

Women win third meet this year

Men finish in top five for fourth time this season

BY LOGAN JACKSON
Sports Editor

It was a different race but the same story for the women's cross country team.

The No. 13 Bulldogs finished first out of 16 teams in the Yellowjacket Classic in Lamoni, Iowa. It was the third first-place finish for Truman in four meets this season.

"There were some good people in the meet," head coach John Cochrane said. "Teamwise, there were some MIAA teams that were decent. It wasn't as huge as some of [the meets] earlier this season. It was an interesting course. It was out in a field and had some hills in it."

Junior Dani Dell'Orco missed her second straight meet due to health issues.

Sophomore Karen Grauel finished in third place overall with a time of 18:29, just 11 seconds behind Northwest

Missouri State University junior Angela Adams.

It was the second straight meet in which Grauel finished first for the Bulldogs. Two weeks ago, she won the Gary Stoner Invitational with a time of 18:03.

"I think she's developed a lot physically and mentally," junior Anne Ratermann said. "This is only her second year ever running cross country. She's torn it up and seems very focused. She now knows more about what cross country racing is all about."

Sophomore Cindy Grauel finished in sixth place, a little more than 30 seconds behind Karen. Ratermann,

sophomore Debbie Boedeker and freshman Katie Hirsch rounded out the top five.

Ratermann finished ninth with a time of 19:14. Boedeker was nearly 40 seconds behind Ratermann and Hirsch was more than 30 seconds behind Boedeker.

"P a c k r u n n i n g just doesn't completely exist this time," Cochrane said. "It doesn't right now b e c a u s e w e ' r e spread out. The idea was that we were going to have four that were pretty good and we were going to try to find a five, six and seven. With Dell'Orco not being there, it's a little bit of everybody for themselves."

Truman's next meet is

the MIAA Championships on Nov. 6 in Hays, Kan. Last year, the 'Dogs finished second to Missouri Southern State University. Missouri Southern dominated the meet, winning by nearly 40 points.

This year, Cochrane said Southern will still be in the mix, as well as Pittsburg State University.

"Right now, I would have to put my money on Pittsburg," Cochrane said. "They're very deep. We're getting better, but we're still not completely there."

The men's team finished fourth out of 18 teams at the Yellowjacket Classic. The Bulldogs have finished in the top five in all four meets this season.

Senior Adam Kell and junior Joey Walls led the way for Truman. Kell finished 11th with a time of 26:01, and Walls was right behind him in 12th place with a time of 26:10.

"It was a good meet," head coach Tim Schwegler said. "We beat the people that we were supposed to beat. If you throw Iowa State [University] out of there, the

only teams to beat us were ranked teams."

Seniors Zach Chapman and Alex Phillips and sophomore Chad Petrofsky rounded out the top five for the Bulldogs. Those three runners finished within 13 seconds of each other.

Chapman finished with a time of 27:16. Senior John Venner, who placed seventh for the Bulldogs, finished just 18 seconds behind Chapman.

Schwegler said that for Truman to be successful in the MIAA Championships, they have to run as a pack, much like they did last weekend.

"Kell and Walls have to be up toward the top," Schwegler said. "Three through seven have to be within 75 seconds of our first place finisher. The three through seven pack also has to be within 20 seconds of each other."

Last year, Truman finished last out of eight teams in the MIAA Championships. At the beginning of this season, the Bulldogs were picked to finish eighth again.

Schwegler said if the

MIAA teams were ranked now, Truman would be in fourth. The Bulldogs could also receive another boost if junior Michael Dial gets healthy before the Championships. Dial missed the Gary Stoner Invitational two weeks ago and finished eighth on the team last week. He was in the top three for Truman during the first two meets of the season.

"He said he was having trouble pushing off," Schwegler said. "We hope to have him at full strength. If you put him in the mix, he makes us even a little more dangerous."

The Bulldogs have not finished better than fourth in the MIAA since 2005, when they finished fourth place in the conference and the region.

"You go back in the season and try to gain confidence," Schwegler said. "We've been progressing the right way. When we get into the huddle five minutes before the race, I'll just tell them to do what they've been doing all year long."

'Dogs dominate Div. I Western Illinois

Women continue to rebuild, men look for team leaders

BY SAM SHERMAN
Staff Reporter

The Truman men's and women's swimming teams won every event at last weekend's meet beating Western Illinois University 131-47.

"We all swam really well," sophomore Jerod Simek said. "[Head coach Mark Gole] was really pleased with how everyone swam. Everyone was up cheering for everyone else and no one was really upset with how they swam from what I saw."

Simek took first in two of his events, the 400-yard individual medley and the mile swim. Besides Simek, the other standouts for the Bulldogs were freshman Eric Mikolajczyk, who took first in the 200-yard butterfly and the 200-yard freestyle, and sophomore Tony Hernandez, who took first in the 200-yard breaststroke and 50-yard freestyle.

The Bulldogs were successful in relays across the board. In the 400-yard medley relay, Hernandez, Mikolajczyk, sophomore Matt Fletcher and sophomore Taylor Frymire took first. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Frymire, Fletcher, freshman Alex Felton and freshman Seth Holbrook took first as well.

The men's team competed against a familiar face — Western Illinois head coach Greg Naumann. "[Naumann] used to be my as-

sistant coach here at Truman," Gole said. "So he coached a couple of the guys, and they really wanted to take it to them."

This season, 13 of the 18 men's swimmers are freshmen, and Gole said the team's future is bright.

"We're incredibly young," Gole said. "This year is still a rebuilding year, but we have a lot of strength in our youth. Our junior, sophomore and freshman class are getting stronger, so I really want to start attacking teams and doing as much as we can."

The women's team fared just as well against the Leathernecks, and Gole said he was not surprised.

"We kind of expected [to win all of the events]," Gole said. "For the most part we were swimming against ourselves, trying to push each other."

After finishing first in the mile swim, senior Julia Jones said she was pleased with how well the team did in the second meet of the season.

"We swam really well as a team," Jones said. "I was hoping to win [the mile], but I wasn't really expecting it."

Besides Jones' win in the mile, a few other Bulldogs who won were freshman Casey Jespen and sophomore Taylor Birsas. Jespen took first in two individual events, the 500-yard freestyle and the 200-yard freestyle. Birsas took first in both the 200-yard breaststroke and the 400-yard individual medley.

In the 400-yard medley relay, the team of sophomore Stacey Wymer,

freshman Beth Eyanson, junior Jessica Jenkot and senior Tanya Sylvester took first. In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Jespen, Sylvester, Jenkot and sophomore Lexi Houser also took first.

Gole said the women's team is strong this year but also is preparing for the future.

"We have a lot of talent scattered in the junior, sophomore and freshman class, but we have a large amount of talent in the senior class and we're going to be losing them," Gole said. "We have to pick up the slack and it's going to take a total team effort to do that."

Both teams will host Missouri State University on Nov. 6, and Gole said it's going to be close.

"[The Missouri State meet] is going to be a dogfight in every single event," Gole said. "It's going to be extremely tough and we'll have to be on our A-game if we want to pull that one out."



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

The women's team won every event against Western Illinois last week. The Bulldogs have eight seniors and two juniors on the team.



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

The men's team also won every event against Western Illinois. The Bulldogs have just one senior and four juniors on the team.



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