

## Mustangs round up Lonestar Conference championship

**IGGY CRUZ**  
STAFF REPORTER

The 24th-ranked men's basketball team capped off a wild tournament ride Saturday night in D.L. Ligon Coliseum by turning a season goal into a reality:

Earn the right to be called Lone Star Conference Champions.

MSU (23-6) claimed its third conference championship in team history, disposing of No. 9 Southeastern Oklahoma State (25-4) 89-80 in front of 4,328 fans, while punching a ticket to Warrenburg, Mo., site of the regional quarterfinal game in the

South Central Region of the NCAA Division II national tournament.

The Mustangs are seeded No. 3 and will play sixth-seeded West Texas A&M (19-9) for the second time in three weeks and third time overall this season.

Tip-off is set for noon on Saturday.

MSU had plenty of help against SEOSU as six players scored in double-figures led by Chris Davis with 19 points and eight boards.

LSC Tournament Most Valuable Player Eric Dawson finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds while Drew Coffman, Chris Francois and

Chad Rickett added 14 points each.

Coffman and Rickett also joined Dawson in being selected to the All-Tournament team.

Head Coach Jeff Ray said the "difference" in the game was the play of Dawson followed by his senior playmakers in the backcourt, Coffman and Rickett.

"Drew and Chad have a unique ability," Ray said. "Everything kind of slows down."

The Mustangs built an 11-point lead halfway through the first half before SEOSU answered back with an 11-4 run to knot the game up and go into halftime tied up at 41.

Francois went 2-for-2 from the 3-point line in the half, 3-for-3 overall, as MSU shot 50 percent (6-12) from beyond the arc and the floor, while the bench outscored the Savage Storm 17-6.

SEOSU never led in the game and the closest the Savage Storm would get came in the second half at the 13:53 mark, when both teams were tied at 52.

MSU then went on a 6-0 run to pull away, holding SEOSU through the remainder of the game.

"I have confidence," Dawson said. "We went with our heads up and just played."

The team finished with a 53 overall shooting percentage on the night while the Savage Storm shot 47 percent from the field.

Jason Stampley paced SEOSU with 22 points and seven rebounds followed by Eric Babers with 19 points.

Matt White chipped in 15 points and Stephen Harrel added 10 in the loss.

The winner of the MSU -WT game will go against the winner of the Southeastern-Emporia State game on Sunday in one of two semi-final games. The championship game will be held Tuesday.



ADRIAN McCANDLESS | THE WICHITAN

MSU's Kelli Shaw, right, slides for a base in game one against the University of Central Oklahoma yesterday at the Sunrise Optimist Fields. MSU won the doubleheader 5-1 and 5-3.

## Lady Mustangs buck Broncos

**JOSH MUJICA**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The MSU softball team faced off against the No. 9 University of Central Oklahoma Broncos yesterday in a doubleheader at the Sunrise Optimist Fields.

The Lady Mustangs were swept by the UCO in last Wednesday's doubleheader, so MSU was looking for revenge.

After a slow beginning by both teams junior Tara Staten made sure she put MSU in a position to win as she belted her first homerun of the season to left field in the bottom of the fifth inning.

In the sixth MSU erupted with four runs which started with Lindsey Voigt's RBI triple scoring Kris-

tin Stonecipher.

Kelli Shaw then hit an RBI single to score Voigt.

Staten came up to bat next and was intentionally walked bringing Lauren Craig to the plate.

Craig didn't disappoint as she hit an RBI double to score Shaw and Staten to put MSU up 5-0 at the top of the seventh.

UCO tried to spark a comeback but were only able to rack up one run in the last inning.

MSU won 5-1 and pitcher Katie Peterson improved her record to 9-7 on the year after pitching five perfect innings and not giving up a hit until the top of the sixth.

She finished with four hits, striking out three and allowing one earned run.

In game two, MSU managed to score five times in the bottom of the second inning to secure another victory.

Pitcher Ashley Kuchenski improved her record to 9-1 allowing only nine hits.

The Lady Mustangs were led at the plate by Chyanne Paschal's 3-4 hitting and double RBI.

Jessica Rodriguez went 2-3 with two RBIs.

Midwestern stayed perfect with an 8-0 home record and picked up two important Lone Star Conference North Division wins.

The Lady Mustangs, 18-8, will now host a doubleheader against East Central University on Friday.

Game one is set for 2 p.m.

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## Lady Mustangs serve opponents

**MELISSA DOS PRAZERES-SILVA**  
STAFF REPORTER

The MSU women's tennis team added two more wins to their record with punishing victories on Friday at the Eastern New Mexico State Quadrangular Invitational in Portales, N.M.

The Lady Mustangs dropped only two points and delivered a 7-2 beating to Western New Mexico State in their first match of the day.

Due to limited availability of courts the ladies began with the singles round and won comfortably in positions three to six.

MSU's Ann-Sophie Indehberge managed to edge out WNMU's Tereza Pilatova with a 7-6, 7-5 victory.

Janell Hetherington and Collean Kinser's 8-3 win at number three doubles and WNMU's default at number two secured the overall win.

The ladies went on to upset the hosts, 8-1, later in the afternoon.

The Lady Mustangs breezed past the Eastern New Mexico Zia's in singles spots three to six.

At number two Berkeley Peebles bounced back after dropping the second set to pull off a tight 6-3, 4-6, 13-11 win.

Number two and three doubles secured identical 8-4 wins against the ENMU pairs.

The Lady Mustangs will now take on Tampa, Fla. in Dallas today.

Start time is set for 3:30 p.m.

## Dawson, Coffman honored for play

FOR THE WICHITAN

Midwestern State University's Eric Dawson and Drew Coffman were named members of the 2007 Daktronics, Inc. All-South Central Region Team announced Tuesday.

Dawson, the 6-9 senior center from San Antonio/Sam Houston, was chosen first-team and will advance to the national ballot.

Coffman, the 6-2 senior guard from Midland/Lee was selected to the second team.

The team is selected by the sports information directors of the Division II schools in the South Central Region and sponsored by Daktronics, Inc., an acknowledged world leader in scoring, timing and programmable display systems for virtually every sport at every level of competition.

Dawson leads NCAA Division II with 11.4 rebounds a game and is fourth in the nation in blocked shots with 3.3 per contest.

He leads the South Central region

in both categories.

He scores 16.9 points per game and shoots 61.6 percent from the floor to go with his 1.6 assists and 1.5 steals a game.

Coffman leads MSU in scoring with 17.0 points a game, while ranking second in the LSC and region in assists with 5.28 per game.

He shoots 45.9 percent from the three-point arc, ranking 14th nationally.

He's connected on 84.7 percent of his free throws to rank second in the region.

Southeastern Oklahoma State's Eric Babers and West Texas A&M's Damien Lolar shared the team's Regional Player of the Year honors and joined Dawson on the first team with John Davis of Tarleton State, Hunter Henry of Northwest Missouri State and Zach Wright of Central Missouri.

Coffman heads the second team, joined by Jason Stampley of Southeastern Oklahoma, Donta Watson of Emporia State (Kan.), Anthony Brown of Central Oklahoma and

Marcus Hubbard of Angelo State.

Of the 11 players (due to ties) on the squad, only three will not play in the NCAA Division II South Central Regional in Warrensburg, Mo., starting this Saturday.

**2007 Daktronics, Inc.,  
All-South Central Region Men's  
Basketball Team**

**First Team**

Eric Babers, F, Sr, SEOSU (Co-Player of the Year)

Damien Lolar, F, Sr, WTA&M (Co-Player of the Year)

John Davis, F, Sr, Tarleton State

**Eric Dawson, C, Sr, MSU**

Hunter Henry, F, So, Northwest Missouri State

Zach Wright, G, Sr, Central Missouri

**Second Team**

Anthony Brown, F, Sr, UCO

**Drew Coffman, G, Sr, MSU**

Marcus Hubbard, F, Jr, Angelo State

Jason Stampley, G, Sr, SEOSU

Donta Watson, G, Sr, Emporia State (Kan.)

## Old Boys whip MSU rugby team, 22-15

FOR THE WICHITAN

The MSU rugby team traveled to Lake Highland Park this past weekend to play a friendly match against the over 35-year-old Dallas Reds Old Boys.

Since Midwestern was short of players Dallas granted them 2 extra players to make it a 14 vs. 14 match.

\*~\*~\*

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MSU came out strong with great forward play and some tactical kicking by Robert Sweeney.

Brad Sample got the first score for MSU on a 20-meter run after breaking free from a would-be tackler.

The conversion kick was missed, making it 5-0.

MSU kept pressure on the Reds by forcing them to make bad passes and stripping the ball constantly.

In one series an MSU player picked up a loose ball and ran it 15 meters before getting tripped up by one of the Dallas defenders.

Sweeney was there in support to scoop up the ball and outrun the Dallas defense up the sideline taking it 40 meters for the second score of the game.

The conversion was missed and the score remained 10-0.  
Dallas was able to use great

passes tie the game, 10-10 at halftime.

In the second half Dallas got the first scoring started with a quick pick-and-go by one of their forwards inside the 10 meter line.

The conversion was made which put Dallas on top 17-10.

MSU struck back shortly after Dallas committed a penalty and Sweeney took a quick tap and ran 30 meters for the his second score.

Dallas would have the final word as they broke to the outside a few minutes later to seal the win and go up 22-15.

MSU had 2 chances to score inside the Dallas 10 meter line but two dropped balls cost them scores.

The rugby team will now take a break from games and will regroup after spring break in preparation for a tournament in Nebraska March 24-25.

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