walther. Truman's top two players.

The loss against Washburn was the Bulldogs' first dual-meet loss this season.

"I think the way our schedule is set up we play a lot of the easier matches first, and then when we get to the harder matches later we kind of get psyched out sometimes because we know that they are hard teams," Kuykendall said.

Next up for the Bulldogs is a home match tomorrow at 3:30 p.m. against Grand Valley State University (Mich.). On Saturday, the 'Dogs play Fort Hays State University at 9:30 a.m.

The next weekend, Truman will face off against Northwest Missouri — a team that could prove to be better than Washburn.

"Now that we know what we're up against, we can go for it and actually win," Kuykendall said.

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Don McCoy

I am Don McCoy; I am running for reelection to the Adair County Ambulance District (ACAD) Board of Directors, *Because I Care*. I care about the quality of emergency services ACAD provides Adair County communities and their residents. I care about the ACAD staff who provide high quality emergency medical care and transport for sick and injured persons in Adair County. I care also that we carefully exercise fiscal responsibility and that we use our available resources prudently and effectively. For more than fifteen years I have dedicated my life to helping ACAD develop into a state-of-the-art service with a highly trained professional staff. I am proud to say that I served as one of the original ACAD board members. While the District has made significant accomplishments, we cannot stand still. As new lifesaving technology becomes available we must review and decide if the cost will effectively contribute to our mission. Similarly, our educational programs must continue to grow to train new emergency medical personnel to meet the needs of the communities of Adair County and their residents. *Because I Care*, I would appreciate your vote on April 7th.

Adair County Ambulance District Director

Paid for by the Candidate: Don McCoy