

Club team wins Truman Spring Classic



The Truman F.C. poses for a picture after winning the first annual Spring Classic. The Bulldogs beat out rival SIUE during the championship game to nab the tournament victory last weekend.

Submitted Photo

CLUB | Club team now heads to Kansas State to round out season

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-gle 15-minute overtime golden goal period followed by penalty kicks. With two minutes to go during the overtime period, a corner kick met the head of a diving Manougian, giving Truman Black the tournament championship.

The Truman F.C.'s last action of the spring season is next weekend, as the team heads to Manhattan, Kan., to participate at the 32nd annual Ed Chartrand tournament hosted by Kansas State University. Ooton said the club likes its chances at the tournament since they've played all of the teams participating before.

"All the teams that are going there, we've tied or beaten in the past," Ooton said. "We know we can compete with these guys and even beat them and win the whole thing."

WOMEN | The softball team splits against a ranked opponent then drops two straight games

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yet — the Griffons, the first nationally-ranked opponent Truman faced since being swept by 17th ranked Fort Hays State March 29.

During game one of the doubleheader, the Bulldogs battled hard until a sixth inning that saw Missouri Western score six runs to break a 1-1 tie, resulting in a 7-1 final score. After suffering the series-opening loss, junior outfielder Kelsey Bollman said the team was ready to bounce back during game two. Paced by three hit performances by Bollman and freshman pitcher Kindra Henze, Truman was able to take control of game two and edge the Griffons by a score of 6-2.

"We played tough against Missouri Western," Bollman said. "I think that we did a good job keeping our heads in the game and overcoming some mistakes."

Bollman, who currently leads the team with a .398 batting average, said the win against a nationally-ranked opponent was good for the team's morale.

Despite homers from seniors Kristin Grossman and catcher Meredith Kusky, along with sophomore infielder Andrea Klipsch, the Bulldogs could muster only a .231 overall average during their games against the Northwest Missouri State Bearcats, losing both games of the doubleheader 8-3 and 4-2.

While Truman had initial leads in both games against Northwest, 1-0 in game one and 2-0 in game two, sophomore Cate Simon said she felt the team just wasn't in the right place mentally to hold onto the lead during the windy road games.

In this first game, Truman battled hard behind two hit performances by senior outfielder Lauren Miller, infielder Andrea Klipsch and catcher Meredith Kusky. Despite their efforts, however,

the Bearcats scored five straight runs during a two inning span, handing junior Hannah Washburn her sixth loss of the season, falling by a final score of 8-3.

In the second game of the doubleheader, Truman experienced more of the same. After jumping out to an early 2-0 lead highlighted by a Klipsch homerun, the Bearcats were able to respond and earn a 4-2 victory to complete the two-game sweep.

Troubling the team further against the Bearcats was a strong blustering wind that created unfavorable conditions throughout the day.

"Against Northwest we just came out flat," Simon said. "It was pretty windy, but we need to execute. We need the fundamentals to be down pat. We are happy to be playing well this year, but we can still play better."

Regardless of the setbacks, however, there is still room for optimism in the Truman dugout. After a grueling five-straight road game series, the team headed home for its eight-game home stand against non-ranked opponents. For the Bulldogs, who are currently ranked No. 7 in the conference, junior shortstop Corey Niblett said the timing of this home series couldn't have played out any better.

"We need to make a better effort to be more fundamentally sound," Niblett said. "I think we are all looking forward to this home stand where we have played well pretty much all year."

While their homestand originally was set to start last Tuesday, due to opponents' class conflicts, the games have been rescheduled for this Friday against the Northeastern State University Riverhawks. The Riverhawks, who currently are on a two game losing streak, are just 4-10 on the road this season.



Adam Antor/Index

Sophomores Courtney Cisler, left, and Riley Keltner take swings at Kirksville Country Club during practice Monday. Cisler finished the weekend with back-to-back 94's to finish tied for 28th.

'Dogs | Women earn tournament victory at Mount Mercy Invitational Tournament, trying to pick up momentum for MIAA Conference tournament

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The Bulldogs outpaced the rest of the field as the team headed into the clubhouse 20 points lower than their next closest opponent, Grandview College, finishing with a score of 698. Individually, senior Lynn Dreisilker finished third while Barmettler placed fourth on the par-72 course to secure Truman's repeat championship.

Tomash said the winning shot of her tournament title was on a Par 4 on the back nine where she hit her second shot from the fairway onto the green to one-putt for par and distanced herself from the second place finisher Kenzie Rottinghaus of Grandview.

"I knew I was tied with [Rot-

tinghaus] and that we were neck-and-neck for the tournament title, but I just tried my best to not count her strokes and focus on my game," Tomash said. "The greens were surprisingly fast and, apart from the weather, the course was fairly easy, as was the competition. I knew it would come down to putting, and so I had a lesson with swing coach and he said I was putting the best he has ever seen, so I had a lot of confidence heading into the clubhouse."

Tomash said while the tournament victory was nice in terms of earning a trophy, the true focus of her team is on the looming MIAA Conference Tournament. Tomash said she thinks the Bulldogs have a great chance to place as a team if everyone continues

to play their best golf.

Barmettler said she is anxious and excited to get onto the course and compete for the conference championship next week at Paradise Pointe Golf Club on the Posse Course. Barmettler said head coach Sam Lesseig is confident she and her teammates can make a run at the 2013 Championships.

"We all have to work on the small parts of our game, and if we take care of that this week we will be confident and ready to handle the conference tournament," Barmettler said. "We have a lot of confidence from this last victory, and now we just have to focus on playing our best next week on a course that is longer in yardage than Mount Mercy."

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