

'DOGS | Juniors Ryan Maus and Colton Schmitz both heading to Nationals

Continued from Page 13
have a chance of rebounding for a nationals berth with one of the top four spots.

"The guys who got fifth and sixth were All-Americans last year," Schmitz said. "157 is a tough weight class and I knew it was going to be difficult to win three [matches] in a row."

Needing victories to advance, Schmitz started Sunday with a 4-2 win against Limestone College's junior Jeremy Bommarito. Although Schmitz lost his second match of the day, due to a series of events during the fifth place match, Schmitz was able to leave the regional tournament with a fourth place finish.

"If Bommarito would have lost the fifth place match I would have had to wrestle a true fourth-place bout," Schmitz said. "Even though he was losing the whole match, he got a pin just as I was about to wrestle my last match, and from there I knew I had made it to nationals."

In other matches, senior Alex Maus ended his Truman athletic career after winning one of his three matches. Freshman Dustin McClintock and sophomore Ryan Ward also advanced to the quarterfinals of their weight classes before falling out of the top four Sunday.

After attending the national tournament his first two seasons as Maus' training partner, Schmitz said he feels a sense of relief to finally be going to nationals as a competitor.

"It is really an awesome feeling," Schmitz said. "I knew going into the start of the season that this was the year I needed to do it. It feels good to finally be going to nationals to wrestle."

In preparation for the national tournament, which will start March 8, Maus said he and Schmitz will be taking a slightly different approach during practice. He and Schmitz will practice with a few other teammates, taking a much more individualistic approach to improving.

"This next week or so of practice will be important for us," Maus said. "It's just the two of us, so being able to really focus on ourselves will be very helpful in getting us prepared and confident for nationals."

Schutter said he thinks if Schmitz and Maus continue to improve, they have a great chance to compete at the national level.

"Both Colton and Ryan are closing the gap," Schutter said. "For these guys practice won't change too much. We want to fine tune little things, but for the most part, we want to stay healthy and get rested up for the biggest tournament of the year."



Senior guard Becka McHenry goes up for a layup against a Lindenwood University defender Thursday night during Senior Night. The Bulldogs won in a rout of the Lions 74-50.

Adam Antor/Index

WOMEN | 'Dogs looking to gain momentum going into postseason

Continued from Page 13
bounds and assists with seven each.

Smith said a major reason for the Bulldogs' success Thursday was the lack of classes, which allowed his team to focus on preparation all day.

"We were able to bring them in, get a little shoot-around, get a little film because we didn't have classes," Smith said. "I think that was probably a big factor in things as far as our preparation, our mindset going into the game."

The Bulldogs continued with their momentum Saturday as they traveled to Jefferson City, Mo. to take on the Lincoln University Blue Tigers, a team Smith said worried him because of their success against good MIAA teams like Northeastern State University earlier this season.

The 'Dogs came out with the 70-59 victory after a 19-3 run during the second half gave them the ultimate advantage. Junior forward Nicole Gloor was a major reason for the run, scoring 14 of her team-high 18 points during the second half and leading the team in steals with three.

The win puts the Bulldogs at fourth in the conference as they now look to their last two

games before the conference tournament. Smith said a huge advantage the Bulldogs' success this season gave them was an early clinching of a spot in the MIAA tournament, which allowed the team to focus on fine-tuning during the final few weeks of the season.

"It's nice to finally be in the tournament," Smith said. "In years past, we've fought up until the last week or two to even get in. ... It's a great feeling to know that we're in. Now we can just concentrate on trying to get better."

Despite the early clinching, Smith said gaining steam heading into the tournament is key, as one loss can end a team's season no matter what they did during the regular season.

He said the team would be using the last two games against No. 13 Central Missouri yesterday and Northwest Missouri Saturday to gain an edge in the tournament.

"You're trying to gain that momentum going into that postseason," Smith said. "When postseason starts, it's a whole new season, it's one and done, basically. So, you've got to prepare yourself both mentally and physically."

LEMON | Assistant Sports Editor lives out his childhood dream through players at Spring Training

Continued from Page 13
clubs. Of those players, about 15 to 20 players personally are called via the managers and invited to partake in some good old-fashioned fun — competitive, greatest month-of-your-life fun. This means close to 550 men spread throughout Arizona and Florida are living out their boyhood dreams.

This was my boyhood dream. I was a great ball player at one point in my life, always playing a year ahead of where I should have played. One day when I was about 13, I was standing on deck when I saw my pal Taylor pelted with a pitch straight to the eye. I was shocked. I thought this only happened to James Earl Jones in "The Sandlot." As Taylor sat in the dugout and

someone replaced him on first, I stepped into the batter's box with one thought on my mind. I'm afraid. I'm afraid? I was never afraid of the ball until that moment. It messed with me.

I still have an uneasy feeling every time I see a pitch come toward me when I play. I now live vicariously through the lives of ball players around the globe and write about them because they are fulfilling the dream that I most likely won't be able to.

Spring training gives hope to those who want to accomplish their dreams. It provides a new beginning for teams and fans who didn't have success last season. This is when Cubs and Astros fans are usually the most excited. Friends and families have an opportunity to

take vacations to see their favorite clubs in two beautiful places in America, which I have had the pleasure of doing for the last two years.

My memories of spring training are so vivid because of the sheer enjoyment of being so close to the action and envisioning walking across the long, grassy outfield and into the tan sand diamond. It might seem childish to some that these fully-grown men are playing a child's game for a living. I would rather commend them for pursuing their childhood dream and achieving it.

Now is the beginning of the rest of the season, and next year, we will do it all again. This cycle is the farthest thing from vicious. It gives us life.

"PSYCHOLOGICALLY I WAS MALE, BUT MY BODY WAS FEMALE"



Scouting the Unknown with
RYAN SALLANS

National Speaker, Author, and Trans Man

March 5, 2013

VH 1000

7-9 pm

Sponsored by: The Eisenberg Speaker's Fund, IDS, SHES, SCS, Department of Psychology
For more information contact: spalmer@truman.edu

WWW.TRUMANRENTALS.COM

Providing affordable student housing for more than 25 years.

Boardwalk • Waterworks • Park Place • States Avenue • St. James Place • New York Avenue

Four Horizons Realty
703 N. Marion St.
Kirksville, MO 63501

660-665-RENT

www.4horizonsrealty.com

Welcome Back Students!

BUCK BROS.
SUNNY SLOPE AUTO, LLC

660 - 665 - 8464

Tune Ups • Brakes • Exhaust • A/C

710 W. Potter Avenue
at the Corner of Osteopathy & Potter Ave

Let the guys at
BUCK BROS.
SUNNYSLOPE AUTO
make sure you're in class on time!
Call now to set up an appointment.

NAPA Service Center