

Men, women defeat Quincy

Tennis teams both finish fall season with 3-0 dual meet records

BY BLAKE TOPPMEYER
Editor in Chief

The Bulldog tennis teams battled the wind, cool temperatures and the Quincy Hawks on Tuesday. None of these elements kept the men and women from finishing with a perfect record in their fall dual matches.

The men swept the six singles matches against Quincy and picked up an 8-1 win in the home dual, and the women took advantage of a 2-1 lead after doubles to secure a 6-3 victory.

The men and women finish the fall with a 3-0 dual record. Tuesday was the final event for the men, but the women have one more tournament, the Western Illinois Invitational, this weekend.

With winds gusting up to 30 mph hour during Tuesday's match, most players favored a bit more conservative playing style.

Freshman No. 1 Maggi Schutte said windy conditions put even more importance on having good movement on the court.

"You have to really be conscious about working your feet and know that if you get lazy and then you anticipate where the ball is going to go, it doesn't land there," Schutte said. "And you just have to keep [shots] lower and more towards the middle of the court."

Schutte, who battled the pressure of playing No. 1 as a freshman, along with injuries early in the fall, settled into her No. 1 spot during the last two fall dual matches.

Relying mostly on her forehand crosscourt shot, she defeated Quincy's No. 1 Anela Novak 6-4, 7-5. Schutte now has won her last four sets in singles matches, and she improved her singles record to 3-6 after start-

ing the fall 1-6.

"I've played tennis since I was really little, I've travelled all over the place, but playing competitively in college for a team, that's the one thing that I get so nervous about because I don't want to let the team down," Schutte said of playing in the No. 1 spot this fall.

"So at first I really struggled with that and the confidence. And when I got hurt that just made everything worse. But I think my confidence is really getting built up now. I just have to remember that I can win matches, and I can compete with these people."

Sophomore Dagmar Velez picked up a 6-0, 6-0 win at No. 5 singles. Velez is now 8-0 in singles this fall, and she and junior Anna Greenwald are 2-0 at No. 3 doubles. Velez and Greenwald defeated Quincy's No. 3 pairing 8-5.

In her last two singles dual wins, Velez has not lost a game.

"Dagmar is a W every time she goes out," head coach Pete Kendall said.

The women had a 2-1 lead after doubles play, but for a while, it looked like they would be trailing entering singles. The No. 1 doubles pairing of junior Amy Ochs and sophomore Ellen Russell fell behind 5-1 before winning the match 9-8.

Russell and Ochs were on serve at 7-8 and the Quincy No. 1 pairing was playing for match point numerous times. But each time, Ochs and Russell worked the score back to a deuce and eventually took the game and later the tiebreaker.

Kendall said that after falling behind early, Ochs and Russell mentally regrouped.

"They put it over the net and it went in," Kendall said. "It sounds cynical, but that's what they did. All that was happening [early in the match] was the other team was feeding them the ball and they were missing."

On the men's side, Kendall said



Junior Amy Ochs returns a shot during Tuesday's 6-3 victory against Quincy University. The men won 8-1 and the women won 6-3. Both the men and women finished the fall season 3-0. Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

he was impressed with the depth they displayed by winning all six singles matches.

The No. 3 doubles pairing of senior Ben Rusk and sophomore Eric McCollough accounted for the only Truman loss, falling 8-6, but both players recovered and took their singles matches in

straight sets.

Senior No. 1 Peter Bracha said Rusk has showcased a lot of improvement this fall, as evidenced by his 7-3 mark in singles play.

"I am really impressed with how Ben is playing right now," said Bracha, who teamed with senior Steve Hipkiss to win the No.

2 doubles match 8-0 before winning his singles match in straight sets.

"His serve has gotten a lot better, and he seems like he's more confident on his ground strokes. I think things are finally being put together for him right now with his game."

Bulls rugby steamrolls Mizzou 55-7

Bulls win home opener, improve to 1-1 this season

BY CORY WEEKES
Staff reporter

Last fall, the Rugby team beat the Missouri Tigers by more than 30 points. The Bulls hoped to replicate their previous performance at home Saturday against a Missouri University who was eager to redeem themselves.

The Bulls (1-1) came out fast after not playing last weekend and jumped ahead by 19 points going into halftime. They then continued to pour it on the Tigers, scoring six more tries and converting on five of them. The final score was 55-7.

"Mizzou is a team we play once or twice a year," head coach Bill Sexton said. "We understand their kind of play and after the game against Colorado State, we worked very hard on certain areas

such as our line-outs and scrum. Our line-outs were so much better this game, and we kept coming at them in waves.

"The team did a great job of creating attacks and we did a great job of relentlessly swarming the ball. We were able to overwhelm their defense and execute our plays a lot better. They are a team who is all about capitalizing on mistakes so we couldn't give them anything cheap."

Junior captain Aaron Loida said the team improved from its first match of the season, a 17-34 loss against Colorado State on Sept. 19.

"Don't get me wrong, Mizzou is a good team, but I thought we played better against Missouri and executed our plays a lot better," Loida said. "It was a fun game, and luckily it went our way. The team overall played really well. Mizzou is always pretty good so we knew we had to come out and play hard."

Freshman Joe Krispin,



Senior Justin Lacy stretches for a score during Saturday's 55-7 victory against the University of Missouri. The Bulls are 1-1 this season. Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

who until this year had never played rugby, has taken over the kicking responsibilities. Against Mizzou scored one of the tries

and converted five-of-six attempts.

After their last month against Colorado State University, a big point of em-

phasis was the Bulls' physical condition as they were exhausted at the end of the match.

"Our conditioning im-

proved a lot," Krispin said. "We did a lot better in our line-outs and it was just a lot of fun and good for us as a team to win the way we did."

The Bulls will play their annual Homecoming Week alumni game at 1 p.m. Saturday. Alumni will come back and challenge the current team to a match.

Sexton said the alumni are bigger and they will try to rough the current team up a bit.

"I'm excited for the alumni game," Loida said. "The alumni do a lot for our team whether it be in form of donation or just flat out support, they take time to come back and talk with us and teach us about the game."

Although the alumni game isn't an actual match that goes on the record, Loida said he would like to see everyone out there.

"The alumni like to come out there and beat us up a little," said Loida. "It's a lot of fun to watch and everyone should be there."

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Misc: JUNGLE OF JOYS PET SHOP, Kirksville, MO 660-665-7701: Amphibians, Birds, Exotics, Ferrets, Fish, Reptiles, Small Furry Animals, Special Orders, Supplies; Feeder Crickets, Fish, Mice, Worms.

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Misc: Homecoming at Church of Christ, Sun. Oct. 11, with alumni leading worship, including TruMen's Greg Hudson songleading and Marty James (bank president) speaking. www.kirksvillechurchofchrist.com.

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