

# Wrestlers compete in Iowa matches

Truman wrestling traveled to Fayette, Iowa, to compete in their second and third set of matches of the season

BY CHRIS CARTER  
Staff Reporter

The Truman State wrestling team had their second week of competition last Thursday.

The men had two dual meets in Fayette, Iowa. They won one meet against Waldorf College (34-9), and lost one against No. 16 Upper Iowa University (28-17), but overall they felt like they wrestled well that day, senior Helmut Rentschler said.

"Thursday went well — we meant to win against Waldorf, and we did — Upper Iowa was more impressive of a team, but I feel like we almost wrestled better against them, even though we lost," Rentschler said.

The men left Fayette feeling confident in their team, but aware there is plenty of room for improvement — especially with such a young team. Thursday was the first time the Bulldogs have competed against Waldorf, and they won eight of the 10 matches against them. Redshirt sophomore J.J. Dorell lost the first match 12-5 in the 125 pound weight class. During the next 125 pound weight class match, freshman Caleb Osborn got a quick pin at 1:26, which was followed by redshirt sophomore Andrew Still claiming another first period pin in the 141 pound weight class. Truman continued with three winners by decision, and Rentschler closed with a second period pinfall.

That day, the team wrestled No. 16 Upper Iowa University. During the first match, Dorell took his second loss of the day at 3-1. Freshman Drew Rentschler put Truman on the board with a second period pinfall during the 133 pound match. The matches continued to go back and forth when sophomore Rafael Lopez was pinned by a nationally-ranked grappler from Iowa, and then Still won 4-2 during overtime.

One match-up of the day was in

the 165 pound weight class, with both wrestlers ranked in the region. The feature was redshirt senior Devon Fenstermaker vs. Upper Iowa's redshirt sophomore Colby Vance, and the Bulldogs left the mat victorious at 6-5. The Peacocks won the next two matches, and then Helmut came back and won with a technical fall. The meet concluded when Iowa got an automatic win, as the heavyweight weight class was open for Truman.

"We competed well at our first two duals," Fenstermaker said. "The only issue I can say was we gave up a few pins and had to forfeit heavyweight to Upper Iowa."

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs were on the road again, this time going to Galesburg, Illinois, to compete in the Knox College Div. III Open, where they placed fourth in the weight classes they competed in.

The Bulldogs were on the road again Saturday, wrestling at the Knox College Open. Redshirt freshman Roark Whittington and Fenstermaker took silver, Helmut came back after a loss and wrestled his way to a bronze and senior Ryan Ward placed sixth. Whittington won three close matches and beat the No. 3 seed but lost by technical fall during the finals to the first seed. Fenstermaker was seeded third in his weight class, and won every match until being defeated 6-0 during the final. Ward was seeded second but was defeated by the third seed, then had to forfeit for medical reasons, which dropped him to a sixth place finish.

Helmut Rentschler was the No. 2 seed and won his first two matches to reach the semifinals. He lost 2-0 to a competitor from Dubuque University, but battled his way back up to finish third in his weight division. Lopez, Still and redshirt sophomore Dustin McClintock all picked up two wins.

Saturday, the team returns to the mat with another meet at the University of Missouri-Columbia, which is ranked No. 6 in the country. Helmut Rentschler said the ranking shouldn't scare them because they are wrestling the individuals' body, not the University's name.

## FOOTBALL | The Bulldogs battle the Quincy University Hawks and come out with a close win.



Trevor Stark/Index  
Senior wide receiver Felix Neboh dodges a Quincy University player as he runs downfield during the 'Dogs' game against the Hawks last Saturday.

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Tobin said he is getting used to being the backup quarterback. He said Black has been struggling with this ankle injury, so he always has to be prepared to go in and do his part. Tobin said he really started playing his best game during the second half.

Quincy tied the game at 14-14 midway through the third quarter, but the Bulldog defense, particularly the front seven, was effective enough to prevent the Hawks from leading at any point during the afternoon.

"It was a fitting ending for all those seniors, who I really think helped turn our program around," Head coach Gregg Nesbitt said.

Nesbitt said the team has won 13 games during the last two years and the last time the team did that was 1996-97. From 2001-02 the 'Dogs had 14 wins, and Nesbitt said the team needs one more to tie that group. Nesbitt said he attributes the team's success to the group of current players' hard work.

"It was a pretty good day," Abbate said. "It was kind of relaxing, heartwarming that my family came, and it's the last one, so I bet they're pretty excited they don't have to drive that six

hours down here anymore."

Tobin had nothing but praise and excitement for his senior teammates.

"[Delivering a touchdown pass to Haferbier] was pretty cool actually," Tobin said. "I knew he hadn't had one yet — I tossed that ball to him and he went down and scored. I felt great for him, you know, to catch your first touchdown pass of the year on Senior Day."

Tobin said senior tight end Chico Orlando played a major role in driving for the winning field goal, with three crucial receptions on the drive. Tobin said his third down rush for a first down, which allowed the Bulldogs to run out the clock and win the game, was set up by a lead block from Orlando.

The Bulldogs will play their final game of the regular season this Saturday at St. Joseph's.

"They're senior-dominated, they start 13 to 15 seniors," Nesbitt said. "Their defense is much like ours, they're athletic and they love to play defense. It could be a very defensive ballgame. It's their Senior Day, so we'll have to get through their seniors fighting for a win in their last game on their home field."

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