

THE KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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Unpacking CBD | An analysis of Kansas and Federal THC laws



Photo by Meredith McCalmon | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP
RCPD arrested a string of individuals for purchasing unlabeled marijuana flower from CBD stores in Manhattan and around Kansas. Among the arrests was David Ince, owner of CBD American Shaman in Manhattan.

JAKOB TWIGG
website editor

Riley County Police Department raided CBD American Shaman on Jan. 30.

Officers arrested franchisee owner Donald Ince on probable cause offenses of three counts of distribution of marijuana and one count of failure to appear. Riley County Police Department raided CBD American Shaman on Jan. 30 and arrested

on Jan. 30 and arrested franchisee owner Donald Ince on probable cause offenses of three counts of distribution of marijuana and one count of failure to appear.

Ince said his store was forced to close for two weeks after RCPD seized his inventory and froze his bank accounts.

"I wasn't labeling the flower, and so when people were in other counties, they were getting arrested for marijuana

[possession]," Ince said. "I got subpoenaed for a case in McPherson, and I forgot about it and didn't go, so I got a warrant for that, and when they served that warrant, they did a search warrant ... [and] we're still going to court over it. It's probably going to take six months to a year to straighten it all out."

RCPD has encountered many cases in recent months where individuals were cited for possession

of marijuana after purchasing what they believed were legal CBD products from local businesses.

An anonymous Kansas State student who regularly consumes both legal and illegal cannabis substances said it was "scary" that consumers could be arrested for what they thought was a legal purchase.

SEE PAGE A2
"CBD"

Linking Together | Student hosts sponsored gaming party for friends and community

JAKOB TWIGG
website editor

Noah Biswell, junior in management information systems, transformed his living room into an expansive local area network hub last weekend, hosting over a dozen students and Manhattan residents to hold a weekend-long gaming party.

"In the olden days people had to all come to the same house, bring their ethernet cords and plug in to play together," Biswell said. "My goal for this event was to bring back that type of scenario for me and some buddies. We [were] all in one living room, tightly packed with a window cracked so that it kind of stayed cold inside, playing a bunch of games on offline servers."

Biswell created an atmosphere akin to the '90s to provide attendees with a

classic gaming feel.

Biswell said he sent formal sponsorship proposals and exclusively sought out local businesses to sponsor the event.

"This event is so much more than just getting together and sitting in the living room playing video games," Biswell said. "It's a community event at the end of the day. Having these K-Staters here at the house, having some family here, is just the way that I promoted it to companies."

The venue was filled with numerous sponsorships from local businesses. Event attendees received catered food, drinks and free merchandise from Hawaiian Bros., MHK Caravan Co. and Sweet Pieces by Natalie.

MHK Caravan Co. owner Tara Geiber said, "He could have just asked me very nonchalantly at any time, but



Photo courtesy of Noah Biswell
K-State students pose in front of a marketing poster at Hawaiian Bros. in Manhattan on Feb. 22.

he didn't. He sent me a formal email and introduced himself again and told me a little bit about the event, what it was and why it would be beneficial for me as the Caravan Company to help them out ...

it was a no-brainer!"

Geiber, professor of entrepreneurship, said it takes "a lot of ambition" for a student to put on an event like Biswell did.

SEE PAGE A2
"GAMING"

Researchers find avian influenza spreads between cows via milking

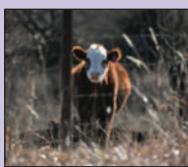


Photo by Grace Parks
COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP

Cows can be affected by the H5N1 influenza virus, causing harm to the dairy farming industry. The virus is spread through milk rather than respiratory transmission.

MEREDITH MCCALMON
managing editor

A team of Kansas State researchers, including regents and university distinguished professor of diagnostic medicine and pathobiology Juergen Richt, found that bovine H5N1 influenza virus is primarily spread via milk, rather than through respiratory transmission.

"We wanted to do a nicely-controlled study to answer two important questions," Richt said. "Is it a respiratory-transmitted pathogen and a milk-transmitted pathogen, or is the milk the major conduit of transmission? That was one question we answered."

After collaborating with the Friedrich Loeffler Institute in Germany, Richt and his team found that overwhelmingly, avian influenza passes through consumption of infected raw milk. The team of researchers published their findings in the journal Nature.

"Milk-associated doesn't mean it's only the milking equipment," Richt said. "It could be the milk in the milk parlor, it could be other things, milk contaminating feed, etc. There's so many different ways it can happen. People get contaminated with the virus because they milk, and then they go from cow-to-cow and yada yada."

Infected cattle will present with a lack of appetite and fever, Richt said.

"The most significant sign ... is they [cows] have a significant drop in milk production, and the milk becomes — you cannot consume that milk," Richt said. "It's not very tasty. It's not a good product."

Richt said the spread of avian influenza through livestock has a significant economic effect.

"If you're a dairy farmer you make money with milk, and if a cow who gave, say, 60 pounds of milk or more a day, or 80 pounds, suddenly only makes one pound, it's in your wallet," Richt said.

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WEEKLY CALENDAR

28	Trivia Night — Union Courtyard	28	Story Slam — Manhattan Arts Center	28	MHK Library Association 2025 Book Sale — Manhattan Public Library
1	Difest 2025 Improv Comedy Workshop — Forum Hall	4	Mardi Gras Party — Parkside Station	5	Brews Bros Trivia — Finn's Pub



Illustration by Ashly Sites | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP

"CBD"

CONTINUED FROM A1

"I would have been like those other people who got stopped and had no idea that I had an illegal product," the student said. "It's one thing to actually know that you have a product on you that's illegal in your state, but it's another thing to think that you purchased legally."

Kansas House Bill No. 2367 requires retailers to label all packaged cannabis products with cannabinoids — a group of compounds found in cannabis plants — chemical concentrations.

Ince said he sends all products to the Pinnacle Analytics lab in Medford,

Oregon, to test cannabinoid concentrations.

"Mostly, I carry the American Shaman or Zen master [products]," Ince said. "That's the stuff from our company, but if people come looking for something that I don't have, I tend to try and get that for them."

K-State graduate and one of TopShelf CBD's three partners, Jeremy Meek, said he had the idea of starting a CBD business since he was a freshman in 1998.

"That's always just been a dream and a passion," Meek said. "But, the laws weren't changed back then. I had to go to school and get a Bachelor's and Master's. I worked in social services in the healthcare field until the law started changing."

TopShelf CBD part-owner Ray

Hannings said each store product is labeled with a QR code to keep in compliance with Kansas law.

"Every product, including a flyer, has a COA badge on it," Hannings said. "It is a QR code that anybody — you, me, our moms, law enforcement — can scan. It goes to a website that actually holds the legal documentation for that product."

Hannings said the store also requires customers to leave with a receipt as an extra layer of documentation.

"You're not going to leave my store with me worried about you being pulled over. I'm giving you a receipt ... it is what we do," Hannings said. "You are going to leave here with proper documentation because we want this industry to look good, reliable and clean."

"GAMING"

CONTINUED FROM A1

"A lot of times, people don't realize the undertaking of what it is to put an event like that together," Geiber said. "Even though it was for a small amount of students, it still made a big impact. He

really is a go-getter ... It's just really cool to see that he took the initiative to do this, and it's something that he did on his own without having to be asked or without having to assign it."

Jacob Power, senior in management information systems said, "It's really fun being able to take what we learn in class and

implement it in real world applications. We started Friday at 7 p.m., set up desktop computers, joined the network, downloaded all the files and had everything set up. We hung out until 2 to 3 a.m. each night. It was an awesome bonding experience and I can't wait for the next one."

Photo courtesy of Noah Biswell
A box of decorated cookies donated by Sweet Pieces by Natalie, a local business in Manhattan, KS.**SUPPORT US!**
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Editors' Picks | Songs of February

THE COLLEGIAN

"Mary Jane's Last Dance" by Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers | Grace Parks

With the weather getting warmer and the sun finally coming out, "Mary Jane's Last Dance" is one song that makes me want to open all the windows and take in the fresh air. This classic song will sweep you right into the spring and summer vibes as we watch the sun melt all of our troubles and lasting snow piles away.

"Busy Doin' Nothin'" by Zach Top | Toby Hammes

The song has a laid-back, easygoing vibe that makes it perfect for dreaming about warmer weather and taking it easy, especially after our

long, cold winter. Plus, if you're a country music fan, especially of '90s artists like Alan Jackson, Toby Keith and George Strait, it's time to hop on the Zach Top bandwagon.

"Sam" by Sturgill Simpson | Jakob Twigg

It's always a joy to hear this song play on those long summer nights when you are surrounded by friends and have a cold glass of whiskey in hand. The lyrics are catchy and the song doesn't overstay its welcome. It is the perfect addition for any country night playlist.

"Terrapin" by Clairo | Lilly Crist

Lately Clairo has been my go-to artist. Her newest album "Charm" is a relaxing listen, as her signature dreamy instrumentation is consistent

throughout the whole album. My favorite song from it is "Terrapin," as the bass hums in the foreground, the crisp snare keeps the beat and intricate piano licks are glittered throughout.

"Forgive You" by Leon Bridges | Libby Zuck

This song just itches that part of my brain, combined with the fact that I have listened to this song religiously for years, this is a classic for me. With spring right around the corner, this song is a perfect mix for an afternoon stroll. The bass and lyricism combined is unforgettable, especially if you're looking for the ultimate windows down, sunglasses on song to listen to with your friends.

"Normal" by Sasha Alex Sloan | Emma Lazarczyk

Coming from my "Spring

"Come As You Are" by Nirvana | Cole Bertelsen

Spring feels especially fitting for this song — the melancholy of the song pairs well with the stubbornly cold weather that Kansas can't seem to fully kick. Grunge and Rock blend together perfectly here, and the echoing guitar riff makes me feel like I'm underwater.

"Sutphin Boulevard" by Blood Orange | Meredith McCalmon

Blood Orange is a master of the groovy electronic sound, and "Sutphin Boulevard" is no exception. Through a smooth blend of R&B funk and modern influence, the song evokes a feeling of nostalgia and yearning that pairs well with a sunroof-open drive and some 60-degree weather.

Recipe | Vegan French Onion Dip

Like most, I find onions are the backbone of every meal I make. With a little bit of olive oil and seasonings to taste, creating caramelized onions adds flavor to almost any dish. Let the mixture cook on low to medium heat as long as you want — the longer the better — but at least for 45 minutes. This week, I decided to throw this delectable staple into a homemade French Onion Dip. The recipe is vegan, but you can easily use sour cream instead of the cashew sour cream mixture. This recipe serves eight people and is easily doubled or tripled. Enjoy!

Cashew Sour Cream

Ingredients:

- 2 cups raw cashews
- 1 cup water

- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled
- 1 teaspoon sea salt

Directions:

Place all ingredients into a blender. Blend the mixture until it is smooth and creamy.

French Onion Dip

Ingredients:

- 1 cup finely diced caramelized onions, chilled or at room temperature
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt

Directions:

Stir together the cashew sour cream, caramelized onions, onion powder, salt and pepper. Cover and chill for one hour.

Garnish with finely chopped chives and serve with potato chips.

Note: It is better to caramelize more onions than needed for this recipe. Store any extras in an airtight container in the fridge for up to a week. They can also be frozen for two months. They will garnish almost anything!



Photo by Jakob Twigg | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP

This delectable vegan french onion dip serves eight people.

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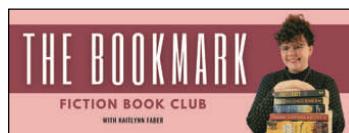
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KAITLYNN FABER
staff writer

A woman with her freedom on the line, a man struggling to find solid footing in his life and the devil that connects them both shape a story that left me with one lingering question. I finished "The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue" by V.E. Schwab wondering: How much is a soul worth?

The story combines my two favorite genres, historical fiction and fantasy, in a tale that explores the balance of love, life and loneliness whether you have all the time in the world or none at all.

More importantly, it's a tale of endurance through art; how memories and people can be lost but their ideas remain.

The story mainly follows Addie LaRue, who was born

in the small village of Villon, France in 1691. She values her independence above all else, but that fierce free will is threatened when she is forced to wed into a life she doesn't want.

In an act of desperation, she runs away, begging the old gods for anything to help, and cursing them when they don't answer.

The last rays of sunlight fade. The search party closes in. There's nothing she can do to escape. And then something answers her call in the darkness.

Now, Addie has made a deal with a dark god, granting her immortality but cursed to never be remembered. She embarks on a lonely road of trading roots for wings and long-term love for long-term life, often questioning

Book Review | 'The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue'

it along the way and more when her toxic relationship with the dark god evolves.

Three hundred years later, Henry Strauss is working for next to nothing at a small bookstore in New York City. He recently dropped out of grad school, much to the disappointment of his parents, and struggles to move on after the end of a relationship he put his soul into. He has secrets of his own, living a life where nobody sees him for who he is, trapped in an invisible life of his own. At least, until he meets Addie LaRue, and is the first person in three hundred years who remembers her.

One of my favorite parts about this story is the idea of the memory of people versus the memory of ideas. For Addie, each section in the book

exhibits a famous artifact from history inspired by her, even if the artist doesn't remember her. So is she entirely forgotten, or does something more powerful than memory remain even when the history is erased?

I will admit, I didn't love this book as much as I'd hoped I would. The pacing was slow, and I often found myself wishing the plot throughout Addie's life gave a more historic perspective. There are seemingly more pages than what befits the plot at times, but that doesn't mean it wasn't enjoyable, it just felt underdeveloped.

I would give this book three stars out of five. I removed one star for how the story felt underdeveloped, and another because I struggled to envision Addie as a fully-fleshed character. She

was often described as an enchanting person, who people quickly fell in love with, but I didn't feel much personality from her. Excluding the ending, it often felt more as if the story was happening to her, rather than the story happening because of her.

Despite my rating, I wouldn't call it a bad story, it just wasn't to my taste. There were lots of poetic quotes and interesting ideas about what makes life meaningful, and I think this would have been a good, quiet read for a rainy day. It had too many smaller issues for me to call well-written, but it's still beautifully written. I would recommend it to anyone looking for a slower, quaint love story that touches on the longevity of art compared to the frailty of life.

STARTING NEXT WEEK | UPCOMING BOOKS I'M READING AND REVIEWING

MAR 14	MAR 21	MAR 28
THE DOOR OF NO RETURN KWAME ALEXANDER	THE POPPY WAR R.F. KUANG	THE HANDMAID'S TALE MARGARET ATWOOD

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• Iowa St. — March 2 @ 3 p.m. — ESPN2
 • Big 12 Tournament — March 5-10 — TBD

B1

MEN'S BASKETBALL

vs. Colorado — March 2 @ 3 p.m. — ESPN+
 • Cinc. — March 5 @ 6 p.m. — ESPN+

BASEBALL

Frisco Classic (tourn.) — Feb. 28 - March 2 — DiBaseball
 vs. Creighton — March 5 @ 3 p.m. — ESPN+

Sports

Friday, Feb. 28, 2025

'Cats in Pros | Tomlin makes NBA Debut, Johnson and Nowell light up G-League

TREY THOMAS
staff writer

Even with football season in the books, Kansas State athletics still has a handful of former Wildcats performing at the next level.

Here's a look at some former K-State hoopers making professional strides:

Nae'Qwan Tomlin, F, Cleveland Cavaliers

A former K-State forward, Tomlin went undrafted in the 2024 NBA draft but signed a contract last September with the Cavaliers' G-League team, the Cleveland Charge.

Tomlin performed well for the Charge, including a game with 21 points and 20 rebounds, which was the first 20-20 game for the Charge since Dean Wade accomplished the feat in 2019.

Last week, the Cavs needed someone to fill their final roster spot, leading to Tomlin signing a 10-day contract to help fill the void for now.

"Man, I'm fired up for him," K-State head coach Jerome Tang said. "... So proud of him, happy for him. It's incredible to see young men fulfill their dreams."

Tang added that several people in the NBA reached out to Tang, interested in what the G-League



Archive photo by Nichole Marye Harris | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP
 K-State forwards Nae'Qwan Tomlin and Keyontae Johnson react from the sidelines during K-State's 82-61 win over TCU at Bramlage Coliseum on Feb. 7, 2023.

star could bring to their respective franchises.

"If the Cavs didn't put him on a 10-day, there was going to be another team that was going to pursue him," Tang said.

In a matchup last week between the Brooklyn

Nets and the Cavs, Tomlin made his official debut. The stretch big man put up three points and one rebound in only three minutes of action.

In his second game against the New York Knicks, Tomlin put up five points and three rebounds while shooting 50% from the field. The Cavs won both games Tomlin participated in, posting 142 points total against the Knicks.

Dean Wade, F, Cleveland Cavaliers

Another former Wildcat who helped the Cavs get the win over the Knicks was Wade. The forward dealt with a knee injury but made a full recovery and returned last week to play against the Knicks.

"We took a hit defensively without him [Wade]," Cavs head coach Kenny Atkinson said. "We still ended up winning games, but our defense slipped without him so it's good to have him back."

SEE PAGE B3
 "PROS"



Archive photo by Logan Wassall | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP
 Forward Dean Wade slams down a dunk during K-State's win over Baylor in Bramlage Coliseum on March 2, 2019. Wade has been a member of the Cavs organization since signing pro in 2019.

K-State FB transfer round-up 'Cats tab 7 offensive newcomers

TOBY HAMMES
sports editor

Kansas State football signed 14 individuals out of the transfer portal — its highest total in modern recruiting history — adding a handful of hopeful contributors and established veterans to its young core.

The Wildcats are tied with reigning league champion Arizona State as co-favorites to win the Big 12 Conference in 2025, per FanDuel Sportsbook. Here's a look into each offensive newcomer for K-State football:

Jerand Bradley, WR, Boston College/Texas Tech

Bradley, a 6-foot-6 veteran receiver, spent four years across Division I football, starting with Texas Tech for three years, where he grabbed 10 touchdowns across 2022 and 2023. He transferred to Boston College last year before entering the portal again this year.

At Tech, he played his first season of college football under current K-State offensive coordinator and associate



Photo by Payton Lee | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP
 K-State head coach Chris Klieman celebrates with quarterback Avery Johnson during the Wildcats 41-15 win over Cincinnati on Nov. 23. Klieman signed seven transfers to join Johnson on offense in 2025.

head coach Matt Wells.

"That's my guy, since I was 16 we've always been locked in, he's always been there for me," Bradley said. "He played a huge role in [signing], having that relationship with him, that's what I'm all about, relationships."

Gabe Ervin Jr., RB, Nebraska

Ervin Jr., a 6-foot, 220-pound back from Buford, Georgia, enters Manhattan as a graduate transfer after four seasons in Nebraska.

Last season, Ervin Jr. saw time in eight games,

tallying 41 yards and two touchdowns on 14 carries, which included a 24-yard, two-touchdown performance in the season opener against UTEP. In 2023, he earned the starting running back job out of fall camp and played in three games before suffering a season-ending injury — the second of his career.

Ervin Jr., who profiles more as a bruising back, joins a running back room led by Dylan Edwards and Joe Jackson, looking to complement the young speedsters.

SEE PAGE B3
 "TRANSFERS"

K-State BSB sweeps Top 25 foes for Texas tourney title

BRAYDEN MESEKE
staff writer

Kansas State baseball scored nine runs in a three-inning span Sunday, backing Lincoln Sheffield's quality start and clinching the Amegy Bank College Baseball Series title with a 10-2 defeat over No. 22 TCU at Globe Life Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

Vs. No. 22 TCU

The Wildcats (4-4) scored four runs in the fifth, all of them with two outs, performing at the highest level for a third straight Top 25 win in as many days.

"Our mindset was to treat this four-team tournament like a regional," head coach Pete Hughes said to K-State Athletics. "Proud of how our boys embraced that mindset."

Left-handed pitcher Sheffield dazzled in his outing, pitching seven innings and allowing just one run while striking out eight batters.

The key to K-State's success throughout the series in Arlington was its pitching, especially the starters.



Photo courtesy of K-State Athletics
 K-State pitcher Blake Dean celebrates after recording an out during K-State's upset of No. 5 Arkansas on Feb. 21.

Sheffield continued that momentum and took it to another level with his performance.

"Lincoln [Sheffield] set the tone for the entire game immediately. It was as efficient as an outing can be at our level," Hughes said. "His tempo and command were the keys in keeping a potent TCU offense at bay."

Maximum Martin led the 'Cats offensive with three hits at the plate and three RBI. Martin knocked in the first run of the game in the fourth inning to give K-State a 1-0 lead.

Shintaro Inoue also had a three-hit day for SEE PAGE B3
 "BSB"

Why MBB's Max Jones could earn extra year of eligibility



Photo by Emily Lenk | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP

Guard Max Jones smiles after scoring with a teammate. The Wildcats continued their winning streak to 6 games with a 73-70 win over Arizona on Feb. 11 at Bramlage Coliseum.

TOBY HAMMES
sports editor

Court orders on NCAA eligibility have swept across the college athletic landscape, and they may have an impact for Kansas State men's basketball senior Max Jones.

A transfer from Cal State Fullerton, Jones spent the first two years of his college career at the Division II University of Tampa. Similarly, Wisconsin football's Nyizer Fourqurean played two years at DII Grand Valley State.

Fourqurean filed a lawsuit against the NCAA, saying those two years should not count against his NCAA eligibility as he was denied the opportunity to profit from NIL after having limited time at a higher level.

Fourqurean was granted at least one extra year of eligibility after his lawsuit against the NCAA.

"We've been on the forefront of that one," K-State head coach Jerome Tang said. "Whatever we can do to get Max Jones another year of eligibility, I'm all about it."

SEE PAGE B3
 "JONES"

KNOW YOUR OPPONENT

K-State WBB battles Iowa State with NCAA hosting implications on the line

BY THE NUMBERS	
K-STATE	
FG %	49.3%
1st in Big 12	
AST. / GAME	21.8 ast.
1st in Big 12	
BLK / GAME	5.5 blks
2nd in Big 12	
IOWA ST.	
FG %	46.8%
4th in Big 12	
AST. / GAME	19.4 ast.
3rd in Big 12	
BLK / GAME	3.1 blks
11th in Big 12	

WHO TO WATCH:

K-STATE: F Kennedy Taylor, G Jaelyn Glenn
IOWA STATE: G Addy Brown, C Audi Crooks

PREDICTION:

70-67 WILDCATS

BRAYDEN MESEKE
staff writer

No. 14 K-State (25-5, 13-4)

Kansas State's loss to Baylor ended hopes of its regular season Big 12 title, but with a strong season finish, the 'Cats can still be a top-four NCAA Tournament seed and host the opening round for a second consecutive season.

In the loss, Baylor center Aaronette Vonleh dominated the 'Cats inside, scoring a personal season high of 24 points. Things don't get any easier this week as Iowa State's All-American candidate Audi Crooks awaits.

Forward Kennedy Taylor was great stepping in for the injured Ayoka Lee, who

Iowa State (20-10, 11-6)

Iowa State was on a tear lately, winning five of their last six games. The Cyclones took the Wildcats to overtime in Bramlage before falling in their first matchup at Bramlage. On Sunday, the Cyclones will get their chance at revenge without battling Lee.

Guard Addy Brown has been great for the Cyclones in her sophomore season. The Derby native scored

K-State announced will undergo a minor procedure and miss the rest of Big 12 play, including the tournament, but will return before the NCAA Tournament.

Taylor, in her bigger role, scored double figures in the past two games. However, Crooks will be her toughest defensive assignment yet.

Guard Jaelyn Glenn has been consistent all year for the 'Cats, averaging nearly 10 points per game while shooting 44% from three. Glenn has great length, which will be helpful against Iowa State guards. Her shooting ability also gives the 'Cats another option to stretch the floor.

20 points against the Wildcats in the last game. The 6-foot-2 guard averages nearly 15 points per game.

Center Crooks continues to show her dominance in her second season at Iowa State. She has increased her scoring average to 22 this season, leading the Big 12. Her matchup with the Wildcats' centers should favor her all night, so expect the Wildcats to double her when she catches it in the post.



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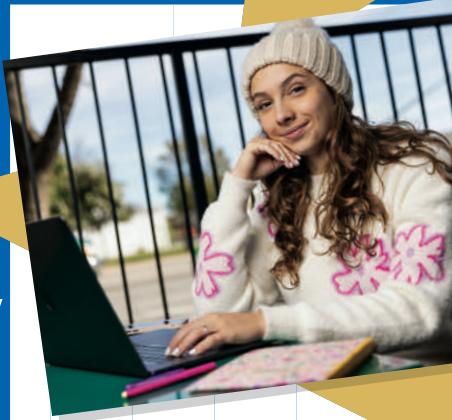
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"BSB"

CONTINUED FROM B1

The Wildcats went the entire game without committing an error which they did all weekend, failing to surrender an error over the three-game tournament.

"You always give yourself a chance to win when you don't make errors, especially over a weekend," Hughes said. "That's the level of defense we are capable of playing all the time, so that was fun to see. It was a good three days and a long year ahead of us to improve in a lot of areas."

K-State will return to Texas to play in another four-team series with another highly ranked opponent, No. 3 LSU, waiting for them on Friday, Feb. 28. The first pitch against the Tigers is at 2 p.m.

Vs. No. 25 Michigan

K-State downed another ranked opponent, No. 25 Michigan, winning 5-1 on Saturday at Globe Life Field.

The star of the show was

K-State freshman phenom and two-way player Donte Lewis, as he at one point retired 12 batters straight on his way to earn his first win as a Wildcat.

"Donte Lewis was the difference maker," Hughes said. "His stuff was electric, but his composure as a freshman was the real story of the game. He thrives in big moments."

Michigan scored the first run of the game in the top of the first inning off of K-State starter Michael Quevedo. However, the lead didn't last long as K-State answered with two runs in the first to claim the lead.

In the fifth, K-State third baseman Dee Kennedy smoked a ball to left field that cleared the fence for a two-run home run. The ensuing batter, designated hitter Seth Dardar, found a pitch he liked and belted a home run of his own. The back-to-back long balls gave K-State a 5-1 lead.

"That was a great team effort," Hughes said. "We got big hits from [Dee Kennedy] and Seth [Dardar] mid-game to help us win those

crucial middle innings."

Kennedy and Dardar are both new transfers for K-State who had excellent starts to their seasons. Kennedy has now hit safely in four straight games while Dardar has reached base in all seven games this year.

After the big fifth inning for K-State, Lewis shut down the Wolverines with four scoreless innings. In the ninth inning, K-State brought on reliever James Guyette, who pitched a scoreless ninth including striking out one to earn the save.

Vs. No. 5 Arkansas

A go-ahead RBI double from Micah Dean in the seventh ended up being the winning run for the Wildcats, stunning No. 5 Arkansas 3-2 in the opener of a three-game tournament.

Dean's game-winning hit handed the Razorbacks their first loss of the season and was rewarded with the Player of the Game honor for his efforts.

K-State kept its momentum against the highly-touted Razorbacks after upsetting their

home regional in last year's NCAA Tournament, advancing to the Super Regionals for the first time since 2013.

Starting for the Wildcats was senior Jacob Frost who gave the 'Cats their best outing at the time, taking a one-hitter into the sixth inning. Frost held the Razorbacks to just two runs before handing the ball over to sophomore Blake Dean. Dean and Frost combined for 11 strikeouts that night.

"So proud of our guys for their toughness and resilience through a challenging stretch," Hughes said. "We had great pitching, and our guys competed in the zone all night."

Blake Dean went 3 2/3 innings in relief and retired 11 of the 14 batters he faced, striking out five.

In the third inning, the Wildcats struck first to get an RBI single with two outs from Dee Kennedy, who is off to a fast start for K-State. The Wildcats tacked on another run in the fourth on an RBI single from Shintaro Inoue as he drove in Maximus Martin, who originally committed to Ar-

kansas during the offseason.

"Offensively, we executed situation baseball well and performed against a really good arm," Hughes said.

Arkansas struck with two runs in the sixth as they hit two solo home runs to tie the game up at 2-2.

The Wildcats then struck back immediately with a run in the seventh with the go-ahead double by Micah Dean. In the bottom of the seventh Dean also made a great defensive play as he threw out an Arkansas runner trying to reach third base, which was a big out at the time as it kept Arkansas out of scoring position.

"This game is a good reflection of our team's character and an important momentum builder, but we have some ground to make up," Hughes said.

K-State had a tough schedule to start the year, but the Wildcats now have multiple signature wins that will go on their resume for an NCAA tournament bid later this season.

"TRANSFERS"

CONTINUED FROM B1

"My style can definitely fit in there with the power, speed, the elusiveness, all of the running concepts that K-State comes with," Ervin Jr. said. "It's my style. I couldn't have asked for a greater gift than to come here."

George Fitzpatrick, OL, Ohio State

Fitzpatrick, one of two Ohio State transfers that former Wildcat quarterback Will Howard helped recruit, stands at 6-foot-6 with national championship experience.

He played in all 16 games as both a reserve offensive lineman and on special teams last year as the Buckeyes went on to win the College Football Playoff.

"I've seen what it takes to go to the national championship, and I think we have the group to do it here," Fitzpatrick said.

Caleb Medford, WR, New Mexico/TCU

Medford, another veteran receiver with Big 12 experience, wrapped up his redshirt junior season at New Mexico last year. The Henderson, Texas native stands at 6-foot-1.

He spent his first two years at TCU, including memories

against Felix Aduinde-Uzomah during his record-breaking sack performance in 2021 and a Big 12 Championship in 2022.

"That was a surreal moment, didn't really work out," Medford said. "But hey it's alright. I'm here now. I'm on the winning side right now, and I can't wait to play TCU. That's the biggest thing for me. I can't wait to play them."

Brandon Sneh, OL, Wagner/Elizabeth City State

Sneh, a 6-foot-6, 316-pound tackle, comes to Manhattan as a senior rising through the ranks of college football. The native of Philadelphia started at D2 Elizabeth City

State before starting for FCS Wagner last season.

Last year in his first year at Wagner, Sneh started all 11 games played, seeing time on 600 snaps at left tackle. He detailed what kind of presence he brings to the offensive line.

"I bring aggressiveness, quickness and I don't allow any sacks," Sneh said.

Amos Taleale, OL, USC

A 6-foot-4, 375-pound transfer who lived in Santa Clara, California before attending USC, has three years of eligibility left upon coming to the Little Apple.

"No matter what, I'm going to compete for the starting

spot," he said. "That's how every team should be, that's how USC was. If everybody competes for a spot, everyone gets better."

Jaron Tibbs, WR, Purdue

Tibbs, a 6-foot-3 receiver who just wrapped up his sophomore season at Purdue, attracted many power conference teams upon his entrance into the portal, but said there was something special about K-State.

"K-State was attractive because there's a good culture here and obviously [Avery Johnson]," Tibbs said. "That's really attractive, a quarterback that can get you the ball ... If was something I couldn't pass up."

"JONES"

CONTINUED FROM B1

Extra years of eligibility for Division II transfers from lower levels of NCAA is a recent trend in college athletics. Former junior college players such as K-State defensive tackle Uso Seumalo gained an extra year after Vanderbilt quarterback Diego Pavia sued the NCAA, citing that his time at the junior college level shouldn't count against his overall NCAA eligibility.

The NCAA then released a blanket waiver for all NCAA athletes who transferred from junior college at the end of last year. As of now, former Division II athletes haven't been issued a blanket waiver.

However, Tang is hopeful one is on the way.

"We have a compliance department that looks into waivers, and this is one of my specialties," Tang said. "... We're gonna turn over every rock and figure it out. ... Normally, when one kid gets it, to avoid a series of

lawsuits, they'll just do a blanket waiver, like they did for [Pavia]. And so I hope to see that happen."

In his first year in Manhattan, Jones has started in every game and solidified himself as one of the Wildcats' most consistent players in the season of ups and downs. He averages 9.6, 3.9 rebounds and two assists per game.

Jones is tied with super senior David N'Guessoan for third in minutes per game played this season. N'Guessoan, a third-year Wildcat, is the

Wildcats' leader in points and rebounds per game this year.

A return to the Little Apple by Jones would be a huge boost toward the changes in the program that Tang stated he wants to see, prioritizing building roster consistency.

"He's playing like a third-year guy in the program that cares," Tang said of N'Guessoan. "He's become much more vocal and assertive, his actions speak really loud now. That's part of the growth process, and it's great to see. Hopefully,

we can get more guys to stick around longer and see that kind of evolution."

With the regular season still winding down, Tang said they haven't sat down with Jones to discuss the possibility of returning yet. Still, they'll be eager to have that conversation when it's time.

"I know he's aware of what's happening out there," Tang said. "I know that if the opportunity is there for him to come back, we're going to do everything in our power to make sure he does."

"PROS"

CONTINUED FROM B1

In his return, Wade had two points, two rebounds and two assists. In his second game back against the Memphis Grizzlies, he had zero points but made an impact rebounding, totaling six.

Keyontae Johnson, F, Greensboro Swarm

Johnson is a reliable scorer for the Charlotte Hornets G-League team, the Greensboro Swarm. The forward averages 14.8 points, 3.8 rebounds and 2.2 assists for the team.

Johnson put on a scoring onslaught last week against the Mexico City Capitanes. The former Wildcat dropped 36 points while shooting 62.5% from field goal range. He also



Archive photo by Elizabeth Sandstrom | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP
Guard Marquis Nowell and forward Keyontae Johnson celebrate after a layup during against Oklahoma on March 1, 2023. The Wildcats beat the Sooners 85-69.

had four rebounds, one assist and two steals. The Swarm won the game 89-71.

Marquis Nowell, G, Rio Grande Valley Vipers

Nowell put up career-high points last weekend against the Memphis Hustle, following an off-the-floor engagement announcement on Instagram.

The former K-State point guard almost had a double-double, posting a statline of 44 points and nine assists. Nowell was a problem on defense as well, putting up five steals. Of his scorching 44 points, 36 came in the second half. He made a career-high of nine 3-pointers.

Unfortunately for Nowell and the Vipers, Memphis secured the win 136-120. Nowell is one of the Vipers' premier players, averaging 18.8 points, 7.7 assists and 2.0 steals a game.

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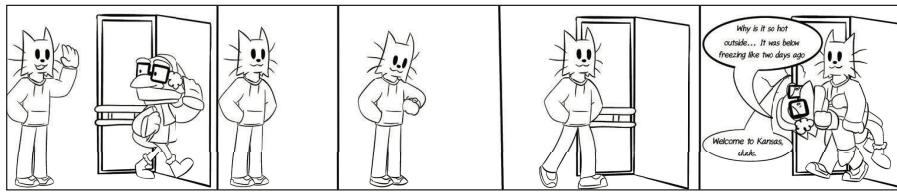
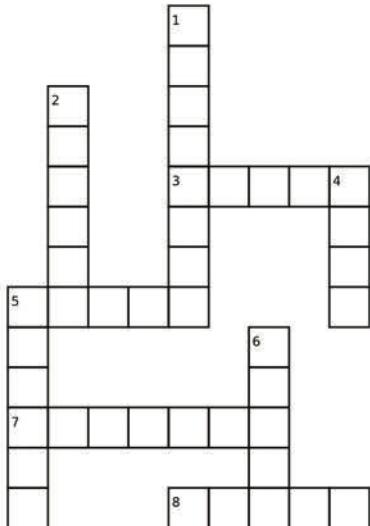


Illustration by Jacob Bush | COLLEGIAN MEDIA GROUP

CROSSWORD



Across:

3. K-State baseball beat three straight Top 25 teams in this state.
 5. K-State football had this many offensive transfers.
 7. K-State researchers found that avian influenza primarily spreads in cows through _____.
 8. This K-State guard could have an extra year of eligibility

Down:

1. "Geiber, professor of entrepreneurship, said it takes "a lot of ____" for a student to put on an event like Biswell did.
 2. Dean Wade and Nae'Qwan Tomlin played for this G-League team.
 4. "I finished "The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue" by V.E. Schwab wondering: How much is a ____ worth?"
 5. RCPD raided CBD American ____ on Jan. 30.
 6. "the recipe is ____, but you can easily use sour cream instead of the cashew sour cream mixture."

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