

Photo provided by University

Aaron Place, a science professor on the Alva campus, standing in front of his research project over rattlesnakes and their diets during the Research day of 2009.

Western diamondback rattlesnake bites

A teacher on campus got bitten by a poisonous snake during a research project on September 27.

Aaron Place, the teacher who got bitten, was conducting a research project investigating trial learning in snakes, when he was bitten by a Western Diamondback Rattlesnake.

"I was treated immediately at Share Medical Center, and am continuing treatment at OU Medical center," Place said.

According to Place, the treatment is routine treatment for rattle snake bites.

"He is very skilled with snakes, so it's shocking that he

got bit," one of his students said.

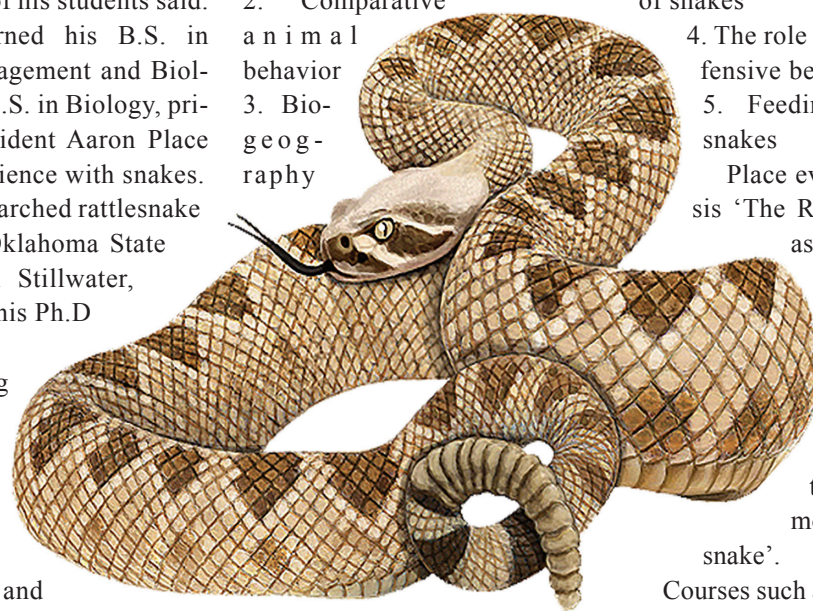
Having earned his B.S. in Wildlife Management and Biology and his M.S. in Biology, prior to this incident Aaron Place has had experience with snakes.

He had researched rattlesnake behavior at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, where he got his Ph.D in Zoology.

According to Place some of his favorite research topics consist of:

1. Ecology and evolution of pit vipers

2. Comparative animal behavior
3. Biogeography



of snakes

4. The role of learning in defensive behavior
5. Feeding behavior of snakes

Place even titled his thesis 'The Rattlesnake Rattle as a Caudal Lure' and his dissertation 'The role of Learning in the Expression of Rattling Behavior in the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake'.

Courses such as General Zoology, Comparative Vertebrate Anat-

omy, Limnology, Natural History of the Vertebrates, Herpetology, Animal Behavior, Evolution and Research Design in Animal Behavior are some of the classes Place teaches on the NWOSU campus.

Many of these classes that he teaches show his dedication to his research of the snakes he is often in company with.

During a college class at First Baptist Church, Place was added to the prayer list.

Place said he won't let this incident change his views on having snakes in the classroom.

"The snakes I keep in the classroom are nonvenomous," he said.

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News



Photos by Sami McGuire

Mickey Jordan showing Shelbi Morland his sketch, which he designed to help visualize what the set should look like when it is completed.

'Vanities' inspires idea for senior capstone presentation

By **KATIE LACKEY**
Student Reporter

From the moment Mickey Jordan read the script for "Vanities", he knew it was going to be his senior capstone presentation.

"Vanities," is a comedy about three high school girls' friendship over the course of 11 years set in the '60s and '70s. It begins Thursday.

"I don't think we have done anything like this before," Jordan said. "I picked this show because the message is so good...this will be very relatable to a lot of people."

For Jordan, picking a script was the easy part.

"The hardest part was narrowing it down to three from 30 [in the casting]," Jordan said. "We cast the show three deep, so we have the actual actresses, then the

understudies and the understudies after them because with this being such a small show, if someone gets sick or breaks a leg, you have to put one right after the other."

Jordan said a show with only three cast members could be more difficult, but that hasn't been the case for his show.

"My three actresses I picked are so great," Jordan said. "This is a very fast-paced show; it is very high energy."

The senior capstone presentation serves as a culmination of all the skills developed while at Northwestern's theater program. Jordan was responsible for the casting, directing, producing and other aspects of this play.

"The thing about your senior capstone is that you do it like it is going on Broadway," Jordan said. "In a perfect world, I want all these specific things, but what I

have learned is that it is not necessarily what you are going to get."

Jordan explained how he planned to have a blonde, brunette and red head for the play. He was able to get each of those, but they are not playing the characters he originally expected them to play, so the girls had to adapt to a different character's personality. This change also caused him to rethink all the costumes he had planned.

While Jordan is in charge of the play, it isn't a task he can accomplish alone.

Jordan said: "I have had a great team, and we have two seasoned northwestern actresses who have been on stage before. We also have a girl who has never been on stage before, but she has done pageants. She has been great because she takes direction so well and is so willing to take part and learn. It really hasn't been a struggle."

Artist in Residence



Photo by Deitra Wedd

Connecticut-based artist and Artist in Residence Robert Camacho will have his art on display during the First Friday Art Walk downtown at the Runnymede on the corner of Flynn and Fourth streets. People can meet Camacho from 6 to 8 p.m.

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News

Explanation behind email failure

By **CEDRIC COLLINGE**
Student Reporter

Northwestern has experienced not one, but two straight weeks of email issues the past couple weeks. What seemed like a quick fix became an even bigger issue the second time around.

Teachers and faculty all over campus did not have the ability to communicate with their students through email for a whole week. In a way, this may have favored the students because it will give them an excuse not to turn in homework.

The first problem occurred two weeks ago on September 18, when a hard drive and server for employee emails

shutdown leading to corrupted files.

Steve Valencia, Associate Vice President of Student Relations, said that after consulting with Microsoft and experts at One-Net, they began to look for a solution to the issue and have it fixed by the end of the weekend on Sunday, September 24. The following Monday the emails will back to working again.

This past week another email problem occurred, leaning more towards a da-

tabase problem, but is similar to the problem the week before, Valencia said. 50 percent of the employee's

working again.

Any newer employees that were hired since 2015 make up the other 50 percent with emails that have no issues, because they are on a different server. "We have been looking at ideas to find repairs to this," Valencia said, "our long-term solution is to switch to a cloud based system such as Office 365."

Student emails are operational since they run on different servers than that of the faculty. Communication will be an issue for maybe the

next week, but faculty can use blackboard to communicate anything if necessary.

Emails that were sent to any of the faculty may have been lost in the shuffle, which makes it hard to know if they had received any important, priority emails during the span.

The IT department on campus has been working nights and weekends to find a quick solution while the switchover to Office 365 is still a work in progress.

Switching over will not be something that can be done overnight and will take a while to do Valencia said. "There is no blame, sometimes hardware just fails, and we working now towards long-term fix," Valencia said.



emails stopped

Important dates to remember

Writing Marathon

October 6, 10 a.m - 2 p.m.

Headquarters: Graceful Arts Gallery in downtown Alva.

Voter Registration Sign-Up

October 9, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Student Center Commons Area

Bringing The World to NWOSU

October 9, 2:30 p.m.

Industrial Education building 128

NWOSU Study Abroad Summer 2018 UK Trip Interest Meeting

October 9, 2 - 3 p.m.

Industrial Education building 131

OU College of Allied Health Speaker Cheryl Walk

October 10, 12 - 1 p.m.

Science Amphitheatre

CORE Meeting

October 11, 12 - 1 p.m.

Science Conference Room 215

Writer's Roundtable meeting

October 11, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Vinson Hall 200

NWOSU Study Abroad Summer 2018 UK Trip Interest Meeting

October 12, 12 - 1 p.m.

Industrial Education building 128

Vanities

October 12, 7 - 9 p.m.

Herod Hall Auditorium

Vanities

October 13, 7 - 9 p.m.

Herod Hall Auditorium

Late payment penalty in effect

October 13, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Vanities

October 14, 2 - 4 p.m.

Herod Hall Auditorium

Poetry Reading

October 16, 5 - 6 p.m.

Student Center Commons Area

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NORTHWESTERN NEWS MEDIA

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Editorial

Adjusting to the Wales Experience

By **PATRICIA PIXLER**
Columnist

It's been a month since I've been in Wales now. The dust is settling. I've moved out of my B&B dorm and into my permanent accommodation at the Hendrefoilan Student Village until I leave in December. It's off campus, about a twenty-minute bus ride to the university. It's an apartment—rather, a proper British flat—in a large three-story building surrounded by woodlands and other residential buildings. It's an actual student village, so there's a library, a laundry mat, a store, and even a pub.

Most of my pre-session class mates are in the same building so it's a fun time. We're hoping to make a custom of "family dinner" nights. We still wander into each other's kitchens regardless. We've also gained plenty of other international students in our flats, from Hong Kong to Sweden, Spain to China. Another Brad Henry scholar from Oklahoma is one of my flat mates and it is nice to have the familiarity.

Bus routes are being figured out. I'm adjusting to the weather more each day. I try not to leave the house without an umbrella anymore. I



Patricia Pixler and her class ended her pre seasonal classes with a trip to a mine.

Photo provided by Patricia Pixler

still struggle to remember to grab shopping bags before I head to the store; they charge for those here. Settling down means I'm adding to the amount of all-important "stuff" in my room (Hel-lo luggage fees when I return to the US...).

The school term finally started the second of October. I know, right? Crazy. What is even crazier is, I only have class on Mondays and Tuesdays. That will change

in the middle of November, but I am looking forward to a lot of exploring in the meantime. I've officially finished my two-week pre-session course and we capped it off with a visit to mine and a castle—and an essay.

There are so many differences here I don't know where to start. Of course, there are the castles, the coastlines and the quaint British villages. School assignments are

minimal; class meeting times are less frequent. I don't get around in my own car, but a bus. Space and personal space is less common, especially coming from Oklahoma where it is wide-open spaces.

Even a trip to the grocery store becomes an exploration in what is different. There aren't any Nacho Cheese Doritos in Wales. There isn't Pepsi. I've yet to see soft chocolate chip cookies (or soft

cookies, in general). It's the cookies I miss the most; the other two have been complaints from other American students here in Wales. Fortunately, I can bake cookies in my accommodation's kitchen.

You find the strangest foods missing when you go to look for them, but most are available and in more varieties than the U.S. There are large populations with different tastes here. Despite what you read online, there is peanut butter in the UK; there is also salsa and guacamole.

There's a lot of Indian food and spices, given the immigration from the previous Indian colony. There is a lack of Mexican food, but there is Spanish food. There's a lot of pastries, both savory and sweet. It seems to be a British staple in many ways. There's plenty of black currant-flavored foods and drinks here, which I've never seen in the United States.

Fish and chips is a pub staple, as well as steak pies. There are chips or peas with every pub meal. There are supermarkets, as well as food markets. There's nothing quite so surprising as going shopping one afternoon and finding an entire festival of cultural foods happening in the middle of a street. I ate good Chinese food that day.

NFL protests gone to far?

By **Corey Shirey**
Columnist

Last year, Colin Kaepernick started a pretty heated controversy when he took a knee during the playing of the national anthem. He said at the time that he was protesting police brutality on the black population across the United States.

Kaepernick stated that "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder", referencing a series of events that led to the Black Lives Matter movement and adding that he would continue to protest until he feels like "[the American flag] represents what it's supposed to represent".

He has a point. According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), African Americans are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites. The imprisonment rate for African American women is twice that of white women. Nationwide, African American children represent 32% of children who are arrested, 42% of children

"The protest has turned from a focus on issues facing the black community to a protest on the President. That, I find to be disheartening."

who are detained, and 52% of children whose cases are judicially waived to criminal court. Though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately 32% of the US population, they comprised 56% of all incarcerated people in 2015. If African Americans and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates as whites, prison and jail populations would decline by almost 40% states naacp.org.

As you can tell, there are some EXTREME disparities that directly hit the African American community.

His protest didn't end with just him though. This year's NFL season has seen nearly every team take a knee to show solidarity with the black community. Players

across the NFL have said they want to bring to light the struggle that the black community faces.

However, the protests took a different turn when President Trump decided to voice his opinion on the matter. At a campaign rally in Alabama of all places, he said that "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a b**** off the field right now, out, he's fired!' You know, some owner is going to do that. He's gonna say, 'That guy disrespects our flag, he's fired.' And that owner, they don't know it. They don't know it. They're friends of mine, many of them. They don't know it. They'll be the most popular person, for a week.

They'll be the most popular person in the country." (Quoted From sbnation.com)

Now, I may be young, but I have never heard a President openly call someone who was protesting for equal opportunity for all people, a son of a b****. I may not agree with kneeling during the national anthem, but that is their right, as enshrined in the first amendment of our Constitution. The same amendment that gives me the right this article to all of you gives those players the right to protest.

However, the protest has turned from a focus on issues facing the black community to a protest on the President. That, I find to be disheartening.

Protesting for equal opportunities and fair treatment for the black community by law enforcement is one thing. Protesting the president is a totally different thing. We should not get the two mixed up.

I write this article to get you all to think. Place yourself in someone else's shoes. Imagine that you don't have your privilege. The privilege to not be afraid when you're pulled over. The privilege to know that you are less likely to be shot and killed in the streets.

That protest makes a little more sense now, doesn't it?

It is time for our leaders to actually listen and address the issues facing our black brothers

Last Week's Answers

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

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

This Week's Answers

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

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

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News office: Jesse Dunn Annex 232
 Telephone: 327-8479; Fax: 327-8127
 E-mail: nwnews@nwsu.edu
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

Why we should get a GSA club

By **Chloe Henderson**
Columnist

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has a wide variety of clubs for students to join, ranging from intramural sports to fine arts and so many more. Although Northwestern has over 70 clubs and organizations, there is one topic that has yet to have a club at this school; the LGBT+ community. Many schools across the United States have some sort of GSA club, otherwise known as a Gay-Straight Alliance or a Genders and Sexualities Alliance, and studies have shown these clubs reduce the rate of LGBT+ student suicides as well as reducing discrimination from other students by bringing together a support group for students incorporated in the LGBT+ community. GSA's typically function to provide a safe space for LGBT+ students to meet, support each other, discuss topics related to sexuality and gender orientations and expressions, and put an end to homophobia and transphobia.

It takes a lot of work to build a GSA. To show this, I've summarized a list entitled "10 steps for starting a GSA" from the GSA Network website:

1. Follow your school's guidelines
2. Establish a GSA the same way you would establish any other group by looking in your Student



Photo by Chloe Henderson

Freshman Chloe Henderson and Taylor Alexander enjoying Enid Pride Day on September 16th.

Handbook for the rules at your school. This may include getting permission from an administrator, finding an advisor, and/or writing a constitution.

2. Find a faculty advisor
3. Find a teacher or staff member whom you think would be

supportive or who has already shown themselves to be an ally around sexual orientation issues.

3. Inform administration of your plans

It can be very helpful to have an administrator on your side. They can work with other teachers, parent groups, community members, and the school board.

4. Inform guidance counselors and social workers about the group

They might know students who would be interested in attending the group.

5. Pick a safe and neutral meeting place

You may want to find a meeting place which is off the beaten track at school and offers some level of privacy or confidentiality.

6. Advertise
7. It may be a combination of school bulletin announcements, flyers, and word-of-mouth. Advertising for your group and having words up such as "gay,

lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning" or "discuss sexual orientation" can actually make other students feel safer -- even if they never attend a single meeting.

7. Hold your first meeting
8. You may want to start out with a discussion about how people would like this group to end up.

8. Establish ground rules

Many groups have ground rules to insure that group discussions are safe, confidential, and respectful, one of which could be that no assumptions are used about a group member's sexual or gender orientation.

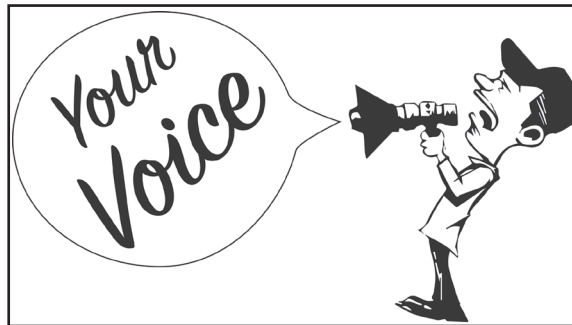
9. Plan for the future
10. Brainstorm activities, set goals, contact Genders & Sexualities Alliance Network to get connected to other GSAs, and learn about what else is going on in the community.

10. Register your GSA

Register your GSA with the GSA network in your state! Visit our National Directory to find your state's GSA network.

National Coming-Out Day is October 11, so as this day approaches, please be kind to one another as we don't truly know what all is happening in others' lives.

I think it is important for all students to have a open environment that makes them feel welcomed no matter what to context is.



**Interested in writing?
 Share your opinions!
 Contact Michelle
 mdwillson99@rangers.nwsu.edu**

Crossword Answers on Page 4

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Recycling containers
- 5 Cauldron
- 8 Aladdin's —
- 12 And others (Abbr.)
- 13 "Go, team!"
- 14 Israeli airline
- 15 Hamlet's castle
- 17 Theater award
- 18 Aircraft
- 19 Tomorrow, in Tijuana
- 21 Space
- 22 Grand tale
- 23 Ref
- 26 Energy
- 28 Ancestor of Noah

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14				
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18						19	20				
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51						52	53				
54						55			56		
57						58			59		

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 31 Equitable | 56 Hebrew month | subject | off |
| 33 Knock | 57 The — Piper of Hamelin | 8 Strong and regal | 34 Seamstress' aid |
| 35 Great Lake | 58 Coop dweller | 9 Tuna type | 37 Insult (Sl.) |
| 36 Possessed | 59 Rod partner | 10 Primary | 39 Pirate's refrain |
| 38 24 hours | | 11 Entreaty | 42 Command to Fido |
| 40 Corn spike | | 16 Tide type | 44 Duck down |
| 41 "Yeah, right!" | | 20 Mimic | 45 Grate |
| 43 Pirouette pivot | | 23 E.T.'s craft | 46 Needle case |
| 45 Just say no | | 24 Gullet | 48 Portrayal |
| 47 Senator's minimum age | | 25 Ship in a | 49 Verifiable |
| 51 Fermi's particle | | Gilbert & Sullivan work | 50 Holler |
| 52 One of Alvin's cohorts | | 27 Cushion | 53 Coloration |
| 54 Certain | | 29 Spy org. | |
| 55 Mangy mutt | | 30 Yon maiden | |
| | | 32 Picked up where you left | |

Homecoming 2017

Come Back, Give Back, Continue the Legacy



Photo by Ashley Strehl

Lexi Vanderwork, winner of the Miss Cinderella pageant, waves to the crowd during the Homecoming parade on Saturday. She was crowned Miss Cinderella Friday night.



Photo by Conner Poage

Demetrius Wilson is all smiles as he accepts his crown and realizes that he is the new Homecoming King during halftime of the football game.



Photo by Conner Poage

The Ranger cheer squad gets the homecrowd pumped up during the football game on Saturday afternoon.



Photo by University relations

The mass band, consisting of surrounding high schools, play a song to the home crowd on Saturday before the football game began.



Photo by University relations

NWOSU staff members serve food at the Rally around the Ranger on Friday.



Photo by University relations

Ranger cheerleaders lead a chant to the student body at the bonfire pep-rally at the park Thursday night.



Photo by Ashley Strehl

The parade marshal, Peggy Wisdom, waves to the crowd and enjoys her ride during the parade Saturday morning.



Photo by Conner Poage

Sadie Vore can't help but smile to the crowd as she is crowned as the 2017 Homecoming Queen.



Photo by Ashley Strehl

Drum major Madison Hofen enjoying the parade.

Feature

Why the Northwestern students are smiling

By **EMMARAE COOK**
Columnist



Photo by EmmaRae Cook

Tiffany Wilson, a Sophomore Business Administration major says she is smiling because Miss Cinderella is over and theater members are ready for their first theater production.



Photo by EmmaRae Cook

Megan Webb, a Sophomore Biology major says she's smiling because she has coffee, and it's going to be a great day.



Photo by EmmaRae Cook

Reed Nickle, a Sophomore Social Science major says he's smiling because we asked for a picture.



Photo by EmmaRae Cook

Rashmita Khatri, a Freshman Agriculture major says she's smiling because she just loves to smile.

International Smile Day is Friday, October 6th.

"I love those who can smile in trouble, who can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'Tis' the business of little minds to shrink, but they whose heart is firm, and whose conscience approves their conduct, will pursue their principles unto death." - Leonardo da Vinci

"A smile is a curve that sets everything straight." - Phyllis Diller

"Let us always meet with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love." - Mother Teresa



Photo by EmmaRae Cook

Ira Hill II, a Senior Business Administration major says he's smiling because it is going to be a good day.

Students:
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Every Saturday

9:30 p.m. to Midnight

\$12 per person - includes FREE DRINK!

Entertainment



Photo Courtesy of Fox Television

“Lethal Weapon” stars Damon Wayans and Clane Crawford, follows Martin Riggs and Roger Murtaugh as they combat crime in Los Angeles.

‘Lethal Weapon’ season two is a hit or miss

By **BROOKE MCCLELLAND**
Student Writer

Lethal Weapon’s second season has officially started, and aside from notable deaths, not much has changed.

On TV

Explosive spectacles with action packed gunfights and quick getaways that prove to be the stalwart of the show.

The season opener shows that it will not be changing anytime soon. The action is part of what makes the show great, and thus far, it is on point, although the camera

work can be better.

The comedy, as always, is hit or miss, but the chemistry between the core cast is evident as the series chugs on.

One slight complaint from certain viewers is the unrealistic relationship between Roger Murtaugh and his children, who seem to have the upper

hand against him more often than not, painting his character in a way that makes him the bumbling Dad that does not know which way is up.

On the plus side, the stories for the two main characters, Martin Riggs and Roger Murtaugh, appear to be moving forward.

Riggs is finally leaving his past behind and moving on with his life. Meanwhile, Murtaugh finds himself at odds with his family in ways that he never thought possible before, as a man who is facing the choice of being with his family, or looking after his partner.

It’s oddly compelling, particularly for the portion of the audience who have never

seen the movies that the show is based on.

Kudos to Clayne Crawford who has done a stellar job with the character of Martin Riggs, along with Damon Wayans who plays the grizzled veteran, trying to keep his family together.

It was a solid season opener, and now one has to wonder where the show will go from here, especially after the preview for next week’s episode.

Is Riggs okay? What is going to happen to Murtaugh, and will it involve his family? Most importantly, what will the two outlandish partners do now that their safety blanket in the form of the city attorney is gone? Stay tuned.

“It was a solid season opener, and now one has to wonder where the show will go from here. especially after the preview for next week’s episode.”

Billboard September Top 10

- 1 - “Bodak Yellow (Money Moves)”
Cardi B
- 2 - “Rockstar”
Post Malone Ft. 21 Savage
- 3 - “Look What You Made Me Do”
Taylor Swift
- 4 - “1-800-273-8255”
Logic Featuring Alessia Cara & Khalid
- 5 - “Despacito”
Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee
Featuring Justin Bieber
- 6 - “Unforgettable”
French Montana Ft. Swae Lee
- 7 - “Believer” Imagine Dragons
- 8 - “Rake It Up” Yo Gotti Featuring Nicki Manaj
- 9 - “Attention” Charlie Puth
- 10 - “Feel It Still” Portugal. The Man

Oklahoman takes ‘AGT’ million

By **ASHLEY STREHL**
Entertainment Editor

A 12 year-old self-taught ventriloquist, comedian and singer from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, took home the title of the winner of Americas Got Talent Season 12.

Darci Lynn approached her first audition with one of her puppets, Petunia, singing the late 1950s song “Summertime” by Ella Fitzgerald.

Darci got a standing ovation from the crowd and all four of the AGT judges.

AGT Judge Mel B couldn’t quite wrap her head around the 12 year old phenomenon, “You make my heart melt, you are brilliant.”

The ex-spice girl then hit the golden buzzer, sending Darci straight to the live shows.

Each Judge gets one golden buzzer each.

After 2 weeks of judge cuts the live shows began and Darci returned with a new puppet, Oscar, who professed his love for Mel B by singing the song “Who’s loving you” by The Jackson 5.

America voted her through without a hesitation to the very final show, where she used both her puppets, Oscar, and Petunia. Singing “With A Little Help From My Friends” by the Beatles.

On the final show she performed with previous AGT ventriloquist winner, Terry Fator, who brought one of his many characters.

The state of Oklahoma had her back the entire season by social media posting, sharing and spreading the word about Darci. She did the state proud.



Photo by Darci Lynn Facebook

Darci Lynn with her puppet petunia after receiving the golden buzzer from judge Mel B.

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<p>“Blade Runner 2049”</p> <p>Starts Friday! Friday: 6:45 only Saturday: 1:30-6:45 Sunday: 1:30-6:45</p>	<p>“American Assassin”</p> <p>Starts Friday! Friday 6:45-9:15 Saturday: 1:30-6:45-9:15 Sunday: 1:30-6:45</p>	<p>“Kingsman: The Golden Circle”</p> <p>Starts Friday! Friday 6:45-9:30 Saturday: 1:30-6:45-9:30 Sunday: 1:30-6:45</p>
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Oct. 9-12: 6:45 nightly Screen 1/ R/ 165 Mins. Oct. 9-12: 6:45 nightly Screen 2/ R/ 120 min. Oct. 9-12: 6:45 nightly Screen 3/ R/ 140 min.

Last Night: “It”, “All Saints”, “Lego Ninjago”
6:45 nightly

Coming Soon: “Geo Storm”

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New Releases: 10-3-17 “Pirates of Caribbean: Deadmen Tell No Tales” & “Ghost Story”

Sports



Photos by Sami McGuire

Sara Bynum and her horse, Loretta, making a run at the college rodeo in Colby, Kansas. The duo placed third there and first at the Durant college rodeo on September 30.

Bynum makes clean sweep

By SAMI MCGUIRE
Sports Editor

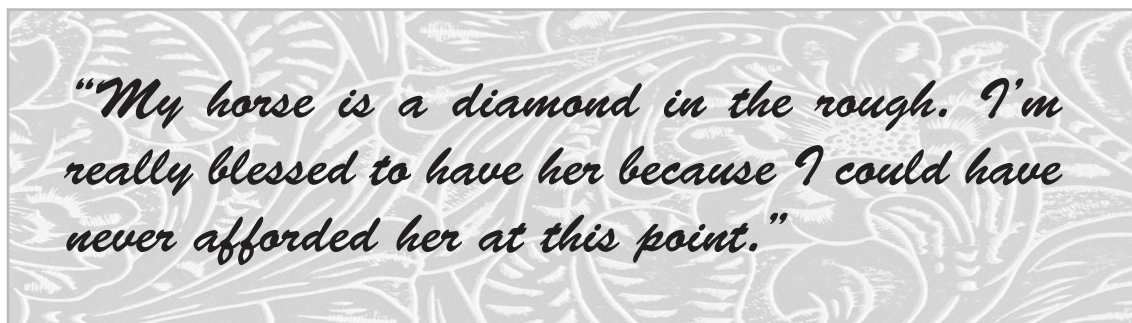
The announcer calls her name. The paint horse dances underneath her. The gate opens into the arena. The red dirt is groomed perfectly, and the barrels wait ahead.

She lets her horse go. The wind blows back her horse's mane. Her horse's hooves dig into that red dirt as it goes flying behind them. She's done this hundreds of times, but the rush is still there.

Sara Bynum, a senior, travelled to Durant to compete at the college rodeo along with other Ranger rodeo team members. Bynum made the fastest run of the weekend during her first barrel run on Saturday morning, which put her in the short round on Saturday night. During the short round Bynum placed fifth, but still was able to win the weekend average.

This is the second college rodeo of the year, and Bynum has done well at both of them. In Colby, Kansas, on Sept. 15-17, she placed third in the weekend average in the barrel racing.

This year Bynum is taking a different approach to rodeos.



"My horse is a diamond in the rough. I'm really blessed to have her because I could have never afforded her at this point."

"This year I just wanted to go have fun and not stress about every rodeo like I normally do," Bynum said.

Not only does Bynum hope to approach rodeos in this manner, but has been able to incorporate this into her life.

"I've had to stop worrying about what other people said about me and thought about me," she said. "I'm just learning to be okay going alone, and being happy with what I have."

But Bynum isn't alone. The paint horse that has taken Bynum to short rounds, college finals and multiple other wins is a horse she found on Craigslist for \$600. Now Loretta, Bynum's horse, is helping her succeed in the college ranks.

"My horse is a diamond in the rough," she said. "I'm really blessed to have her because I could have never afforded her at

this point."

Bynum said she plans to have fun and let Loretta do her job at the upcoming rodeos. Although Bynum tries to stay out of Loretta's way she does some mental preparation for herself.

"Right before my run I try to see it perfect as many times as I can," she said. "As soon as I step on [Loretta] I just don't think about [my run]."

Bynum's run this weekend was a huge accomplishment for her and Loretta, because there are many competitive horses in our region.

Not only does the barrel racing have a lot of competitive girls, but the other events throughout the weekend were competitive. Northwestern's rodeo team competed with the best of them.

Rangers are already having a better year than last. The men

sixth, respectively.

Wakefield also placed well in the team roping, winning first in the average with his partner Jayden Johnson. Price placed second in the team roping average. Kass Bittle and Jaydon Laubham placed fifth in the average. Dylan Schulenberg placed eighth in the average.

As usual, the men's best event was the steer wrestling. Jace Rutledge won the weekend average. He was followed by Brent Woodward, Bridger Anderson, Colton Madison and Colton Brown, who were in fifth, sixth, ninth and 10th.

"We have really competitive girls and guys in almost all the events, except the rough stock," Bynum said. "I think we are very competitive and we will have a successful year."

Success is one thing that Bynum thinks about a little differently than others. Going into the future she hopes to find her own success, even if it isn't the same path as others.

"One day I'd like to find a job that makes me happy," she said. "I may not make a lot of money, but this last year has taught me that being happy will make you more successful than being worried about everything and being miserable."



Brittany Cudsworth.



Wakefield winning third in the tie down roping, first in the team roping.


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Sports



Photo Provided

Jazlynn Martinez, a junior, keeping the ball away from a Harding University player during the winning game.

Soccer has success

By MEGAN MAHARRAY
Sports Reporter

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Lady Ranger soccer team took on Great American Conference opponents from Arkansas on Sept. 28 and 30 during homecoming week.

The Lady Rangers fell to Ouachita Baptist 3-2 after the match went into double overtime. On Sept. 30, the Lady Rangers made up for the heartbreaking loss by defeating top ranked Harding University 2-1.

The Lady Rangers dominated Ouachita Baptist, outshooting the Tigers 27-17 and maintaining a 2-1 lead until the Tigers scored with just seven minutes remaining in regulation to tie the game.

Sophomore Bailey Jarvis struck first for the Lady Rangers, tacking on her first goal of the season.

Sophomore Yazmin Gomez

scored her second goal of the season in the second half with the assist coming from freshman Makayla Barrientos.

The Lady Rangers held the Tigers 2-2 throughout the first overtime period. However, during the second overtime period, the Tigers netted the goal needed to end the game 3-2.

With the heartbreaking loss, the Lady Rangers took to Harding University on Saturday, and were able to come out with the 2-1.

The Lady Ranger's defense had a stellar performance, letting up only one goal despite the 17 total shorts Harding hit. Junior goal keeper Kylee Loustaunau stopped six of Harding's seven shots on goal.

Junior Calvinis Prentice scored both goals for the Lady Rangers in their winning game. She was assisted by sophomore Yazmin Gomez

and sophomore Hollie Pankake.

Prentice said after she scored her first goal, her heart dropped in a good way.

She said she felt it was her duty to score. When she scored her second goal she said she was in the right place in the right time.

Prentice said to get the win everyone was on the same page mentally and physically. Prentice said the team felt hopeless after a tough loss. She said it was hard to lose after they played such a great.

"The team clicked well and we started playing better," Prentice said.

Prentice said in order to keep winning, the team needs to go into games with a positive mindset.

"Having a positive mindset is important because we are probably considered the underdogs," Prentice said. "We need to have that winning mentality."

XC leaving marks in record books

By MEGAN MAHARRAY
Sports Reporter

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University men and women's cross country teams competed in the Chili Pepper Festival in Fayetteville, Arkansas, on Saturday. Both the men and women did well at the meet.

The women placed 36 out of 45 teams beating conference foe Ouachita Baptist. The Lady Rangers all ran a personal best, which set a new season's team average of 21:29:18. The Lady Rangers were led by junior Kayla Gourley, who clocked in a time of 20:21.

Freshman Kendy Salinas came in after Gourley with a time of 21:12. Junior Maren Wicker finished with a time of 21:51. Rounding out the scoring for the Lady Rangers was sophomore Clara O'Connor who finished at 21:59 and sophomore Melissa Chavez with a completed time of 22:01. Freshman Madison Herrera ended the race with a time of 24:36.

The Ranger men also had a successful weekend. The Rangers finished 35 out of 41 teams and beat Arkansas Monticello. They also set some records in-

dividually.

Junior Clayton Fletcher led the way for the Rangers and recorded a time of 34:24. This is second best time in Northwestern history. Freshman Ben Ivory also got himself into the record books, coming in with a time of 37:00 to put him at sixth all time in Ranger history.

Ben Ivory is a freshman agriculture education major from Maldrow, Oklahoma. Ivory made his mark early in the Ranger record books. Ivory said his preparation had come early in the summer and he came into the season with a good base.

"I know for myself, I have never been in better shape than I am right now," Ivory said. "Coach Lancaster has done her best to put us in position to succeed."

Ivory said setting the record felt really great. He said it made him reflect back on all the work he had done and that it was worth it. He said he and his team must continue to prepare for the upcoming runs by pushing each other in practice and races. Ivory said his major goal for the season is to make an 8k under 28 minutes.

The men and women will next compete in Fort Hays, Kansas at Fort Hays State University on Oct. 7.



Photo by Conner Poage

Andrew Lensnick kicking th ball during the homecoming game.

Football takes loss during homecoming

By RANGER ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Northwestern Oklahoma State hosted Southeastern Oklahoma State this weekend on Homecoming and came away with a 30-27 loss.

The Rangers were once again dominant on the ground game where they took it to SOSU for 269 yards.

The defense started out the game rocky, but really picked up play in the second and were led by sophomore linebacker, Maurice Wright Jr. who recorded 14 and 1.5 tackles for loss.

Getting the scoring started early was SOSU who put a score on the board with 3:57 to go in the first quarter.

Just two minutes into the second quarter, SOSU put another seven points on the board to put the deficit at 14.

On the very next drive for the Rangers, the hosts were able to get to the Southeastern 39 yard line, but Weed tossed his first interception that was returned all the way to the Northwestern 23.

The SOSU quarterback Kinsaul

did the very same thing on the very next play, where it ended up in the hands of Cam White.

The Rangers used the turnover well as they took it 97 yards, and scored from 14 yards out on a Weed scamper. The touch down was set up by a flurry of rushes, with the longest of those going to Cota for 35 yards.

SOSU basically erased the score on their next possession, crossing the goal line from nine yards out, pushing the lead back to 14.

The visitors tacked on a field goal at the end of the half, making it a 24-7 score headed into halftime.

The Rangers came out of the break with the ball, but were unable to get anything going and eventually punting where the ball was downed at the Southeastern 37.

On the first drive for the Savage Storm, the visitors traveled all the way down to the Ranger's 14-yard line where they put another field goal.

Northwestern was not content with going away though as the Rangers took it 65 yards down the field where Cota took it to the promised land from the five, making it a two-score game again.

The host's defense held strong again, knocking back the SOSU offense five yards in three plays and countered it with another 53-yard score on another Cota rush, making it just a seven-point game.

The Ranger defense held stout again, as they shut the visitors down in five plays.

Following the 41-yard punt, the offense started moving down the field again.

A masterful drive by the Rangers resulted in another score, driving down the field 90 yards in 13 plays with the drive capped off by a seven-yard rush by Jalen Williams, tying it up at 27.

Following up the game-tying touchdown, the Savage Storm drove 51 yards down the field and put a heartbreaking field goal through the uprights for a last second go-ahead score.

The game didn't end without theatrics on the final kick return however as the Rangers tried the hook-and-ladder and moved it down the field, but weren't able to reach the end zone, ending the game in heartbreaking fashion.



Rangers: A Driving Force



Determination grants success

By SAMI MCGUIRE
Sports Editor

Determination. Block. Effort. Hit. Teamwork. Assist. Pride. Spike. Rangers. Win.

After the Ranger volleyball team game against the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Savage Storm on Sept. 29, they earned their seventh win in a row. The Rangers won 3-0.

One player that helped Rangers achieve this win was Jennifer Eubanks, a sophomore. Eubanks recorded 16.5 points. She had a hitting percentage of .682 for the match, which now stands as the highest hitting percentage ever posted by a Ranger in a single match.

"I was really proud to be able to break the record at NWOSU," Eubanks said. "I love this school. So having my name put down and remembered is really exciting. I'm going to try and beat that record again this year."

That isn't the only record Eubanks is trying to beat this year. She said she also hopes to help her team beat the season record to get at the top of the conference.

"We want to show everyone the progress we've gone through," she said. "With a rough season last year, we are ready to show people that we can actually play. We have the heart



Photo Provided

Malory Richardson, Hannah Williams, Jennifer Eubanks and Carley Geer excited after a winning game.

for it. We want to win."

Last year the volleyball team took many losses, but this year has won the majority of their games.

"Coach's game plan is very different than others," Eubanks said. "Most coaches don't utilize the middle as much as the outside, but coach does. The main hitting areas are middle and outside, so I feel like that is the big difference."

Utilizing all areas of the court involves a lot of teamwork, and that is something the volleyball team displays on and off the court.

"Teamwork means everyone playing in full effort and full force," she said. "A big thing we focus on is that every point counts. During practice we work hard, and off the court we like to hang out and really be a family."

Eubanks is really proud of the Rangers, and she wants to keep improving on herself to help the Rangers achieve more wins.

"I'm a strong hitter," she said, "but I really want to get better at blocking. I want to be an all around good player."

To become an all around good player, Eubanks has had to do a lot of work on herself to be able to be

a middle hitter as well as an outside hitter.

"Before college I was too skinny to be a middle hitter," she said. "I was pushed around everywhere, so it was really my main focus to show myself in college that I could be able to play middle. This was a mental thing, but strength-wise I also got stronger and bigger over the summer."

Her main focus is to be a dependable, stable hitter for her team. Going forward she said she plans to keep getting stronger and better, and hopes it results in more wins.

"We are going to fight hard [in our next game]," Eubanks said, "and show the rest of the conference what we can do. We obviously want to win. These would be really big games going against Arkansas teams. It will be a tough match but we want to win, play as a whole and play the best to our abilities."

Eubanks determination and teamwork with the rest of the Ranger volleyball team will hopefully show results on Saturday against Arkansas-Monticello in the Percefull Fieldhouse.

"Being a Ranger is about working hard, showing school spirit, wanting the school to keep progressing," Eubanks said. "[The school] has come so far all already. The sports have too, and people should fear the Northwestern Rangers."