

Doubles dominate for tennis

By Samantha Gillis
Features editor

Before the chilling winds of this past weekend, the women's tennis team came away with a 6-3 win April 7 at home against Friends University.

Julie Wilke, elementary education senior, and Alesia Schneweis, biology junior, were victorious in their doubles match.

They don't usually play doubles together, but Wilke thought they complemented each other.

She said, "It is always an adjustment to play with a new partner. I prefer playing different sides which is

very nice and we have different strengths which is a plus too."

The women pulled off all three doubles matches. No. 1, Molly Kearns, elementary education senior, and Lacey Hibbs, elementary education sophomore, snatched the win against Sara Pugh and Robin Bass, 8-6.

No. 2, Kelsey Reynolds, communication senior, and Kourtney McLeland, biochemistry senior, defeated Corey Wood and Sarah Goldsmith.

No. 3, Wilke and Schneweis defeated Katie Lepping and Sam Hutson, 8-4.

Although the team started with some solid wins, once

singles started, John Paulin, head tennis coach, became unsure of their momentum. He said, "(During) singles I was getting a little nervous until Molly and Kelsey wrapped up their matches."

No. 1 singles Reynolds defeated Pugh, 4-6, 7-6(5), 1-0 (7). No. 2, McLeland, lost to Bass, 7-5, 6-2. No. 3, Kearns, defeated Wood, 6-3, 7-6(5). No. 5, Wilke, lost to Lepping, 6-4, 6-4. No. 6 Schneweis defeated Hutson, 6-1, 6-1.

No. 5, Hibbs, was playing her first set when she had a knee injury which caused her to forfeit the match.

Later that week both the men's and women's teams

traveled to Bethany College. The frigid cold weather brought sweeping defeat to both teams April 9. "I think we saw one of the two strongest teams in KCAC today," Paulin said.

All three women's doubles were swept by Bethany. No. 1, Kearns and Reynolds, lost to Stacie Schoon and Victoria Gueder 8-4. No. 2, McLeland and Wilke, lost to Beth Prier and Crystal Mannebach, No. 3, Schneweis and Molly Hamlett, mathematics senior, lost to Aimee Harrell and Katelin Clauson, 8-1.

Singles, No. 1, Reynolds lost to Prier, 6-1, 6-0. No. 2, McLeland lost to Nesha Etience, 6-3, 6-2. No. 3, Kearns lost to Gueder, 6-0, 6-1. No. 4, Wilke lost to Harrell, 6-4, 6-2. No. 5, Schneweis, lost to Schoon, 8-0. No. 6, Hamlett lost to Mannbach, 8-1. The team lost the match to Bethany 9-0.

McLeland is only taking the positive from last week's matches.

She said, "Although I lost both of my singles matches to Friends and Bethany, I felt that I played pretty well. Both girls had incredibly strong hits and good placement. They were better than me, but I think I hustled well and put up a good fight."

The men's luck was also depleted, when they lost 9-0. "Five of Bethany's players are international students who are all very fine players," Paulin said. "I thought Friends was going to be the team to beat this year."

"Manley won one of the sets, and this was Kuba's first loss this spring," Paulin said. Singles No. 1, Andrew Manley, business senior, lost to Kuba Szymanski 6-1, 6-0. No. 2, Jacob Tafoya, computer information systems sophomore, lost to Jack Schoeman, 6-1, 6-1. No. 3, Jacob Mires, business freshman, lost to Santiago Gonzalez, 6-1, 6-0. No. 4, Jason Jeschke, sport management senior, lost to Ivan Rashkov, 6-0, 6-0. No. 5, DJ Wilson, business administration junior, lost to Derek Watson, 6-1, 6-1. No. 6, Tristan Walters, biochemistry sophomore, lost to Kody Koster, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 Doubles Manley and Tafoya lost 8-2 to Szymanski and Rashkov. No. 2, Mires and Walters lost 8-0 to Gonzales and Schoeman. No. 3, Jeschke and Wilson, lost 8-2 to Watson and Koester.

Wilke is now looking to her next matches.

"We have three matches coming up this week so I hope to not get burnt out and to try to learn something from each match," said Wilke.

The women's and men's teams played Kansas Wesleyan today in Salina. Scores were not available at press time.

They will host their next match April 18 against Bethel College.

Samantha Gillis is a sophomore majoring in convergent journalism. You may e-mail her at samantha.gillis@sckans.edu.

Box Scores

Tennis

Women

Singles

Amanda Faber def. Kelsey Reynolds, 6-1, 6-4

Kourtney McLeland def. Tammie Williams, 6-3, 6-3

Molly Kearns def. Amanda Wann, 6-1, 6-2

Stacie Herman def. Julie Wilke, 6-4, 6-2

Alesia Schneweis def. Katie Chlumsky, 7-6, 7-6

Brynne Mitchell def. Molly Hamlett, 6-1, 6-2

Doubles

Kearns and Lacey Hibbs def. Faber and Herman, 9-8

Reynolds and McLeland def. Williams and Wann, 9-7

Wilke and Schneweis def. Chlumsky and Mitchell, 8-4

Final

Southwestern 6, Tabor 4

Men

Singles

Chad Gayer def. Andrew Manley, 6-4, 7-5

Aaron Friesen def. Jacob Tafoya, 6-2, 6-2

Jeff Smith def. Scott Adrian, 6-1, 6-3

Emerson Kochern def. Jason Jeschke, 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

Andy Adrian def. D.J. Wilson, 7-5, 6-3

Kyle DeBlonk def. Matt Hanson, 6-4, 6-3

Doubles

Friesen and S. Adrian def. Manley and Mires, 8-3

A. Adrian and Gayer def. Tafoya and Smith, 8-5

Jeschke and Wilson def. Kochern and DeBlonk, 8-5

Final

Southwestern 2, Tabor 7



Katie Bipes/Collegian photographer

Kourtney McLeland, biochemistry senior, prepares to return the ball against her opponent from Tabor College. The women's tennis team won their matches defeating Tabor across the board.

Golf teams have nationals in sight

By Katie Gomez
Staff reporter

With just one tournament left before nationals, the men's and women's golf teams are down to the wire as they wrap up their regular season.

The men will travel April 27 and 28 to Garden City where they will compete in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship at the Buffalo Dunes Golf Course. The team that wins conference automatically qualifies for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championship May 19-22 in Silvis, Ill.

In this case, the team must defeat Bethany for the conference title.

Individuals can qualify if they take first at conference. Kenneth Wright, business

administration junior, placed 10th at nationals last year and received an automatic bid for this year.

The women will travel April 27 and 28 to Bonner Springs to compete in the NAIA Championship Play-In at the Sunflower Hills Golf Course. They must finish in the top 25 in the nation to make it to the NAIA National Championship May 12-15 in Rapid City, S.D.

The men and women traveled together April 6 and 7 to Shawnee, Okla., where they competed in the Bison Invitational hosted by Oklahoma Baptist University. Monday's round was canceled after 10 holes due to strong winds.

Scores were based off of Tuesday's round only. The men and women each took second place out of eight teams.

Blair Koehn, business administration senior, got first place with a 79.

"This was the first tournament I've been able to practice in beforehand because of my back so I went into it with a real positive attitude," said Koehn. "I went out and just took it one shot at a time. It was nice being able to overcome an injury because I've only got a few tournaments left since this is my senior year."

Courtney Huppert, business administration freshman, shot an 85, taking fourth. Kaydee Johnson, business administration sophomore, shot a 93. Lacie Holbert, communication freshman, shot a 101. Amy Kellner, business graduate, shot a 107.

For the men's team, Jared Paul, business administration junior, took fourth place

with a 75. Wright was close behind with a 76, taking fifth place. Raleigh Hughes, business administration freshman, shot a 77. Tim Jasper, business administration freshman, shot a 79. Bobby Weidner, business administration freshman, shot an 84.

Jasper said, "I felt like I hit the ball pretty well. Putting was off and on but I felt like I got my iron game back. I need to work on my driving game because it's really holding me back."

Brad Sexson, head golf coach, said, "This was by far our best tournament of the season. Blair finally got back to 100 percent and the girls played really well. It was our best team effort of the year. We lost by a shot to Oklahoma Baptist, who's ranked in the top 10 in the country, so that was really good."

Normally, each player in

the team plays in a three-some with golfers from other schools. This tournament, however, was different. Each school played in a group of five with their whole team. According to Sexson, this is done so that the coach can stay and watch their golfers play their whole round.

"Usually we're scattered throughout the course so we can watch each player," said Sexson. "But at this tournament, it was nice to be able to watch all five players during each hole."

The women also traveled March 30 and 31 to Duncanville, Texas, where they competed in the Bluebonnet Classic hosted by Northwood University.

Koehn shot a 92/89 for a 181. Huppert shot an 88/95 for a 183. Holbert shot a 98/105 for a 203. Johnson shot a 105/100 for a 205.

Kellner shot a 106/117 for a 223.

"We didn't have very much practice going into the tournament because of the weather," said Sexson. "After talking with other coaches, it's been a rough spring for all of us."

The men traveled Monday and Tuesday to Hutchinson where they competed in the Nike Invitational hosted by Sterling College. Results were unavailable at press time.

The women traveled Monday and Tuesday to Parkville, Mo., where they competed in the Spring Invitational hosted by Park University. Results were unavailable at press time.

Katie Gomez is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at kathryn.gomez@sckans.edu.

Weather wreaks havoc with spring sports



DeLeon Freeman

T.S. Elliot wrote in "The Waste Land," "April is the cruellest month." Well if April is the cruellest, March can't be too far behind.

For every spring sport in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference March was a devastating month when it came to competition. Golf tournaments, softball

games, track meets and tennis matches were canceled or postponed due to horrible weather.

Storms and cold weather canceled track meets throughout the KCAC, including the SC Invitational. These unfortunate incidents caused many track athletes to go nearly two months without any form of competition. A drought like this could cause a lot of problems for track athletes.

When athletes go a long period of time without competing there's the temptation of quitting. They feel like the season is over. There is no point in continuing to train for meets that seem like they

will never come. It takes strong-willed and dedicated athletes to endure this kind of punishment of no competition. Some people gave up on this year's season because of the weather during March.

Despite the weather that derailed part of this year's track season, many KCAC teams got the chance to compete for the first time at the

Friends Invitational. Mother Nature made it

pretty difficult because of the gusting winds during competition.

Heavy winds can be help-

ful and harmful. In the 100 meter dash and 200 meter dash, athletes run with the wind. However, it is difficult for athletes who run events that require multiple laps to run in heavy winds. They end up running against a tough head wind that could slow them down tremendously. This obstacle can weaken athletes' performance and cause them to give up. If they are well coached and disciplined, they could actually run pretty well.

Field events are exceptionally difficult when competing in a gust of wind. Shot put and javelin throwers feel the effects the most. The wind makes it harder for

the throwers to make good marks.

I would imagine that golf and softball would be similar. I know it's pretty difficult to compete in any sport with heavy winds and rain. Golf and softball pose different problems when playing in harsh conditions.

Softball may be affected a little more than golf because it requires a little more athleticism. Cold and stormy weather can affect a softball player's ability to run fast, to hit the ball and catch the ball. It isn't easy playing softball if you can't do these simple things.

Golfing is a little less difficult but yet is still affected

by severe weather. It is very difficult for golfers to hit the ball and direct it in the right direction when competing in harsh conditions.

Tennis is another sport affected by severe weather. Rain makes it hard for tennis players to move around the court to hit flying balls. Ice and snow make it impossible for them to even compete.

March 2009 was dissonant for all spring athletes. T.S. Elliot may think April is cruel, but March campaigned for the title.

DeLeon Freeman is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at deleon.freeman@sckans.edu.

Sports Column

The countdown is on...25 days until GRADUATION