

Budget cuts hit Northwestern

By **RACHEL EMERSON**
Asst. News Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University is currently planning ways to compensate after receiving two budget cuts this fiscal year, with a third possible this spring.

With oil and gas prices plummeting, the state's economy is doing so as well. According to an article on KFOR, Oklahoma News Channel 4, about Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin's "State of the State" address on Feb. 1, many state agencies will start to see a reduction in their budgets as a result of Oklahoma's \$900 million budget deficit. This includes the state's education budget.

Many public schools throughout the state, both K-12 schools and universities, are announcing plans to decrease spending because of the cut in state funding. Therefore, Northwestern is currently working on ways to reduce spending due to the cuts.

According to Associate Vice President of University Relations at Northwestern, Steven Valencia, the university received a 3.5 percent cut in state appropriations at the beginning of the fiscal year

2016, which started on July 1, 2015. This first cut totaled in an estimated \$358,000 loss to the university budget.

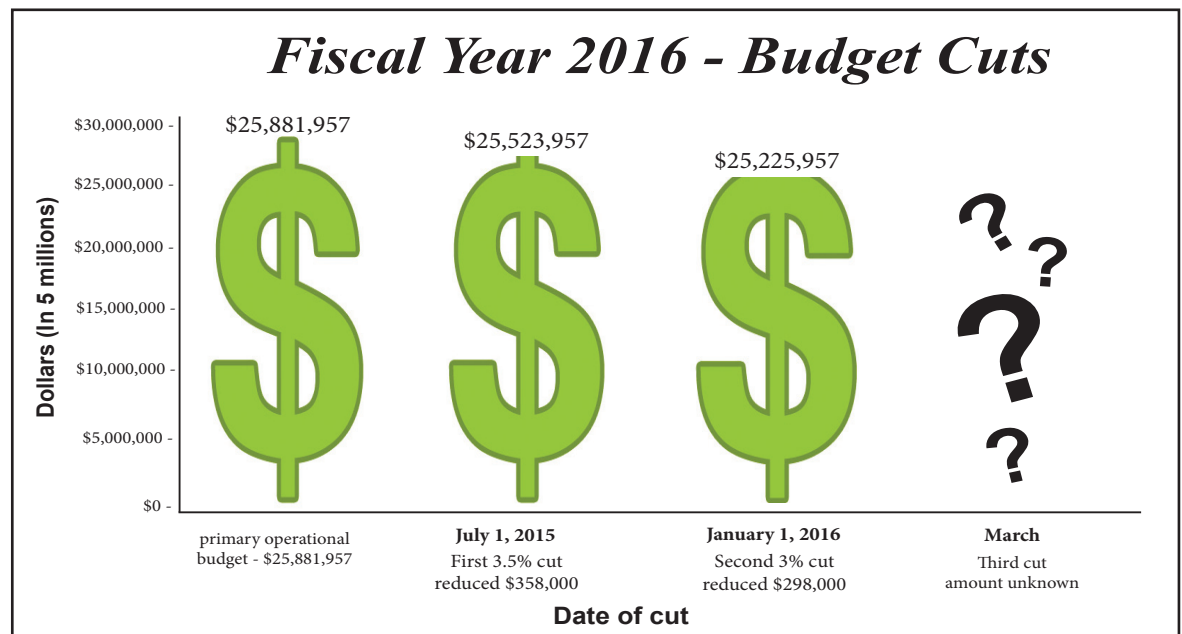
On Jan. 1, 2016, the university sustained another 3 percent decrease that resulted in an additional \$298,000 cut from the budget. This brings the university's total reduction to more than \$656,000 cut to Northwestern's primary operational budget of \$25,881,957 for the fiscal year 2016.

Valencia said that the university is expected to take another cut in March. The percentage of the cut is not yet known, but should be announced by the state next Tuesday.

"We expect to see another cut to our budget within the next couple of weeks," Valencia said.

Valencia said that the university president and executive staff are currently in the process of setting a budget for next year that will incorporate these budget cuts, but that the effect on the cost of tuition prices and institutional scholarship awards is not known.

He says that those are the last two areas on the list to be altered. Scholarships from Northwestern's Foundation and Alumni



Data from University Relations

Graphic by Rachel Emerson

Northwestern has faced nearly \$656,000 in cuts thus far and expect at least one more cut before it's all said and done.

Association won't be effected by the cut at all since they are not funded by the state appropriation budget.

The university has started to cut from its budget by refraining from filling seven different positions that would otherwise be filled, and by cutting travel expenses. They are also cutting operation expenses, which includes delaying repairs and purchases

for the university. Valencia said that they are making all efforts to minimize the amount that needs to be cut from Northwestern's academic and athletic programs by cutting from these other areas.

"We're trying to keep cuts to academic areas to a minimum," Valencia said.

Valencia said that the university president and executive staff are also in touch with

Oklahoma state legislation. He believes that they have a solid case to persuade the legislation to continue investing in higher education and reduce the amount of cuts being made to education.

Until Oklahoma's economy starts to look up, Northwestern administrative staff is working to ensure that the main focus remains on keeping cuts to academic and athletic programs at a minimum.

Rangers win without Vana

By **RYAN SCHUMAKER**
Sports Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has placed head women's basketball coach Brett Vana on paid administrative lead, pending further investigation as of last week.

Steve Valencia, Vice President of University Relations, said there is no timetable on when the investigation will be completed. Coaches and players are not available for questioning until the university completes its investigation.

No clues or reasons have been provided for why Vana has been placed under suspension, and details are not expected to be released until completion of the investigation.

Valencia said that no outside agencies, including the NCAA are involved. "This is strictly an internal investigation, no outside NCAA involvement," Valencia said.



Photo courtesy of riderangersride.com

Ranger's current head coach of women's basketball, Brett Vana.

In the 18 games under Vana this year the Rangers went 1-17, including a 0-13 record during conference play. However, the Rangers losing efforts were not without some close matches as three of those losses were by a total of six points.

Vana accepted the

position of head women's basketball coach in July 2015, after previously working as assistant coach for the women's basketball team at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah.

Prior to his tenure at Weber State, Vana served as the head coach for Louisburg College, located in Lewisville, North Carolina, during which he captured the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division II National Championship during the 2012-2013 season.

Before Louisburg Vana served as a talent evaluator at the Champions Academy in Indianapolis, Indiana. Vana spent much of his career overseas, working in professional leagues in Switzerland, Germany and Denmark.

During the school's investigation the women's basketball team will be under the direction of former standout high school basketball coach Jeff Mahoney. He has spent the last 30 years coaching multiple high school teams across the

state of Oklahoma.

During those years, he coached six teams to the state tournament and was also selected to coach in the Oklahoma basketball all-star games four times throughout his career.

Under Mahoney's guidance, the Ranger women picked up their second win of the season Monday night in a 57-54 victory over Rogers State University in Claremore, Oklahoma.

The Hillcats (11-10, 6-7) are right in the middle of the pack in the Heartland Conference, making the midseason non-conference win even more impressive.

The win snapped a 19-game losing streak the Rangers had built up under Vana.

Senior Ashley Pride led the way for the Rangers tallying 16 points while junior center Kamera Bozeman provided a double-double effort with 10 points and 11 rebounds.

The Rangers will get back into Great American Conference play tonight against

Southern Nazarene University in Percefull Fieldhouse at 5:30 p.m..

Then on Saturday, the women will head to Durant, Oklahoma to face Southern Nazarene, at 1 p.m..

Following the match up with the Crimson Storm, the Rangers will square off with arch rival Southwestern Monday at 5:30 p.m. at home in Percefull Fieldhouse.

This will be the Rangers second match up with the Bulldogs this season.

In game one earlier this season, the Bulldogs came away with a 89-50 win over the Red-and-Black at their home court in Weatherford.

Even without a conference win, the Rangers are still statistically not out of a berth in the conference tournament with seven games remaining down the stretch.

If they do in fact make it into the tournament, then the Rangers will head to Bartlesville, Oklahoma on March 3-6.

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Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday 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.com. 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.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Northwestern Oklahoma State University provides quality educational and cultural opportunities to learners with diverse needs by cultivating ethical leadership, critical thinking, and fiscal responsibility.

Opinion

Let's Talk...

More reader involvement with Northwestern News

This semester at the Northwestern News, we've tried to incorporate the idea of a news team, meaning we've tried to incorporate the idea that everyone is there for one another, helping each other out with whatever circumstance they might be dealing with.

So far, that idea has been hit and miss within our ranks, but we feel that the reason why it has been missing is because we have missed a vital asset of the news team idea. The aspect in which we've missed is with the incorporation of you, the readers.

The newspaper is a vessel in which people can express their thoughts and ideas [to a certain extent] on any topic. Over these opening weeks of the semester, you, the readers, have seen examples of what we can do. Some of our examples have been quite controversial and some have even tested the strings that we've developed among our peers, but we feel that what we have done thus far, is a great step into the right direction for the paper.

What we'd like to emphasize is that the Northwestern News is a student led paper, with everything being done by the students. This means pictures of events on campus, all interviews and articles. Each of them are written by editors, reports and students.

With a few minor flaws that we seem to miss, this newspaper looks better and has been full of great new content each week. We have new fun ideas that we as a staff has come up with. We have students that aren't even on staff getting involved in this paper. We love that! We want more of that! We want you readers to get involved with this newspaper! It makes our jobs



Graphic by Rachel Emerson

that much more fun when we have new voices from around campus to hear from each week.

You don't have to be a Mass Communications major—or minor- to get involved. You just have to show the willingness to express your ideas to us, the editors. We take all suggestions, whether they be good ones, bad ones, or any one in between.

We want you readers involved because it will add a whole new characteristic to the paper that we have not yet to seen. Your involvement will allow us editors to understand what you want to see among our pages week in and week out. It might be a little cliché but 'WE WANT YOU!'

We want to hear from all students,

all clubs and organizations as well as all other readers. If something is going on on or around campus, and we haven't been covering it, please let us know!

How you can do that is by attending our weekly all-campus meetings here in Jesse Dunn Annex, Room 232. These meetings are held every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.. This is where we bounce around ideas about article topics and decide on pictures, graphics and other fun new ideas. You can also email ideas, suggestions, complaints, (even compliments on how pretty we're looking!) to nwnews@nwsu.edu.

Please come by and check us out and make our idea of a news team complete!



Opinion

Quit complaining, go live life

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Columnist

After receiving a lot of positive feedback from my last opinion article regarding my near death experience on the cross walk, I set out these last few weeks to try and experience another life altering event that would lead to a funny little opinion article in this wonderful newspaper.

Unfortunately that did not happen.

Instead I've decided to use my time in the opinion section of this newspaper to do something almost unheard of when it comes to opinion pages, and that is I am actually going to attempt to be positive about something in regards to this university.

When I first decided that I was going to take my lacking golf talents up here to the Vegas of the Great Plains, otherwise



known as Alvatraz, my buddies I created during my one year at Paris Junior College were flabbergasted.

They just couldn't come to terms with the fact that I was going to attend school at a university 75 miles away from well, pretty much anything. At first even I was skeptical before signing that letter of intent to

become a Ranger, but after that moment, I've had some of the best moments of my life.

Everyone I talk to always has something negative to say about this university and as I went through these last couple of weeks searching for another life altering event, I came to the conclusion that perhaps one of the biggest life changing events that will happen to me in my life has already happened, and that is becoming a Ranger.

Some of you may already be thinking to yourselves, "How in the world could this little dude possibly like it here. It's cold, in the middle of nowhere, there's nothing to do, and most importantly for crying out loud it's Alva, Oklahoma."

It's simple in my mind.

I love Alva because of the memories I've made and the people I've made those memories with. Instead of complaining about how miserable Alva is, go out and experience college life

to its fullest! Meet people, make bad decisions away from home and most important, cherish these times we are all experiencing because they won't last forever.

So many people I meet are too caught up in wishing they were at a bigger university with more to do instead of worrying about making the most of their college experience. Instead of sending out that tweet wishing there was a Starbucks in Alva, get together with some friends and attempt to make whatever in the world they put in all those drinks that cost you an arm and a leg.

Instead of heading home the moment you walk out of your Friday class, make an attempt to hang around for the weekend and just see what happens. Who knows, you might even enjoy it.

Becoming a Ranger has been one of the best things to ever happen to me, and I encourage you all during this Valentine's season to not just spend a full week's paycheck on your boyfriend or

girlfriend, but to also get out and meet some people and experience some things around Alva instead of just bashing it.

10 years down the road, I guarantee you that you will not want to tell your kids and wife about the boring nights you stayed in your room and how awful your college was. I'm a firm believer in making the best out of the situation, so go out and find stuff to do. Trust me, if you make the effort to go out and experience Alva you will not be disappointed.

Most of the people you hear bashing this school are the people that don't give it a chance. Yes, it's in the middle of nowhere, yes there's not a giant supermall filled with overpriced shoe stores and pointless stands in the middle of the walkways.

Get out, be sociable, make memories and most of all, make sure you look both ways before crossing the street.

Remember who is watching

By JORDAN MCLEMORE
Columnist

Wow, last night was so crazy!

You might be thinking this as you scroll through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Snapchat after a fun night out. There are pictures documenting every minute of the evening, from the pregame, party, and of course, the Nite Lite.

While taking pictures with your friends from having a great night and posting them is fun, please, please, PLEASE, stop taking pictures with your drink!



This is probably my biggest pet peeve.

It is so annoying to see this on every social media forum. We get it, you're drinking at

a college party and I might be coming off a little prudish, but do you realize that college ends? And when it does, you're going to go out and look for a job.

The first thing that potential employer are going to do is Google you. What will they find? That's right, a million-and-one-pictures of you in a crop top holding a to-go cup of a mixed drink or the ever classy Four Loco in your hand.

If the company in which you are trying to get a job with see's this, then they will think the only thing you do is party and drink, and while that might not be true, how are they supposed to know, when that's all they see? Yes, I am

in a sorority so it's been ingrained in my head from day one to put the drink down, to a friend, or even behind your back while taking that picture.

It's not hard, and if you're that smashed that you forget, they probably won't even notice the drink beside your half-closed eyes and clearly drunk look on your face.

I get that going out and having a good time is what we do in college and there is nothing wrong with that! But what happened to just having a good time and leaving the cell phones out of it.

When did we become so reliant on our phones that we can't do anything without documenting

every part of it? Are we that narcissistic of a generation to have to take a million selfies before we are satisfied on one?

Why can't we all just go and enjoy our lives without having to post on Instagram about them? We need to realize that this doesn't last forever and that what we put out there is going to be there forever. What we are doing now is impacting our whole lives so please, think before you post.

Also, it might be good idea to just leave your phone with the sober driver to prevent anything from happening, like a bad Snapchat story, or mistaken post.

THE CASHIER

BY RICARDO GALVÃO



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Student discusses finding LGBT love

By CHARLIE WYLIE
Student Writer

“Searching for a boy in high school is as useless as searching for meaning in a Pauly Shore movie.” In the 1995 comedy *Clueless*, the main character Cher bemoans the lack of quality dating opportunities.

While Northwestern in Alva is not a high school, finding a suitable love interest here can mirror Cher’s dilemma. People search their whole lives for that special someone. It can be harder still if the person happens to be LGBT. Also, if a gay person is trying to find a date in time for Valentine’s Day? Forget about it.

It is not like we do not have LGBT people in Alva. We do. There are quite a bit actually. However, the number drops markedly when considering those that are out of the closet. I count myself as one of those that are OUT and about campus. What is the number one reason LGBT people do not come out? FEAR. Nobody wants to be rejected by their friends and family. Even today, in our society where gay marriage is legal, this is still a legitimate fear. I myself did not come out until I was nearly 30 years of age because I was scared. I thought that nobody would accept me or love me. I thought they would think I was a freak. But that simply was not the case. I was accepted by the important people in my life. I still have a “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy with some of my family because they would rather ignore reality. This does not bother me because I have some fantastic people in my life and I am not alone.

So how does one go about getting a date in Alva, Okla. when the bulk of the candidates are in hiding? Just like for our hetero counterparts, there are dating sites. However, because being gay is still stigmatized to a degree, many people do not want to use these sites and are embarrassed about doing so. So we have the same problem. People do not want to admit their sexuality out of fear. There are a few profiles to look at, but for the most part, it is barren. I have met much of the LGBT community here in person, even if it took a while for them to tell me their sexual preference. I actually do know a success

story on campus. This successful couple (I will not mention their names, because they would not want me to) are friends of mine. I met them in class. I knew right away that they were together. After I got to know them I asked why they were not out about being lesbians. They told me they had heard of others who had bad experiences and were afraid of being harmed. I hate that people have to live in fear.

Is Alva a bad place to live as a gay person? I have heard stories, however, I can only speak for my experience. I can honestly say I have had a couple of bad experiences. One was in the classroom and one was at a social function. I was livid both times (let us just say that making the proclamation that gay people are going to hell at a Christmas party is always bad form), but I had to learn to deal with these experiences and people. People are going to have their opinions and they are allowed to. One of my favorite drag queens, Jinx Monsoon, has a personal mantra. She always says “water off a duck’s back” when dealing with difficult situations. I try to apply this mantra to my life. Sure, I get angry, but I move on. That’s all that anybody can really do.

I would have to say that ninety percent of my experience at Northwestern has been positive. I have made many friends and I feel I can be myself with them. I could not ask for better faculty than I have had in the English department. They encourage me to express myself and my identity. They have helped me to improve academically and as a person. I am truly grateful for that.

Do I have advice for the LGBT community in Alva on Valentine’s Day? Be yourself. Live your life authentically. Do not be afraid. You are not a freak, and you are loved. I have to admit part of me was afraid to write this article. I decided I should practice what I preach. We all need encouragement sometimes. As for getting a date? We all know there are slim pickings in that area. It does not mean that romance is impossible, you just have to work harder at it. My tentative Valentine’s Day plan is to go watch *Deadpool* with my peeps. Sounds good to me.



Student gives insight to the history of Valentine’s

By SELENA ESTRADA
Student Writer

February 14 is right around the corner. Many people hate this day, but many love it. Valentine’s Day is known to be a day that you spend with friends or a significant other and give cards, chocolate, flowers, etc.

It is actually said that many are bound to engaged on this day, but what started this loving holiday and what’s the history behind it?

It wasn’t until the 1300s that Valentine’s Day was celebrated because of love and romance. Before this, though, it is said that there might have been three men known with the name of

“Valentine.” There are a few legends about these men that could possibly have something to do with why we celebrate Valentine’s Day.

In one of those legends a man named Valentine performed marriages for young men and their lovers behind Emperor Claudius II’s back.

The emperor thought his soldiers would be better if they were single so he made a law prohibiting the marriage of young men. Valentine was later caught and was sentenced to death.

In another legend, while in prison, it was said Valentine fell in love with one of his jailor’s daughter and after his death he had left a love letter signing off as “Your Valentine.” These two legends have something in common,

they both have something to do with love.

The celebration of Lupercalia was celebrated in the middle of February and others might believe that the Catholic church celebrated Valentine in order to “Christianize” Lupercalia. Later in the 5th century Lupercalia was announced to be “un-Christian,” and February 14 was officially declared St.

Valentine’s Day by Pope Gelasius. Of course Valentine’s Day wasn’t all about love and romance until later in the 1300’s. This time of year is said to be bird’s mating season which was what added more to the idea that Valentine should be about romance.

Being single on Valentine’s

By SAVANNAH TILLMAN
Student Writer

Take a deep breath. What do you smell? Maybe a hint of fresh flowers in full bloom or the sugary smell of delectable chocolates. Gives you a feeling of warmth and happiness, doesn’t it? Now take a look around you. What

do you see? Maybe a couple walking down the road holding hands or another couple in a tight embrace smearing her cherry red lipstick. By this point your emotions have enveloped and your heart and mind wonder. As you go to check your phone, suddenly it dawns on you, and it finally all makes sense: Valentine’s Day!

Once again, February 14 has graced us with that “Love in the Air” feeling. That means dinner dates are planned, bouquets of lovely flowers are on its way, list of reasons why you love someone are said, and mounds of kisses are ready to be given. . . Oh wait scratch all that, you’re SINGLE, remember?!

You can either choose to be optimistic or pessimistic. If your Valentine’s Day consists of crying about being lonely and moping around, you’re missing out on life.

Being single doesn’t mean you can’t enjoy this holiday. If you decide to snack on candy while watching those “corny” Hallmark movies they play Valentine’s Day, like Rachel Burk, a junior Psych major at Northwestern, has made a routine of, go for it. Or if you want to pretend to date your best friend

when you go to diner, then stage an argument and brake up, like Dalton Lamberth, Northwestern Music grad student, be my guest. The point is to own your relationship status and enjoy every moment of it. The options are endless. Hit up the town with friends, flirt with every waiter/waitress or stranger, buy yourself flowers or chocolates, or you can use this day to give to others.

Veronica Nelson, junior Psych major at Northwestern, takes time and money out of her day to give back to others. She purchases flowers and candies to give to individuals who have lost their loved ones. “I can’t even imagine what it must feel like to endure the heart wrenching pain of losing someone,” Nelson said. She uses her status of being single to love and pray for individuals and show them that they are still appreciated.

Valentine’s Day is a day to celebrate love for others but also love for yourself. Until we are struck with cupid’s arrow, have patience, your love story has yet to begin.

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Features

Little-known artifacts on campus

By NICK KIMANZI
Student Reporter

Most museums are located in cities throughout the world while a few are scattered around smaller cities. Alva, Okla is among the list of the small developing cities in the northwestern part of the state to house a museum. Its aim is not only to serve researchers and specialists, but it is also open for the public

The Museum of Natural History is situated in Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Jesse Dunn building on the northeast side of campus. The building was constructed in 1936-37 on the site of the original campus building; this offered the best location for the Natural Museum due to its storage needs for the exhibits.

The museum has turned out to be of great benefit, both educational and entertaining; it houses a countless number of animals of different species on earth.

The building not only contains a vast collection of animals and birds spotted around the region but also around the world. According to the library's website, Professor Stevens and his former student protégé traveled

to Alaska in 1908 and spent seven months collecting hundreds of specimens of mammal's birds and bird eggs. Later on is when African artifacts such as the Gemsboks, an antelope looking animal and an Impala from Zimbabwe. The gigantic ear of an elephant spreading about 5 feet high and 3 feet wide lies on one of the very many tables scattered with preserved animals and birds under the dim lit Museum. According to Smith, the room has to be dim since bright lights react with the chemicals present in all the lifelike artifacts. Smith also stated that the museum was opened by the science department in 1902 and today is run by Dr. Place and Thomson.

Dr. Thompson said, "Dr. Place and I are excited about some upcoming changes in the museum. Our museum Techniques class is in the process of designing some new exhibits which will be completed this spring. We encourage you to come watch the progress."

The museum building was a joint project with Carter Hall and the Joe. J. Struckle Education Center. The cost of the three projects was \$545,000, of which \$300,000 was in a



Photo by Katie Lackey

Pictured above is the Museum of Natural History, located in Jesse Dunn on the Northwestern campus.

state appropriation and \$245,000 from the federal government. According to the museum's website, in 2007, the Jesse Dunn building, the Education Building and the Carter Hall celebrated their 70th year of standing proudly and serving the needs of NWOSU and the city of Alva. Further remodeling in Jesse

Dunn was authorized in 1966 in a joint project with Carter Hall at a cost of \$150,000. Which was completed in 1967-68, refurbishing old library stack areas and creating computer rooms and new quarters for the museum. Yet another remodeling came in two phases in 1975-76 which costed \$107,573. It is a huge opportunity for students

to see lifelike animals and bird and aquatics species, especially if they are completely wiped off the earth. Taking a break for the hustle and bustle of school to see what the Museum of Natural History has to offer is a to do list this semester. You may email Dr. Thompson at sdthompson@nwsu.edu to schedule a tour.

Editor: That's entertainment not politics

By NATALIE SACKET
Feature Editor

The big screen or the oval of fice? Yet again, the presidential race has turned into more of a competition of entertainment rather than a debate on important issues.

This fact becomes more and more evident with every Cruz/ Trump Twitter squabble and each meme that is made of Bernie Sanders. What was the most memorable moment of the Sept. 16 Republican debate? Discussions of foreign policy or the fact that Jeb Bush announced he once smoked marijuana 40 years ago?

Perhaps it has become increasingly more evident that entertainment dominates politics with the rise of Donald Trump's campaign. America is tuned in, not to hear what great ideas he has in store for America, but what offensive mess he'll get himself into

next. There's an extreme intrigue in that political train-wreck, allowing him to defy all rules of public relations and public perception.

But entertainment has been a prominent aspect of politics long before the reign of Trump. Ronald Reagan's former career as an actor not only aided in his ability to deliver a stellar speech, but also his ability to captivate and win the trust of the public.

Over 157 years ago in Ottawa, Ill., the debate between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln drew thousands of spectators. Parades surrounded the debate; bands made noisy appearances. It appears as though entertainment is not a new immersion into the realm of politics; it has always played its part.

In 1960, when approximately 90 percent of Americans owned a television set, it was becoming clear that the candidates' road to

presidency would be more thoroughly broadcast, which served some well and harmed others. In the debate between John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon, it is rumored that Kennedy may have fared much better because of his handsome, poised appearance on television sets across the country. Nixon was in contrast, with his five-o'clock shadow and coarser appearance.

Psychologically, it makes sense, particularly with the role of media. News outlets desire viewers, and they understand that conflict draws in audiences. Because of this, squabbles are promoted by moderators of debates, and petty Twitter fights between candidates dominate the news stories.

Drawing in viewers is essential, however, regardless of the manner in which it is done. If Americans are interested and entertained by the political realm, it creates a further involvement and education of the public. However, it is essential that we learn to look past the petty squabbles,

the incessant Twitter bickering, the outrageous behaviors of candidates and focus instead on the important issues at hand. Watch "Celebrity

Apprentice" if you want to be entertained by Trump; focus on the candidates' stances on issues if you want to be informed.



Graphic by Natalie Sacket



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

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SPRING BREAK

Features

Artist brings a new perspective

By NATALIE SACKET
Feature Editor

She sits perched on the arm of a couch in a spacious, secluded room in Jesse Dunn. Cluttering the room are scraps of paper, tape and string: materials that will soon be transformed into an artistic masterpiece.

Roeya Amigh is the current artist in residence at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. She has come a long way from her hometown of Khuzestan, Iran.

Amigh articulately communicates her passion for art, her thick Iranian accent coating her words like she coats her creations with glue.

"I knew I wanted to be an artist when I was in middle school," Amigh said. "That was the only thing that could make me happy. I remember when I was a kid and if I got mad at something, I would go to my room and make drawings."

Amigh's parents recognized her artistic talent when she was quite young.

"My parents really encouraged me to be an artist," she said.

Amigh has dedicated the next few months to developing a body of artwork while at Northwestern. While here, she will conduct workshops and presentations. Feb. 5, Amigh debuted in Alva with a presentation at The Graceful Arts Gallery. She will present a culmination of her work on April 1 at the gallery.

Amigh knew about the residency because of Kyle Larson, who serves as the assistant professor of art. The two studied art while attending Boston College together. The pair graduated from there in 2012.

"It's nice to be able to see his work and he see mine," Amigh said.

Larson said, "For the last six years I have been fortunate enough to see Roeya's artwork evolve and change as she consistently pushes her work further, often in unconventional ways. Her inclusion of history, literature and poetry, while exploring her own personal narratives



Photo provided

Above is "Collision Response," a work Amigh said is highly important to her.

is an example of the development of a living and breathing body of work.

Amigh describes her aesthetic as "making something from nothing." She uses inexpensive materials, such as glue, string, fabric, paper and wood to create installation art pieces.

"To make my work, I need to

spend hours and hours and hours," Amigh said. "It's a very tedious way, the way I work. I make inexpensive valuable."

Amigh spends much time on her work; she creates her work with painstaking detail.

"When I start a piece, my process begins in a tedious and slow manner," she said. "I render a large quantity of small drawings by gluing many small bits of thread together ... I'm very interested in lines. That's why I started using thread, because it gives me different lines ... I borrow text from the myths of the phoenix, dragon and the Daeva as written by the Persian poets Rumi, Ferdowsi and Hafez and imagery from Persian miniatures. I cut many triangles of fabric. Then I incorporate structural elements of fabric and wood and connect the drawings with these materials. I use every element in my work to create a different line."

Amigh finds inspiration for her art in many different places and through different experiences. "I am motivated to make work



Photo by Natalie Sacket

Amigh works on her latest installment piece in JDA 232 at Northwestern.

that resembles the set of a play or a synthetic epic," she said. "My work intersects my identity as an Iranian woman in relation to society's constructs and mythologies."

She is inspired by other painters, including Goya and Matisse.

Amigh said, "I generally use mythology, but the inspiration comes from my experience living in the states, my experience living in Iran and how I am expected to act as an Iranian woman."

She said she looks forward to the inspiration that Oklahoma will bring her, as she has never visited this state before.

"I was very interested to see Oklahoma, because I love being involved in different cultures and meeting new people," Amigh said. "Always, that inspires me for my work. I'm going to use more earthy color, because of the palate I see here. It is a very earthy palate."

Amigh has not always focused on installment art. Originally she

was a painter. She began working on installation art and mixed media in recent years.

Amigh graduated from the Science and Culture University in Tehran with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2007. After this, she earned a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) from Central Azad University in Tehran in 2010, and an MFA in painting from Boston University in 2012.

Amigh has participated in several prestigious residencies in past years, including the ArtHub Residency in Kingman, Arizona; the Drop Forge and Tool Residency in Hudson, New York; the Contemporary Artists Center at Woodside in Troy, New York; the League Residency at Vyt in Hudson Valley, New York; the Can Serrat Art Residency in Barcelona, Spain; and the Elsewhere Studios Art Residency in Paonia, Colorado.

To view more works by the accomplished Amigh, visit <http://cargocollective.com/roeyaaamigh>.



Amigh works on her latest installment piece while serving her residency at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Photo by Natalie Sacket

News

Nero to visit Alva Monday

By JAKE GOODMAN
Student Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University is hosting a Black History month speaker on Monday.

Doctor Donnie Nero is giving his speech at Northwestern, in Carter Hall, Room 107 on Monday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.

February is known as Black History month. A month packed with historic facts and figures for students to learn about. In celebrating Northwestern is playing host to Nero. He will be here to share information on Black History Month with students, faculty and Alva community members.

This is the second time



Photo courtesy of ohehs.org
Dr. Donnie Nero

Nero will speak at Northwestern, as he spoke on campus last February. Nero showed to students that he is willing to reach out and help Northwest-

ern which he has been known to do in his past. Nero was a former president of Connors State College until he retired in 2011.

While at Connors State, Nero carved out a remarkable record of enhancing student academic performance, expanding the school’s infrastructure, and participating in community life.

Nero gained a Doctorate in Education from Oklahoma State University and became the first Dean of Student Services at Tulsa Community Colleges southeast campus in 1985.

Nero then became president of Connors State in 2000.

Over the past decade, Nero has participated in the renova-

tion and expansion of buildings across the Connors State campus and a \$9.6 million dollar project to increase housing. Due to his efforts, student enrollment increased from 2,691 in 2000 to 3,643 in 2010.

Donnie has also pioneered partnerships with Northeastern State University in Talequah, showing that he is willing to reach out to other campuses across Oklahoma.

During Nero’s years of academic activity, he has been a member of the Governor’s “Edge” Task Force in 2004, a board member of the Greater Muskogee Development Corporation and a member of the Governor’s CLASS Task Force.

For these activities, Nero has earned statewide recog-

nition: the Phi Theta Kappa International Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction; the Muskogee Area Educational Consortium Educator of the Year in 2004, the Baptist State Convention 2007 Progressive Award for Oklahoma; the EWIB Excellence in Service to the Community Award in 2008; and the Department of Human Services Trailblazer Award in 2009.

Overall, Nero is one that is willing to reach out to any community to help volunteer to make campuses a better place. Nero is perceived as an amazing man throughout the communities that he has helped.

Nero’s speech will be open for any students, faculty and community members to attend.

Students enter training program

In their final semester, 23 senior education students at Northwestern Oklahoma State University have entered area schools to gain hands-on experience student teaching during the spring semester.

The students will return to campus for seminars on March 30 and May 2. Their portfolio exit interviews will be during finals week, May 2-6. Graduation is scheduled for May 7.

Listed below are the students, their hometowns and teaching assignments.

Elementary Education – Ashlyn Ball of Newkirk to Trout Elementary, Ponca City; Kalli Gruber of Enid to Pleasant Vale Elementary School, Enid; Kylie Jackson of Ponca City to Southwest Elementary, Clinton; Mercedes Key of Waukomis to Waynoka Elementary School, Waynoka; Shannon Lowe of Kremlin to Monroe Elementary School, Enid; Taylor Parrish of Enid to Pleasant Vale Elementary School, Enid; Holly Roehl of Ponca City to McCord Elementary School, Ponca City; Laci Weatherly of Marland to Woodlands El-

ementary School, Ponca City; and Alisha West-McLelland of Houston, Texas to Woodlands Elementary School, Ponca City.

Early Childhood Education – Breeanna Eastwood of Enid to Prairie View Elementary School, Enid; Stephanie Eccles of Ponca City to McCord Elementary School, Ponca City; Jordyn Harris of Shattuck to Arnett Elementary School, Arnett; Michelle Holcomb of Enid to Garfield Elementary School, Enid; Ashley Murray of Alva to Freedom Elementary School, Freedom; Joanna Ruback of Tyrone to Turpin Elementary School, Turpin; Elizabeth Shiever of Newkirk to First Lutheran Elementary School, Ponca City.

Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education – Kaylena Cecil of Enid to Glenwood Elementary School, Enid; and Ashley Martin of Enid to Taft Elementary School, Enid.

Math Education – Dakota Buckhaults of Buffalo to Cherokee High School, Cherokee; and Scotty McCartney of Harper, Kansas, to South



Photo courtesy of University Relations
Twenty-three senior education students have begun student teaching experiences at various schools in the area.

Barber High School, Kiowa, Kansas.

Health and Sports Science Education student Caitlin Clark of Ponca City will be teaching at Longfellow Elementary School in Alva.

English Education student

Ali Harbin of Anthony, Kansas, will be teaching at Caldwell High School / Middle School in Caldwell, Kansas.

History Education student Grace Tepe of Woodward will be teaching at Shattuck High School in Shattuck.

For more information on Northwestern’s teacher education program, please contact Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education and chair of the Division of Education, at (580) 327-8450 or cjenlink@nwosu.edu

Band seeking alumni to join ‘Bedlam’ game

“Bedlam: Ranger Style” is coming up Monday, Feb. 15, at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, and Ranger band members are looking for alumni to join them when Ranger basketball takes on Great American Conference rival Southwestern Oklahoma State in Percefull Fieldhouse.

The women’s game tips at 5:30

p.m. with the men to follow at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Marc Decker, director of instrumental music and music education and assistant professor of music, will direct the band.

Those interested should contact Decker by Thursday, Feb. 11, at md-decker@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8191 and indicate if they will need to borrow

an instrument.

The first 50 to register with Decker will get a free t-shirt. Please include t-shirt size when registering. Members who participated in the band last year are encouraged to wear the shirts provided as the design is the same.

All band members registering will receive free admission to the game.

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News

Judd to direct upcoming show

By **NICHOLAS KIMANZI**
Student Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma state University’s theatre is presenting a murder mystery this weekend. The play will be held at the Herod Hall Friday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 13. At 2 p.m. The show, titled “Special guest,” was written by Donald Elser and is a murder mystery. Not only does the cast include members of the theatre but also some faculty members and alumni. Speech and theater major and a mass communication minor,

Trenton Judd, said he decided to direct the show and put the play’s characters to life. Judd recently directed a French style comedy titled Lamouche is confident that the play will be interesting and worth watching. Judd said he is confident that this production will be interesting and worth watching. He said that bringing together actors and choosing each role in accordance to their experiences to fit the play’s characters and building the scenery from scratch are part of the challenges many directors face, but that his past experience with acting and directing has opened his mind for more possibilities and

ideas to make the program interesting and worth coming to watch. The program includes five characters including Nora Andrews, a farmer’s wife played by Michelle Penner, Cherokee grad student; John Andrews, the husband to Nora played by Ken Kelsey, a Northwestern instructor of history and fine arts from Fairview; Edward the son of John Andrews and Nora Andrews played by Micah Roberts, Newkirk senior majoring in English. Robert Norton, a detective played by Mickey Jordan, junior majoring in speech-theatre; and Elaine Madison the detective’s fiancé acted by Taylor Morris, Pacoima, California, junior

majoring in mass communication. The crew includes Stage manager Tori Hurley, Sheffield, Iowa, sophomore majoring in speech-theatre, and the members of the Theatre Production class will be the stage crew. Judd says that it is a requirement for theatre students to perform in a show in order to graduate. On Friday, doors to the auditorium open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, doors open at 1:30 p.m. and the show starts at 2 p.m. The show is approximately 30 minutes long. It is \$1 for Northwestern students with a school I.D. and \$2 for Northwestern faculty and community

members. The actors and actresses in the show are excited to be involved with the production and appreciate the hard work that is put in to make the show happen. “Being involved in this production has been a rare opportunity for me, and I know how hard the theatre people work and its fun to be in on the creative side,” Kelsey said. A fan of the director’s previous work and an employee at the university bookstore, Patrick Wilson, said the previous show was neatly directed and he believes this show would not fall short of the expectations.

Apply now: Scholarships available

By **SAVANNAH TILLMAN**
Student Reporter

Two scholarship applications are currently available to Northwestern Oklahoma State University students. The first is the AAF Tenth District Scholarship must be received by mail no later than 5 p.m., March 7, 2016. There will be two, \$2500 scholarships awarded. To be eligible to receive one of the two scholarships the applicant must be an undergraduate member and completed at least one semester of college and be majoring or minoring in advertising, commercial art, communications, journalism, marketing, photography, public relation, radio, TV or film. Applicant must overall

GPA of 2.5 and a 3.0 minimum GOA in field, one letter or recommendation from faculty member in field, a 100 Word essay on their reason for wanting to enter the advertising industry and submit three-five samples of work accomplished in their chosen courses of study. Winners will be announced at the Tenth District Annual Convention in Shreveport during the student reception, April 16, 2016. For more information about the scholarship and where applications can be sent, contact Zivorad Filipovic at 806-477-0168 or zivorad.filipovic@gmail.com The Fern Brown Memorial Fund Scholarship must be received no later than March 15th, 2016. Applications are available within the Financial Aid office, according to Tif-

fany George, VA Coordinator/ Secretary of Student Services. To be eligible a student must complete an application, be a continuing student in the state of Oklahoma, demonstrate above average aptitude for college and need financial assistance. The Fern Brown Memorial Scholarship was established to provide assistance for the education of students who have shown above average standings for college and have no aid from other scholarships and want to pursue higher education. Applications for the Fern Brown Memorial Scholarship will be evaluated by the Northwestern Scholarship Committee. For more information you can call Tiffany George at 580-327-8414 or email her at tdgeorge@nwosu.edu

Northwestern to host jazz quintet next week

Northwestern Oklahoma State University will play host to the Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series’ next performance -- The Justin Pierce Jazz Quintet. This ensemble will bring a taste of jazz to Alva at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 16, in the Herod Hall Auditorium. Justin Pierce is a saxophonist and professor of music at Oklahoma Baptist University. He currently is completing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of North Texas (UNT), where he also earned a Master of Jazz Studies degree.

While at UNT, he served as lead alto saxophonist in the One O’Clock and Two O’Clock Lab Bands. As a freelance woodwind performer, Pierce has performed with The Glenn Miller Orchestra, The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, The Temptations, The O’Jays and Wayne Newton. The Justin Pierce Jazz Quintet performs jazz standards with a contemporary jazz flavor. Tickets to the performance will be sold on an “as available” basis at \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and can be bought at the Graceful Arts Center, Holder

Drug, Rialto Movie Theater and the Northwestern Bookstore. For more information about the concert series go to www.nwosu.edu/nwocs or please contact Kimberly Weast, chair of the Department of Fine Arts, at (580) 327-8462 or by email at kkweast@nwosu.edu. The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series is supported by the Alva Tourism Convention Development Committee, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Charles Morton Share Trust.

Two-day blood drive to be held next week

By **KATELYN BALL**
Student Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University will be holding a campus wide #BloodDonorChallenge blood drive on February 17 and 18 from 9a.m. to 4p.m. in the student center ranger room. “Northwestern students and employees have a long history of supporting Oklahomans by saving lives by donating during our campus blood drives,” said Dr. Janet Cunningham President of Northwestern Oklahoma State University. “Blood drives at Northwestern conducted by the Oklahoma Blood Institute (OBI) are some of the most successful campus

drives in all of the state. That success is because of your willingness to take time and give the gift of blood.” All students are encouraged to participate in the blood drive; it only takes about an hour of your time, and can make the difference for friends and neighbors in area hospitals. As a thank you for keeping the blood supply up this fall, all donors will receive a free t-shirt. Make your appointment by calling OBI at 877-340-8777 or visit OBI.org, walk-ins are welcome. When donating be sure to prepare yourself prior to arrival to the ranger room. Students need to bring a photo I.D. and eat a good meal prior to donation.

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Entertainment

‘Dirty Grandpa’ brings laughs

By TRENTON JUDD & NATALIE SACKET
Columnists

Trenton: 2 out of 5

★ ★ ☆ ☆ ☆

When a movie is named “Dirty Grandpa,” you don’t watch it and expect Oscar worthy performances. There were definitely performances to behold, not Oscar worthy, but performances that will leave you thinking “I just saw Robert De Niro do that!” and these thoughts will lead to confused feelings as to what you just watched.

This is a movie that will manage to tug at your gag reflex in one scene and then tug at your heartstrings in another. The overall story is basic, but there are good elements here and there that could set it apart from most discovering yourself stories.

Unfortunately most of the movie is buried in very raunchy humor, but oddly enough for every nine bad jokes there is one good zinger. This movie uses the power of repetition with its more vulgar jokes in an attempt to warp your mind to laugh during at least one of the dirty jokes they are bombarding you with.

The best actors in this movie are clearly just having fun with the roles they are given, but this doesn’t mean that they are just getting through this for a paycheck. Instead these actors



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

are having so much fun on the screen that you can’t help but to enjoy their performance.

These comedic actors are non-other than Robert De Niro, Zac Efron and Aubrey Plaza. What makes De Niro so funny is the fact that we’re seeing an Oscar winning actor spitfire a gratuitous amount of anatomical jokes. Efron, for me, was the biggest surprise as far as his comedic acting

goes. There were several scenes that he just nailed the timing of the joke and when it came to his punchline delivery Efron didn’t miss a beat. Plaza played the usual quirky, awkward girl, but it is her certain quirk that makes her character cringe worthy and funny. To sum things up “Dirty Grandpa” will make you gag, get you choked up and it has some farts with a little bit of heart.

Natalie: 1 out of 5

★ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

“Dirty Grandpa” was dirty, for sure. Dirty, as in garbage, or down-the-sewer-not-worth-your-time. The film tries much too hard, yet does not achieve its ultimate goal: laughter.

Critics have torn this film to shreds, and I’m afraid I must

continue that pattern.

With an all-star cast consisting of Robert De Niro, Zac Efron, Aubrey Plaza and Julianne Hough, I expected far more. However, even a cinematic legend like De Niro can get cast in a movie destined for failure, and no matter how strong the actors in the film are, there may be no hope. The only highlight for me in this film was Aubrey Plaza, as hilarious and quirky as ever. Also, DeNiro and Efron maintain great chemistry on screen.

The film is crude, even shocking at times. It tries terribly hard to be offensive and succeeds. It tries terribly hard to make you laugh and fails. It’s not particularly unique or novel, following a carbon-copy pattern for comedy. Full of sex, anatomy and gender stereotype jokes, it’s tiresome at some points, boring at almost all others.

I was perhaps most offended by the subject matter that the film attempted to make humorous. It is filled with thinly-veiled misogyny, sexism and homophobia. This only provides cheap shots at the expense of others and does not succeed in true humor. It’s like spring break meets boys club.

Bottom Line: After trailers, I wasn’t expecting a stellar comedy, but I did have higher hopes for DeNiro and Efron. I wouldn’t recommend this film, no matter how desperate you are for a comedy.

Oscars boycotts continue

By NATALIE SACKET
Feature Editor

The most highly anticipated event of cinema is rapidly approaching, and with it comes a slew of controversial discussions.

With the announcement of the nominations for the 2016 Oscars, one similarity between the nominees became abundantly apparent: the nominees were all Caucasian. For the second year in a row, not one actor of color is a nominee for the Oscars.


Immediately, the Oscars came under fire, particularly because films with black leads were prominent

films in theaters this year, including “Straight Outta Compton” and “Creed.” The hashtag #OscarsSoWhite began to accompany discussions of this year’s academy awards. Hollywood began to incessantly question the Academy Awards, holding them accountable for the lack of diversity in their nominees. Many individuals, including Spike Lee and Jada Pinkett Smith, began to announce that this year they would be boycotting the Oscars.

As a result, the Academy Awards has announced that in the future, they will ensure there will be more diversity in their Oscar membership. In doing this, they hope to increase diversity not only in the

number of Oscar nominees, but in the board as well. The academy’s president, Cheryl Boone Isaacs, said, “The academy is going to lead and not wait for the industry to catch up.” What she says highlights the deeper issue behind the lack of diversity in the Oscars.

The issue goes a bit deeper than the Academy Awards. In looking at the prominent films of 2015, a small percentage had diverse actors in lead roles. It appears as though the issue does not solely lie with the Academy Awards, but rather the whole realm of cinema. However, Hollywood has made significant strides in past decades and hopes to continually improve.



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38 Bar
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42 Witnessed
43 "Entourage" role
44 Mess up
45 Rotation duration

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Sports

Buzzer beater stuns Rangers

By **RYAN SHUMAKER**
Sports Editor

The men’s basketball team took to the court this last weekend and came away with one key victory and one heartbreaking loss.

The Rangers welcomed the Muleriders of Southern Arkansas University to Percefull Fieldhouse and Ranger nation came out in full-fledged support.

The first half of the action saw back and forth play with neither team building a larger lead than four points until the Muleriders broke through and went on an 11-2 run to end the first half. Multiple missed free throws allowed the Muleriders to stay out in front of the Rangers despite their poor shooting.

Following the halftime intermission the Rangers came out on fire with Junior Adrian Motley hitting two quick jump shots, one which was created by point guard Brandon Green’s steal at half court.

The Rangers evened the score up at 37 midway through the half on a Zach Dumas free throw.



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto

Freshman Zach Dumas looks to drive off of forward Austin Klug’s screen during Northwestern’s 59-56 loss to Southern Arkansas University Thursday night in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Following a missed free throw, Motley regained possession and laid the ball in giving the Black-and-Red their first lead of the ball game since the beginning of the first half.

Following two dunks by the Muleriders, Junior Deiondray Martin hit two key free throws to bring the Rangers back within two

with 1:17 seconds left on the clock.

Motley hit a lay-up with 45 seconds left on the clock and then again after the Muleriders yet again answered with a bucket of their own.

With 10 seconds left, Mulerider guard CJ Elkins received a pass and dribbled around the Rangers defense to the top of the three point

line and hit a shot off the backboard that handed the Rangers a 59-56 loss.

Motley led the way for the Rangers with 22 points and 10 rebounds, while the Rangers as a whole struggled mightily from the free throw line going 11-26 as a team from the charity stripe.

The loss dropped the Rangers

a spot in the conference standings, making Saturday’s contest with the University of Arkansas-Monticello even more important.

On Saturday the Rangers came away with a 85-75 victory over Arkansas-Monticello.

The Rangers came out hot and never looked back, shooting 54 percent from the field as a team. The Rangers never trailed in the game, with Motley and Green leading the way with 19 and 14 points apiece.

Early in the game it was evident the Rangers had no ill effects of the heartbreaking loss earlier in the week, as they jumped out to a 17-10 lead. The Black-and-Red kept the petal to the metal and got the lead extended by as much as 13 points in the first half.

The Weevils tied the game back up in the second half at 54 but found themselves in foul trouble down the stretch, which led to a Rangers 10 point victory. The Rangers (7-12,7-8) sit in sixth place in the Great American Conference standings.

More photos on Pg. 12

Lohmann officially inducted into Ranger Hall of Fame

By **RANGERS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

Four Ranger greats were inducted into the Northwestern Hall of Fame on Saturday Feb. 6, including legendary Ranger Football Coach, Dr. Steve Lohmann.

Before the 1985 football season, a future Northwestern great, Dr. Steve Lohmann, took over the reins as the defensive coordinator and made an immediate impact on the Ranger football program.

From 1985 to 1991, Lohmann held this position, as well as the Head Track Coach for Northwestern, where he coached a 2014 Northwestern Hall of Fame inductee, Don Raleigh.

While with the Ranger football team, Lohmann is the only Northwestern coach or player to be associated with all three Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference (OIC) Football Championships, which is a big testament to Lohmann as a coach.

football team.

That same team was extremely successful as it boasted the No. 1 overall defense in the land, allowing only 80 yards rushing per game, 142 yards passing and just 15 points a game by an opponent, good enough for the best in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

Not only was the defense stout, but the offense was ranked third overall in the nation, averaging 404 yards per contest, rushing for 230 yards per game and scoring 25 points an outing. The 1996 Rangers also had five First Team All-Americans, 10 First Team All-OIC selections, as well as the Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year.

Lohmann earned many awards over his tenure as a coach at Northwestern as he was the 1989 OIC Track Coach of the Year, the 1996 OIC Football Coach of the Year and the 1997 American Football Quarterly Magazine’s Newcomer of the Year.

Following his time as the Head Football Coach, Lohmann worked his way up the academic ranks as he was the first ever Wellness Center Director in 2000 when it first opened after which he moved on to be the Dean of Student Affairs in 2001. Not long after that, however, he moved to Herod Hall where he became the Vice President for Academic Affairs for four years and transitioned to his present position as Executive Vice President of the University.

Lifelong Ranger inducted

By **RANGERS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

Four Ranger legends were inducted into the Northwestern Hall ofFame on Saturday Feb. 6, including legendary Ranger Baseball Coach Joe Phillips.

Joe Phillips was a pivotal point of the Northwestern baseball team in the 1980s throughout the 2000s, not only as a player but as a coach, holding several Northwestern records.

Phillips started his baseball career at Northwestern in 1982 as a first baseman. During his junior year he had an outstanding batting average of .335 highlighted by four homeruns in a row during a double-header. The following year he improved his battering average by hitting .340.

In 1982 Phillips was awarded 1st Team All-Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference as a first baseman.

Phillips earned his bachelor’s degree at Northwestern in education in 1984 and his master’s degree in secondary education in 1989.

After his baseball playing days were over, Phillips began his coaching career at Northwestern as a baseball assistant in 1983 where he held the position for five seasons. In 1988, Phillips took over the helm as the head coach.

Phillips had an outstanding career as the head coach of the Rangers as he holds the “Most Wins in a Career” record for any coach at Northwestern with 452, as well as “Most Wins in a Year” with an astonishing 49.

The Northwestern alum also has five of the top 10 seasons as a Ranger Head Coach, with his best coaching year coming in 2001 when the Northwestern baseball team went 49-12. Not only did Phillips’ 2001 squad have the best record, it also held the highest team batting average

of any other Ranger team in history, following hitting .393 as a team. The 49-12 team also was great defensively starting with the pitchers who held a collective 3.82 ERA while striking out 424 batters over the course of the season.

One of his personal career highlights was beating Dallas Baptist in the regional in 2001 in an exciting 12-inning game where it ended in walk-off fashion, when Josh Simpson sent one over the fence for the 7-6 win.

Following his historic run as the Head Coach of the Rangers, Phillips also served as a Northwestern Upward Bound adviser from 2008-2014 and as the assistant athletic director for a time.

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Sports

Baseball loses first series

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Editor-in-Chief

The Northwestern baseball season opening weekend ended with an unfortunate four game sweep in Fort Smith, Arkansas on Sunday. The Rangers entered Crowder field on Friday as the No. 11 ranked team in the Great American Conference preseason poll. According to riderangersride.com, this was the first match-up on the diamond between one another in each school’s history. In game one, the Rangers got their offense going early as Ranger Matt Benn doubled to left field,

scoring teammate Jacob Long in the first inning. The early lead would not last long, however, as the Lions came charging back with a run of their own in the first inning as well. The Lions then went on a tear of the Rangers defense as they scored eight more runs within a span of six innings. The Rangers did close the deficit a little following a two-run homerun from Benn in the eighth, but the Lions defense would not allow any more runs to score in game one of the series. Following the Rangers opening day 3-9 loss, the Rangers faced the Lions once more on Saturday in a

double header and then for a fourth time on Sunday. In game two both teams squared off in a pitcher’s duel. Ranger Walker Wharton had a great debut on the mound with the Red-and-Black as he went five and two-thirds innings, while striking out seven batters and allowing one run. On the other side of the mound, for the Lions, was Evan Sanders. Sanders would pitch a full four innings against the Rangers and record seven strikeouts as well. The lone run that Wharton gave up in the second inning proved to be the deciding factor in the game. The Rangers would not find any way past the Lions pitcher’s unfortunately, and

would fall 0-1 in game two. Game three featured same heavy hitting from Ranger newcomer, Greg Carrington. Carrington went three for four from the plate and was the only Ranger who recorded a multiple hit game. Despite the great day at the plate for Carrington, it would not be enough to top the Lions. Fort Smith managed to record five runs off of errors and several open bases in route to a 5-3 victory in game three. On the final day of the four game series, the Rangers knew that winning the series was all but over. However, they did not go down without a fight. Following an early Rangers score in the second inning of game

four, each team then went in a back-and-forth scoring affair. Each team entered the final inning deadlocked at six apiece. It looked as if the Rangers might force extra innings until Lion Ozzie Hurt laid down a game winning bunt which allowed the runner on third to crow the plate for the score. The late score gave the Lions a 7-6 win and completed their four game sweep of the Rangers. The Rangers (0-4, 0-0) will host Northeastern State University tomorrow at 3 p.m. at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium. Then they will host West Texas A&M University on Saturday at 3 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m..

Softball drops four on the road

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Editor-in-Chief

The opening weekend of the Ranger’s softball season did not go to plan as they dropped their opening four in San Angelo, Texas. Play began Friday against the Angelo State Rambelles at Mayer field. It was the Rangers head coach Charlie Zeilman’s first start with Northwestern after arriving last summer. Friday’s day of play featured a double-header with the Rambelles and the Adams State Grizzlies. The Rambelles entered the match at home ranked No. 2 in the

Lone Star Conference. The Rangers entered ranked ninth in the Great American Conference preseason poll. The Rangers struggled in game one, managing zero offense and getting shutout 0-6 against Angelo State. In game two, the Rangers faces Adams State and earned their first runs of the season. The first coming in the first inning, when Ranger Amber Mills scored following a ground out by teammate Stephanie Couser. The Rangers managed the 1-0 lead through the fifth inning, but Adams State would get things firing in the sixth inning. Entering the sixth inning, Ranger pitcher Jalena Arthur kept

the Grizzlies off the board. A single from the Grizzlies, however, would score the first of six runs in the inning for Adams State. The Rangers did manage to score another run in the seventh inning, when Madison McGraw crossed the plate after Couser reached base on a fielder’s choice. The late score was too little, too late for the Red-and-Black. The Grizzlies bested the Rangers with an unfortunate 6-2 final score. Entering day two, the Rangers faced the Texas A&M-International Dustdevils and Angelo State once more. Northwestern’s offense put their day one struggles behind them as play

started against the Dustdevils in game one on Saturday. The scoring started early for the Rangers as in the first inning Mills, Couser and McGraw scored. The Rangers did surrender their lead in the next inning, but a two-run home run from senior Caitlin Coody propelled them back out front of the Dustdevils, 5-4. The lead did not hold up, however, as the Rangers defense gave up seven runs over a span of four innings. The Red-and-Black did manage to add on two more runs late, but the Dustdevils held on, taking the game 11-7. In the final game of the weekend, the Ranges faced the Rambelles once

again. Despite jumping out to a 4-2 lead over Angelo State in the second inning, the Rambelles came charging back in the third, fourth and fifth innings as they scored runs. The Rangers did score three runs in the fifth closing the deficit to one, but a late score in the sixth inning by the Rambelles would silence a Ranger comeback, leaving them on the losing side once again, this time with a final score of 7-12. “We had a lot of energy and fight in every game,” Ranger senior, Taylor Watham said following her last opening weekend in her college career. “I think that’s going to help us work through the problems we face.”

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Rangers beat the Weevils



Ranger T’aries Taylor went 7-8 from the free throw line on Saturday, en route to a 13 point performance.



Photos by Osamu Sakamoto

Spectators look on as Ranger Zachary Dumas thrilled the crowd with a massive two handed jam against the Arkansas-Monticello Bole Weevils.

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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