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Smile of the Week



Joel Johnson, assistant chief of police, has just recently joined the Northwestern family. He said he has lived in several different places but Alva and New York City was his and his wife's favorites.

Meet Joel on page 5

If you'd like to be the Smile of the Week, please send in a photo of you smiling and a short description of why you're smiling to nwnews@nwosu.edu!

Take a Look!



"Coffee, Cocoa and Candy Canes" SGA event

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The Student Government Association will host the 'Pack-the-Theater' event on Saturday. Courtesy by University Relations

SGA to host fine arts event

This year's Annual Holiday Gala Concert at Northwestern Oklahoma State University will have a new twist. Student Government Association (SGA) members will be assisting the University's Fine Arts Department with a "Pack-the-Theatre" event Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. in Herod Hall auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

SGA members will be handing out free t-shirts to the first 50 Northwestern students with current student ID's beginning at 6 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the concert.

Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, will officially light the university Christmas tree on the Herod Hall lawn at the Bell Tower immediately following the

concert. SGA members will be serving hot chocolate and hot apple cider during the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony.

The University Singers and University Chorale will present holiday favorites led by Karsten Longhurst, director of choral music. The University Singers will perform "This little Babe," "Carol of the Bells" and "Silent Night." The University Chorale will perform four songs including "Angels from the Realms of Glory" and "Noel."

The choirs are accompanied by Susan Duell, adjunct instructor of music, and Lawana Newell, director of vocal studies.

Numerous students will be featured soloists including Naice Gugelmeyer, Hardtner, Kansas, senior; Chance Mayhall, Ponca

City junior; Paxton Mayers, Ponca City freshman; Aaron Pierce, Alva sophomore; and Sadik Malik, Accra, Ghana, Africa, senior.

The Northwestern jazz ensemble and symphony band led by Dr. Marc Decker, director of instrumental music and music education, will then take the stage. The jazz ensemble will perform "Three Guys," "The First Noel" and "Feliz Navidad."

The symphony band will perform "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and "Fanfare for Christmas," directed by guest conductor Arthur Bohlmann, Hooker graduate student.

To end the concert the band and choirs will combine to perform "Salvation is Created" and "Holiday Favorites."

Barton family honored

The Barton name is a familiar one around Alva and Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

From 1966-1995, John Barton shaped the minds of young men and women in the university's speech department.

In honor of the impact he and his wife, Margaret, made at Northwestern, their daughter Cheryl (Barton) Listen, with her husband Herb Listen, established the John and Margaret Barton Communication Lectureship for Academic Enrichment to provide additional funds for Communication faculty and staff development.

Both John and Margaret graduated from Northwestern; John in 1964 with a degree in speech and Margaret in 1963 with a degree in office administration. John taught at Northwestern for almost 30 years and held the positions of instructor of speech, chair of the speech department, dean of men and



John and Margaret Barton/Courtesy of University Relations

director of educational outreach.

He served as associate professor of speech and dean of the School of Humanities, Fine Arts and Language upon his retirement in October 1995. He was honored as an Outstanding Graduate in 2003 and remains a dedicated supporter of Northwestern. John and Margaret have three children, Cheryl, Paul Barton and Tamara (Bar-

ton) Brown, who currently is an assistant professor of speech and the interim chair of the Communication Department at Northwestern.

"The Barton family has been associated with Northwestern for over 50 years," said Cheryl, who graduated from Northwestern in 1989 with a degree in psychology. "My

See BARTON, page 12

Northwestern 'Holiday Gala' this Saturday

The traditional Northwestern Oklahoma State University Holiday Gala Concert is set for Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. in Herod Hall Auditorium followed by the annual tree lighting ceremony. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, will continue the annual lighting of the university Christmas tree outside on the Herod Hall lawn at the Bell Tower immediately following the concert. This year the members of the Student Government Association (SGA) will be serving hot chocolate and hot apple cider at the lighting ceremony.

SGA members also are making this concert a "Pack-the-Auditorium" event for Northwestern's students. They will be passing out free t-shirts to the first 50 Northwestern students in line. T-shirts will be passed out starting at 6 p.m. and doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the concert.

The University Singers and University Chorale will

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News



Graphic provided

Northwestern fall graduation information

By HAYLEE BATES
News Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University will host its fall commencement service on Dec. 11.

This event will begin at 3:30 p.m., and it will be held on campus in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Students that are graduating can visit the campus bookstore for any questions about class rings, graduation caps and graduation gowns.

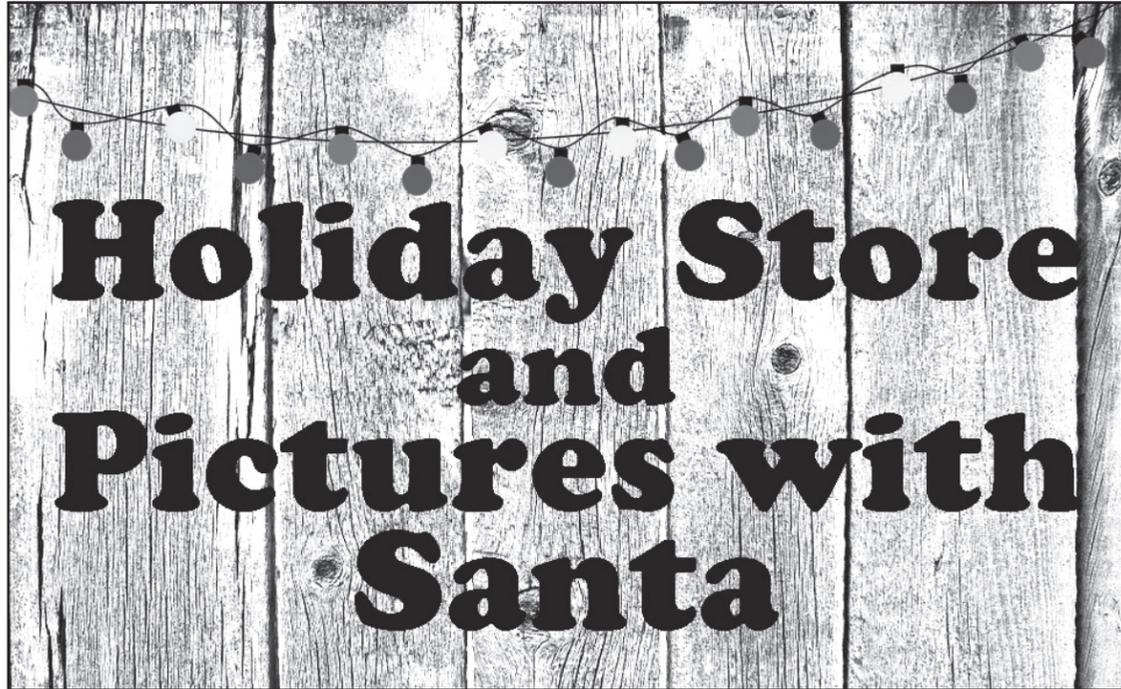
For more information about graduation the December graduation, students can contact Caleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management, at (580) 327-8415, or students can email him at cnmosburg@nwsu.edu.

There will also be a fall commencement reception following the conclusion of the ceremony.

The reception will be hosted in the Student Center Ballroom. The event will last from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information about the reception, students can contact Dr. Mary Riegel, assistant professor of mathematics, at (580) 327-8437, or students can email her at mriegel@nwsu.edu.

The commencement address will be delivered by Mark Norman, 1947 Northwestern graduate. Norman currently serves at the interim executive director for Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA).



Graphic by Haylee Bates

Campus club is hosting a gift store on campus

By HAYLEE BATES
News Editor

The NWSU Art Society will be hosting its seventh annual holiday store and photos with Santa on Dec. 17.

This event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will be located in the Student Center. The gift shop section will be in the Ranger Room, and the pictures with Santa, also known as Santa Land, section will be in the Wyatt Room.

This event is mainly for the children in the Alva community, but children from surrounding communities are welcome to attend as well.

"We send letters home with every elementary school kid," said Angelia Case, academic projects assistant and media specialist. "We have to try to work with the school people about how many kids there are and how many kids per classroom. We try to sort them by classroom so that the teachers get a bag of letters to send one home with every kid."

"The information goes home to the parents, hopefully," she said. "The good thing is the older kids in the elementary school have had these letters every year

prior, so I've had parents asking me this year if we're still doing it."

The NWSU Art Society is the main sponsor of the event, but individuals in the community and on campus are able to volunteer for the holiday store and photos with Santa.

"Our group is pretty small, so we encourage other people to come and help us," Case said. "We were encouraging people are SGA meetings to sign up and come and help us. Some of our student volunteers have the best time with the kids."

Setting up for the event typically begins on the Wednesday of finals week. Students that cannot be there for the day of the event, but want to help, can go to the Student Center during their free time and help with the set up.

"We start setting up while students are taking finals," Case said. "We tell them finals are first, but when you're finished come find us because we'll be there working on getting things set up."

The NWSU Art Society coordinates with a company outside of Kansas City, Missouri that provides their gifts for the store.

The children that come to the event are able to go through the gift store and pick out presents for their family members and friends for Christmas.

"They can actually take a gift out of there that's wrapped up so no one in their family knows what it is," Case said. "Kids can come in, and we'll have helpers there to help them, and we kind of encourage the parents to stay outside the room, so they don't ruin the child's surprise."

Parents are welcome to watch their children as they go through the store, or they can wait for them to finish outside in the food court area.

Children also have the option to take pictures with Santa. Each picture is \$5.

"Every year we think that this will be the last one, but when you get there and you see the kids having all the fun and you see all of the pictures that come from Santa Land, they're adorable," Case said. "It has become a very important thing for these kids and their families."

For more information about the holiday store and photos with Santa or sign up to volunteer, individuals can contact Case at (580) 327-8577 or by email at arcase@nwsu.edu.

Northwestern offices closing for holidays

Northwestern Oklahoma State University will close for the holiday break beginning Friday, Dec. 23.

Campus offices in Alva, Enid and Woodward will reopen Jan. 3, 2017.

Spring semester classes will begin on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017.

Enrollment for spring courses is open, and new and returning students are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible to ensure course availability.

The spring semester schedule of courses is available online at www.nwsu.edu/course-schedules. The last day to enroll is Jan. 18.

One master's level education class, School Public Relations – EDUC 5772, will be offered as an interim class Monday through Thursday, Dec. 19-22, and Tuesday through Friday, Jan. 3-6, from 5 to 9 p.m.

The two-credit hour course will originate from Alva and be broadcast via ITV to Enid, Woodward, Ponca City and Oklahoma Panhandle State University.

For more information about the campus schedule and course schedules, students and employees can visit the Northwestern website at nwsu.edu.

Get ready for the holidays with Alva's Market low prices and quality products!

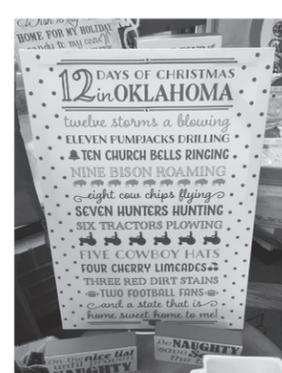
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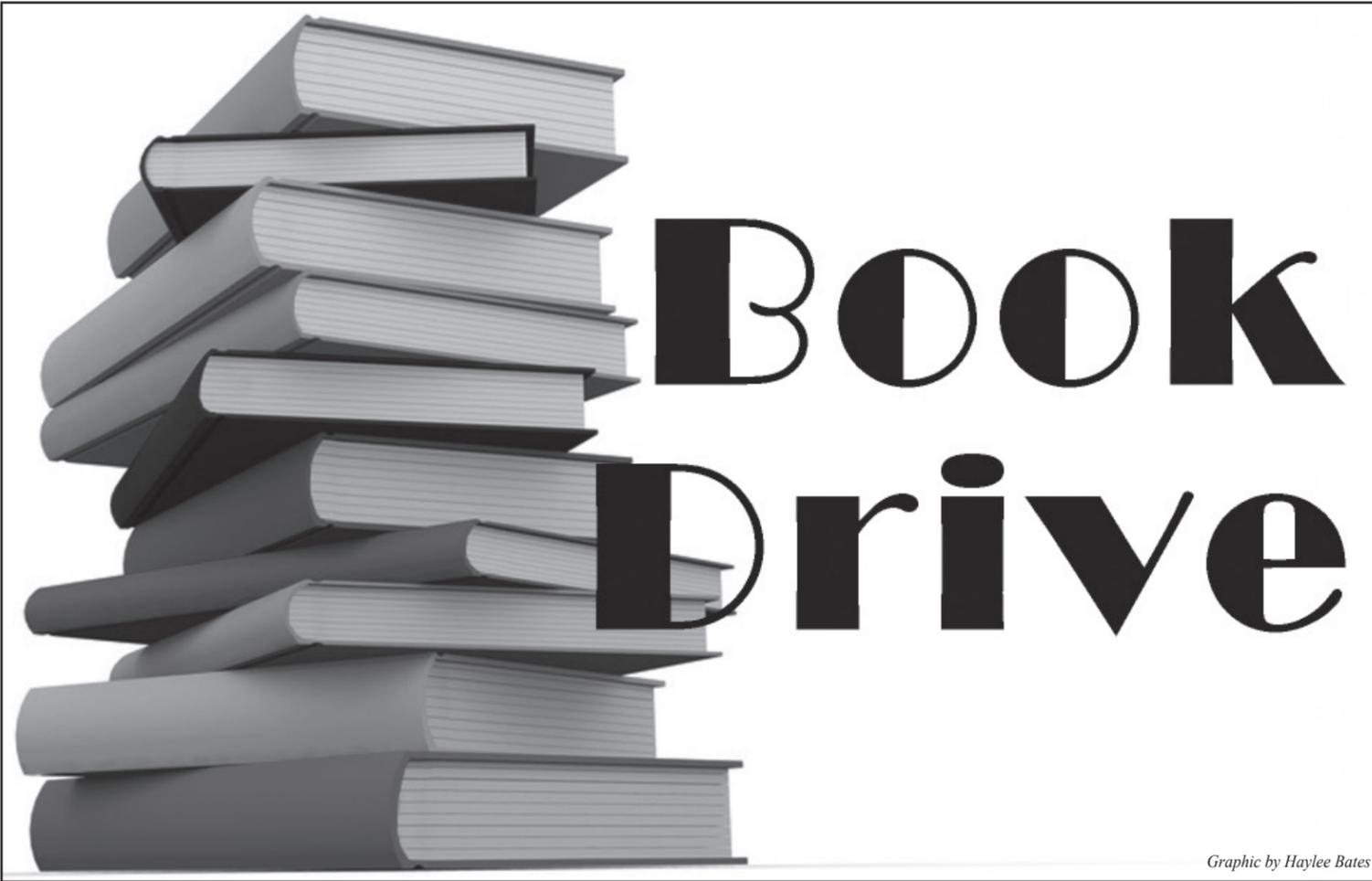


- Updates

- Poll questions

- Share your opinions

News



Campus club holds event during finals

By SAMANTHA MCGUIRE
Staff Reporter

Finals week is just around the corner, and students and teachers are preparing for the end of the semester.

During finals week the Student Government Association is having a table for Coffee, Cocoa and Candy Canes to help students relax. The event will be in the library, so students have easy access while studying. It will be going on from 6 p.m. to midnight.

The coffee, cocoa (hot chocolate) and candy canes are all free and provided by SGA. The purpose of the event is to help students relax during their finals week and get ready for the Christmas season. SGA also thought this was a good way to wish everyone good luck during finals week.

SGA vice president, Don Holly, said, "This event in particular is to relieve some of the finals week stress that's put on our fellow students."

Although no college student needs prompting to take advantage of free anything or caffeine, here is a reason coffee in moderation can help students study. According to Forbes.com, researchers found that giving people a little bit of caffeine after they memorized a series of pictures significantly boosted their ability to remember the details of the pictures. Forbes.com said the key is to have the caffeine after the memorizing.

"We all know that finals week can be really stressful," Holly said. "Studies have shown the dangers of having too much stress in one's life, so we have put forth this sort of 'relaxation station' in the library where most will be doing their studying."

SGA is here to help students relax, memorize and conquer their finals.

CORE sponsors book drive

By PATRICIA PIXLER
Student Reporter

Northwestern's environmental group CORE is collecting used textbooks during its annual Better World Book Drive.

The book drive will span from Dec. 5 to Dec. 13 with drop-box locations in the Alva library, Alva bookstore and the CORE area in Enid.

The Better World Book Drive is a national book drive, with drop-box locations available across the United States.

Rachael Cooper, vice president

of NWOSU's CORE, said, "Better World Books is a self-sustaining social venture to help fund literary world wide. They partner with many libraries and college campuses, collecting unwanted textbooks to support their non-profit literary program. Currently they have saved over 63,000 tons of books from landfills."

This has been the fifth year CORE has participated in the Better World Book Drive.

Cooper said, "We decided to participate in the Better World Book Drive because of their environmental impact and their contribution to world literary."

The collected textbooks will be shipped to Better World Books, where they will be resold with profits going to high-impact literary programs in the United States and around the world. Better World Books has converted 117 million donated books into over \$15 million dollars in funding for literary and education.

In return for the book drive, CORE receives some money. Cooper said, "We use the money received to help our cause. Every semester we host an educational event. Also, we provide recycling for NWOSU Enid and Alva. We provide the tools

used for campus clean-up and other activities."

The Better World Book Drive is CORE's sole fundraiser, and the club is thankful to have a fundraiser that is meaningful and makes an impact. This year, CORE's goal is to collect 100 used textbooks.

"Core is a dynamic club; small but mighty. Student-led, the sky is the limit as we tackle environmental issues locally and globally," Cooper said.

For more information about the Better World Book Drive and CORE, please contact Rachael Cooper at recooper12@rangers.nwosu.edu.

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The Way We See It

Editorial
Section

Looking on:

Expectations for next time you see us

It has been a busy semester for us at the Northwestern News to say the least.

This semester we introduced a lot of new layout and design techniques with the Northwestern News.

We have also strived each week to include a variety of content within our sections as well.

In addition, we have introduced new sections this semester with the Your Voice, Area News and The Buzz.

Next semester though, we will continue in our pursuit to better this newspaper in every which way we can.

In the spring we will look to leave a lasting positive impression on the Northwestern News as the majority of its current staff will depart in May upon graduation.

If you would like to send us suggestions as to what you'd like to see in the newspaper next semester, please feel free to do so at nwnews@nwosu.edu

Here's what we've learned

It's finally time we take a break from writing stories and filling pages as this is our thirteenth and final issue of the Northwestern News for the semester.

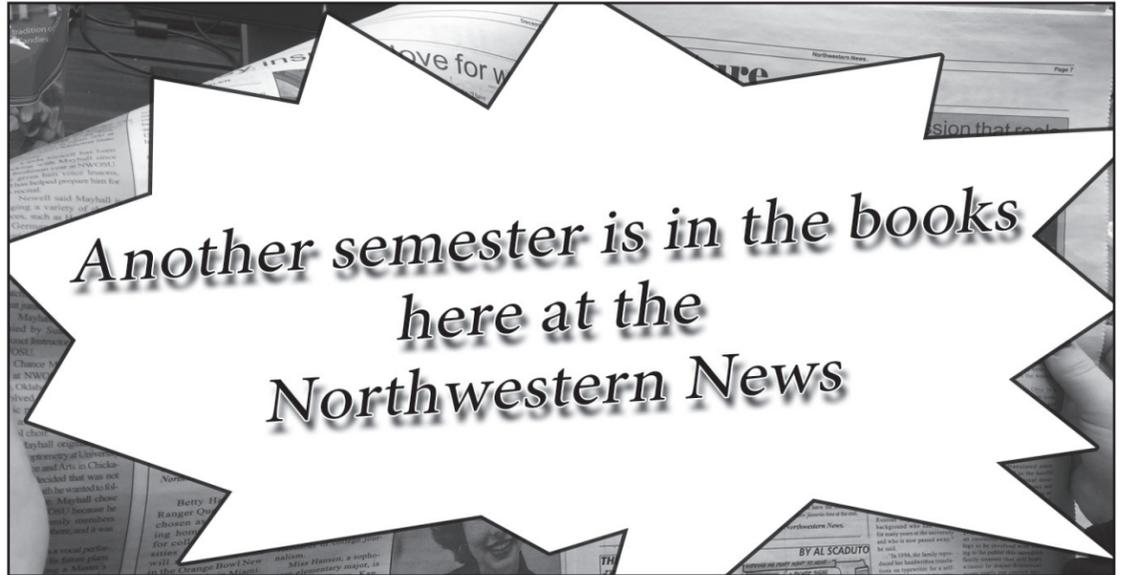
This semester has taught each of us editors many things that we can carry with us into our future endeavors.

For the news editors, it's taught them what all it takes to do their job, whether that is writing a last minute story or taking photos to fill an open spot on a page, or even fine tuning the layout of their pages for hours on end.

"We've learned how to utilize In-design [design program] and we've gotten to know a lot of the athletes at Northwestern," said Katy Lackey and Sami McGuire, Northwestern News sports editors.

For the returning editors, this semester has provided them with another opportunity to grow and develop in either their current position on staff or a new one, whether that is with learning new layout techniques or developing new leadership qualities.

"We tried to do something new each week throughout the paper, either small or big, and that helped us open our minds up to different ideas rather than just



The Northwestern News has gone through significant reshaping this semester, as the addition of new members to the staff has helped spark new ideas for the newspaper. Photo by Nick Villalobos

sticking to a traditional design," said Rachel Emerson, Northwestern News publication manager. "I definitely feel like we got more creative this semester than we have in the past."

With the addition of the new faces on staff, the returning editors used this semester as an opportunity to mentor those just joining the ranks on the Northwestern News as well.

"I have learned that it takes a dedicated team to create a great newspaper," said Savan-

nah Tillman, Northwestern News feature editor. "We each help each other out on each page. We provide creative entail for each week's layout and put in countless hours of dedication."

The continued work from both the new and old editors each week has re-shaped this newspaper significantly.

If it wasn't for the extra effort from the staff members, student reports and the always clutch University Relations, the Northwestern News would not have

been able to do what it has done this semester.

Tillman added, "I have learned that we all are a little nutty but that's ok because between the laughs and trying times that we are creating life-long memories together."

We would like to thank you readers for your continued support of the Northwestern News.

Have a great break every one and we hope to see you next semester!

Johnson's journey through my eyes

Part II: Becoming a great

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Editor in Chief

Following my ascent into the NASCAR fandom in 2006, I followed Jimmie Johnson and the rest of the 48 team for every race for the next decade.

I watched as Johnson went door-to-door with his teammate and mentor, Jeff Gordon, for 10 straight weeks during the 2007 NASCAR chase for the championship and claimed his second straight championship.

Next, I watched as he battled the likes of Carl Edwards and Jeff Burton in 2008 all season long and went on to tie the great, Cale Yarborough, with three straight NASCAR championships at the conclusion of the season.

Following the record-tying



Jimmie Johnson (left front row) started alongside his teammate and mentor, Jeff Gordon (right front row), in the 2015 Daytona 500. Photo provided

three straight championships for Johnson and the 48 team, I watched as they continued their championship streak in 2009 and 2010 and became the first team ever to win five straight championships in the sport.

Then following the "5-peat,"

as it is now known, I watched as Johnson moved one step closer to tying the all-time championship win record of seven titles in 2013 as he and the team returned to championship form after a two year dry spell and claimed their

sixth NASCAR Sprint Cup championship.

Finally, after living with the nickname "6-time" for three years, Johnson and the team achieved a feat that hasn't been accomplished since the late and great Dale Earnhardt Sr. last did it in 1994, which was win a seventh NASCAR championship this year.

After having many ups and downs this season, Johnson joined Earnhardt and other NASCAR great, Richard Petty, as the only seven time champions in the sport.

Johnson told Knaus shortly after winning the championship this year he would like to get a record-setting eighth NASCAR championship. If he does he would solidify himself as the all-time championship win leader and become a NASCAR great all by himself.

Amber Waves



top ten

Best Customer Service

- amazon
- Chik-fil-A
- Apple
- Marriott
- Samsung Electronics
- Sony
- Google
- Netflix
- FedEx
- UPS

Source: 2/17 Wall St.

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	O	B	O	B	B	C	S	E	G	O	
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Answers to Dec. 1 puzzle.

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Inquiries concerning the application of these programs should be made to Caleb Mosburg, Director of Student Affairs, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 709 Oklahoma Boulevard, Alva, OK 73717, (580) 327-8415.

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Letters to the editor shall bear the author's handwritten signature, hometown, classification, title, etc., address and phone number for verification and shall be kept on file. Unsigned letters to the editor will not be published.

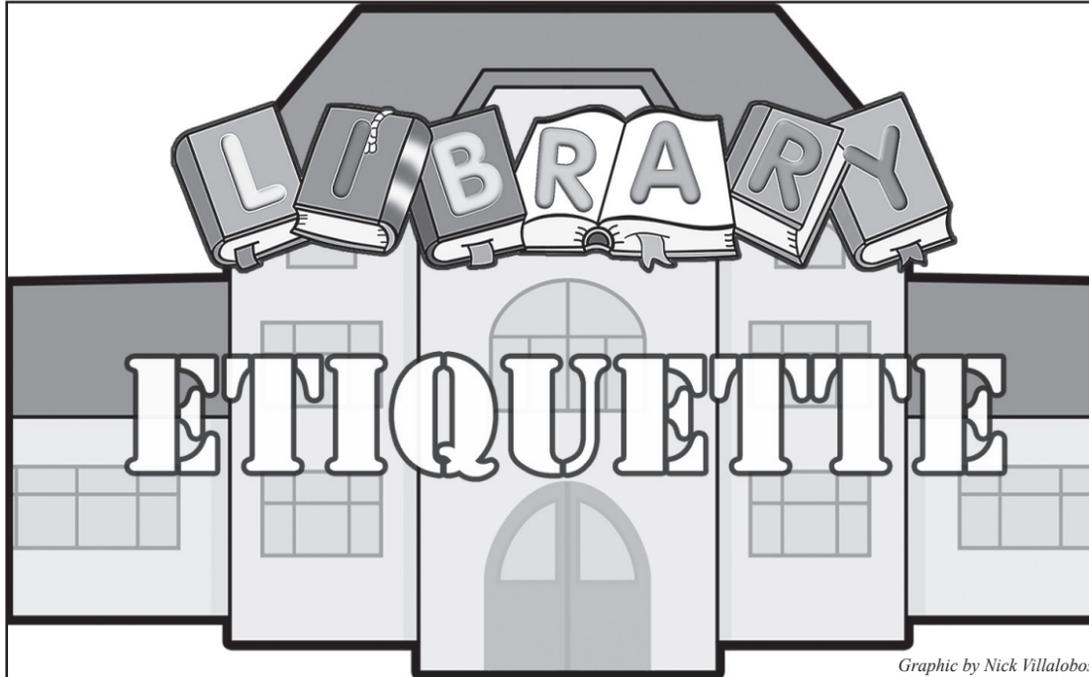
Letters must be turned in by noon on Tuesday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwsu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

All letters represent the views of the author.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$15.00.

"Welcome to our new 'Your Voice' section. This section is devoted to the voice of you readers. We decided over the summer break that including your voices into our paper would give each of you the opportunity to share your stories. We welcome all reader's stories. All we ask from you is when you send us your stories, to nwnews@nwsu.edu, that you send a picture of yourself as well. Thank you and we at the Northwestern News hope you enjoy the new additions." -Northwestern News



Graphic by Nick Villalobos

Library etiquette vital

By **COOPER STANLEY**
Student Writer

The library at Northwestern has few written rules for students to adhere to, however students must understand that proper library etiquette is expected.

There is an expectation to behave in a respectable manner and have common courtesy to others when in Northwesterns library. The library is not for any one student; the space is a scholarly environment that all students should be comfortable learning in.

Library etiquette is something that the library doesn't exactly have a long list of specific rules set in place, it is more so expected to be known, more so unwritten rules.

Research and instructional services librarian at Northwestern, Shannon Leaper said, "while there is no rule that you cant be on your cell phone, we expect each other to have common courtesy, and to silence their cell phones, and to take a call outside or elsewhere." Leaper explained this an example of how to properly act in the library.

Leaper added the library although is expected to be a relatively quite place, expecting the library to be dead silent is an unrealistic expectation.

With classes coming through, students coming in and out of the library, students have to talk to one and other to accomplish their scholarly endeavor; which at the end of the day is why many people come to the library in the

first place.

If a student truly feels that another student or group of people are distracting their ability to study or learn in the library they can go to anyone of the multiple librarians or front desk workers at the library, Leaper said.

In addition, Leaper said if she can hear a student or group of students who are getting a little loud she has on many occasions politely asked them to keep it down and has never had a problem with doing so.

The simple answer to proper library etiquette at Northwestern is just be respectful and mindful of others, appreciate the scholarly space the library is, and to understand that the library is seen to many if not all as a place to study or do work in peace.

5 QUESTIONS WITH

Joel Johnson

1 Where are you from?
 "I'm originally from Oklahoma, graduated highschool in Ardmore and college at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee in 1976."

2 Why did you choose Northwestern?
 "The opening position of assistant chef."

3 What is your favorite thing to do in your spare time?

"I love to write poetry and spend time at home with my wife."

4 What has Northwestern taught you so far?

"Northwestern is a great environment to be a an officer it takes a great deal of Soft Skills, or communication used to desccilate situations."

5 What is one interesting hidden talent you have?

"I have been playing the same clarinet since 1966. I was in a duet called the Moon Glow Duet."

Top 10 Christmas movies

By **RACHEL EMERSON**
Staff Writer

The holiday season is here, and with Christmas break approaching, here are my 10 favorite Christmas movies.

1 Elf - Buddy, an elf who was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves, feels as though he doesn't belong.

2 Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas - The Grinch comes down from his mountaintop home and sneaks into town to swipe everything holiday-related from the Whos. However, when he encounters Cindy Lou Who his plans don't go as they should

3 Polar Express - A young boy takes an extraordinary train ride to the North Pole and encounters

a journey of self-discovery that shows him that the wonder of life never fades for those who believe.

4 Nightmare before Christmas - Halloweentown's beloved Pumpkin King, Jack Skellington, attempts to take over the Christmas holiday. Against the advice of Sally, a lonely rag doll, Jack enlists three mischievous trick-or-treaters to help him kidnap Santa.

5 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York - Kevin McCallister loses track of his father at the airport and ends up in New York City while the rest of the McCallisters fly to Florida.

Alone in the Big Apple, Kevin cons his way into a room at the Plaza Hotel and begins his usual antics. But when Kevin discovers that the Sticky Bandits are on the loose, he struggles to stop them from robbing an el-

derly man's toy store just before Christmas.

6 A Christmas Carol - Ebenezer Scrooge hates Christmas, but a visit from the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, and three Christmas spirits might convince him to change his ways and become more kindhearted.

7 The Santa Clause - Divorced dad, Scott, has custody of his son on Christmas Eve. After he accidentally kills a man in a Santa suit, they are magically transported to the North Pole, where an elf explains that Scott must take Santa's place before the next Christmas arrives.

8 Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer - Sam the snowman tells us the story of a young red-nosed reindeer who, after being ousted from the reindeer games because of his beaming honker but when Santa's sleigh breaks down, he

gets a very bright idea...

9 Frosty the Snowman - A discarded magic top hat brings to life the snowman that a group of children made, until a magician, professor Hinkle, wants it back, and the temperature starts to rise.

10 A Christmas Story - Based on the humorous writings of author Jean Shepherd, this beloved holiday movie follows the wintry exploits of youngster Ralphy Parker, who spends most of his time dodging a bully and dreaming of his ideal Christmas gift, a "Red Ryder air rifle."

Ralphy struggles to make it to Christmas Day with his glasses and his hopes intact.

I hope you enjoyed my selection of movies, and I hope you get a chance to watch them all if you haven't done so already.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays!

Feature



Northwestern alum to be graduation guest speaker

Mark Norman, a 1974 graduate of Northwestern Oklahoma State University, will deliver the commencement address at the university's fall graduation ceremony Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3:30 p.m. in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Originally from Fargo, Norman currently serves as the interim executive director for Oklahoma Educational Television Authority (OETA) where he also has served as deputy director and the vice president of technology.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from Northwestern with a concentration in television and radio along with minors in journalism and sociology. Norman received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Northwestern in 1995.

Norman went on to earn his Master of Science in Mass Communication, with a focus in broadcasting and journalism, from Oklahoma State University in 1975.

Norman spent three years furthering the broadcast program at Panhandle State University in Goodwell and five years at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. He was a general manager and partner for K101 in Woodward from 1983-1985 before leaving to establish a university broadcast program at Cameron University in Lawton where he spent 22 years as a broadcast professor before his retirement.

Throughout his experience in broadcast, Norman built a network of five, full-power public radio stations in Ardmore, Altus, Clinton, Lawton and Wichita Falls, Texas. He also supervised the reconstruction of the OETA networks 14 translators stations located across the state as the networks converted to digital broadcasting. He was responsible for technology and engineering projects to include a new OETA Tulsa area studio and the conversion of the network to a non-tape digital facility.

Norman has been the president of the Lawton Rotary Club; president of the Lawton Arts for All; president of Oklahoma Broadcast Education Association, a statewide organization of universities with broadcast programs; president of the Crimestoppers of Lawton and Fort Sill; vice president of the United Way of Lawton and Fort Sill; member of the Lawton and Wichita Falls Symphony Board of Directors; and chairman of PPRS Committee First United Methodist Church of Lawton.

He currently resides in Edmond with wife Sheree and has one daughter, Makenzie.

Journey to receiving doctorate

Earning a degree at any level is a process, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Christie Riley has experienced a journey of her own while earning her doctorate.

Riley, Director of Teacher Education and Assistant Professor of Education, recently earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership from Northcentral University in Arizona, after completing her dissertation titled "High School Graduation Rates in Oklahoma after the implementation of End-of-Year Testing Requirements."

Riley earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern and has taught in the school system for nearly 20 years. Her experience includes elementary education, counseling and administration, and has



Christie Riley/ Courtesy of University Relations

taught within the Division of Education at Northwestern since 2007.

She began working on her doctorate in 2008 and said it was a journey of endurance to complete the certification that has benefited her students' experiences and brought new light to her time at Northwestern.

"I think it affected my teaching from when

I started working on my doctorate; it makes you look at things through a different perspective," Riley said. "It encouraged me to make my courses a little more rigorous because the expectations have changed. As you work on your doctorate you find out more information and how things are looking forward."

She said she believes this experience also has provided her with empathy and understanding for her students, and she's able to apply what she's learned to her coursework.

Riley believes the time spent working on her doctorate was a long professional development class, and everything she learned in that classroom could be shared with students, encouraging them to pursue a higher or advanced degree.

Riley encourages her students to do well in the classroom and continues to be encouraged by them.

Some of Riley's biggest supporters through this educational journey were members of her family. She said her husband and daughters provided endless encouragement to complete the degree.

Riley also is appreciative of the support received from her peers.

"Everyone at Northwestern was very supportive in my process and helped me with any insight possible...although I think I am the same person from when I started, it's an accomplishment that no one can take away," Riley said.

For more information about the teacher education program at Northwestern contact Riley at clriley@nwosu.edu or (580)327-8694.

It's the most wonderful time...

By JORDAN MCLEMORE
Student Reporter

Going into my fall semester, I was hit with many things that reminded me of my senior year of high school. That is probably because this fall semester would be my last at Northwestern.

I am graduating with a mass communication degree, and unlike my last year in high school, where I knew what I was doing and where I was going; this time, I don't know what is next. I don't know what went through my head when I sat down with my advisor and decided to graduate a semester early, thus thrusting me into the harsh, cold, world a whole five months early!

Don't do it people, hold onto that wonderful college time as long as possible! College is one of the best times in your life and we are fortunate enough to be able to spend it at one of the best schools out there.

Now, I may be biased but I have experienced the best advisor (thank you for everything Mrs. Brown!), the best professors, and the best staff that have helped me become who I am.

I completed my mandatory internship this semester, and while I scolded myself for taking so long to

do it, it couldn't have come at a better time in my life. While I was struggling to find out my next step, my supervisor, Melinda Barton, reminded me that I don't have to have everything figured out now, and to take the time to make sure I'm happy with my decision.

That is important to remember, to not push yourself to do what others think you should be doing. Always do what makes you happy. This is the time to make mistakes and to do crazy things! Take every opportunity to try new things. Don't look back and regret what you didn't do.

I have dealt with a lot of trials in this final semester, one of them being figuring out what I am doing next. I think a lot of college graduates struggle with the same thing (I hope!). I don't know what's next. Man, that's a scary thing to say. I do, however, know that I have a great education to fall back on and that everyone at Northwestern is rooting for me. I am more than just a number here.

Now I will leave everyone on a happy note. I have had the BEST last semester. I got to travel to California with my amazing mom where we toured the Hollywood Hills, and experience Santa Monica Pier. I have been able to



Northwestern has inspired Jordan McLemore to chase her dreams and has prepared her for an ever so bright future./ Photo by Ali Gavitt

rekindle friendships that I know I will have for a lifetime. Just because you might not know what is coming up does not mean that your life is over, even though it might seem like it. We all go through ups and

downs in life.

And, for the last three years, I got to write for the best student newspaper out there, which has been a great learning experience and something that I will always cherish!

Feature

Blessings within the hunt

By SAVANNAH TILLMAN
Feature Editor

Life has a funny way of showing us that God has a plan for each and every one of us.

Beginning the fall 2016 hunting season, I had nothing but one thing on my mind: shoot a deer. Every week that led to opening day, my excitement grew. It had been six years since I had a chance to go hunting and I was so ready.

On Thanksgiving week, I felt like a five-year-old on Christmas morning, after Santa has placed presents underneath the tree, my heart was fluttering and my brain sent images of the potential trophy that was ahead of me.

I had grown up, accompanying my dad on his hunts and when the time was right he with mine. Countless hours had been spent sitting out in the cold, body covered in brand-named camo, guns loaded and listening to the sounds of the birds chirping and

the leaves rustling in the trees. Minimum words were ever spoken, but these were some of my greatest memories.

This past Saturday, as we were heading back from the hunt, deer less, my mind drifted off. I have found, as I get older, my thoughts never stay on topic. I seem to always be thinking of the unknown future and how many more moments I will get like this one. In the middle of my brain wondering off, my dad mentions how much fun he had hunting with me this season, despite the lack of getting anything.

In an instant, the realization of this being more than just a hunt became apparent. All this time I had one goal in mind, but God had much more behind it. Throughout my childhood, my dad stood next to me with every shot I took. He taught me how to properly shoot a gun and bow and even was there when I purchased my first pistol.

Between the silence and the occasional funny moments



Photo and graphic provided graphic Savannah Tillman

of every hunting experience, my dad and I had grown a bond that not everyone gets to have with their fathers. Our love and passion for this sport got to be shared together. His wisdom and

guidance helped me not only be a great shot but showed me that hard work, love, dedication and the strength to stand for what you believe in, will be the foundation for a beautiful life.

In my 24-years of life, I have witnessed a lot of amazing moments in time; however, thanks to God, every hunt with my dad, has to be my favorite moments spent.

Dating: Part 4

The Freshman 15: Relationship Tips

By CAITLIN COODY
Student Reporters

Finals are here and so being the last hints to college dating. Last week we discussed avoiding U-Hauling, not neglecting your friends, not going in with the intention of "fixing" someone, making time for yourself and how mind games are only for players.

These last four hints aren't only some of the best, one got the people's choice award for most approved.

12. Be careful about letting friendships develop into more.

"We see all these movies about soul-mates that we get wrapped up in finding our own," said Rachel, a Northwestern Junior, "we have to be a little more discerning than that." While we may be compatible and comfortable with those people, the state of the relationship completely changes when you try and turn it into something more. If you don't stay together, then you may be sacrificing a friendship completely by dating that person. The relationship may be wonderful, but you should distinguish that before you do anything to alter the course of that friendship.

13. If it didn't work out the first time, it probably won't ever work out.

There is always that one couple who breaks up and gets back together nearly as often as they change outfits. (Think Sam and Ronnie from Jersey Shore.) Regardless of how they feel about each other at the time, the underlying problems are always there, waiting to cause another scene. When you break up with someone, you should do so knowing that you will not get back together with that person, especially if they commit one of the major deal-breakers: verbal or physical abuse, cheating on you, etc. None of those things are okay, and you should never accept them by returning to the person who wronged you

in the first place.

However, break-ups don't always mean the end. We're in college after all, we're still figuring out what we want in this world. Sometimes, a break may be needed for each of you to grow.

14. If you aren't in a relationship, worry about something else.

There are plenty of perks to being single, and even if you do have someone who catches your eye, you should direct your energy toward other things: keeping your grades up, getting involved in things you love and bettering yourself as a human being. Work on accomplishing your goals that don't focus entirely on other people. "Being single for most of college has allowed me to experience different things," said Katie, Senior. "I've been able to travel and meet all kinds of people that I might not have, if I were in a relationship."

Last but certainly not least. The people's choice award goes to our final hint!

15. Don't place all your self-worth in the relationship.

You are worth more than simply who you are with (said practically every mom in the world). A relationship can be great, but it isn't everything that makes up who you are, and you should remember that. Regardless of whether you are with someone, you still have a lot to offer, and your happiness shouldn't hinge entirely on how one person feels about you.

That concludes the freshman 15 guide for college dating. Remember, in a relationship or not, don't forget to be you. You don't have to change to get somebody to like you. People will come and go, so keep your friends close and don't be afraid to go on dates with somebody who's "not your type".

DIY popsicle stick Christmas trees

By VICTORIA SCHNAUFER
Student Reporters

Christmas is so close! It is hard to decorate on a budget but it can be done. For this project all you will need is listed below:

- Colored popsicle sticks
- Foam sticker stars
- Sticker rhinestones
- Twine
- Glue gun
- Utility knife



Photo provided

Popsicle sticks are always good to keep around for crafting or making snacks, but they are the best for making Christmas trees, Christmas ornaments. There are a lot of creative ways to make tree ornaments. I like to do the most with glitter though so we will be making sparkly trees that you can spot across a big living room, and hopefully it will brighten up your dorm room and give you a sparkling home feeling this Christmas.

You can find everything on the needed list at Walmart, or local craft stores and if you want you can just cut stars out of yellow sparkly paper and cut out different size small circles to use as ornaments.

You're going to want 5 different sizes of popsicle stick pieces cut to 1", 1.5", 2", 2.5", and 3" lengths. To cut the popsicle sticks, use a utility knife

and give it a good strong cut into the wood as hard as you can make sure you cut both sides of the popsicle stick. You probably won't make it all the way through, but that's okay as long as you made a good enough chunk to snap it after.

After you get your popsicle sticks cut, grab a piece that is not listed in the lengths about, maybe about 1/2" long, add some hot glue and attach a small piece of twine, about 4" long between the brown popsicle stick "trunk" and the small scrap. This will make your trees able to hang.

Next you will need to evenly space out your green cut popsicle sticks on the trunk and glue them down. Let them dry a little then you can go crazy with decorating your ornament with a lot of glitter and big stars.

Entertainment

Calendar of Events

December 10

Fine Arts Christmas Concert
7 p.m.
Herod Hall Auditorium

December 11

Fall Commencement
3:30 p.m.
Percefull Fieldhouse

December 13 - 16

Finals

December 12 - 15

Coffee, Cocoa and Candy Cans
6 p.m. - Midnight
Library

December 17

Holiday Store and Photos with Santa
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Student Center Ranger Room and Wyatt Room

December 17 - January 9

Christmas Break
8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Ranger Perk

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

O	D	O	R	R	A	F	A	C	N	E
P	A	P	A	E	N	D	P	H	I	L
A	D	E	N	H	E	A	D	L	O	C
L	O	C	K	J	A	W	R	O	P	E
L	O	B	G	E	M					
B	E	R	E	T	J	A	W	B	O	N
I	D	O	F	O	G	B	E	E		
B	O	N	E	D	R	O	I	B	S	E
X	I	I	A	C	E					
A	R	G	U	E	D	R	Y	W	A	L
W	A	L	L	U	N	I	T	A	R	E
A	L	O	T	A	D	S	I	M	A	N
Y	E	W	S	B	O	Y	L	Y	R	E

December 8 answers
puzzle on page 12



Favorite Mix

Mix together hulled sunflower chips, safflower seed, peanuts and a little white proso millet. This is a great mix for a tube or tray feeder or even tossed on the ground. Catbirds, cardinals, doves, wrens, titmice and chickadees will eat every seed. No waste! Everyone is happy!

E-mail: birdingbits@cfl.rr.com
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By **CHRIS AGBOLA**
Staff Reporter

The entire essence of Christmas is summed up in the verse: "For to us a Child shall be born, to us a Son shall be given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace"—Isaiah 9:6(AMP).

In as much as the culture and the media makes it about Santa Claus, Frosty-the-snowman and Hallmark movies (which I am a fan of as well), Christmas period is a season of deep reflection on the story of a Savior who had the most humble forms of birth in the history of world.

Considering His mission, it is difficult to comprehend how a manger would be where He was born.

Here are five virtues we all can learn from the Christmas story and apply to our daily lives:

1. Love: The purpose of Christ's birth was for him to come save a sinful world of man who was created in the image of God. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life". It is interesting to know how a lot of individuals take this verse for granted. Come to think of it, will you be willing to give out your only \$1.00 note because a friend needs it to get some food? How about a candy bar, or your puppy? But God gave His only son as a result of the love He had for the world. People mourn for days over the loss of their dogs. Imagine what God must have gone through. What this teaches me personally is that, regardless of someone's race, language, culture, political affiliation, religion, financial status, social status, sexual orientation or perspective on life, I should be accepting and tolerating of them. We might not necessarily agree on a plethora of issues but I should not allow stereotypes or prejudices cloud and influence how I relate to them.

2. Humility: Humility is not less thinking of yourself but rather thinking of yourself less.

That insinuates that you consider the interests of others before your own. In a world bedeviled with narcissism, obnoxious idiosyncrasies and selfies, it is politically incorrect to talk about being humble or considering others first because everyone has rights apparently and we all dance to the tune "you gotta do what you got a do". But the Christmas story again tells us that Jesus Christ considered us first and humbled himself and came to die a shameful death. Philippians 2:5-8 (MSG) writes, "Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, He set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion". How many kings get born in a manger to a carpenter and an ordinary girl? Humility is expedient to cordial living and even God hates proud people. He take is, "It's common knowledge that God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble"—James 4:6 (MSG)

3. Obeying laws: We live in a country of laws in spite of the rights we have. From not over speeding to paying taxes, not stealing or driving under the influence of whatever impedes our judgment, laws exist to regulate the ways of life. In the story of Christmas, Joseph took Mary to Bethlehem for the census at the proclamation of the then king Caesar Augustus. What was interesting is that, Mary almost due for the birth of Jesus Christ and they had embarked on the several miles journey by walking and on a camel. But without any excuses, they obeyed the king's decree. If that story was to happen today, a lot of folks will take to social media and rant about why that is abuse. John 14:15(MSG) is explicit on obedience, "If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you". In college, professors make rules we as students have to follow. Some of

which includes not cheating during tests. As finals approach, let's study instead of hoping to cheat during those tests.

4. Giving: One of the best parts of Christmas besides the decorations, food and Hallmark movies is unwrapping of the gifts. This year, make a personal resolve to be blessing to someone else in need. It can be paying for the grocery of the guy in front of you at the Wal-Mart checkout or gas station, donate clothes or even time to help someone understand a concept before the Finals. The summary of the Christmas story is, God gave because He loved us. So actions must correspond thoughts, feelings or perspective. Luke 6:38(KJV) indicates, "Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again". There's great fulfillment in being of aid to someone in need. "If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and he will repay you"! Proverbs 19:17 (NLT)

5. Faith: The birth of Jesus Christ tells us that, there's a God who loves us and has a plan for our lives because He made us and know the purpose for which He did. In Genesis 1:27(NASB), it says, "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them". In order to operate a product, awareness of what the manufacturer made it for is needed. God made us and gave us His word through the scriptures. We have to study it and live by it. I know there might be someone who would be reading this but say oh well, I am not a religious person and I don't believe in a God. I am not in anyway coercing anyone to have the same belief system as I do. However, in as much as going to the garage everyone does not mean you are a car, non-belief in the existence of God does not mean He does not exist.

As we sing the Christmas carols, wait on Santa, decorate, go ice-skating and gift shopping, let's realize that, the reason for the season is Christ. Merry Christmas to you all!

Concert

From page 1

will present holiday favorites led by Karsten Longhurst, director of choral music. The University Singers will perform "This Little Babe," "Carol of the Bells" and "Silent Night." The University Chorale will perform four songs including "Angels from the Realms of Glory" and "Noel."

The choirs are accompanied by Susan Duell, adjunct instructor of music, and Lawana Newell, director of vocal studies.

Numerous students will be featured soloists including Naice Gugelmeyer, Hardtner, Kansas, senior; Chance Mayhall, Ponca City junior; Paxton Mayers, Ponca City freshman; Aaron Pierce, Alva sophomore; and Sadiq Malik, Accra, Ghana, Africa, senior.

The Northwestern jazz ensemble and symphony band led by Dr. Marc Decker, director of instrumental music and music education, will then take the stage. The jazz ensemble will perform "Three Guys," "The First Noel" and "Feliz Navidad."

The symphony band will perform "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and "Fanfare for Christmas," directed by guest conductor Arthur Bohlmann, Hooker graduate student.

To end the concert the band and choirs will combine to perform "Salvation is Created" and "Holiday Favorites."

For more information about the Holiday Gala or the Northwestern music program contact Longhurst at (580) 327- 8692 or krlonghurst@nwsu.edu or Decker at (580) 327-8189 or mddecker@nwsu.edu.

Quote of the week

"Your degree is just the door, your work ethic is the key, but it is only through the grace and the strength of God that you will walk through that door and help whoever may be on the other side."

Finals Week - Spoken Word
by Stefan Vandenkooy, Vimeo
by Daniel Robinson

Sports

Taking the world by storm

By SAMI MCGUIRE
Sports Editor

One of our very own Ranger athletes is taking on the world. The world of steer wrestling that is.

James Daniel Struxness, better known as "J.D." Struxness, is competing against the best steer wrestlers in the world at the National Finals Rodeo. He competed throughout the year at many professional rodeos across the entire United States, to give himself the shot he has today.

From Dec. 1-10 Las Vegas, Nevada becomes cowboy town. The top 15 cowboys and cowgirls in each event come to compete for 10 rounds against each other in front of the Las Vegas crowd.

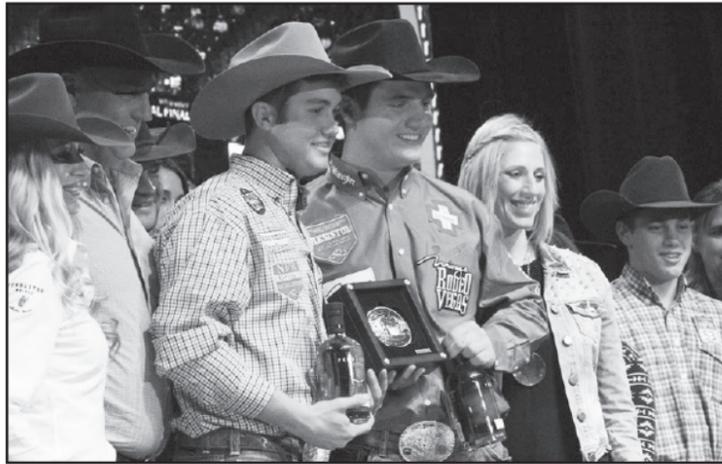
The action kicked off on Dec. 1. Watching over the television, Struxness' nerves were visible. This was the biggest and best rodeo he had ever been to, and he knew it. Struxness made a solid 4.6 second run that placed him fifth in the round.



Struxness and Waguespack excited about their win on night three and accepting their awards. / Photo Provided

Struxness knew he had to do better the next night because things were only getting faster. He took a risky shot at his steer and missed him, and sadly received a no time.

This was the turning point. Struxness came back the third night, and his jitters were gone. He was ready for this, and you could see it in his face as he prepared to go. He tied to win the round with a 3.9 second run.



Now Struxness has the game figured out. He came back in the fourth round and won again with a 3.8 second run. In the fifth round he did it again and won with a 3.5 second run.

With five rounds left Struxness is setting himself up to not only win the average, but also make a run at winning a world title. As of Tuesday, Struxness is setting second in the world standings

with \$175,876. Right behind Tyler Waguespack, from Gonzales, Louisiana, who has \$183,034. With each night paying around \$26,000 to win Struxness has a good shot to go for the world title if he keeps on the way he is.

If you want to watch the National Finals Rodeo and cheer on a fellow Ranger looking to win a world title turn on CBS Sports Network at 9 p.m. until Dec. 10.

Mens basketball suffers defeat

By RANGERS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

The Ranger men's basketball team lost 87-81, against an undefeated Arkansas-Monticello team on Dec. 3.

The Rangers attempt at an upset of the Great American Conference's top team would see a quick score from Greg Minor Jr. to give Northwestern the early advantage at 5-4. Cody Halvorson continued to show his long range touch with a quick three-pointer from the corner, making it 10-6 in favor of the home team.

Seven straight points from that Weevil offense gave them a 41-34 advantage in the closing minutes of the first half. After another Halvorson three, Monticello Coach Kyle Tolin requested a review of the game clock, thinking there should have been more than 16.8 seconds. After the video review, officials settled on 18.0 seconds, allowing just enough time for Weevil Cobe Goosby to sink a buzzer beating three-pointer.

Northwestern was trailing 44-39 heading into halftime.

Halvorson found a way to energize Percefull by hitting a heavily

contested three to regain the lead in one of the afternoon's 12 lead changes.

But the Weevils wouldn't be stopped, going on a 9-3 run. That stretch gave them a 71-69 lead behind leading scorer Derylton Hill's 29 point effort, and 17 points from Goosby. After a few tough calls, Ranger Austin Klug would also foul out of the game midway through the second half.

The Rangers did their best to take advantage of the often whistled matchup that would see 58 personal fouls called, going 22-28 from

the free-throw line. With just 46.2 seconds remaining, Weevil point guard Karim Mawuenyega hit a fade away three pointer that put Monticello up by six.

Greg Minor Jr. then ran up the floor, driving through traffic for a layup and drew a foul to pull the Rangers within striking distance. But Minor missed his free throw and the Weevils grabbed the rebound, controlling the ball and closing out the game.

The Rangers will get a week off before hosting Newman University at Percefull Fieldhouse Dec. 10 at 8 p.m.

St. Fleur maintains future NFL aspirations

By MICHEAL JORDAN
Student Reporter

After a stellar All-American junior season expectations were set high for Northwestern Oklahoma State Joby Saint Fleur who was visited by over 10 NFL colleges this season alone.

In the midst of all the accolades he was receiving Fleur remained humble and focused on taking his career to the next level after his senior season.

Fleur is a well-known commodity around Northwestern for the exposure he has bought to the school. Although Fleur has a promising future in football he explains the adversity he faced the first game of his senior year where he suffered a high ankle sprain. "It showed me anything can be taken from you at any given moment," Fleur said, "but the question was what would I do to respond and take back my last season as a Ranger."

Still bothered by his ankle Fleur was able to put together an immaculate season where he earned second team all-conference honors.

"No football is not over for me I'm looking forward to pursuing my career in football and taking my talent to the next level," Fleur said.

Fleur has spent his entire college career at Northwestern. He said he learned "being a Ranger is being a part of a family away from home because there is people who actually care about you."

With many people looking at his hard work and dedications Fleur has served as an inspiration to the entire football team at Northwestern where he has shown integrity and hard work will help you reach your goals.

Students:
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Cookie's Bowl - Alva - 327.0461

Open Play

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Thursday 5:00a.m. - 10:00p.m.

Friday 5:00a.m. - 7:00p.m.

Saturday 9:00a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Cosmic Bowling

Every Friday & Saturday

7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.

\$10 per person - includes shoes!

9:30p.m. to Close

\$10 per person - includes FREE med drink with college ID!

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Athletic Events

December 10

Womens Basketball

6 p.m. Rangers vs. Oklahoma Christian University

Mens Basketball

8 p.m. Rangers vs. Newman University

Sports

Women continue streak

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Student Reporter

The resurgence of the Women's Basketball team continued Saturday with their second straight conference win.

The Rangers took down Arkansas-Monticello by a final score of 69-55 to remain undefeated inside the confines of Percefull Fieldhouse.

The Rangers defense held Arkansas-Monticello to just 31.9 percent shooting for the game. The Rangers also out rebounded a team for the first time all year, grabbing 50 boards compared to the Blossoms 38. The game was close all the way to the end, until a 46 percent from the floor shooting percentage in the fourth quarter propelled Northwestern to victory.

Northwestern found themselves down 9-2 early in the game after nine straight Blossom points. Both teams struggled throughout the first half to gain an offensive rhythm, but the best run of points for either team came from the Rangers midway through the opening quarter, where two three's from Barrios and McKenzie Billy engineered a 13-4 run in favor of the Rangers.

The stretch of points gave the Rangers their first lead of the ball game. A very physical first quarter of play continued as the Blossoms used their team length to go on an 8-0 run at the end of the quarter.

Both teams struggled to find the bottom of the basket in the first five minutes of the second quarter. The scoring 91-69 draught was finally broken by the Blossoms in the form of a deep three. An 11-6 run in the second half of the quarter gave the Blossoms



Women's team happy after their third straight win. / Photo Provided

their largest lead of the ball game at 32-21. At halftime the Rangers were down 32-28.

Coming out of the break, both teams traded points back and forth before two free throws from King finally tied the ball game up at 35-35. The Blossoms quickly answered with a three-point shot, but King once again answered with a tough drive down the lane and drew hard contact to get the foul call and capitalized on the free throw for a three-point play.

Northwestern finally regained the lead after an Ashley Pride lay-up brought the score to 40-38 with 5:16 left in the third quarter. The teams continued to trade blows in a back and forth contest with neither team able to pull ahead by more than two points. A huge shift in momentum came on a Ranger offensive possession with less than thirty seconds left in the quarter in which Cell and King both battled tough on the glass to pull down back-to-back offensive rebounds.

King grabbed the second rebound and drew a foul that generated a buzz throughout Percefull Fieldhouse. She connected on both free-throws to give the Rangers a 44-42 lead that would be evened up with

a Blossom jumper at the buzzer. The dead-even contest entered the final quarter of action tied 44-44.

Pride drew a foul on a fast break and sank both free throws. Those free throws gave the Rangers a 54-49 lead with 5:08 left in the game.

The lead was extended by leading-scorer King, who stole the ball at the top of the key and had a wide open lay-up at the other end of the court to give the Rangers their largest lead of the game at 56-49 with 4:57 remaining.

The Rangers held onto that lead and looked as if they were going to but the Blossoms away, but a questionable jump-ball call under the Rangers goal gave the Blossoms a chance to narrow the lead. Northwestern's defense came through once again and got a crucial stop with 1:45 left in the game. Two free throws from Barrios moved the game out of reach for Monticello and the Rangers cruised in the final minute of the game to a 69-55 victory.

Coach Diesselhorst's team will look to build on their current three game winning streak on Dec. 10 in Percefull Fieldhouse against Oklahoma Christian at 6 p.m.

Alumni's generosity helps Ranger sports

By RANGERS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Jim Dunning, a 1981 graduate of Northwestern Oklahoma State University, may not have put up hall of fame statistics, but his love of Northwestern and generous spirit will make a lasting impact on the future success of athletics at his alma mater.

A gift from him will allow Northwestern to fully complete its indoor athletic training facility located at the former National Guard armory on Thunderbird Road.

"I'd been thinking a lot about what it takes to make an impact, what it takes to make a difference to someone or to an organization, whether it is time, talent or treasure as the saying goes," Dunning said. "The timing was right and I knew that I could give back. I could tell this would make a difference."

With Dunning's help, Northwestern now plans to install an artificial turf surface on the large open drill floor, allowing baseball, softball, women's soccer and golf teams, along with cheerleaders and band members, to utilize a year-round practice facility.

Baseball and softball teams will benefit from two 70-foot long ceiling mounted batting cages that can be raised and lowered at the touch of a button. Portable pitching mounds also will be available.

The armory was given to Northwestern in 2011 by the State of Oklahoma and was partially renovated to create locker areas and weight training facilities for the softball and soccer programs.

Those facilities will now include wireless internet and cable televisions, along with the construction of an athletic training room complete with taping tables, ice machines and refrigerator.

Already, the inside of the facility has a new coat of paint.

"It's a game changer as far as recruiting and providing top-notch facilities for our programs," Brad Franz, director of athletics, said. "Mr. Dunning's gift will positively impact the lives of hundreds of student-athletes who will use this facility. We are so grateful for his willingness to invest in Northwestern and



Jim Dunning. / Photo Provided

our athletic programs."

Sam Carel, head baseball coach, said the gift is a reflection of Dunning's personal beliefs.

"One thing that I have come to know about Jim is that he is a great man who is passionate about Ranger baseball and helping young people," Carel said. "He has always understood the importance of having this indoor training complex, one that will be rivaled by very few institutions throughout the Midwest. I am personally humbled that Jim believes in all of us so much that he was willing to give such a generous gift that will help Ranger athletics achieve great success."

Dunning said he is excited about the opportunities the facility will provide.

"It's also cool that it makes a difference not just with baseball, which is near and dear to my heart, but to the softball, soccer and golf programs as well. I was humbled and flattered to be asked to help. It's given me a lot of joy already and it's not even done yet."

Dunning played baseball for Coach Cecil Perkins during the 1979 and 1980 seasons.

He graduated with a double major in accounting and physical education.

Following graduation he married his wife of 35 years, Jill, and the couple settled in Wichita, Kan. He joined the family accounting firm in 1985, Dunning and Associates, where he works with his father, who at age 81 still opens the office every day.

"It is fun to hear Sam (Carel) tell the guys over and over about how this is one of our own doing this," Dunning said. "That is very gratifying and it makes me smile to share. Every day is truly a great day to be a Ranger."



Community Bank

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and get free stuff!

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RANGERS
RIDE!

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- Free initial ATM/Debit Card
- Internet Banking

Member
FDIC

- ATM located in NWOSU Student Center (no fees for Community Bank customers!)

Area News

Bridenstine votes for fiscal year 17 report

Congressman Jim Bridenstine voted for the FY17 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conference report on Dec. 2.

The NDAA conference report reconciles differences in the House and Senate versions passed earlier this year. NDAA is a bipartisan bill that authorizes funding for America's armed forces and sets Department of Defense policy.

Congress has passed the National Defense Authorization Act 55 years in a row.

The NDAA conference report includes a number of critical provisions:

- Pay raise for the troops above the President's request
- Additional funding to stop the draw-down in Army soldiers and Marines
- Expanded care at military hospitals

The NDAA conference report rejects a number of controversial policy changes in the Senate NDAA including:

- Requiring women to register with Selective Service
- Cuts to housing allowance (including dual military families)

The NDAA conference report includes several provisions from Rep. Bridenstine's American Space Renaissance Act (ASRA).



State department of health offers winter weather tips

As cooler temperatures make their way into the state, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) encourages the public to begin preparation for the upcoming winter weather season.

Proper planning can reduce the risk of injury and illness while also ensuring a family is prepared for a major winter weather event.

Cold outdoor temperatures require residents to monitor not only their home temperature, but their body temperature as well.

Reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises infants less than one year of age should never sleep in a cold room because infants lose body heat more easily than adults, and can't produce body heat. Babies should not be wrapped in blankets, but rather dressed in warmer clothing such as footed pajamas.

If the indoor temperature cannot be maintained, temporary arrangements should be made to stay elsewhere.

It is also important for

adults age 65 and older to remain in a warm atmosphere as they often make less body heat because of a slower metabolism and less physical activity.

Scott Sproat, director of the OSDH Emergency Preparedness and Response Service, said it's important to use caution when heating a home with a fireplace, space heater

or wood stove, using them only when they are properly vented.

"You can protect yourself from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning by installing a battery-operated CO detector," said Sproat. "Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, or similar devices inside the house, in basements, in garages, or near windows."

Other tips to prepare for winter weather include:

- > Wear multiple layers of clothing to stay warm, as well as a hat, scarf, mittens, a water-resistant jacket and boots.
- > Make sure you stay as dry as possible, as water against the skin from wet clothing can chill the body quickly.
- > Know what to do if basic services such as water, gas, electricity or telephones are cut off for an extended period of time.
- > Have your car winterized before winter storm season. > To keep pipes from freezing, wrap them in insulation or layers of old newspapers. Cover the newspapers with plastic to keep out moisture.
- > Carry extra clothing, blankets and high energy snacks, such as trail mix or protein bars in your car for protection if car stalls.
- > Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.
- > Stay informed. Know what National Weather Service winter storm and blizzard watches and warnings mean.

Learn more about weather advisories at www.nws.noaa.gov.

Year of action leads to growth in US job field

There are half a million open technology jobs in the United States today, and that number is projected to more than double within the next four years.

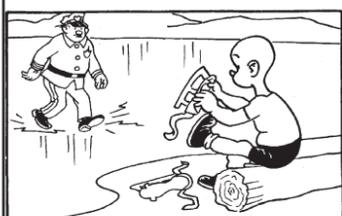
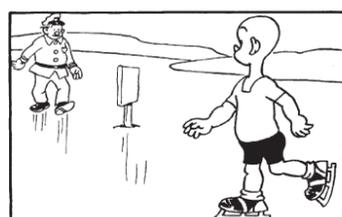
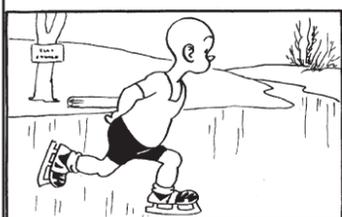
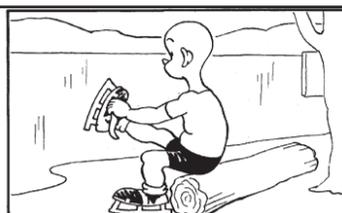
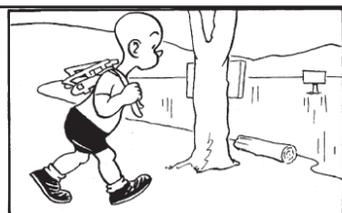
These jobs pay 50 percent more than the average private-sector job. One recent analysis of 26 million job postings found that nearly half of all the jobs in the top quartile in pay require some computer-science (CS) knowledge or coding skills.

And yet, CS remains largely missing from American K-12 education. By the most recent estimates, just 40 percent of K-12 schools report offering even a single computer-science course, and only 32 states currently allow students to count computer science towards core high school graduation requirements.

These challenges, and the growing relevance of computing to America's economy, cybersecurity, and national security, are why President Obama issued a bold call to action at the beginning of this year—in his final State of the Union address—to give every child the opportunity to learn computer science.

Since then, 2016 has been a year of action in support of computer science. Fourteen new states have expanded CS education, more than 500 organizations have responded to the President's call to action, and a new AP-CS course launched this fall and is already being offered in more than 2,000 classrooms.

Fifteen Federal agencies are coordinating efforts to expand CS education, with new investments and guidance. Twenty-seven governors have called on Congress to support CS education.



The Buzz



Barton

From page 1

family members have been students, faculty and staff at various times. We expect that relationship to continue with the next generation.”

Cheryl said her parents placed a strong emphasis on education in her and her siblings’ lives while growing up in Alva.

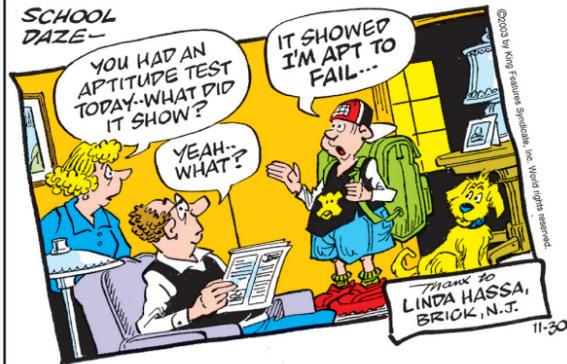
“Through the example our parents have set, we learned the importance of investing in others and the importance of

supporting higher education,” said Cheryl. “My husband and I would like to honor them for their longtime dedication to both encouraging and supporting higher education.”

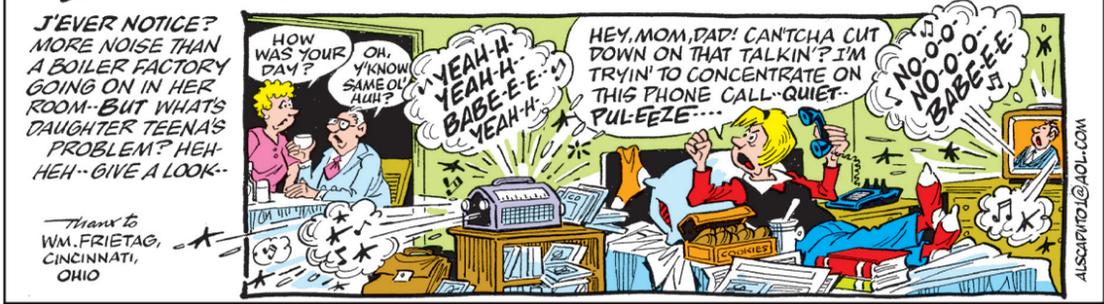
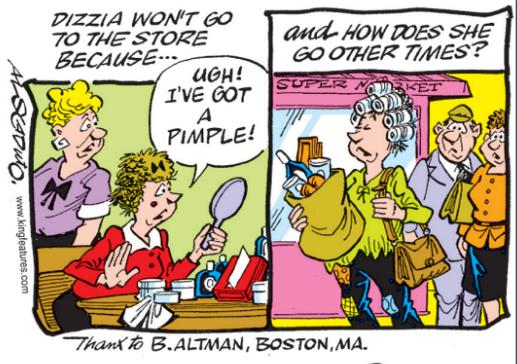
Cheryl said she recognizes the communication field can be complex because it is constantly changing. She hopes this lectureship will help the communication program at Northwestern stay up to date with technology and industry trends to maintain a quality education for its students.

“It is great to see John and Margaret honored by their children with this personal investment in the department that the Barton family has influenced with two generations of teaching at Northwestern – first with John and now with Tamara,” said Skeeter Bird, Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association CEO. “This permanent endowment sustains the family’s positive impact on the department indefinitely and will be a lasting legacy to their commitment to language arts.”

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME



BY AL SCADUTO



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Smell
- 5 U.K. fliers
- 8 Teen's skin woe
- 12 One of the Three Bears
- 13 Conclusion
- 14 TV's Dr. McGraw
- 15 Mideast port
- 16 Wrestling hold
- 18 Tetanus
- 20 Lassoos
- 21 High tennis shot
- 22 Jewel
- 23 Jaunty topper
- 26 Samson's weapon against the Philistines
- 30 Altar affirmative
- 31 London forecast
- 32 Hive dweller
- 33 Arid
- 36 Playwright Henrik
- 38 Noon, in a way
- 39 High card
- 40 Squabble
- 43 Plaster-fiberboard mix
- 47 Home entertainment piece
- 49 Vicinity
- 50 Oodles

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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47					48			49		
50					51			52		
53					54			55		

- 51 Billboards
- 52 One-named supermodel
- 53 Some evergreens
- 54 Lad
- 55 Harp's cousin
- 8 Self-assurance
- 9 Hew
- 10 Pleasant
- 11 BPOE members
- 17 Sketched
- 19 Make marginalia
- 22 Choke
- 23 Lobster eater's aid
- 24 Tokyo's old name
- 25 Director Howard
- 26 Cohort of Whoopi and Sherri
- 27 Outdated, as a wd.
- 28 Born
- 29 Hallow ender
- 31 Calendar abbr.
- 34 Rejoices
- 35 God, in Grenoble
- 36 Aloof
- 37 Lament
- 39 Pretentious
- 40 Vacationing
- 41 Bronchial sound
- 42 Radiate
- 43 Prank
- 44 Host
- 45 Mad king of literature
- 46 Highway division
- 48 Arrest

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Answers on page 8