

Men take fifth at Invite

Men post best team scores during last two tourneys

BY JACK NICHOLL
Managing Editor

The men's golf team might not yet have found a consistent No. 5 golfer, but it did have all five golfers post at least one round of 80 or better this week.

The Bulldogs placed fifth at the Maryville University Invite on Sunday and Monday with a two-day total of 607. Junior Nik Bentzinger led the way for the 'Dogs with a fifth-place 147, and senior Chris Kovach fired a 151 to tie for 18th. Millikin University (Ill.) placed first in the team standings.

After three tournaments with at least a 625 two-day total, the men posted their two best fall scores in their final two meets. The team shot a 598 at the Missouri Western Invitational on Oct. 4 and 5.

"Everybody's score counted at least once, and that's something we haven't had in the past, so for us to get the fourth and fifth player participating with some competitive scores, it shows that we're really taking some steps forward with building some depth on the team," co-coach Jim Berrey said.

Bentzinger, Kovach and senior Andy Herington were the top three scorers for the 'Dogs, but it was the bottom two golfers who made their mark at the Invite.

Freshman Jake Hanrahan shot a 76, 79 in his first tournament with two rounds below 80, and freshman Chase Hobbs rebounded from a 96 on Day 1 to post an 80 in the final round. It was Hobbs'

first-ever collegiate tournament, and his second-round score was fourth best for the 'Dogs on the day.

Hobbs became part of a rotating flux of players in the fifth spot this weekend, as the team took nine different players to five different tournaments this fall. Only Kovach, Bentzinger and Herington played in more than six rounds.

"I think what I'm finally seeing is some competition in that fourth and fifth spot, and that's really what we need," Berrey said, who took the team to the Invite in place of co-coach Tyler

Madsen.

"We need the fourth and fifth guys to be posting a score that we can use, and we just haven't had that in the past."

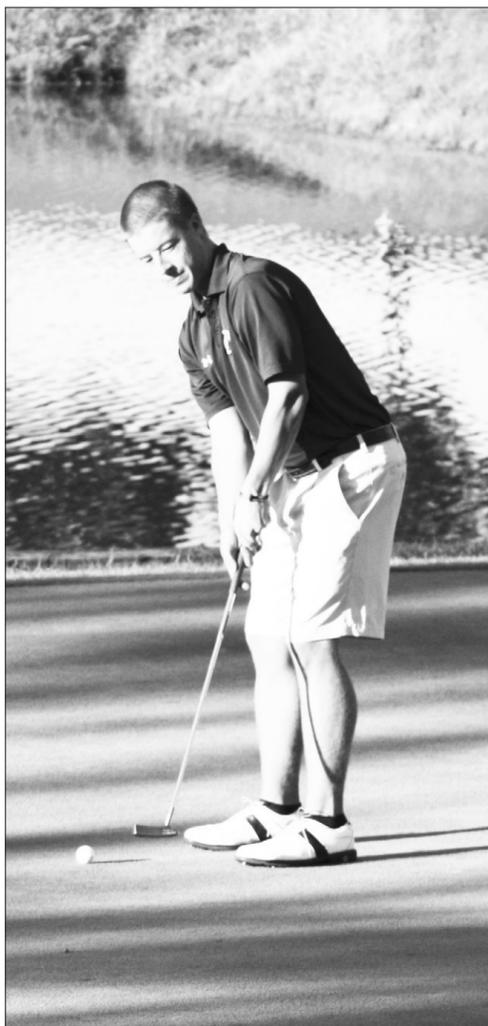
Hanrahan said his improved scores were partially because of his consistency with his driver. The course, Aberdeen Golf Club in St. Louis, plays as a links style with long holes and tall

rough. Kovach — whom Berrey said is one of the longer hitters — won the individual title last year.

"I was hitting the driver real straight," Hanrahan said. "That helps — that course is really tight."

Bentzinger also said it was his driver that was working well during the Invite. After Bentzinger said he played well on Day 1, except for a double and triple bogey, he followed it up Monday with an eagle on a par 5 and three birdies.

"I had a lot of confidence in my game coming off of Sunday, despite what I shot," Bentzinger said. "My play off the tee really put me in position to score. There was a lot of fairway bunkers and a lot of long fescue that you could really get in trou-



Logan Jackson/Index
Junior Nik Bentzinger putts during practice this fall. He earned his second top-10 finish this week.

ble with off the tee and, for the most part, I managed to stay out of that."

Bentzinger said his putting also improved Monday. Because the athletes took the course earlier in the day, Bentzinger said the greens were not quite as bumpy as Sunday because there was less wear on them from earlier players.

Berrey said the bumpy greens took away some of

Truman's competitive advantage during the two-day stretch.

The men have two meets scheduled in the spring, beginning March 11 with the Central Missouri Classic. The MIAA Championships then start March 18.

"I think going into the spring season in the next couple months, we're going to have a lot of confidence," Bentzinger said.

TRUMAN ATHLETICS News and Notes

Women's Soccer: Hayes leads offense

Sophomore forward Olivia Hayes scored her fourth goal of the season last Saturday against Northwest State University. She is responsible for four of Truman's 10 goals this year, bringing her career total to 16.

Hayes has taken 47 shots on the year and yields a .085 shooting percentage to lead the Truman offense.

Truman has outshot its opponents 182-111 this season but has only outscored its opponents by three. As Truman searches for ways to improve its offense, the 'Dogs might turn to their defense. During Thursday's tie against Missouri Western, freshman defender Suzanne Pelley took nine shots for the Bulldogs.

Soccer: Both teams undefeated at home

The men's and women's soccer teams are undefeated at home this season. The men are 5-0 at the Truman Soccer Pitch, while the women have a record of 3-0-1.

The women's team has not lost a home match since Nov. 22, 2008, during the NCAA Tournament. They lost to No. 4 Seattle Pacific, 1-0. The men lost 1-0 at home Nov. 1 last year to Columbia (Mo.) College.

Both teams have had their struggles on the road this season. The men have dropped two of their three away games, with a record of 1-2. The women have a winning record on the road but also have three ties, going 2-1-3.

The men have six regular season games remaining, three at home. The Bulldogs will host Quincy University, Newman University and Rockhurst University later this fall.

The women will play four of their final seven games at the Truman Soccer Pitch. The Bulldogs will host conference rivals Missouri Southern State University, Southwest Baptist University, Washburn University and the University of Central Missouri before their season concludes.

Football: Marr earns start in secondary

Sophomore defensive back Max Marr turned in a 10-tackle performance in his first start of the season Saturday at Missouri Western State University.

Marr, who has played every game this season, earned the start in place of sophomore Richie Schumacher. Schumacher ended the game with two tackles.

"[Max had] been playing very well in a rotation with Richie Schumacher and Richie is going to be a good player — he had been playing a little inconsistently," head coach Gregg Nesbitt said. "And actually with Max starting, he played really well. We had great productivity out of that position."

Schumacher and Marr are seventh and eighth, respectively, for the Bulldogs in tackles this season.

Homecoming: Three sporting contests on tap

Homecoming will feature three sporting events. The football team will play Missouri Southern State University at 2 p.m. Saturday at Stokes Stadium.

The volleyball team then will face Missouri Western State University at 7 p.m. in Pershing Arena, and women's soccer will play Southern at 11:30 a.m.

The football team is 2-4 on the season and 1-2 at Stokes Stadium. The Bulldogs lost 20-16 last season against Missouri Southern.

The Bulldog volleyball team faced Missouri Western twice last season, winning both matches 3-1.

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3-Bedroom for 2011 school year. \$550/month. Very close to campus. 660-341-3013.

Miscellaneous

Bible Study, 8 p.m. Monday, Ryle Hall Cafeteria. For more information, call or e-mail: Colin at 573-673-3633/colins573@yahoo.com Rebekah at 660-349-0509/rgg7546@truman.edu Jesus said, "You will know the truth and the truth will make you free."
- John 8:32