Dogs split with No. 4 St. Cloud

BY DAVID LEMON
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The baseball team played two games Sunday and two games Tuesday against the No. 4 and No. 8 teams in the nation. During these four games, the Bulldogs split the series and kept their highly-ranked teams to 0.8.

Truman State split the opening series against St. Cloud State University in Minnesota, cleanly losing the first game 2-1 and winning the second game by 16-7. St. Cloud at the time was ranked No. 8. The Bulldogs and the Huskies scored more total runs in the doubleheader, with a chance to take both games as the first game won and went into extra innings. With the win, Truman State evened the series at 1-1 and kept the Bulldogs in the mix for the Central Missouri Mules.

Sophomore first baseman Paul Trenhaile stares down a pitch during Tuesday’s game against the No. 8 University of Central Missouri Mules. The Bulldogs dropped both games 1-0 and 7-5. The Bulldogs played a doubleheader prior to Central Missouri against No. 4 St. Cloud State University and split the series losing 2-1 and winning 7-5.

Missouri. Larkin is batting .273 on the season starting all 38 games for the Bulldogs. The Bulldogs lost both games of the series to the Central Missouri Mules.

“Larkin is our guy,” head coach Dan Harris said. “St. Cloud was unable to play this weekend because of snow, so we set up a doubleheader. It’s a great opportunity for us to play a pretty good team and have a chance to get better.”

“Even though it’s a loss, we need to go forward and see what we can in our game and keep the opportunity to win against good teams.”

Senior pitcher Matthew Groves had a well-thrown game throughout its six innings of work. Groves earned the win, but the pitching and defense for the St. Cloud Huskies was too strong for the Bulldog offense.

During the second game, the ‘Dogs capitalized on mistakes from the opposing pitching staff and scored six runs during the first two innings. Sophomore reliever Austin Olendorff came in for the Bulldogs and threw four scoreless innings, and after he had to pitch in a bases-loaded scenario in the second inning, his accurate pitching location made sure the ‘Dogs capitalized on the mistakes.

BULLDOGS WIN AGAINST No. 4 St. Cloud State

St. Cloud State loses this season: 4

St. Cloud State winning streak before loss: 15 games

Series run differential: 8-7 Bulldogs

Hitless innings pitched by Austin Olendorff: 4

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The ‘Dogs split with No. 4 St. Cloud, during Tuesday’s second game by a score of 3-1, but junior pitcher Tim Lee never gave up more than one run during an inning and pitched the entire length of the game for the third win of the season. The ‘Dogs two starters past that season both two-game series winning pitchers.

Junior pitcher Tim Lee has been the designated hitter because of an injury. His accurate pitching location made sure the ‘Dogs capitalized on the mistakes.

Groves now has started 30 of the 32 games this season, and in three home runs behind senior pitcher Matt Marosky Paul Trenhaile and Zrostlik also are expected to win the Big Eight, and each team has the ‘Dogs at the helm of the Big Eight.

Truman now is 9-29 for the season, and is looking ahead to this weekend’s series against the Fort Hays State University in Minnesota. The Bulldogs next home series will be a doubleheader against the Truman State University in Minnesota. Lee pitched all seven innings, giving up two earned runs.