Barbara Stambach

Rugby teams bounce back

Men’s and women’s rugby clubs recover from recent woes to post solid weekend.

John Feaganglo

What a difference a week can make.

When the men’s and women’s rugby clubs got back on the right track during the weekend, the Butler Rugby Club placed second at the Minnesota State (Mankato) tournament while the Bulls Rugby Club took down the University of Nebraska-Omaha in Kirksville.

Junior Jennifer Ronser and the women’s team had good results despite the Butler’s loss in the championship game to the Minnesota State Rugby Club. "It put us in a good, positive attitude," she said. "We got to score a lot and against the best they had it."

Junior Kate Pickett said the competition was a good tuneup for the team’s Regional Tournament in Lawrence, Kansas on April 10-11. "It’s definitely a good tuneup for the tournament," she said. "We want to play out east and look forward to playing the Butler."

The game was played under the Butler’s new coach, Sean Foley. "It’s a pretty big statement, there and win it is a pretty big statement," Foley said. "It’s very nerve-wracking," Drennan said. "I’m sure he was a little nervous, but he made smart decisions and ended up with a good score."

"I was very worn out on Monday," Foley said. "We weren’t as mentally prepared for the first tournament as we’ll be in the next one." Drennan said. "It showed the first round in our mental dominance making through. George made some good decisions and put his club in a pretty good position."

"I’m not going to let any experience," Foley said. "I’m not going to let any experience change what he can do. I can’t change anything when he goes to Western." "I’m going to go out there and do what I think the club will do," George said. "I’m just trying to be aggressive and I came up on top." Men’s golf coach Tom Dunsmuir said every year was special, but he was pleased with the first tournament of the season by George.

"It’s really difficult to win any tournament, especially your first one," Dunsmuir said. "It was a difficult situation. They were all frustrated, but when his opponent hit a bad chip, George had the opportunity to make his club closer to the hole and tap it in for the tie."

Senior Kevin Orcutt said George’s composure with so much on the line was impressive. "It’s very nerve-wracking," Drennan said. "I’m sure he was a little nervous, but he made smart decisions and ended up with a good score."

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