

# Softball team stumbles in St. Louis

BY SAM STEWART  
Staff Reporter

While students left for break last weekend, the Truman State softball team stayed behind to win two games against conference rival Maryville University on Saturday, but lost two games against nationally ranked University of Missouri-St. Louis on Sunday. The Bulldogs started off the weekend with a two-game sweep of the Saints as junior pitcher Kelsea Dorsey threw an 11-strikeout game, allowing only one hit.

During game one, the Bulldogs wasted no time getting on the board early as senior second baseman Andrea Klipsch smacked her 11th home run of the season, scoring freshman shortstop Jamie Fowle for an early 2-0 Bulldog lead. During the third inning, the 'Dogs tacked on three more runs during the bottom half. Dorsey's one hit allowed was a two-run home run with a runner on base because of a fielding error, but Dorsey still managed to earn the win for an 11-1 record this year.

The second game Saturday was a more offensive game for the Bulldogs, as they beat the Saints 9-1 in six innings. Maryville jumped ahead during the first inning, but Truman came right back with four runs of its own during the bottom half. Senior first baseman Liz Leath added a solo home run during the fourth. The Bulldogs finished the game with RBI singles from sophomore utility Haley Wells, which stopped the game via the run-rule. Junior pitcher Kindra Henze allowed only six hits and struck out five as she improved to 12-4 on the season.

"Up to this point in the season I feel very confident in our team," sophomore catcher Devin Gudehus said. "We are dedicated to the process and are ready to win some more ball games."

## SOFTBALL STREAK The Bulldogs ended an eight-game winning streak Sunday

<b>MARCH 25</b>	<b>VS. LINCOLN UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>W 10-1</b>
		<b>W 10-2</b>
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<b>MARCH 29</b>	<b>VS. MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>W 6-4</b>
		<b>W 6-2</b>
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<b>MARCH 30</b>	<b>VS. DRURY UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>W 3-2</b>
		<b>W 7-1</b>
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<b>APRIL 4</b>	<b>VS. MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>W 5-2</b>
		<b>W 9-1</b>
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<b>APRIL 5</b>	<b>VS. UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS</b>	<b>L 6-4</b>
		<b>L 8-1</b>
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The Bulldogs then traveled to No. 3 nationally ranked UMSL. The Bulldogs walked away from these two games winless against the GLVC rival. The

first game started off hot for the 'Dogs as they maintained a 3-0 lead until the sixth. The Tritons then fought back for the tie and earned the eventual win. A two-run homer from the Tritons would put the game out of reach for Truman as the Tritons won the first game 6-4. Dorsey started the game pitching 4.1 innings and striking out seven, with Henze pitching 1.2 innings of relief.

Game two showed an UMSL team fully powered as they took the Bulldogs by storm with an 8-1 victory. The Tritons came out swinging as they hammered in five home runs along with an 18-strikeout performance to Truman's one run. Fowle hit a home run during the third inning, while Klipsch recorded the team's only other hit of the game. Henze started and pitched 4.1 innings, striking out four, with Dorsey pitching relief during the rest of the game and striking out two.

"We need to respond and take this as a learning experience and grow as a team," senior outfielder Ally McReynolds said. "We have to continue to focus on our goals."

With Truman currently third in the GLVC rankings, the 'Dogs will look to bounce back as they return home to host three conference opponents.

"I am feeling fine after a tough weekend," Henze said. "It's not the first time we've lost a few games. We're a tough team and don't get brought down by a couple of losses. Looking forward, we just need to keep playing our game and continue to improve on the things that we work on all season."

The Bulldogs will play William Jewell College Saturday and Rockhurst University Sunday for doubleheaders. Games both days are set to begin at noon and 2 p.m. at Bulldog Softball Park.

## TRAINING | Athletic training majors play a vital role in the day-to-day operations of Truman athletics

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inspired to become trainers through personal experience. While playing sports during high school, Besan, Stephenson and Pohlman all suffered major injuries. Through the support and assistance of their respective athletic trainers, the three were influenced to pursue athletic training for themselves.

"My athletic trainer was so helpful," Pohlman said. "He was a great role model and support system for me. I wanted to be just like him."

Besan said she became interested in

the area of study through her work in high school. She said she shadowed a physical therapist and was influenced by the therapist's concern for athletes.

"She was just wonderful," Besan said. "She really cared about her patients, and she genuinely wanted to see me get better. That sparked my interest in athletic training."

Students who finish the athletic training program at Truman use the major as a stepping stone for future careers in the field. Alumni can be found around the country, working at colleges such as

**"The amount that we have all adapted and grown through this process is amazing. Everything we do has a reason, and I feel like I have a purpose."**  
- Senior Jill Pohlman  
athletic training major

Purdue University and even professional teams like the St. Louis Rams.

Besan and Pohlman said they plan to pursue athletic training at the college level,

and Stephenson said he wants to be on a professional baseball team's staff someday.

Besan said the clinical hours let her take what she's learned in the classroom and affect someone's life with it.

"Being able to create a rehab plan or successfully diagnose someone is really rewarding to me," Besan said.

Stephenson said the most fulfilling part about being a student trainer is the ability to interact with the athletes and be a part of their recovery. Pohlman said seeing herself improve as a trainer has reinforced her passion for helping athletes return to their sports.

"The amount that we have all adapted and grown through this process is amazing," Pohlman said. "Everything we do has a reason, and I feel like I have a purpose."

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