

# Baseball drops two to 'Hawks

BY DAVID LEMON  
Assistant Sports Editor

Truman State baseball is now 2-6 on the season after dropping two of three to Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla. Those three games against the Riverhawks were originally intended to be played in Kirksville, though.

After the first snowstorm rolled into town this week, the baseball team was forced to move its first home series down to Tahlequah, Okla. This means all eight games technically have been road games even though the Bulldogs were the home team on the score sheet for this weekends series at Northeastern. The first game Saturday was an offensive battle as the Bulldogs held on to a 12-11 win. The Riverhawks won the second and third games Sunday, by scores of 10-4 and 12-7 respectively.

The fact that the Bulldogs have yet to play a home game might hurt their record, but something else might be the cause. The team has only practiced inside Pershing Arena, the small gym and on turf. This keeps ground ball drills simple for the infielders who don't have the feel of playing on a sometimes unpredictable dirt infield. Head coach Dan Davis said he doesn't want this to sound like an excuse for some losses, but he said once his team can practice on the field, they will be able to compete to the highest potential.

"Our infield defense struggled quite a bit over the past five games and I attribute that to the fact that we haven't played on dirt," Davis said. "Every time we play, we're playing on dirt and the last time we practiced on dirt was in early October."

So far this season, Truman has committed 22 errors during eight games. Davis said he thinks his infield players are incredibly talented, but from the stats, a

person might disagree.

Besides the fact that Truman cannot practice on a field, the weekend against Northeastern saw many Bulldog hitters step up and keep the trend of great batting. Two players contributing offensively this weekend and throughout the season are senior third baseman Blake Marino, who hit .462 during the three games, and sophomore Paul Trenhaile, who jacked a three-run homerun and currently is batting .393 on the season.

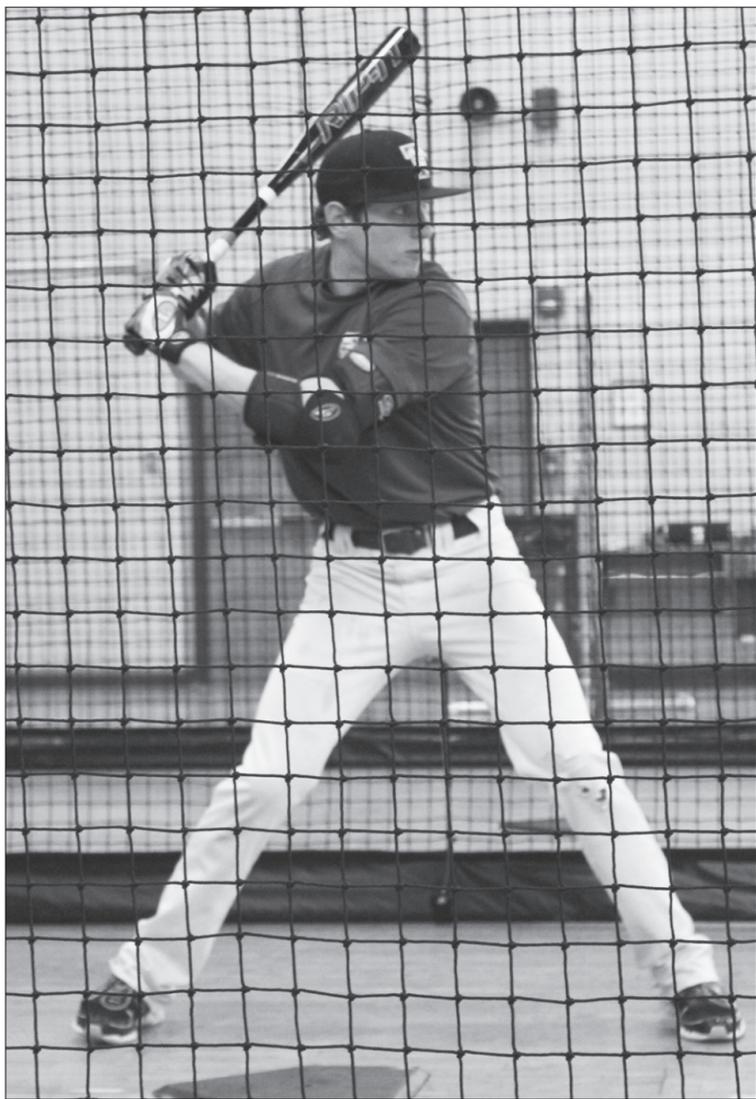
Trenhaile went 3-5 during the win against Northeastern and belted his three-run homerun in his first at bat. The Bulldogs went down early during the first inning of the game 4-0, but like the 'Dogs seem to do this season, Trenhaile provided three runs to pull them back within one and eventually went on to win the game by one as he crossed the plate twice this game. Trenhaile said his offensive production has always been with him and even during this past summer, he batted .394 and somewhat expected to thrive in the batter's box this season.

"I felt really good after the season during the summer," Trenhaile said. "I was really seeing the ball well and my confidence has definitely grown a lot this season. I guess I kind of did envision it and I'm just glad it's going well so far."

Offensive production has definitely been the strong suit of the Bulldogs this season as they are batting .305 as a team and have a .404 on-base percentage. The 'Dogs, though, haven't had the ability to showcase their offensive skills at home this season.

Senior starting pitcher Logan Siegler, who took his first mark in the loss column this weekend against the Riverhawks, said there is nothing like playing on a homefield.

"I would love to get home and get some games under my belt," Siegler said. "It's a lot better playing at home and not



David Lemon/Index  
Freshman Taylor Brooks prepares to take a pitch during batting practice earlier this season. After the two losses to Northeastern State, the 'Dogs are 2-6 for the season.

having to travel. You get to sleep in your own bed by yourself and you don't have to worry about a long road trip back and down to the place."

Siegler said that because of the snow, he doesn't know the next time they will play a home game, but he hopes it is soon.

## Bulldogs finish 1-3 at Minn. tournament



Amanda Atwell/Index  
Senior pitcher Kirsten Krause winds up for a pitch at practice Feb. 20 in Pershing Arena. Krause has posted a 4.50 ERA and is 1-0.

BY HOLLY CANTALUPO  
Staff Reporter

The Truman State softball team traveled to Minnesota last weekend where they competed against four teams from two conferences in the MIAA/NSIC Crossover Dome tournament.

The tournament began Saturday afternoon with a two-run loss to the Upper Iowa University Peacocks. Although the 'Dogs scored first, they were unable to keep up with the Peacocks, who scored three runs during the second and the third innings. Truman's main action came during the seventh inning. Down by five runs, freshman infielder Whitney Richardson hit a three-run home run, lessening the Peacocks' lead, but the Bulldogs were unable to overcome the gap, resulting in an 8-6 defeat.

Immediately following their first loss of the season, the Bulldogs took on the University of Sioux Falls Cougars. The defensive and offensive ends of their game were in full swing as the Bulldogs allowed zero runs from the Cougars and were able to score eight during an abbreviated five innings.

"We put everything together finally — offense, defense, pitching," sophomore third baseman Cate Simon said. "Everything was lined up and going well."

With an RBI from junior outfielder Kelsey Bollman and a home run by senior first baseman Kristin Grossman, the Bulldogs put three runs on the board by the end of the third. They doubled this during the fourth with two RBIs from sophomore infielder Andrea Klipsch and a run from sophomore Ally McReynolds off of junior outfielder Danielle Lewellen's single to left field. Bollman added another RBI with Lewellen on base to finish the fourth inning.

Freshman pitcher Kindra Henze was able to strike out 10 of the 12 batters she faced. Senior pitcher Kirsten Krause added another strikeout to give the Bulldogs a game total of 11.

The Winona State University Warriors were Truman's third opponent. The Bulldogs wasted no time, scoring two runs at the top of the first. The Warriors doubled this during their turn at bat, taking an early two-run lead.

This was a game where the Bulldogs allowed a lot of runs and didn't play well defensively, head coach Erin Brown said.

WSU added three runs during the second inning before the Bulldogs picked up some momentum during the fifth. An RBI apiece from Bollman and Grossman added two runs. The Warriors overcame the small comeback with a total of five runs at the bottom of the fifth.

A defensive miscue by the Bulldogs put an end to the game with a final score of 12-4.

The final game of the weekend was a pitcher's duel against the University of Concordia-St. Paul. Although the Bulldogs had more combined hits, the timing was off, resulting in a 1-0 loss.

"We had more people on base but couldn't get the runs," Brown said.

The Bulldogs had five hits throughout the entire game while the Golden Bears had two, but were able to score early. The 'Dogs could not overcome the run Concordia-St. Paul made during the bottom of the first.

The Bulldogs finished the weekend with one win and three losses but Simon said there was a lot to be proud of.

"We played as a team," she said. "Everybody up and down the line up was hitting and everybody on defense pitching. It was a team effort."

The Bulldogs now have a 7-3 record and plan to strengthen some of the weaknesses they had before their third tournament.

Field consistency, pitch variation and more timely runs are the main areas the Bulldogs found fault with this weekend and will continue to work on, Brown said.

The Bulldogs will travel to Joplin, Mo. for the MSSU Mathis-Zenner tournament March 2.

### Top Bulldog



Ryan Maus  
Wrestling, junior

This weekend at the NCAA Super Regional Tournament, Maus and junior Colton Schmitz qualified for the national tournament. Maus finished second in the tournament while Schmitz finished fourth. This marks the third straight year that Maus has qualified for the tournament, joining seven Bulldog wrestlers in Truman State history to qualify three or four times during their wrestling career.

## Mark your calendar

### Women's Tennis

March 1-2  
Elsah, Ill.

The women's tennis team travels to the Principia College Tournament for two days.

### Women's Basketball

1:30 p.m., Saturday, March 2  
Maryville, Mo.

Following their game against Central Missouri the women travel to face Northwest Missouri State.

### Men's Basketball

3:30 p.m., Saturday, March 2  
Maryville, Mo.

The men head to Northwest Missouri State as they try to earn a first-round MIAA tournament game at home.

### Softball

2 and 4 p.m., Saturday, March 2  
Joplin, Mo.

The softball team faces the University of Sioux Falls and Oklahoma Christian in the MSSU Tournament.

### Softball

10 a.m. and 12 p.m. Sunday, March 3  
Joplin, Mo.

The women face Newman University and Maryville University in the MSSU Tournament.

### Baseball

1 and 3 p.m., Wednesday, March 6  
Warrensburg, Mo.

The men head down to the University of Central Missouri to face the Mules.

### Women's Tennis

4 p.m., Wednesday, March 6  
Kirksville, Mo.

The women play Lincoln University of Missouri at the Truman State tennis courts.

### Men's Swimming

Wednesday, March 6  
Birmingham, Ala.

Senior Jerod Simek will represent Truman in three events at the NCAA Div. II National Championships.

See all the results of last week's games online at <http://tmn.truman.edu/theindex>