

Rangers crush Southwestern

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Sports Editor

Ranger nation came out in full support Monday night when the Ranger men's basketball took on archrival Southwestern Oklahoma State.

The Rangers jumped out to an early lead and fed off the crowd's energy to take down the Bulldogs 85-35.

The Rangers jumped out to a 21-14 lead 10 minutes into the game and shot 50 percent from both the field and the three-point line in the first half. The Bulldogs closed the Ranger lead down to seven before guard T'aries Taylor hit a deep three to bring the lead back to ten with 33 seconds left in the half.

A half-time performance from the Ranger cheer and dance teams kept the packed house energized before the Rangers returned to the court to continue their beat down of the Bulldogs.

The Rangers came out and immediately increased their lead to 13 after a free throw from point guard Brandon Green. The Bulldogs responded with five



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto

Ranger Adrian Motley bust through Bulldog defense for a basket during Monday nights game at home.

unanswered points, but junior Adrian Motley got fouled on a fast break lay in and made the free throw to convert the three point play. The rout was then on as the Bulldogs never got back

to within 18 of the Rangers and both teams eventually started entering reserves for the final minutes of the game.

Motley led the Rangers in scoring yet again and provided

a double-double effort with 23 points and 11 rebounds. Taylor and Green harassed the Bulldog guards all night with shut-down defense while junior transfer Deiondray Martin and freshman

Zach Dumas continued to provide spark for the Rangers off the bench. Green nearly reached the triple-double marker as he finished with 12 points, seven assists and seven rebounds.

The Rangers defense stayed all over the Bulldog's offense all game, allowing the Bulldogs to only shoot 32.8 percent from the field and forced turnovers which led to 22 Ranger points. The Black-and-Red also got to the free throw line early and often, which put the Bulldogs in foul trouble all game, and shot 75 percent from the charity stripe.

The win over Southwestern evens the Rangers conference record up at 9-9, one game clear of Arkansas Tech and Southeastern. Eight teams will make the conference tournament in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, Mar. 3-6, making the final four games for the Rangers crucial in not only making the tournament, but also in tournament seeding.

The Rangers will play their final home game Thursday night against Oklahoma Baptist University, with tip-off scheduled at 7:30 P.M. in Perceful Fieldhouse.

Ginsburg honors late Scalia

By COREY SHIREY
Columnist

The nation is reeling in the wake of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's sudden death on Saturday.

While everyone from President Obama to Donald Trump has voiced their condolences for his death, the most touching tribute so far, I believe, has come from one of his most endearing colleagues in the Supreme Court. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg released a heartbreaking statement Sunday about the loss of her close friend, whom she called "Nino."

Although their political rivalry was widely publicized, Ginsburg and Scalia were actually quite good friends, since even before they were both on the Supreme Court. Their

professional relationship began in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Washington D.C. circuit.

On the three judge panel, the two had the forum for more open debate, through which they gained a mutual respect for the other's intelligence and wit. They battled in the courtroom, but ultimately found they had more in common than not. "She likes opera, and she's a very nice person. What's not to like?", Scalia once said at an event at George Washington University last year. "Except her views on the law."

The passing of a dedicated, passionate legal expert has affected the country, but Scalia's close friend Ginsburg articulated the loss suffered by his family and friends best.

"Toward the end of the opera Scalia/Ginsburg, tenor Scalia and soprano Ginsburg sing a duet: 'We are different, we are one,' different in our interpretation

of written texts, one in our reverence for the Constitution and the institution we serve, she said.

"From our years together at the D.C. Circuit, we were best buddies. We disagreed now and then, but when I wrote for the Court and received a Scalia dissent, the opinion ultimately released was notably better than my initial circulation. Justice Scalia nailed all the weak spots—the 'applesauce' and 'argle barge'—and gave me just what I needed to strengthen the majority opinion.

"He was a jurist of captivating brilliance and wit, with a rare talent to make even the most sober judge laugh. The press referred to his 'energetic fervor,' 'astringent intellect,' 'peppery prose,' 'acumen' and 'affability,' all apt descriptions. He was eminently quotable; his pungent opinions were so clearly stated that his words never slipped from

the reader's grasp.

"Justice Scalia once described as the peak of his days on the bench one evening at the Opera Ball when he joined two Washington National Opera tenors at the piano for a medley of songs. He called it the famous Three Tenors performance. He was, indeed, a magnificent performer. It was my great good fortune to have known him as working colleague and treasured friend."

Ginsburg's tribute to Scalia is especially touching because the two were so fiercely opposed in their political views. When partisanship so often negatively impacts all aspects of American politics, it's refreshing and inspiring to see two people on opposite ends of the ideological spectrum celebrate a close friendship.

Scalia and Ginsburg really were friendship goals. They celebrated every New Year's Eve

together, had gourmet dinner parties prepared by Ginsburg's late husband and once, rode on an elephant during a joint vacation in India. And as Ginsburg reminisces, their parallel intellectualism gave each the opportunity to elevate their discourse and become better at the jobs they loved so much.

Scalia/Ginsburg was a real opera, written by a former law student in tribute to the two justices' intense political opposition and their shared love of opera. But it's also the real story of two unlikely friends who bonded over their love for their country and their passion for the law.

"I had a wonderful time. I loved every minute of it," said Ginsburg when she saw the opera in July. Judging from her heartbreaking tribute to her best buddy, Ginsburg would probably say the same thing about her friendship with Scalia.

INSIDE

Editorial

• Are cell phones hazardous or helpful tools for classrooms?
Page 2

Feature

• The importance of the Arts in public school.
Page 6

Entertainment

• 'Deadpool' brings tears of laughter in this week's movie review!
Page 9

Sports

• Baseball wins two at home over the weekend.
Page 10

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Opinion

Let's Talk...

Cell phones Are they beneficial tools in the classroom?

In an age where technology has jumped to the forefront of everyone's priorities, many teachers have banned the use of cell phones in their classrooms.

As a news staff, this lead us to beg the question: in an age where just about everything we do involves some form of technology, shouldn't we be able to utilize the piece of technology we use the most to aid with learning in the classroom?

Now obviously different teachers have different opinions on cell phones in the classroom. Some say all students will do is get on Facebook or Twitter and won't pay the least bit of attention to their professors. We as a news staff decided that if given the chance, we could actually use our cell phones to help us in class.

The first example that came to our minds would be using Google to help clarify a term our teacher was talking about during class. Being able to have the internet readily available to us provides what we believe to be an advantage that our generation has that previous generations did not have access to, and we as a group feel like when teachers ban our cell phones in class, they are banning us access to information that maybe they couldn't provide or we didn't previously understand.

To gain some further knowledge and perhaps learn a few different ways we could use cell phones in a positive manner, we reached out to Jennifer Page, Ph.D., an assistant professor of English right here at Northwestern, who actually just began doing research on digital humanities and using technology to enhance students' classroom experiences.

According to Page, she believes that most professors would "agree that incorporating interactive technology and media in the classroom is an effective way of engaging students." This word engage intrigued us as a group. Oftentimes when sitting in class, we feel as if lecturing professors never truly capture our attention and therefore we never truly absorb the important information needed to grasp a subject.

We feel that in our generation, technology is what truly "engages" us and helps us retain information. As a group we can state off facts

upon facts that we saw on Twitter, but we could hardly remember anything from a lecture we just heard less than an hour ago.

So why would teachers want to take away that access to information that we all carry around with us just because it might become a distraction? We feel like teachers just assume we are going to use the cell phone to ignore what they are saying and watch pointless YouTube videos, but what if using that cell phone helps us better understand the hour long lecture being presented to use in a monotone voice when most of us would rather be asleep.

While reviewing Page's responses to our questions, one thing became evident: her ongoing research and future findings are not meant to encourage technology to be a replacement for instruction itself, but to view technology as

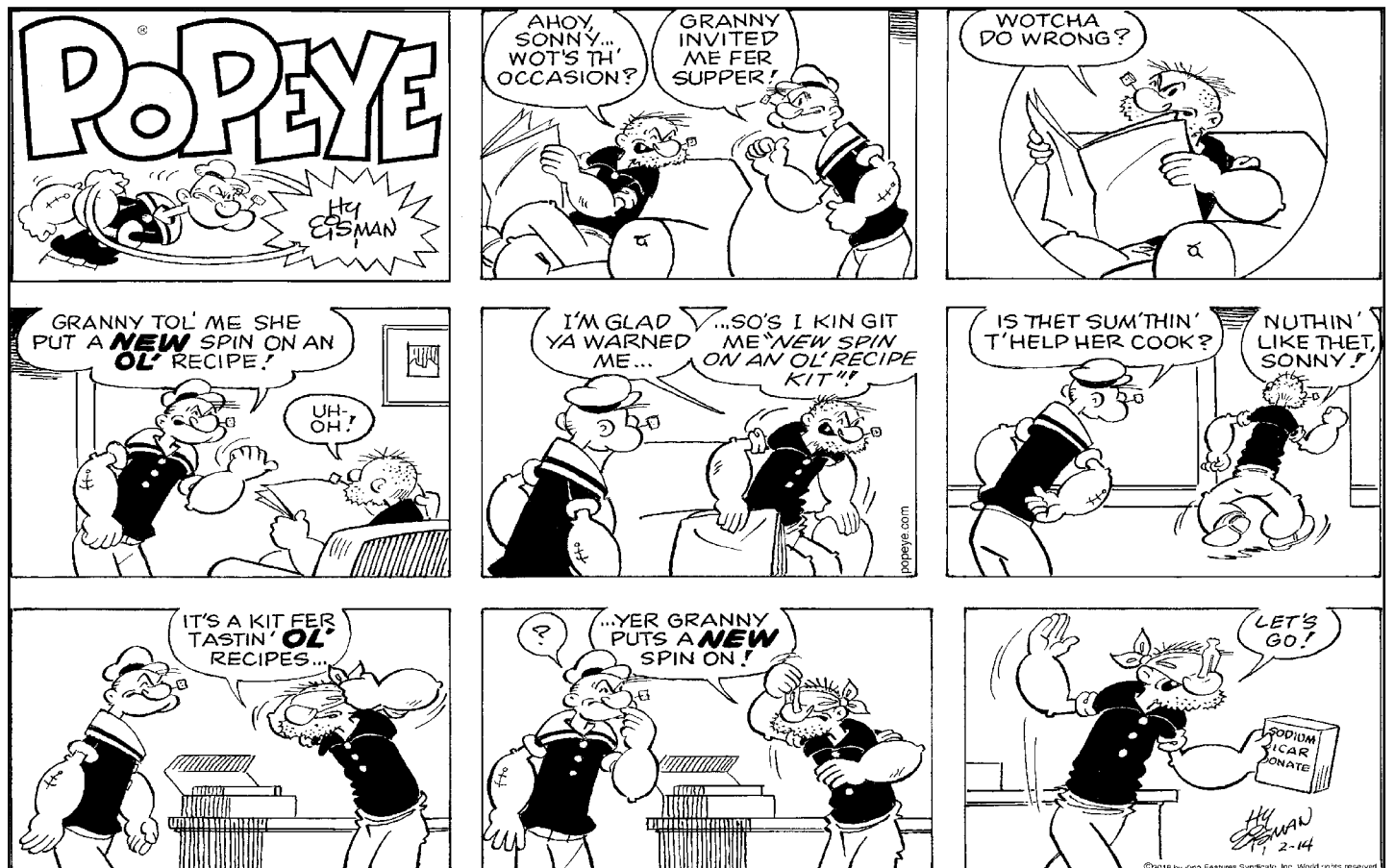
a way in which information is delivered. We as a staff believe this idea from Page could not be any more spot on. We are the technology generation, and many professors have not grasped the concept that this is the way we learn now.

We don't expect you to allow us to have our cellphones out during tests or answer phone calls in the middle of class to talk about what happened at the basketball game last night, but don't take away what we have used since our pre-teen years just because you can't stand not having our undivided attention while you babble on about information that our brains aren't programmed to retain unless we can watch it, share it or screen shot it.

It's 2016; we all have cell phones; we're all legal adults; please don't put our cell phones in time out when we could use them to learn.



Graphic by Rachel Emerson



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Opinion

Current poll results

By **COREY SHIREY**
Columnist

Less than a month before the state's presidential primary, Republican front-runner Donald Trump appears to be losing steam in Oklahoma, according to a poll released Tuesday.

Trump continues to lead an eight-candidate Republican field, with 30 percent of Oklahoma GOP voters reporting that they planned to vote for the New York billionaire, down from 35 percent in a poll released Jan. 23.

"Early on, Trump's been able to channel the anger and frustration felt among Republicans toward President Obama, but anger and frustration can only take you so far in a presidential race," said Bill Shapard, founder of SoonerPoll, an Oklahoma City-based firm that conducted the poll.

Meanwhile, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz held steady at 25 percent while Florida Sen. Marco Rubio surged, rising from 10 percent in late January to 21 percent this week.

On the Democratic side, former first lady Hillary Clinton led with 41.5 percent while Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders garnered 28.1 percent. But a large percentage of Democratic and independent voters still haven't settled on a candidate, with 28.1 percent saying they remain undecided just weeks before Oklahoma's March 1 primary election.



The poll was conducted between Saturday and Tuesday, and included responses from 414 Republicans, 360 Democrats and 22 independents, all likely voters. The poll has a margin of error of 4.81 percent on the Republican side and 5.01 percent on the Democratic side.

Among Republicans, retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, who came in a distant fourth, continued to slip in this week's poll, falling from 8 percent on Jan. 23 to 5.7 percent this week. No other Republican candidate drew more than 5 percent support, and 7.7 percent of GOP respondents said they were still undecided.

Trump has failed to gain support as other Republican candidates have dropped out of the race, Shapard said. Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee both

dropped out of the race since the last poll was released.

On the Democratic side, the poll suggests younger voters preferred Sanders while older voters leaned toward Clinton, Shapard said. Sanders had 50 percent support among voters aged 18-35, while Clinton had just 12.5 percent support in that category. Another 37.5 percent of voters ages 18-35 said they were undecided.

But Clinton beat Sanders in every other age category. Her support was strongest among Democratic and independent voters age 65 and older, where 50.3 percent of voters said they planned to support Clinton, while just 21.3 percent said they planned to support Sanders and 28.3 percent remained undecided.

Other findings

- Trump performed best among self-described moderate to liberal Republicans. Among liberal Republicans, Trump garnered 33.5 percent, and among moderate Republicans, he took 36.9 percent. Cruz led the pack among self-described conservative Republicans, where he received 28.8 percent.

- Sanders performed best among independents, with 51.6 percent support to Clinton's 9.2 percent. But Clinton held an edge among registered Democrats, with 46 percent to Sanders' 26.5 percent.

- About 51 percent of female Democratic and independent voters said they planned to support Clinton. Sanders held just 16.8 percent support among women, and 32.1 percent said they were undecided.

Words of wisdom: Women are people, not physical objects

By **KATRINA HENNING**
Columnist

Walk around campus any given day, and you will overhear some disturbing conversations.

"That girl will sleep with anyone."

"She is such a slut."

"What a shame that girl has no standards."

Turn to social media, like Yik-Yak, and some of the same harsh, judging, words appear.

"Where the sluts at" (Probably not ending their sentences with prepositions, anonymous poster).

"Looking for a girl with daddy issues."

What is wrong with this picture?

It is 2016. There is a woman running for president that has a strong chance of winning, yet we still feel the insatiable urge to cut down independent women and treat them as inferior to their male counterparts. Worse — other women (myself included) allow this to carry on. Why is this? Why, in an era that boasts progress and forward thinking, do we still allow this type of talk to carry on?

I think it all comes down to a simple grammar lesson. Forgive the English major in me and allow me to explain.

"Man sleeps with woman."

These four simple words have all the parts of a complete sentence, with 'Man' being the subject, 'sleep' being the verb, and 'woman' being the object.



No one bats an eye at this sentence, and we shrug it off as accurate. When we switch the subject and the object, however, eyebrows are raised.

"Woman sleeps with man."

When 'man' is placed in the object spot of the sentence, we begin to feel uncomfortable. Men do not sit so well as women in the object slot of a sentence. I mean, there are still parts of the world where women aren't even considered human. Women are used to being in the object slot of a sentence, not the subject.

So I hope in the future you become mindful of how and where you place the ladies in your lives and sentences. This message is not just for males, but women too. To quote my goddess and yours, Tina Fey, "You have got to stop calling each other sluts and whores; it just makes it ok for guys to call you sluts and whores."

Four for you Glen Coco. You go, Glen Coco.

Columnist: Don't be oblivious; be informed

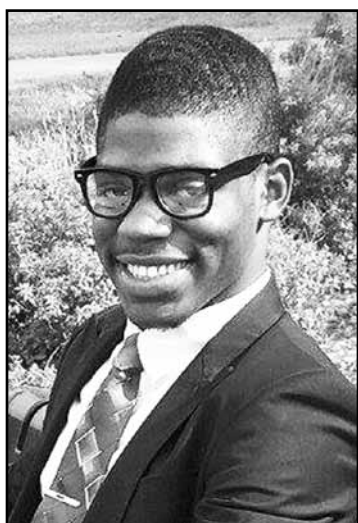
By **CHRIS AGBOLA**
Columnist

Nowadays, conforming to the status quo to be deemed "cool" is unprecedented.

Millenials tend to dwell on what is ephemeral at the expense of the imperative. For instance, an individual could get viral within a short period of time based on an uninformed hash tag campaign on #Saynotosodiumchloride with the accompanying words, sign the petition.

As uninformed and ridiculous as this campaign may be due to the fact that sodium chloride is common salt which provides iodine, an essential nutrient, millions of folks jump onto the bandwagon. In a period where knowledge is easy to access, generation Y would rather be predisposed to what's trending on fashion, social media memes and opinions of their role models.

Placing fashion and technology in the limelight without any biases, it can be observed that the evolution in these areas has been cyclical. There was a period of time where it was preferable to wear loose clothing and possess humongous cell phones and that changed to slim fit clothes and



lighter phones. This has been the pattern but individuals, nonetheless, stick to it.

Another concern is when, for example, music or movie role models offer their take on health, politics and other controversial societal issues and the "selfie" generation complies. I'm not insinuating being old school or excluding myself from all these. There is a need for discussion where probable remedies could be offered in my opinion. Here's my take on altering this plight:

To begin, there is a need to be goal oriented. Working towards a goal aids in lessening the impact of the distractions. If one does not have

an aim, he or she is prone to whatever that is happening around. Partying four times a week and going to class one day only because you're emulating a role model would not help you to achieve your ambitions.

Am I against "turning up"? Certainly not! I'm just saying a goal without a plan is a wish. Maybe Bill Gates or Steve Jobs might be your motivation for considering dropping out of school should it not go well based on your choices. Well, they provided solutions to societal needs so you should have in mind what to contribute else the story would not have the same ending. Just saying!

Being informed or taking advantage of the plethora of information available hones and enhances a person's way of life. I watched the Martin Luther King Day edition of the Jimmy Kimmel show and was flabbergasted at the level of ignorance of some folks. Kimmel went about asking what people thought of Dr. King endorsing Donald Trump for president and the answers were hilarious and preposterous.

A lady even claimed that her brother had seen Malcolm X and MLK play golf together. Really? It's funny but equally pathetic as well. Let's aim to gain knowledge in all areas of life so we don't fall to misguided or delusional opinions like vaccinating kids lead to autism.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Hairstyle
- 5 Fond du —, Wisc.
- 8 Wan
- 12 Pitch
- 13 Bachelor's last words
- 14 Old portico
- 15 Largest continent
- 16 — canto
- 17 Get ready, for short
- 18 Catch sight of
- 20 Eye layer
- 22 West Virginia industry
- 26 — nerve
- 29 Japanese sash
- 30 Sticky stuff
- 31 Frog's cousin
- 32 Pair
- 33 Timely question?
- 34 Unwell
- 35 Miler Sebastian
- 36 Name
- 37 "Kiss Me Kate" composer
- 40 Up to
- 41 Discomfort
- 45 Dressed
- 47 Botanical

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| 45 | 46 | | | | 47 | 48 | | 49 | | | |
| 50 | | | | | 51 | | | 52 | | | |
| 53 | | | | | 54 | | | 55 | | | |

- 5 Egypt's neighbor
- 6 Citric quaff
- 7 Rumbled sleuth of TV
- 8 Colorado ski mecca
- 9 Poker-winning hand
- 10 Weeding tool
- 11 Shriill bark
- 19 Sinbad's flier
- 21 Half of XIV
- 23 Depress
- 24 Yule refrain
- 25 Missing
- 26 Ear-related
- 27 Horse-play?
- 28 Yarn
- 32 Strip of icons
- 33 Bug
- 35 Sgt.'s subordinate
- 36 Coffee break time
- 38 Duck down
- 39 Shroud city
- 42 Jason's ship
- 43 Any day now
- 44 Nervous
- 45 PC's brain
- 46 Fleur-de- —
- 48 "Born in the —"

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Answers on pg. 12

Features

Zika Virus spreads further, countries report new cases of the dangerous disease

By **JORDAN EVANS**
Staff Reporter

Since April of 2015, the Zika virus has been spreading across the South and Central Americas, but what is the Zika Virus and what type of impact could it potentially have on Northwest Oklahoma? Why is it important to know about this virus as a student far from the reaches of the South and Central Americas?

The Zika virus is an infection that often shows mild to non-existent symptoms. Although only one in five who are infected actually show the symptoms, those that do frequently display a mild fever, rashes and headaches. The symptoms are typically short-lived, only occurring for no more than a week or two. The virus may sound as though it presents little harm, however, the existing fear is what issues the virus causes in pregnancies. The virus can cause the unborn children of the host to have shrunken heads and other debilitating physical deformities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggest that anyone who is pregnant or may become pregnant avoid the Central and South Americas.

“Zika” gets its name from the Zika Forest in Uganda, where it is believed that the vi-

rus originated in 1947. There have been several isolated cases since the discovery of the virus, but the 2015 outbreak in South America has created a sense of urgency in the United States to react to this virus. The disease has been spreading rapidly throughout the South American continent through its abundant mosquito population. The mosquitoes draw blood from a carrier of the virus and then inject it into the bloodstream of the next person they pierce. This method of transfer has moved the virus into Central America and into the neighboring Mexico.

In January of 2016 the CDC announced a travel warning to anyone visiting South or Central America. The biggest threat to the United States would be a tourist bringing the virus back and getting bit by a North American mosquito. The U.S. also faces the threat of the virus coming up through Mexico by mosquitoes when the spring and summer months arrive.

There have been several travel-associated cases that have been found in the United States.

There is currently no cure for the Zika virus, but there are treatments that reduce the effects. For more information you can visit www.cdc.gov/zika.

A home away from home

By **HAYLEE BATES**
Student Reporter

Students passed by the lobby and observed girls who frantically threw puzzles together as they tried to set a record. Jan. 29 was national puzzle day, and South Hall residents participated in a contest to see who could put a puzzle together the fastest. There were three groups that participated at a time, but all eyes seemed to be drawn to one specific table.

The girls in this group were putting together a puzzle of the United States. After consecutive timed rounds and questions

like “what does Kentucky look like” and “who broke Oklahoma,” these girls were proud to announce that they were not Americans. Oluwatoyosi Kaffi and Precious Okeke of Nigeria and Betty Abbey of Ghana try to incorporate American culture into their lives by participating in as many campus events as possible.

Although they try to keep positive attitudes and make connections with those around them, coming to the United States was anything but easy. Abbey remembers leaving her family and crying all the way to the airport. Leaving their families is something that they all agreed was the hardest part about coming to Oklahoma.

Even though they miss their

food and vivacious culture, they knew that coming to the United States to get their degrees was an amazing opportunity. Kaffi knew that she could experience life in another country while getting a quality education, and she did not want to pass up the chance of a lifetime. Although they find it difficult to adjust to the cultural differences, they now call Northwestern home.

Okeke said, “NWOSU is the name of the university and is a common last name in my tribe that means ‘children of foreigners.’ When I saw that I knew I had to come here, because it had a piece of Nigeria.”

Useful Apps for Students



Black Board
Never miss a notification for class with this app! Access your assignments on the go.



Flipboard
This app consolidates all news sources into one location. You can divide news into categories you're interested in.



QuakeFeed
Curious about the earthquakes in Oklahoma? Keep track of earthquakes all over the world and see their scale.



Countable
This app keeps you informed about the government, notifying you about recent bills. You can even contact Congress members from it!



Outlook
Keep track of your emails better with this App. Never miss an email for class again!

Graphic by Natalie Sacket



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

Community Bank

Open a RANGER ACCOUNT today and get FREE stuff!

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Internet Banking

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Features

University offers unique courses

By **SELENA ESTRADA & NATALIE SACKET**
Columnists

If your general education requirements are leaving you a bit underwhelmed, if you desire a course that is revolutionary, groundbreaking or even just different than the norm, Northwestern has a variety of courses from which you may choose.

Northwestern offers numerous unique courses, many of which only a few students are familiar with.

In the education center, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Shawn Holliday, Ph.D., teaches a course that covers the history of rock and roll. From The Beatles to Buddy Holly, this course provides a unique framework for history, from the viewpoint of the rock and roll industry.

Holliday said, "I teach my rock and roll course to expose students to music that they might never have heard before. Hopefully this course helps them to understand the influence of older rock and roll on contemporary music and allows them to develop a more sophisticated taste in music that is different from what they currently listen to. I also want them to see the influence that rock

and roll has had on American culture over the past 60 years."

If you don't desire to rock and roll, there is a physical education course by the name of Sports Officiating. The most recent course catalog describes this as "a course designed to meet the needs of those who expect to qualify as competitive game officials for football and basketball."

There is also a Museum Studies course offered for students who are in the social sciences, history and science programs. This course examines archival techniques and the preservation and presentation of artifacts.

Great Books is a course that teaches readings of poetry, drama, history, philosophy and essays from history, all across the globe. This intensive course promotes reading and writing skills.

Another course pertaining to music is Beginning Guitar, a course offered in the Fine Arts department. The department also offers courses for other musical instruments.

If you've a love for history and movies, Introduction to Film combines both subject materials. This course, taught by Richmond Adams, Ph.D., promotes



Photo by Jordan McLemore

Unique courses offered at Northwestern provide students a diverse and quality education.

the discussion of films and how they reflect the cultures and time periods in which they are made.

Adams said, "Introduction to Film is a good class to take as it allows students to use a vehicle of popular culture as a means by

which to think about larger and more complex issues within previous times or even how more modern portrayals of those times suggest something of how they are being examined."

He said, "By taking a film class, students will be encouraged to develop a critical eye for scenes, settings and a critical ear for dialogue and even silence."

Students with an interest in physics and mathematics who have taken required prerequisites in those particular fields have the ability to take a course solely pertaining to the theory of heat and thermodynamics. Similarly, students can take a course called Light, which offers information regarding "geometrical and physical optics; spectroscopy and photometry; light measurements," according to the recent course catalog.

If you desire to gain a further connection to theological roots, a course is offered that examines the letters of Paul, presented in The Bible. This course examines the book of Acts and the New Testament letters of Paul. The course is offered as part of the humanities

department at Northwestern.

If you've a knack for mascara and face paint, the theater department offers a course on stage makeup design. In this course, the student is taught basic makeup, crepe hair and use of basic prosthetics. Students can take this course with the permission of the instructor, according to the course catalog.

A course available this semester is offered by Jennifer Page, Ph.D. This course, not typically offered, examines several works of Shakespeare in comparison to J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series.

Charlie Wylie, a student in this class, said, "It's the only class I can say I'm truly excited to go to every week."

No matter how much you may adore your disciple of study, sometimes it can be nice to explore subjects beyond those requirements for education. If you're looking for a course that will spice up your educational background, Northwestern is a host to many intriguing courses.

Microwavable Pizza Dip

By: Savannah Tillman

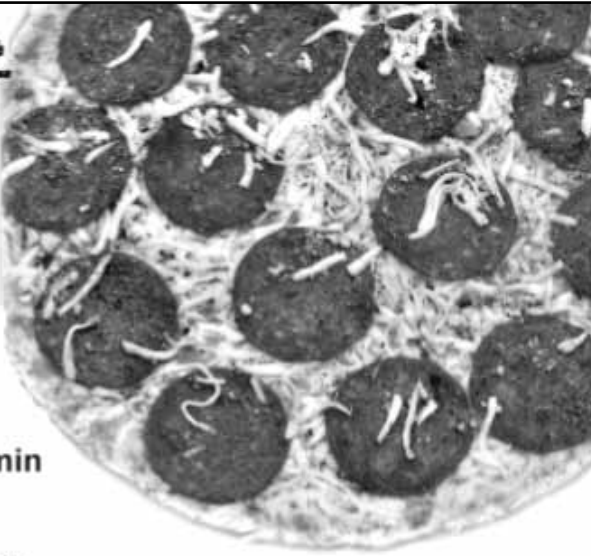
Ingredients:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 4 oz. Pepperoni | 1/2 tsp Garlic Salt |
| 1/2 tsp Oregano | 1 tsp Sugar |
| 1/2 tsp Sweet Basil | 8 oz. Cream Cheese |
| 3/4 cup Pizza Sauce | 1 1/2 cup shredded Mozzarella |
| 1/2 tsp Onion Salt | |

Prep Time: 10 min Cook time: 5 min

Instructions:

1. Spray a microwave-safe dish with non-stick spray.
2. Soften cream cheese by microwaving it 30-45 seconds. Mix with spoon. Spread on prepped dish.
3. In medium-sized bowl, mix pizza sauce, sugar, spices. Pour this over cream cheese.
4. Evenly sprinkle shredded cheese over top of spices and cream cheese.
5. Layer the top with pepperoni. Put as many as you want!
6. Place the dish in microwave and cook 2-4 minutes until cheese is nicely melted.
7. Serve! Goes best with tortilla chips or crackers.



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

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Features



The IMPORTANCE of the Arts

By TRACY MEZA
Student Writer

In a time when the arts are struggling to survive as a subject in grade schools around the country, one theater, speech and debate coach brings the issue back to its basics.

Jason Paris has been the Cherokee High School theater director and speech and debate coach for the past 12 years, and this year he can add instructor of history to his list of subjects. Paris said he feels lucky to teach in an incredibly supportive school and community. Paris went on to discuss why he feels that other fine arts teachers are not so lucky. "The trouble we have now is that there's this tension in education that's probably always been there, but it feels, at least since No Child Left Behind and the testing regime, which we're still wrestling with, that those subject areas that are easy to measure objectively, through an end-of-the-year test, take precedence," Paris said.

Educators are forgetting to focus on the value the arts bring to a child's education and society as a whole.

"If you look, historically, at all the great moments in the history of education, when things really leapt forward in terms of Western civilization, when were they?" Paris asked. "The golden age of Greece, everyone knew how to paint, sculpt or play the lyre. The arts were the curriculum. The Renaissance, the Enlightenment, they were not too shabby as artists. The point is, it blows my mind that, when you look at when humanity really stepped forward, the arts were key."

Paris said he believes the arts are vital to the development of a complete person. "I would say that if you look at someone who has achieved greatness in any field,

the thing that separates them is the human faculty of creativity," Paris said. "That's what the arts develop."

The problem is that not all school districts are as supportive as Paris' district is on the subject of fine arts. Therefore, over the years, the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Fine Arts program has seen a decline in its student enrollment because of a lack of students to recruit from the state high schools.

High schools in the state of Oklahoma are not required to teach fine arts, and because of that, many high schools are dropping their fine arts programs in order to allot for an increased focus on state testing and budgets. The long-term effects of cutting the fine arts programs in schools are now noticeable in the upper educational intuitions; they are seeing a decline of students within their programs.

Northwestern has already had to make some drastic changes when it comes to its theater degree. For example, until a few years ago, Northwestern offered two separate theater degrees: a bachelor of arts education degree for students interested in going into teaching theater in grade school education programs; and a bachelor of arts degree for students interested in working within the field of theater.

Tamara Brown, chair over the speech/theater degree at Northwestern, spoke about the decline of enrollment in the education degree. "The combination of several factors, some specific to Northwestern and some more general to education in our region of the country, led to low enrollment in the education program," she said. "Over time, students' interests shifted from the

bachelor of arts education degree to the bachelor of arts degree."

Brown continued to discuss the trials of Northwestern trying to hold on to the degree. "Multiple people including the [former] School of Arts and Sciences academic dean, Dr. Mike Knedler, attempted to keep the speech and theater education program afloat," she said. "But, eventually the secondary education degree in speech and theater was suspended."

Professor Kimberly Weast, fine arts chair at Northwestern, is in charge of recruitment for the fine arts department. She discussed her troubles trying to recruit high school seniors within the state to attend Northwestern. "It is hard to recruit here because many places in Oklahoma have cut their fine arts program," she said. "So there are few students to recruit."

Paris has witnessed the schools struggle and rectification first hand to keep the arts in place. "We cut music several years ago, but we've brought it back now," he said. "The school board leveled the extra-duty stipend of all extra-curricular teachers, so I make the same amount as theater director and speech coach as the football coach."

Oklahoma grade schools' standards include visual arts and music through grade 12. However, the schools are only required to teach fine arts as a subject through the eighth grade, as stated in the standardized testing guide for Oklahoma school districts. The fine arts assessment as per law reads as follows: "Each school district is required to administer to each student in the school district in grades three through eight an assessment designed to assess the student in the fine arts area in which the student

Oklahoma's Promise High School Requirements

- 4 English
- 3 Lab Science
- 3 Mathematicss
- 3 History
- 2 Foreign or Non-English Language
- 1 Additional Unit of a subject listed above
- 1 Fine Arts or Speech
- 17 Total Units

What is Oklahoma's Promise?

Oklahoma's Promise allows high school students with low-income families a scholarship program to attend college. The students must complete the curriculum listed above to receive the Oklahoma's Promise Scholarship. More information can be found at: okhighered.com

has received instruction."

Oklahoma has several programs in place to assist schools with keeping fine arts programs in place in their schools, including the Oklahoma Arts Council and the A+ program, both of which offer detailed artistic curriculum for the schools. However, even with these programs in place, it seems as though schools are still struggling to keep their fine arts programs afloat.

According to the Oklahoma Gazette, following years of inconsistent arts and music funding through the A+ program, Oklahoma City Public Schools are looking for ways to redistribute funds in a more equitable and efficient manner.

The changes coming over the next year could result in decreased funding for school art staffing and

the removal of some A+ programs, district officials told the Oklahoma Gazette.

"When it came to what schools received through A+, it was all over the place," Aurora Lora, associate superintendent of student achievement and accountability, told the Gazette about the arts integration program currently in 15 Oklahoma City schools. "But any reductions [in funding] will only come if that school was already getting more than its equitable share."

The A+ program and the Oklahoma Arts Council programs both attempt to fund the schools arts programs. The Oklahoma Arts Council website states that all K-12 public and private, non-religious schools can apply for small grant support for schools to support eligible arts

Continued on pg. 12

News

Guest speaker visits campus

By **JAKE GOODMAN**
Student Reporter

On Monday, Northwestern Oklahoma State University celebrated Black History Month with guest speaker Donnie Nero, Ph.D.

Nero gave his presentation on the Enid campus, but it was broadcast via ITV to Woodward, Ponca City and Alva. The presentation was titled “Walk a Mile in My Shoes: Then You Will Understand Why I Walk the Way I Do.”

Nero started his speech showing a slideshow that displayed African Americans protesting and showing what life was like when he was growing up.

Nero then talked about his childhood and some major events that helped shape who he is today.

Nero grew up in Spencer, Oklahoma. His father was a custodian at the air force base, while his mother would spend all day cleaning houses. Nero grew up with four other siblings and had to share the same bed with his two brothers.

Nero did not grow up in an environment like most kids do today. Nero had to wait on friends up the street to donate his family clothes.

His family also didn't have running water. Instead, Donnie's family would have to go outside to get water and boil it on the stove just so they could have clean bath water.



Photo by Rachel Emerson

Students and faculty at Northwestern's Alva, Enid, Woodward and Ponca City campuses gathered to learn more about the life of Donnie Nero, Ph.D., via ITV from the Enid campus.

Nero only had a party phone growing up and just one TV which was in his parents' bedroom.

Later on, he stated that he went to an all-black high school called Dunjee High School. This school received all of their sports gear from Choctaw High School. Nero then talked about how people claimed his school to have a good athletics program which led him to think he was a good athlete. However, this changed when he went to college after

he graduated high school in 1967.

Next, Nero talked about his life in college. Nero was told to go to Langston University like all of the other African Americans but rejected. Instead, he attended East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma.

Nero was drafted to go to Vietnam and was told he wouldn't have to go if he got a 2.0 GPA. He failed to reach that 2.0 GPA, but managed to talk his teacher into giving him another chance and exceeded a

2.0 GPA.

Nero tried out for football and basketball only to realize that college sports are much different than in high school. Nero then had to find a way to pay for school and became a dishwasher for the kitchen and later, a pool hall attendant. Nero ended up meeting his wife, Shirley, in college. They will celebrate 47 years of marriage in October.

Nero then talked about his life after college, and the difficulties he had in the career

field he chose.

After graduating from East Central University in 1971, Nero and his wife Shirley went to Sapulpa. He interview for a teaching job, but instead was sent to training in Fort Dix, New Jersey since he had been drafted and was done with college.

Nero returned to Sapulpa later that year and started his teaching career. The school had allowed both colors to attend which led to fights that he had to deal with. He was also Sapulpa's first African American Baseball Coach and in 1985 became the first African American Dean of Services at Tulsa Community College.

Nero taught at Sapulpa until 2000. He then applied for jobs at many other colleges in Oklahoma and was rejected by all of them.

However, he didn't give up. “I had to bring my A game if I was going to get a position in higher education,” said Nero. His dedication landed him a position as the President of Connors State. He served from 2000 to 2011.

Now, Nero and his wife opened up the Oklahoma African American Educators Hall of Fame in Clearview, Okla., which is where they reside today. The museum shows many teachers with stories of how rough being an African American teacher was, and the obstacles they've had to go through to get where they are now.

Students attend Legislative Day

More than 140 social workers from across the state gathered this month at the Oklahoma Capitol for the National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma Chapter (NASW-OK) Legislative Day.

Social work students and faculty from Northwestern Oklahoma State University were in attendance to learn about legislative issues impacting the social work profession and the populations they serve. Legislative Day provides an opportunity for social work students and practitioners to engage in macro-level practice and learn effective ways to advocate on the behalf of others. This day assists the students in learning to analyze and formulate policies that advance social well-being and develop ways for effective policy action.

“Legislative Day provides the opportunity for participation in public policy issues and social justice advocacy, both key components of social work education and practice”

said Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the department of social work.

Social work students from Enid that were in attendance were Dlontra Nolan, junior; Sierra Miller, sophomore; Annie Moss, sophomore; Marcie Sierra, sophomore; Codi Harding, senior; along with Chasity McFadden, Waukomis junior; and Shelby Lamberth, Sharon senior.

The day started with a tour of the Oklahoma State Capitol and a welcome message from NASW-OK Board President Connie Schlittler, followed by Kara Joy Perry-McKee, an outreach specialist from the Oklahoma Policy Institute who presented on effectively approaching legislators. A legislative panel comprised of Rep. Scott Inman, Rep. Lee Denny, and Sen. A.J. Griffin, was moderated by Linda Edmonson. The day concluded with opportunities to engage with legislators and closing remarks by the executive director



Photo courtesy of University Relations

Northwestern social work students and staff attended the Oklahoma Capital for the National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma Chapter Legislative Day.

of NASW-OK, Mary Jo Kinzie.

“The NASW-OK Legislative Day was a fantastic experience,” said Nolan, a social work major. “I was able to meet with other social work

majors in Oklahoma, as well as state legislators. Wandering the beautiful halls of the capitol and engaging with some of our state leaders face-to-face has encouraged me to explore poli-

tics more and to get involved.”

For more information about Northwestern's social work programs contact Rehder at (580) 327-8135 or kdrehder@nwsu.edu.

News

Aggie Club leaders give insight

By BETHANY SYZEMORE
Student Reporter

At Northwestern, many great clubs are offered to students.

One of the popular ones is the Aggie club. Most students in the club are Agricultural majors, but anyone can join no matter the major or minor.

The Aggie Club puts together several student events along with helping in community events such as local stock shows and county fairs. The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Aggie Club is proud to announce its 2016 officers.

First is the president of the Aggie Club, Codey Yandell. "Hi, everyone, I am Codey Yandell, I grew up in a small Oklahoma town called Fairfax, and attended school at Woodland High School. I showed sheep, goats and pigs throughout my 4-H and FFA career. I held many FFA officer positions, including President, throughout school, and was also very active in FCA. I also played Varsity baseball throughout high school. I raised show pigs for 3 years. I also received my State FFA Degree. I am a

junior at NWOSU even though this is my first year here. I transferred from Northern Oklahoma College where I was on scholarship for Livestock Judging. I graduated NOC in May of 2014 with my Associates degree in Agriculture Science, now working on my Agriculture Education degree here at NWOSU. RIDE, RANGERS, RIDE!"

Next, the Vice President, Mack Woods. "I'm from Olive, Oklahoma where I was chapter President for my FFA for 3 years. I am a State and American FFA Degree recipient. I showed cattle all through FFA and still continue my own herd today. My background has influenced my decision to be an Agriculture major with a minor in Animal Science here at NWOSU. With my Agriculture degree, I plan to continue my cattle herd as well as hold a job somewhere in the Beef Cattle Industry upon graduation."

Keeping all records is the Secretary, Shania Schoonmaker. "I'm from Canton, OK. I grew up on a farm and have always had a passion for agriculture. I started out in 4-H showing pigs, goats, and cattle

and that lead to my FFA career. I started off as the JR. Reporter my freshman year and worked my way up to becoming the President of my chapter my senior year. I am a State and American Degree recipient. I still raise my own herd of goats and cattle. Now here at NWOSU I'm an Ag major with a minor in Animal Science. After graduation I plan to get into the OSU/OKC Vet Technology School to become a certified vet technician."

Handling all financial affairs is the Treasurer, Kyle Johnson. "My name is Kyle Johnson and I am currently a sophomore at NWOSU. I am from Nowata, Oklahoma and was active in 4-H and FFA. I have earned my State and American FFA Degree by raising and showing pigs, goats, and cattle, in addition to serving as FFA Treasurer and President. I am pursuing a degree in Ag Business with hopes of a career in banking as well as continuing to raise livestock."

Making sure all things are recorded is the Reporter, Lydia Thompson. "Hi, my name is Lydia Thompson. I am from Alva, Oklahoma, and am currently a junior

here at Northwestern. I am majoring in Agriculture with a minor in Business. During high school I was not involved in FFA. However, I have worked on a farm for the last 5 years and have absolutely fallen in love with Agriculture. After graduation I plan on working for a Co-Op or another Agriculture-related job until my soon-to-be husband and I can run our own Veterinary Clinic."

Last but not least, the Student Government Representative, Katrina Betz. "My name is Katrina Betz and I grew up on the outskirts of Norman, OK. I attended Norman High School where I was active in the FFA group all four years of high school. I am currently a freshman here at NWOSU and am planning to double major in both Agriculture and Chemistry. I'm not too sure what I am going to do with these degrees, but I'm sure something will come up."

For more information contact one of the officers or Steve Sneary at (580)327-5956 or sasneary@nwsu.edu. Keeping up with campus activities and organizations is an important part of college experience at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

News Briefs

Dance party to be held next week

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Student Government Association is sponsoring an 80's Dance Party.

The event is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016 at Percefull Fieldhouse from 10-7 p.m. and is free to all students.

Boss Music is providing the music and lights for the evening.

Students are encouraged to wear 80's clothing.

"Take a break from the week and put your boogie shoes on," said Kaitln O'Toole, President of Student Government Association.

Nursing dept. seeking help in assisting our veterans

The nursing department at Northwestern Oklahoma State University is currently taking donations to help our veterans.

Donations are being accepted through Friday and should be dropped off at the Nursing office on Northwestern's Alva campus.

Items to donate include hygiene products, such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, ect.; clothing items; nonperishable foods; or anything that could be sent overseas without being broken or spoiled.

Every donation is greatly appreciated by all.

Annual art show entries due soon

Only a few more days before the deadline to enter artwork into the 13th annual Northwestern Oklahoma State University Art Society (NAS) Art Show planned for March 6-26 in the J.W. Martin Library on the Alva campus.

Current students and employees, retired employees and alumni must submit their registration forms via the online or paper form by Feb. 24. An online form is available at www.nwsu.edu/art-show-form. Paper forms also are available at that link for those who prefer to fill out the registration by hand. Rules and specifications, as well as category descriptions also are available at this link.

Northwestern students will be able to win prize money if their art piece places within a category or division. "Members of the art society work hard each year to raise

the necessary funds for this art show," Angelia Case, NAS sponsor, said. "On average, the club must raise close to \$1,200 to provide prize money, buy ribbons, make posters and for other miscellaneous costs. The total amount needed for prize money alone for our student winners is about \$850.

"We also appreciate the support of our Student Government Association who voted recently to provide \$250 for student prize money and to be the co-sponsor of the show," Case said.

A breakdown of prize money for students includes the following: One Best of Show: \$75 and ribbon (chosen from the three divisions winners); Three Division winners: \$50 each and ribbon (chosen from the first place winners within each division); 25 Category winners: 1st-\$15; 2nd-\$5;

3rd-\$2 each with ribbons (all places may not be awarded pending judge's discretion); One People's Choice: \$50 and ribbon (selected by patrons visiting show from among all entries submitted by students, alumni, employees, retirees).

Except for People's Choice, Northwestern employees, alumni and retirees will only receive ribbons for their winning artwork.

Categories within the Visual Arts Division will include Cartoon/Comics, Digital Art, Drawing, Mixed Media, Painting, Watercolor and 3-Dimensional/Sculpture.

The Artisan Crafts Division will include Crochet/Knitting/Needlework, Quilts, Jewelry, Pottery and a Wildcard category for entries that don't fit anywhere else in this division.

The Photography Division will include Action, Animals,

Black and White, Cityscapes, Landscapes, Light, Elements of Design, Macro, Northwestern Campus Life, People, Plants and a Wildcard category for entries that don't fit anywhere else in this division. A Special Photography Category is "13." It is open to interpretation but must depict the number 13 in some manner to help NAS celebrate the 13th annual art show.

All artwork must be delivered to the J.W. Martin Library on Wednesday, March 2, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The winning pieces from the campus art show will then be on display at the Runnymede Hotel in downtown Alva during the First Friday Artwalk on April 1 from 6 to 8 p.m.

For more information about the art show, please contact Case at (580) 327-8577 or arcase@nwsu.edu.

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Entertainment

By TRENTON JUDD & NATALIE SACKET
Columnists

Natalie: 4 out of 5



I've seen almost every superhero movie released in the past decade, and I can safely say that "Deadpool" has now punched, kicked and sword-fought its way to the top of my list.

This film is unlike any other I've seen before. "Deadpool" is self-aware, mocking the tropes of comic-book films and playing on those characteristics. The film makes fun of its producer, other comic book film franchises and even its lead, Ryan Reynolds. Nothing is safe from the comic geniuses of the writers of "Deadpool." Wade Wilson, aka Deadpool, played by Ryan Reynolds, controls the entirety of the film. He frequently breaks the fourth wall, directly addressing the audience. This provides a unique form of narration.

"Deadpool" had me dying of laughter. It's not just an action-oriented comic book movie with some comic relief. Hardly a minute passed without me laughing out loud. Reynolds and T.J. Miller, who plays Wade's BFF, are hysterical. The witty humor captivated my attention for the entirety of the film.

However, this film is not merely a shallow comedy. One moment I was near-pee-ing-pants laughing so hard, the next I was tearing up. It's a great film, and a wonderful viewing experience.

I will forewarn that "Deadpool" has undoubtedly deserved its rated R standing. With full-frontal nudity, some fairly grotesque gore, and the F bomb being dropped over 80 times, it's not for the faint of heart. Please, please, please don't take small children to see this! It's not like the other family-friendly Marvel movies. It is proud of its adult material and embraces it. I was horrified to hear a small child's laughter at an hour into the film, and saw a child no older than five across the aisle. Please, it's not child-friendly, so don't take this warning lightly.

Bottom line: "Deadpool" is a "Marvel"ous film, so go see it!



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

Trenton: 5 out of 5



The Merc with the mouth, the regenerating degenerate and a cross between Ryan Reynolds and a Shar-Pei are all used to describe the fantastic anti-hero known as Deadpool. For many years the "Deadpool" film was trapped in development purgatory, but once "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" came out with their interpretation of the character, fans were so outraged at how Deadpool was handled that the Fox executives decided to entirely scrap the idea of a Deadpool movie altogether.

Now a couple years later we have what can be called the greatest movie ever!

"Deadpool" has everything a decent movie should have. It has action, adventure, horror, romance and last, but certainly not least, it has comedy.

"Deadpool" centers around the character Wade Wilson, who is played by Ryan Reynolds, who is a wise-cracking, fourth wall breaking and lovable anti-hero named Deadpool. I don't want to give too much of the plot away, but essentially it is a flawlessly done origin story that tells you exactly why Deadpool is the way he is.

There is also a girlfriend, a sidekick, and a British villain, but don't be fooled because this is not your average superhero movie just as Deadpool is not your average superhero.

The writing for this movie is hysterical and very well done. You are constantly engaged in this story and laughing at every turn, but when this movie wants to turn on the

feels then you start feeling for these characters and generally care what happens to them.

The action is very well choreographed and will leave you on the edge of your seat until you end up jumping and cheering at the many feats of Deadpool in this movie.

What definitely cannot be ignored are the talented actors in this movie that pulled of their characters flawlessly. Ryan Reynolds' Deadpool was fantastically funny and so very charming, but when he had to dish out the action and the heart he certainly did not disappoint. The next actor that needs recognition is Brianna Hildebrand's performance as Negasonic Teenage Warhead. Hildebrand definitely lives up to the awesomeness of her character's lengthy name by delivering snazzy one-liners and even delivering a powerful punch. The next actor is Deadpool's main squeeze Vanessa played by Morena Baccarin and she is definitely the heart of this movie by delivering very believable chemistry between her and Reynolds.

Since we mentioned the main squeeze we must mention the sidekick named Weasel, played by T.J. Miller. Miller gives us a nice dynamic to Reynolds by just being the friend on the side line and Miller also gives us some good one-liners as well. The final actor I will mention is the villain who was played by Ed Skrein. Skrein is definitely one of those villains that you love to hate and he plays self confident very well and also his British accent is a nice touch as well. Overall the movie was fantastic, the characters were enjoyable and I had an absolute blast watching this movie. What are you doing still reading this review?

Northwestern theater, 'Special Guest' delights, entertains audiences

By NATALIE SACKET
Feature Editor

"Special Guest" was indeed quite a special performance for Northwestern Theater.

Though this performance by Northwestern Theater was only a short 1 Act, approximately 40 minutes, it was filled with great drama, mystery and intrigue. It opened to small, yet enthusiastic, audiences.

Trenton Judd, senior speech/theatre major, directed "Special Guest" as his senior capstone. He and the cast and crew have spent the past few months dedicated to the success of this show. Their efforts were fully worthwhile.

When I entered Herod Hall Auditorium, I was amazed (as always) by the design of the stage and set. I have always been astounded by the abilities of the tech crew at Northwestern Theater. The set of "Special Guest" was no exception. Each piece of furniture, each prop was meticulously selected and arranged. The décor of the stage exemplified to time period of the performance, which was set in the 1960s.

Judd said, "the most challenging part for me was keeping the show within the time frame of the mid-1960s."

The lighting and audio of the performance was effective and cohesive with the ambiance of the play. I was impressed by the use of practical effects as well.

The use of props was fantastic, with actors eating real food on stage. You may think it's difficult to eat while having a conversation ... imagine eating while delivering your lines in front of a live audience!

The makeup, hair and costuming were all well-chosen and time-period appropriate. Judd, with the assistance of Mickey Jordan, did an outstand-

ing job designing the concepts of the styling, and Alica Hall did a great job as the seamstress.

As far as the performances of the cast, the five actors shared great chemistry on stage. Micah Roberts (Edward Andrews), the narrator and driving force of the plot, balanced strong narration with the quirks of his character's traits. Michelle Penner (Nora Andrews) and Ken Kelsey (John Andrews), who is an instructor of history and fine arts at Northwestern, worked well together as a pair. The two were believable in their roles as partners in a grumpy middle-aged couple, heartbroken by the passing of their son. Mickey Jordan (Robert Norton) and Taylor Morris (Elaine Madison) brought life and energy to the stage. Jordan portrayed a wide range of his acting talents, mixing drama with comedy. Morris was the highlight of this show for me, fully embracing her classy, intriguing character. She was a forceful character with strong characteristics and energy.

Judd perhaps phrased it best in saying, "The cast was magnificent and I enjoyed every moment that I was able to work with them ... My favorite part was being able to work with my close friends and some very talented individuals."

Judd and his cast and crew were supervised by the always supportive Kimberly Weast, Director of Fine Arts.

Overall, it was a well-done, successful performance. Perhaps most important was the ability of the director, cast and crew to work together to create a truly magical and cohesive performance.

"I truly enjoyed every moment of this production from the first rehearsal to the final curtain call. I am incredibly grateful to the people who helped me along the way," Judd said.

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Sports

Baseball wins two at home

By **RYAN SHUMAKER**
Sports Editor

The Ranger baseball team finished with a .500 record on opening weekend at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium this past weekend.

The Rangers took on Northeastern State University and West Texas A&M University this weekend, competing against each team twice.

On Friday the Rangers faced the Riverhawks of Northeastern in a double header during which the Rangers would best the Riverhawks in both games.

The Rangers won the first game 2-0, behind lefty starting pitcher Walker Wharton's strong outing. Walker picked up the win for the Rangers while giving up no earned runs, only six hits and striking out four.

The game remained scoreless until the fourth inning when freshman Steven Deckard sac bunted runners Matt Benn and Jacob Long into scoring position, allowing Alexis Torres to drive in both runners before being thrown out trying to stretch the base hit into a double.

After gaining the lead, the Rangers would cruise until the top of the seventh, when the

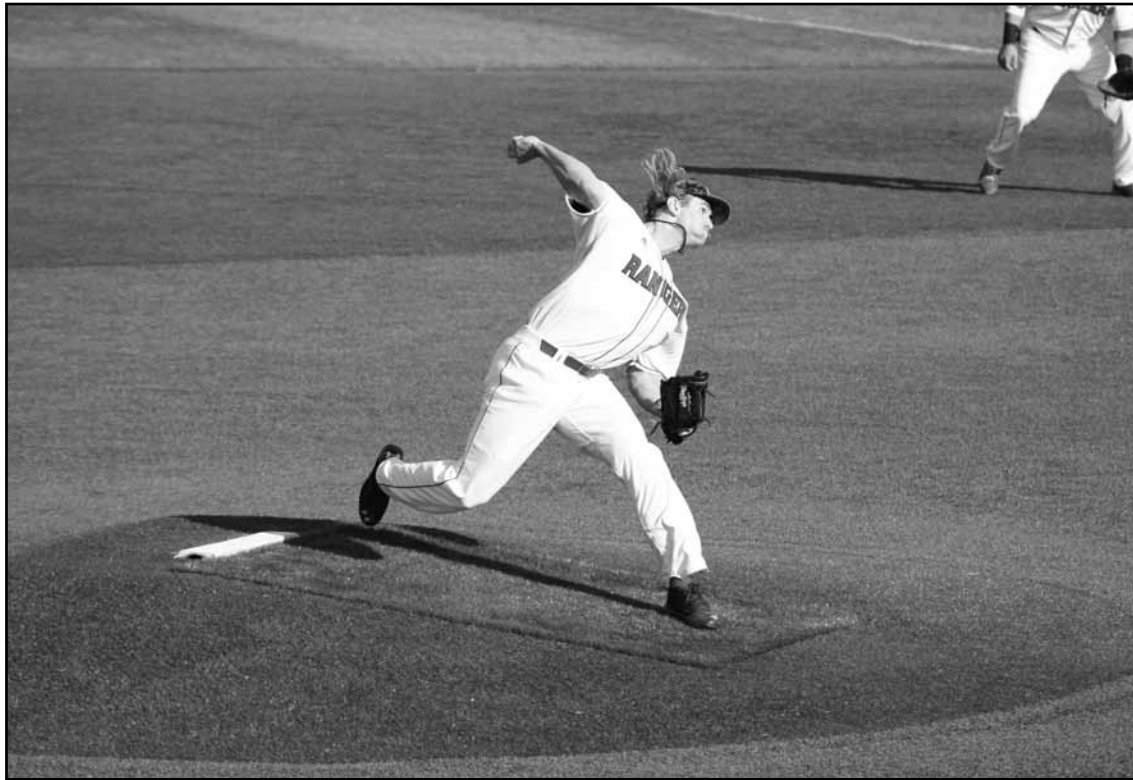


Photo by Osamu Sakamoto

Rangers starting pitcher Robert Lawhon delivers a pitch at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium. The Rangers welcomed two teams to Alva and had an up and down weekend on the diamond.

Riverhawks hit three singles in a row loading the bases. Junior Jonathan Bauer would come in to relieve Wharton and retire the only batter he faced, earning him the save and the Rangers their first victory of opening weekend.

That evening the Rangers welcomed the Riverhawks back onto the diamond for the second half

of their scheduled doubleheader. The Rangers would take this one into extras in a game that provided much more offense than the first meeting before winning 6-5.

Massachusetts native Matt Bickford would get the start and provided the Rangers five solid innings in which he struck out four Riverhawks and only gave

up four walks. Northeastern struck first in the top of the second with a two run single to open up the scoring. The Riverhawks tacked on another run in the third before freshman Greg Carrington was walked in and first basemen Alex Phillip's two run single evened the game up at three in the sixth. Following a Riverhawks pitching

change, Torres stepped up again for the Black-and-Red with a double that scored Deckard, giving the Rangers the 4-3 lead.

Graduate student Thomas Bess would extend the Rangers lead another run, scoring on Long's pop-up to the outfield in the seventh.

The Rangers bullpen initially gave up the lead in the top of the ninth, but would ultimately hang on long enough for shortstop Xyruse Martinez to give the Rangers their second victory of the weekend and the year in walk-off style with a single scoring runner Casey Dickerman.

On Saturday the Rangers faced the second of their opponents for the weekend and the results would not be quite as positive for the Rangers.

West Texas A&M provided dominate pitching that shut down the Rangers offense. In two games against the Buffs the Rangers line-up would strike out 28 times while only getting nine hits in both games. The Rangers lost the first game 8-0, and then the second game 3-2.

The Rangers (2-6) travel to Durant, Okla. this weekend to take on Southeastern Oklahoma State University in their first Great American Conference series of the year.

Stiff competition outlasts softball

By **RYAN SHUMAKER**
Sports Editor

The Rangers softball team faced off against stiff competition in the 8-State Classic in Bentonville, Ark. over the weekend.

The Rangers started off the weekend with a victory over Missouri S&T University before coming up short against undefeated University of Missouri-St. Louis and other respected programs Drury University and William Jewell University.

The Rangers won against Missouri S&T 9-0, behind junior Lacey Hudson's 2-3 batting performance.

She provided the Ranger's with four RBI's and scored three other Ranger runs.

Hudson and third baseman

Megan Sanders both homered for the Rangers. Jalena Arthur picked up the win for the Rangers on the mound while only giving up one earned run and striking out four.

The afternoon game pitted the Rangers against undefeated and nationally ranked Missouri-St. Louis. The Rangers dropped the contest 7-0 after struggling to find any offense.

Designated hitter Caitlin Coody would provide the Rangers with the only hit of the afternoon with the rest of the Rangers line-up struggling mightily against the Tritons pitching.

The second-day of the tournament provided the Rangers with stiff competition once again. The Rangers gave up two runs in the final inning to lose to Drury University, 5-3.

Drury jumped out in the third inning to a 3-0 lead before the Rangers offense finally got things going and

caught fire.

Moore, Okla. native Stephanie Couser drove in pinch runner Alexis Hayes in the bottom of the third.

Arthur kept the score tied with her pitching until the Rangers tied up the ball game in the fifth with back to back Couser and Mcgraw hits.

Two errors put Panther runners on base in the sixth and three singles later the Rangers found themselves trailing 5-3. The Rangers got the game tying run on base in the bottom of the seventh on a Panther error, but the Rangers struggles with runners in scoring position continued as they hit as a team .182 with runners on.

The Black-and-Red dropped the final game of the weekend, 11-2, against William Jewell College. The game started off with fireworks with three different players homering, including slugger Jordan Haya for

the Rangers.

Mcgraw and Sanders both provided good afternoons at the plate with multiple hits while Rangers starting pitcher Karly Murray never got things going on the mound.

She gave up eight runs, however only four of them were earned as the unearned runs issue continued to plague the Rangers.

The Rangers will look to improve their defense and get runners across the plate when they open up Great American Conference play this weekend against Southeastern Oklahoma State University, which will also serve as the home opener for the Rangers (1-7). The Rangers are scheduled to play double headers on both Friday and Saturday with opening pitch set for 2 P.M. and 4 P.M. on Friday and 12 P.M. and 2 P.M. Saturday.

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Opening weekend for softball
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Sports

Leg day shouldn't be forgotten

By COOPER STANLEY
Student Reporter

Covering up those legs with sweatpants in the winter is great for gym goers, but don't be caught with chicken legs come beach season.

The winter is great for guys and girls alike to put on some

good quality muscle, but far too often we see people with an aesthetic upper body and legs that resemble hot dogs; stop the madness and hit those legs hard.

Here's what some regular gym goers had to say for tips and tricks on training legs.

Logan Porter a junior Health and Sports science major out of Surprise Arizona said his

favorite leg movement is the leg extension machine; Porter said, "With the leg extension machine I can really see my muscle working during each rep."

Alex Hayes, a Junior Chemistry major and biology minor, said that the lunge was her favorite leg exercise, "Since I've started incorporating lunges

I like the way it makes my legs and butt look." Another leg movement incorporated by gym regular Brad Drury, a junior business administration major from Mississauga, Canada, is the "Romanian Deadlift."

"The Romanian Deadlift is good for targeting the hamstrings, I feel the stretch during this movement more

than any other leg exercise I do." said Drury.

Take the advice of these gym regulars who don't skip leg day and incorporate the leg extension, lunge, and Romanian deadlift into your next leg day and don't be caught with chicken legs when the sweatpants come off and the bathing suit goes on.

Basketball still can't close out

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Sports Editor

The Ranger women's basketball team put themselves in a position to win again over the weekend but ended up dropping all three contests.

Thursday night the Rangers welcomed Southern Nazarene to Percefull Fieldhouse and lost 71-65, despite junior Kamera Bozeman's 20 point and 5 rebound effort.

The Black-and-Red started out strong and only trailed the Crimson Storm by two at the end of the first quarter. A 10-2 run midway through the second

quarter gained the Rangers the lead before Wichita, Kan., native Relina Johnson hit a three-point bucket with four seconds left in the half to give the Rangers a 30-24 half-time lead.

The Rangers extended their lead to eight points in the third quarter before the Crimson Storm outscored the Rangers 31-15 in the third quarter to finish the quarter with a 55-45 lead.

The Storm switched to a full-court press early in the third quarter and the Rangers found it difficult to get any offense going, although they made it to the free throw lane

quite often but were unable to shoot well from the charity stripe all game, shooting only 45.5 percent in the second half.

Saturday the Rangers travelled down to Durant, Okla. to take on the Savage Storm of Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The Rangers lost 73-44 and only shot 19.1 percent from the field for the entire game. The Rangers only made eight shots and two free throws in the first half.

Freshman Jakeria Otey led the Rangers with 10 points and grabbed four rebounds. Another freshman, Deja Beechum, also provided a solid effort for the Rangers with nine rebounds,

eight points and one assist.

On big Monday in Percefull Fieldhouse the Rangers failed to hang onto another half-time lead and lost to arch rival Southwestern Oklahoma State University, 79-65.

The Rangers shot 39 percent from the field in the first half and kept the Bulldogs to just 27 percent from behind the three-point line. Johnson came out on fire in the rivalry game, scoring 12 points in the first half, all of them three pointers.

The second half was a different story as the Bulldogs shot nearly 50 percent from the field, while the Rangers couldn't keep up yet again

with a second half offensive explosion.

Johnson, Bozeman, and point guard Ashley Pride all reached double digits on the afternoon while guard Renee Contreras made multiple hustle plays, running all over the court on defense, to earn 37 minutes of playing time.

The Rangers remain winless in conference and only have four games to earn their first win. The Rangers are eliminated from post season contention and look to find their first win at home Thursday night at 5:30 P.M., when they welcome the Bison of Oklahoma Baptist to Alva.



The atmosphere Ranger nation created inside Percefull Fieldhouse wreaked havoc on the Southwestern Oklahoma State Bulldogs. Northwestern destroyed their archrival 85-55.



Ranger Austin Klug makes a shot against Southwestern. Klug and the Rangers dominated the glass on the way to a 79-65 victory.



Junior Adrian Motley rises up over the Southwestern defense. Motley dropped 23 points along with 12 points for the Black-and-Red.

Photos by Osamu Sakamoto

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The Arts

Should they stay or should they go?

Continued from pg. 6

education programs.

According to okaplus.org, the A+ network is supported by both public and private dollars, with all professional development and other supports free to participating schools.

The most recent budget was at \$125,000. Schools participating in the A+ network in Oklahoma follow an essential curriculum consisting of: arts, experiential learning, multiple intelligences, enriched assessment, collaboration, infrastructure and climate.

Therefore, the question remains, with these programs in place for the fine arts programs to remain in schools, why are the state's upper educational intuitions still seeing a decline in student's involvement in the arts programs?

Karsten Longhurst, director of choral studies at Northwestern, gives his theory as to why this is happening.

"Over the past 20 years or so, I have seen the arts tend

to get crowded out in schools largely due to the rising cost of college and the availability of college credit courses in high schools," he said. "I see parents making decisions for students to take all of the concurrent enrollment and AP classes they can so they can save time and money in college.

"Obviously, when it comes down to a student taking an elective class or a class that they would have to pay for in college, the electives seem to be a lower priority."

However, the problem doesn't just lie with the parents; students are hearing it from everywhere.

"Students not only hear such rhetoric from their parents, but also from their school counselors, administrators and some teachers too," Longhurst said. "The elective arts classes then tend to get discontinued because of low enrollment."

Nevertheless, one cannot deny the problems a theater teacher like Paris faces when the society that runs a school system no longer believes in the importance of the arts.

"There's an emphasis in education on math and science,"

said Paris. "And the way I know that is because if I were a math and science teacher, my student loans would be forgiven in five years or something, but, because I'm a theater director, I'll be paying until, you know, I die.

"I get why. We live in a time when technology will increasingly drive the economy. We need scientists, engineers and mathematicians.

"The trouble with that is that it completely ignores how our brains work."

Paris then goes on to describe the importance of brain theory.

"It seems to me, at least, that the fine arts are vital to the healthy development of the whole brain," he said. "If you think of it, or frame it as left brain versus right brain, the entire education system right now is geared toward teaching the left hemisphere.

"That's important, but what about, you know, the entire other half of the brain?"