



SPORTS



Blowout Loss

Bearcats retain Hickory Stick with 49-0 win

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Club sports face many challenges

Many students choose club sports for flexibility, fun

BY ARRON HUSTEAD
Staff Reporter

A couple of hours a week, 32 weeks a year, they are Truman's version of the weekend warriors.

They are club sports athletes. There are 20 club sports teams at Truman in which hundreds of students are taking part. Club sports range from swing dancing to rock climbing.

Club sports typically are more laid back than varsity sports, allowing students flexibility with the amount of time they commit. Club sports average a couple of practices per week and teams are more understanding of players' other commitments.

Junior Kim Abts has been involved with the women's ultimate team for three years and currently serves as the club's treasurer. Abts said she enjoys the relaxed nature of club sports in comparison to varsity sports.

"With club sports, you're choosing to do it instead of being required to show up to

so many practices," she said. "You do it because you want to get better at it. It's more of a choice."

Challenges of club sports

Club sport athletes have to make sacrifices that varsity athletes don't have to worry about. For instance, finding funding to pay for entry fees and travel expenses can pose a challenge.

Senior Anna Schweig has been a member of Bullets Rugby for three years and plays while also serving as the team's head coach. She said the team does several fundraisers in attempt to meet some of the costs. Some of the Bullets fundraisers include a spaghetti dinner, team newsletters and rucker chugger which involves pledging donations for the team to chug milk.

"We keep our dues really low," Schweig said. "We just do a ton of fundraising so everybody doesn't have to pay a ton of money. [The Funds Allotment Council] doesn't give us hardly anything anymore."

Fundraisers only can do so much for the team. Schweig said players raised about \$225 from its recent spaghetti

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Junior Paul Edgerley (shown with ball) is one of many students campus-wide who play club sports. The rugby team has had to deal with challenges securing a field in the past, but the new synthetic football field should eliminate that problem.

Mayank Dhungana/Index



Senior middle blocker Allie Cherven goes up for a kill against SBU last night. The Bulldogs went undefeated in three matches at KPS.

Mayank Dhungana/Index

Volleyball sweeps SBU

Team loses Keck to injury but 'Dogs record third straight victory at KPS

BY BRENT FOSTER
Staff Reporter

The volleyball team might have suffered a huge loss in a victory Wednesday night.

Senior right side hitter Melissa Keck left the second set of Truman's 3-0 sweep of Southwest Baptist University with a right knee injury.

Head coach Jason Skoch said Keck injured the knee last week and aggravated it again during the match Wednesday.

"What I think it is, but I'll wait until I get it confirmed, is not good," Skoch said. "She's a senior, and she's going to have to decide. She's going to see the doctor tomorrow."

If the Bulldogs lose Keck for a significant amount of time, it could be a blow to the team. Keck, an All-American, is one of two Bulldogs hitting above .300 this season. She is also second on the team in kills per set and tied for second in total kills.

Without Keck most of the match,

the Bulldogs (12-4, 3-1 MIAA) once again rode their defense to victory against the Bearcats. SBU hit just .092 for the match, including a .188 hitting percentage in the first set. Senior libero Whitney Boehler recorded 14 digs and senior outside hitter Dana Hanselmann had a match-high 15 digs.

Senior middle blocker Allie Cherven had 10 kills and a .526 hitting percentage.

Truman scored the first 11 points of the first set and cruised to a 25-9 victory. SBU bounced back in the second set, sending it to extra hits before the Bulldogs put the set away 26-24. Truman carried the momentum to the third set finishing off the match 25-21.

"What went well was the focus in game one," Skoch said. "... SBU came back. We tried a few people. Those people did some good things and some bad things. Those bad things accumulated and allowed SBU to stay in the game."

The victory moved the Bulldogs into second place in the MIAA behind Emporia State University, who defeated the University of Central Missouri on Wednesday in a battle of

first-place MIAA teams.

Facing the possibility of their first three-match losing streak since 2005 and playing against the team that knocked them out of the NCAA Tournament last season, the Bulldogs knew a team effort was in order last weekend against Washburn University.

Senior outside hitter Eli Medina paced the Bulldogs with 13 kills, and five players recorded at least 15 digs as the No. 11 Bulldogs upset No. 3 Washburn 3-2 Friday to break a two-match losing skid.

"Before the Washburn match, our right sides as a whole were playing very poorly," Skoch said. "... I've been very tough on the right sides, and all the right sides that played this weekend carried their weight for the team."

Truman won despite being out-hit and committing a season-high 32 attack errors.

After the two teams exchanged victories in the first two sets, Washburn won the third set to put Truman in a hole. The Bulldogs didn't panic and used a 15-7 run in the fourth set to tie the score. Five different Bulldogs recorded kills to lead Truman to a 15-

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Women stay undefeated

Team ranked No. 4, 7-0 for first time under Mike Cannon

BY JOE BELL
Staff Reporter

Seven games into the season and the women's soccer team still is perfect.

Last week the Bulldogs put another two wins in the books as they shut out Emporia State University, 1-0, on Saturday. On Thursday the Bulldogs trumped Washburn University, 2-1.

"[It was] a good weekend," head coach Mike Cannon said. "Two wins on the road are always important. Regardless of who you play, it's harder to play on the road. The Washburn game was a real big win and Emporia, we had to make sure we're taking care of business on the second game too."

After the wins, Truman is 7-0 overall and 3-0 in the MIAA. They are ranked No. 4 in the nation.

The game against Emporia State was very close the whole way. Junior forward Isabel Gaeta broke a 0-0 tie in the second half with her first goal of the season.

During the 68th minute of the game, on an assist from junior defender Theresa Bauler, Gaeta took a shot and it found the back of the net.

"It felt great," Gaeta said. "It was a good time, especially because we were tied the entire game. So far this season, we've scored in the first half, so I was just happy someone was able to get a goal [in the second half]."

The Bulldogs had many unfinished opportunities, as they outshot Emporia by a wide margin in both halves. The Bulldogs shot nine times in the first half, and they shot another eight times in the second half, yet they scored only once.

The defense — though, was playing in a shut down fashion again as Emporia was limited to five shots the entire game, four in the first half and only one in the second. The backline kept the Emporia offense from attacking the Truman goal, and goalkeeper junior Denise Childress had to make only one save. This game marked Childress' fourth shutout this season.

During the game against Washburn, it was junior midfielder Katie Reuck who struck first. Then she struck again. Her second strike would prove to



Freshman midfielder Megan Buri dribbles past an Emporia State defender during last Thursday's game.

Photo Submitted

be enough for the Bulldogs to secure a 2-1 victory against the Lady Blues.

Reuck scored a goal off an assist from senior midfielder Katie Buning in the 13th minute of the game. Washburn returned the favor a little more than 11 minutes later to even the score. Reuck dealt the

finishing blow to Washburn as she came through with her team-leading fourth goal of the season and her second goal of the game in the 30th minute.

The second half became a defensive scramble. The Bulldogs were forced to defend

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Defense paves way for 'Dogs' perfect start

I never was a big fan of chemistry. All that mixing of chemicals and heating over a Bunsen burner never seemed too appealing to a guy with somewhat questionable hand-eye coordination like myself.

Still, I always was decent at balancing chemical equations. You know, like $2H_2 + O_2 = 2H_2O$.

Thus, after careful research, I developed an equation for head coach Mike Cannon's women's soccer teams: Mike Cannon soccer = good defense + wins.

Seven games into the season, the women are plugging away at Cannon's time-tested equation. The Bulldogs have shut out four opponents, surrendered three goals all season and boast a perfect 7-0 record, which includes wins against two ranked teams.

"We like to be good de-

fensively," Cannon said. "If you don't get scored on, you don't lose. The worst you can do is tie."

OK, so it's not rocket science, but this theory has allowed Cannon to amass a 206-72-25 record in his 16 seasons at Truman and win seven MIAA Coach of the Year awards.

During the last nine seasons, in which Cannon and the Bulldogs have won eight MIAA titles, the most goals

Truman allowed per game was 0.91 in 2005. Four times in the past nine seasons the Bulldogs limited opponents to an average of less than a half goal per contest.

"They play just a really good, simple game of soccer," said Don Klosterman, head coach at rival University of Nebraska-Omaha, whose

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COMMENTARY



Blake Toppmeyer