**Fast start for softball**

**Rugby opens with close loss**

Squad splits pair of road games after 4-1 showing at tournament

**Squad still split**

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After only a week of play, the softball team stood at 7-2. Although the team split a pair of games against Columbia University, the Bulls had a strong showing against the Miners of Northern Missouri State. The team went 4-1 against the Miners, as the only loss was a 4-3 defeat.

Head coach Larry Scully said the team played well throughout the tournament but fell short against Northern Missouri State. According to Scully, the team had a few key mistakes during the game against Northern Missouri State.

"We had to have a few more defensive stops, some pitching mistakes, and we made a big mistake with a bases-loaded situation," Scully said. "Unfortunately, we did not handle the mistakes in one game. It was too many mistakes that wouldn't have happened in another game."

The tournament was the first time the Bulls played outside of their home state. Although the team had some improvements, it was clear that the players were eager to gain more experience on the road.

"The team has made a few adjustments this season, and we are looking forward to seeing how they perform on the road," Scully said.

**Baseball opens with close loss**

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The club lost 20-19 in a disappointing match Friday against Oklahoma State University (Stillwater). Head coach Lawrence Scully said the team struggled with some older players. Although the team was able to put up a good fight, they were unable to overcome the challenge.

"It was a good game for us to use as a warm-up before the conference race," Scully said.

**Softball Shakedown**

**Central Arkansas Tournament**

Chiefs – 6-0

Central Arkansas – 1-12 (12 inn.)

Christian Brothers – 4-0

Feb. 23

Oklahoma Baptist – 11-6

Central Arkansas – 6-3

Feb. 25

Columbia College – 4-2

Washburn – 5-4

**Stillwater, Okla.**

**MIAA game**

NWMSU* – Mar. 28

Upper Iowa – Mar. 16

MIAA: 3-26 (10th)

Overall: 10-37

**Opponents hit only .232**

In the MIAA, opponents hit only .232, but the team still struggled with some younger players. Although the team had a few mistakes, they were able to come back and provide some positive momentum.

"The guys have really picked up the pace," Scully said.

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