APRIL 26, 2004

MEN’S TENNIS TIES FOR THIRD AT MIAA TOURNAMENT

The Truman men’s tennis team competed at the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association tournament this past weekend and tied for third out of five teams.

The Bulldogs won their first match against Emporia, 5-0, but lost in the semifinals to Southwest Baptist, 5-0. No consolation matches were played due to weather conditions.

The ‘Dogs complete the regular season with a dual record of 8-7 and will wait to hear on Wednesday if they garnered a spot in the NCAA tournament.

Truman has not made the NCAA men’s tennis tournament since 2001 when the Bulldogs traveled to No. 1 seed Drury University in Springfield for a first-round match and lost 5-0.

Senior Ben Smith (Fort Collins, Colo/Rocky Mountain) is the only member of the team that would be making a repeat trip to the NCAA tourney. He played in the No. 6 singles spot for Truman in 2001, but his NCAA match was unfinished. The only senior on the squad, Smith has a career record of 64-84 in singles play and is 49-42 in doubles play since joining the team in 2001.

LISTED BELOW ARE RESULTS FROM THE MIAA TOURNAMENT:

TRUMAN 5, EMPORIA 0
No. 2-Ben Smith, Truman d. Clint Musgrove, ESU, 6-1, 6-1
No. 6-Niklas Stubbendorff, Truman d. Bryon Autry, ESU, 7-5, 6-1

DOUBLES
No. 1-Tyler Wood/Ryan Cope, Truman d. Kellen Bombardier/Nolan Pringle, ESU, 9-7
No. 2-Ben Smith/Sean Cooper, Truman d. Ryne Wheatcroft/Clint Musgrove, ESU, 8-4
No. 3-Brad Martin/Steve Jones, Truman d. Blake Fiene/Bryon Autry, ESU, 8-3

SOUTHWEST BAPTIST 5, TRUMAN 0
No. 1-Dante Cipulli, SBU d. Tyler Wood, Truman, 6-0, 6-3
No. 2-Mark Eori, SBU d. Ben Smith, Truman, 6-0, 6-1

DOUBLES
No. 1-Andras Bori/Mark Eori, SBU d. Tyler Wood/Ryan Cope, Truman, 8-3
No. 2-Dante Cipulli/Johan Nortje, SBU d. Ben Smith/Sean Cooper, Truman, 8-2
No. 3-Peter Joos/Brian Harrelson, SBU d. Brad Martin/Steve Jones, Truman, 8-5