

SH COMPETITIVE SPORTS NEWSLETTER

By: Emma Herbrandson



Photos by SHSU Campus Recreation

In this month's issue, we're recognizing the hard work and dedication of our Intramural Supervisor and Official of the Month—two individuals who go above and beyond to keep our games running smoothly. As the basketball season comes to a close, we reflect on the competition, standout performances, and the energy that made this season one to remember.

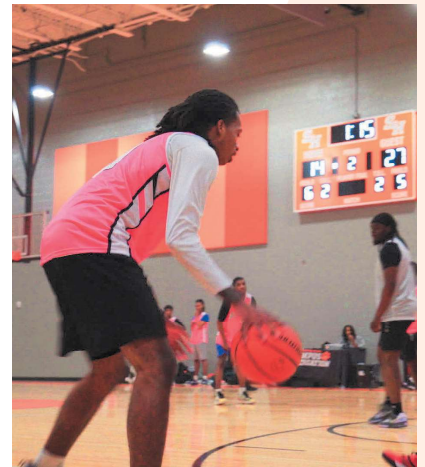
Plus, big changes are happening in Club Sports as we welcome a new Assistant Director, who is ready to bring fresh ideas and leadership to the program.

March also marks Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the incredible contributions of women in sports and beyond. From athletes to officials, coaches to administrators, we recognize and appreciate the impact of women who continue to shape our community. Stay tuned for all this and more in this month's edition!



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IN THIS ISSUE...



The intramural basketball season has officially come to an end, closing out with intense match ups and standout performances. Championship games brought excitement as the top teams faced off for the title. As the season wraps up, we celebrate the athletes, officials, and fans who made it a success.

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Several club teams have put in the hard work and earned their spot at nationals, showcasing their dedication and talent. As they prepare to compete on the national stage, we look forward to seeing them represent our community with pride and determination.

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Intramural Updates



Intramural Supervisor of the Month:

Congratulations to our Intramural Supervisor of the Month, Brayden McAuliffe! Voted on by staff, Brayden has stood out for his hard work, dedication, and willingness to go above and beyond for the program. Competitive Sports Graduate Assistant, Parker Callegari, shared, "Brayden came in as a new supervisor ready to learn and do the best he can. You see him picking up shifts on the court and marketing around campus. He's always aiming to improve and contribute wherever he can."

Brayden's leadership and dedication have made a lasting impact on the program. Whether he's stepping in to cover shifts, assisting with game operations, or promoting intramurals across campus, he consistently goes the extra mile. His hard work and positive attitude help create a great experience for both participants and fellow staff members. We appreciate all that Brayden does to keep the program running strong!

Basketball Championship:

Intramural basketball season has officially wrapped up. Thank you to every team that competed and great job to our crowned champions.

Intramural Official of the Month:

A big shoutout to our Official of the Month, Okwukwechi Bekee! Okwukwechi has set himself apart with his confidence on the court, deep understanding of the game, and strong work ethic. His ability to make quick, fair decisions under pressure ensures that every game runs smoothly. One of his supervisors, Tavian White, praised his dedication, stating, "He is a hardworking individual with a strong understanding of the game's rules and fosters a friendly and welcoming environment for his coworkers." His commitment and reliability do not go unnoticed, and his presence is valued by players, fans, and officials alike. He consistently upholds the high standards of sportsmanship and fairness. We appreciate all the hard work Okwukwechi puts into officiating and look forward to seeing him continue to make a positive impact on the court!

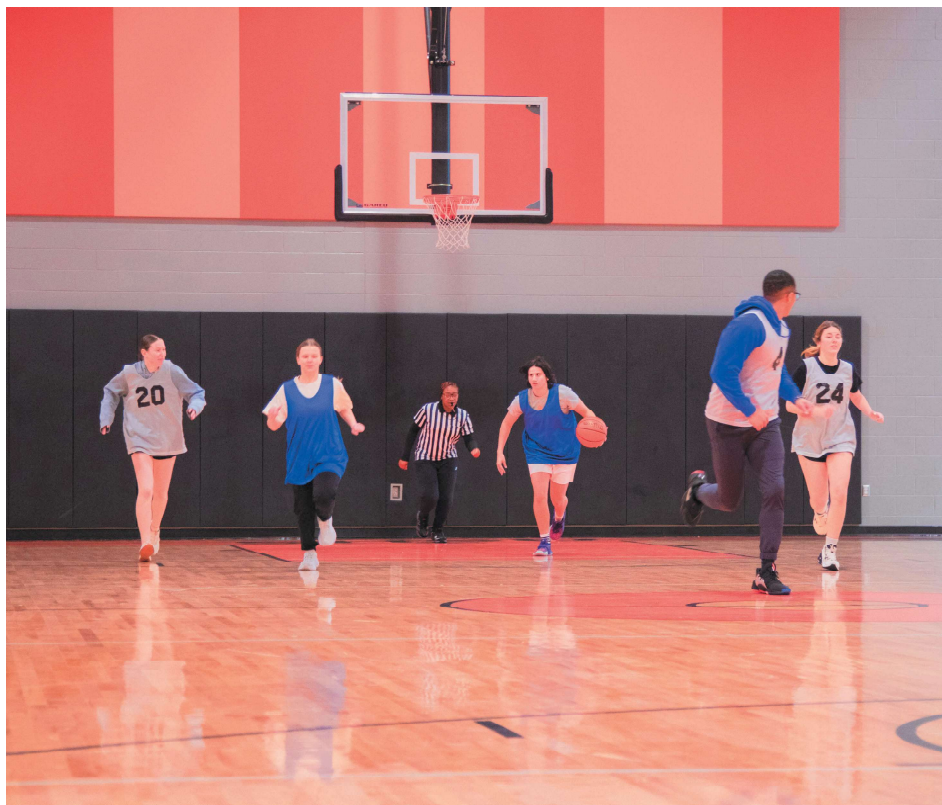


Photo by SHSU Campus Recreation

**UPCOMING
INTRAMURAL
AND ESPORTS
REGISTRATION
DATES:**

Intramural Sports:

3/6 Cornhole
3/17 4v4 Flag Football
3/17 4v4 Sand Volleyball
3/17 24 Hour Softball
3/20 Softball
3/27 Pickleball

E-Sports:

3/12 Mario Party
3/14 Chess
3/19 Super Smash Bros
3/21 Valorant
3/26 Street Fighter
3/28 Fortnite



Quadball on the road to Nationals

Sam Houston State University's Quadball team has officially earned their spot at the US Quadball Cup after a strong performance at the recent qualifying tournament held on February 1st and 2nd. With key victories over the University of Texas and Baylor, SHSU proved their strength and resilience on the field, securing their place at nationals. Team president, Gabriela Lopez, said "The team played amazing games this weekend. The team dominated Baylor and held strong against UT. In the UT game specifically, everyone played like they wanted to win. Overall, the team played well this weekend and the rookies were able to grow and see what a tournament of this level looks like."



Photo by SHSU Campus Recreation

Leading the charge was team captain Andrew Acosta, who was named the tournament's overall MVP. Acosta also tied with teammate Billy Nellums as the team's highest-scoring player, showcasing their offensive prowess throughout the competition.

The team's success was not just a result of individual performances but also a well-rounded team effort. Katie Whitney and Bailey Wallace delivered standout performances, contributing significantly to SHSU's dominance in the tournament. The team's defense was equally strong, with key stops and strategic plays that helped secure their victories.

SHSU Quadball's journey to nationals has been a season-long effort, with players dedicating countless hours to practice and conditioning. The team has demonstrated growth and resilience, overcoming tough competition to earn their place at the national level. Their chemistry on the field and unwavering commitment to success have been driving factors behind their impressive performance.

With their qualification secured, SHSU Quadball now sets its sights on the US Quadball Cup, which will take place on April 26th and 27th in Richmond, Virginia. The team is eager to continue their momentum and make their mark on the national stage. As they prepare for the biggest tournament of the year, SHSU Quadball will focus on refining their strategies, improving teamwork, and staying in peak condition to compete against the best teams in the country.



THIS MONTH'S CLUB SPORTS EVENTS AT HOME

March 1st

Women's Soccer vs Rice
Pritchett 11:00am

March 2nd

Women's Lacrosse vs UTSA
Pritchett 1:00pm
Women's Lacrosse vs St. Edwards
Pritchett 4:00pm

March 21st

Men's Soccer vs East Texas A&M
Pritchett 7:00pm

March 22nd

Women's Soccer vs Lamar
Pritchett 1:00pm

March 30th

Men's Soccer vs TAMU Cadets
Pritchett 1:00pm



Photo by SHSU Campus Recreation



Photo by SHSU Campus Recreation

Powerlifting qualifies for Nationals

Powerlifting has had a fantastic season so far with over 30 members qualifying for nationals. At the teams most recent meet another 5 members of the organization qualified. Lainey Galloway, a member of powerlifting, opened up about her experience with the team "I joined the powerlifting team my freshman year of college and I had no idea what impact it would have on me. This team is a second family to me, we spend a lot of time together. Through this time we've gonna through hardship and celebration together and I wouldn't want to spend these moments with anyone else. My first year on the team I qualified for nationals and it was the best feeling ever. Competing on a national stage in a major achievement that I didn't think I would experience especially not my first year. I placed 5th in the nation and learned many lessons through prep and competing that I will take with me forever. Going into nationals prep this year has been bitter sweet since it is my last collegiate nationals. I'm so excited for what is to come and hope to soak in all the memories I can."

"Powerlifting for Sam Houston has been the biggest blessing in my life and I wouldn't change my decision for the world. Powerlifting to me is not just lifting heavy weight it's pushing myself to limits I didn't think where possible."



Welcome Madison Luney to the Bearkat Family!

This March, Madison Luney will be joining SHSU Campus Recreation as the new Assistant Director of Club Sports and Intramurals. Madison comes to us from Montana State University, where she served as the Senior Coordinator of Competitive Sports. She brings a wealth of experience in campus recreation, leadership, and program development. Madison earned her undergraduate degree in Sports Management from Texas Tech University and went on to complete her Master's degree in Psychology from Purdue. She is also deeply involved in collegiate recreation on a national level, currently serving as the Region VI Soccer Coordinator for NIRSA.

Isabel Rios

Club Sports Activity Manager

"As a woman working in the rec I truly feel seen and heard. I'm appreciated for my creative touches and attentiveness."



Photo by Eric Herbrandson

Sheena Kapila

Personnel Graduate Assistant

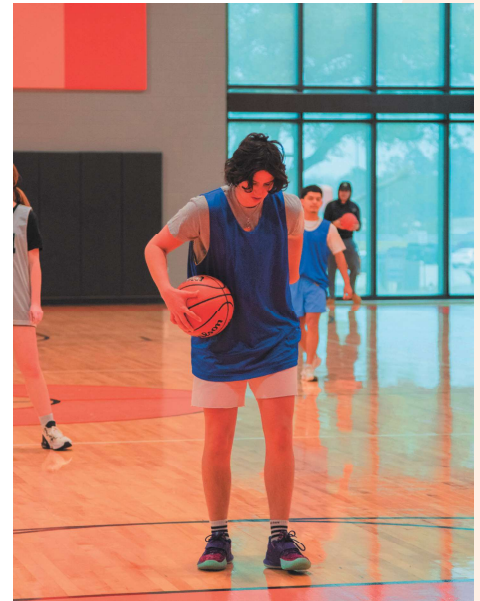
"Women rock. Men rock but, women rock a little bit harder."



Honoring Womens History Month at Campus Recreation

Celebrate the month of March with SHSU Campus recreation as we honor Womens History month. March is Women's History Month, a time to honor the incredible contributions of women throughout history and recognize the impact they continue to have today. At SHSU Campus Recreation, we celebrate the strength, resilience, and achievements of the women who help make our community thrive—both on and off the field, in the gym, and beyond.

This month, we want to give additional thanks to the incredible women who work tirelessly to make Campus Recreation a welcoming and inclusive environment. From our personal trainers and group fitness instructors to our facility staff and student leaders, these women inspire us daily with their dedication, expertise, and passion for health and wellness.



Women's History Month is a time to celebrate progress, recognize achievements, and continue fostering an environment where all women feel empowered to succeed. Let's honor the women who inspire us and continue to build a stronger, healthier SHSU community together!



Photos by SHSU Campus Recreation