

Athletic trainers juggle multiple sports



Kenna Corley/Collegian photographer

Above: Amanda Beadle, head athletic trainer, and Rene Schwan, athletic training junior, tape members of the football team before practice yesterday. The athletic trainers are busy right now, with the end of fall sports and the beginning of winter sports coinciding.

Right: The athletic trainers wrap the ankles of football players yesterday afternoon. Anywhere between 50 to 100 athletes get treated in the training room each day. Nine students are currently in the athletic training program and there are seven freshman applicants. The three rotations of sports applicants get put into are collision sports, like football and soccer, contact sports, such as basketball, and non-contact sports, including softball, track and cross country.

—Busy from page 1

cants to the program the first year. They are only allowed to observe the other students and trainers.

Kelli Florio, athletic training freshman, said she wishes she could help out more. She said, “I would consider myself somewhat experienced so to not be able to participate and sit there and fold laundry or re-stock is kind of boring. But you just have to keep the mindset that it has to be done and someone has to do it.”

When the students become sophomores, they are considered level ones. They learn the techniques of taping and lower body assessments. Juniors are level twos. They are allowed to tape, perform upper and lower body assessments and modalities which are things used for treatments, such as heat, ice, ultrasound and muscle stim. By senior year as level threes, they can do everything that certified trainers can do as long as they are supervised, such as hooking up electric stim, which is another means of treatment that conducts electricity through the body to aid with pain and swelling.

Once the students are ac-

cepted into the program, they are assigned a rotation of sports to help with. Rotations include collision, contact and non-contact sports. Collision sports are football and soccer, contact sports include both men and women’s basketball, and non-contact sports are softball, track and cross country. Each rotation lasts for a semester.

The classes and work schedule may be demanding but Schwan said getting to know the athletes and participating in school events is the best part.

However, Knak said the worst part is watching an athlete get injured and possibly be done for the season or forever.

Alex Hutchins, business administration junior, injured his knee during a football game early in the season. He has been doing rehab on his knee since the injury. He said, “I appreciate the trainers being in there because it’s extremely convenient. They know what they’re doing and they’re good at getting people healthy and able to play again.”

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Losing teams deserve applause too



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It isn’t what you dream of when you spend the greater part of your younger life practicing. There’s not a kid in the world who kicks the soccer ball around every day after school dreaming of his first loss, and no one with a basketball shoots for it not to go in.

But it does happen. As tough as it is to swallow, someone gets to be the winner and someone else has to be the loser.

It’s difficult to go to practice after you’ve just lost a close game. We’ve all had to do it. It’s even more difficult when you’ve just lost by 70 points two days before. What the scores and the fans who nitpick the game don’t realize is how much it takes to go back day after day. Yes, it

was ugly. Yes, they lost. But they still come back.

It takes a lot to come back and practice and not just go through the motions. That, if nothing else, should be commended. There are a lot of people who come to college from winning high school teams. The shock when you arrive that there’s not a good chance of winning any games and having to suffer through loss after loss seems like it would be unbearable.

It’s a lot harder to lose games than it is to win them. It makes people grouchy, upset and any other negative word you could find in the dictionary.

It’s maddening when in the end, it’s not the determination, the focus or the desire to win that makes your team lose time after time after time. It’s horrible to finally figure out that the other teams are flat-out better than yours is.

So here’s to all the losing teams around, the ones who don’t make the headlines of the newspaper (unless it’s for having the longest losing streak ever, like the 2007-2008 Oregon State basketball team surpassing their

1996-1997 team at 15 losses in a row last year), the ones who come back to practice day in and day out in futile attempts to make things better, and the ones who are doing their very best to think of the upcoming game instead

of “next year’s games.”

Here’s to our football team’s nine game losing streak. To the Bethany College men’s soccer team that lost every conference game this year. And to Tabor College’s 2007-2008 softball

team losing 21 in a row. Here’s to the Southwestern College volleyball team in previous years.

Mostly though, here’s to those who are still playing despite the embarrassing record that they have to defend

again and again.

Unless you know what it’s like to be on a team like that, you won’t understand what drives them to come back every day, but as long as you recognize that they do, that should be enough.



Anthony Cook/Collegian photographer

Ken Crandall, head football coach, talks to some of the players Nov. 8 when the Builders traveled to Ottawa University. The team lost 73-3 to the second-ranked Kansas Collegiate Athletic Association team. This brings the last-ranked Mounbuilders to a 0-9 record. They will look for their lone win against eighth-ranked Bethany at home Saturday in the last game of the season.

See you at
WARREN LAWN

Noon-1:30pm
Saturday
MAJOR MADNESS
Tailgate Party