Tennis falls to Nebraska Kearney

Women lose 6-1, men fall 5-2 during home meet

BY BRENT FOSTER
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The men’s and women’s tennis teams fell behind early in their match against the University of Nebraska-Kearney and never recovered.

Both teams dropped their duals to Nebraska yesterday. The men lost 6-1, and the women lost 5-2.

The final two matches on both sides were called off because of darkness because the lights at the Truman tennis courts did not work.

The men and women each lost all three doubles matches to fall into the early 3-0 hole.

The early deficit was nearly an early lead for the men. All three doubles teams dropped their matches 8-6.

The women’s doubles matches were not as close. Junior Amy Ochs and sophomore Ellen Russell lost their match 8-3. No. 2 doubles play was won 8-4 by junior Katrina Myers and junior Kiley Kuykendall.

Both teams bounced back after losing the doubles games with victories in singles.

No. 2 singles, Ochs dropped the first set but came back to win the second set and the first set to pull out the victory.

Junior Peter Bracha won the first set but the second set was called off due to darkness.

The men’s singles matches were won by Nebraska Kearney. Junior Kyle Schlotz defeated junior Jeff Schlotz 6-3, 6-1. Senior Kyle Schlotz defeated junior Steve Schlotz 6-1, 6-0.

The women’s singles matches were won by Truman State.

Junior Amy Ochs defeated senior Claire Bryan 7-5, 6-1. She also defeated freshman Maggi Schutte 8-4, 6-2.

Ochs said she fell behind in the first set because she lacked consistency, and this caused her shots to be “all over the place.”

Senior Katie Myers added that “all over the place” is not what many players want to see from a doubles team.

Junior Claire Bryan won her match 8-4, 6-1. She also won the second set.

Junior Katie Myers and sophomore Ellen Russell lost their match 8-3.

The women’s doubles matches were won by Truman State.

Junior Amy Ochs and sophomore Ellen Russell lost their match 8-5 at No. 1. At No. 2, sophomore Dagny Velez and junior Katrina Myers lost 8-3, and freshman Maggi Schutte and junior Kirsty Sampson lost 8-1.

Junior Katie Myers won the first set and second set of her singles matches against Nebraska Kearney.

Saturday’s doubles matches were won by Truman State.

Junior Amy Ochs and senior Katie Myers won their doubles match 8-2.

Junior Amy Ochs defeated senior Claire Bryan 7-5, 6-1. She also defeated freshman Maggi Schutte 8-4, 6-2.

On the men’s side, senior Kyle Schlotz was the only winner. He defeated Rodrigo Duncan 6-0, 4-6, 10-3.

This was senior No. 1 Peter Bracha’s first match of the season. He defeated Nebraska Kearney on Feb. 25-26.

He said he lost the match because of his lack of consistency, and he didn’t think the long layoff would affect his performance.

Bracha’s team won the match 5-4, 5-7.

This was the first match for the Bulldogs since both the men and women competed at the Principia College Invitational on Feb. 25-26.

Ochs said she thought the long layoff between meets and the inability to practice outside affected her.

Before the match, head coach Pete Kendall said he didn’t think the long layoff would affect his team’s performance.

He said the team’s matches would be competitive because of how Kearney had played against the other teams in the MIAA.

The women return to action Saturday in Hays, Kan., against Colorado Christian University. The men next play March 26 against Rockhurst University in Kansas City.