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Rangers dominate Heartland

By CHARLES BOLDES Student Writer

The Northwestern Computer Science Club, along with other colleges, high schools, and middle school across the state of Oklahoma spent last weekend developing video games & competing with other gamers at the Heartland Gaming Expo in Tulsa.

The Heartland Gaming Expo kicked off in 2013; the first two expos were held at the University of Tulsa, and both drew large groups. The expo this year was held back at the University of Tulsa at Reynolds Center. Dr. Mailer the founder of the Heartland Gaming Expo, hopes for further growth in the next few years, and is pleased with the turn out this year.

Experts were on-hand to help those wanting to learn how to create games, as The Heartland Gaming Expo promotes creativity and growth in the ever growing gaming industry. This year's attractions at the Heartland Gaming Expo featured demonstrations, guest speakers, vendor exhibits, game trucks, gaming tournaments, food trucks, live action role play, laser tag, and a Microsoft



(Left to Right) Mark Bagley, Northwestern instructor of computer science, and Bruno Miguel, Northwestern junior computer science major, pose after Miguel received first place in the college game design showcase category.

Hall.

Many of the Gaming Tournaments this year were sponsored by Tokyo in Tulsa, which is a three day annual anime-convention held at the Cox Business Center in Tulsa. They held a numerous gaming tournaments including a "Super Smash Brothers Melee", "Super

Smash Brothers Wii:U", "Street Fighter V", "Mortal Kombat XL", "Call of Duty Black Ops 3", and "Halo 5."

Day one of the Heartland Expo started with the 24-hour code jam, where teams from colleges, high schools, and even independent developers were asked to build a game based on a

theme chosen by the organizers of the Expo that would be given to them once the event started. This year's theme was "Ice." Matt Day a junior at NWOSU and a second time attendant at the Heartland Expo said, "The Code Jam was an interesting experience this year, being able to work with a bigger team allowed

us to do more for developing a video game than we ever have before. Even though it was still stressful I plan on going back with our team and representing the NWOSU Computer Science Club again." The Code Jam team brought home an award for Outstanding Concept this year.

Garett Logan a senior NWOSU and returning at attendant said, "Code Jam this year went a lot smoother this year, unlike last year where it was very stressful. I've learned a lot from last year, and over this past year. It was really fun to do especially with the bigger team." Mahmoud Taleb a junior at NWOSU attended for the first time also this year, and partook in the Code Jam this year, "It was a great experience and I'm grateful for the opportunity. There was some cool technology like Virtual Reality, being used by some of the teams. It was a long stressful 24 hours, and we were pushing till the last minutes. I would do it again next year, II hope to be more prepared next year."

When asking other members of the club if they would want to do both the 24-hour code jam and the game showcase again,

Continued on pg. 4





Alva wildfire sparks fire safety concern



The recent warm weather has caused the trees outside of Jesse Dunn to bloom beautifully. To some, these freshly bloomed bud represent a great new fresh start. For others, they might represent a warning for the dreaded start of allergy season.

Photo by Charles Boldes

Pictured above is a section of the Alva wildfire that broke out west of town last week.

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In this the last week of our three part series 'Effects of (Insert Drug Here),' we as a staff decided to close by showing you the effects of marijuana.

Before we dive into the controversial topic of marijuana, however, let's recap part one and two of the series.

In week one, we looked at the short and long term effects of meth. We also shared a personal story from a member of our news staff.

Then in week two, we looked at the short and long term effects of alcohol, as well as recent stats from alcohol related crashes in Oklahoma. We also shared another personal story pertaining to alcohol as well.

Now for week three, we decided to take a look at not just the short term and long term effects of marijuana on a person, but economically and publicly as well.

Marijuana is considered to be one of the most commonly used drugs on college campuses, according to dualdiagnosis.org.

In a study by the Harvard School of Public Health, 47 percent of college students have tried it at least once.

Looking at its short term effects, however, students who partake in the use of marijuana should refrain from doing so.

According to drugfreeworld.org, marijuana smokers would experience sensory distortion, panic, anxiety, poor coordination of movement, lowered reaction time and an increased heartbeat as a result of short term usage.

For long term users of marijuana, they would oftentimes experience a suppression of their immune systems, growth disorders, rapid destruction of lung fibers and permanent lesions (injuries) to the brain.

They would also experience apathy, drowsiness, and lack of motivation, which would result in difficulties in studying as well as personality and mood changes.

For a person, the use of marijuana could prove detrimental, and for an economy, it could prove just as problematic.

According to the article 'Marijuana Legalization's Costs Outweighs its Benefits' by David Evans, special advisor to the Drug Free America Foundation, the argument that we can tax and regulate marijuana and derive income from it is false.

This statement comes as a result of the legalization of marijuana controversy

Graphic by Charles Boldes

that is currently buzzing throughout the United States.

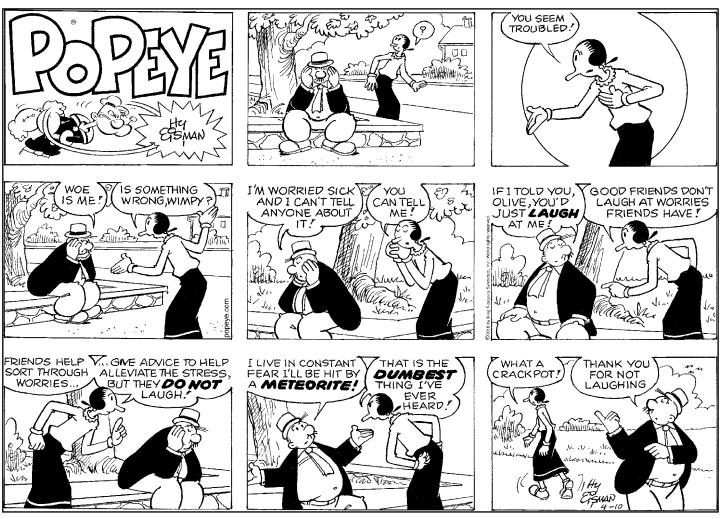
"The increased use will increase the multitude of costs that come from marijuana use," Evans said. "The costs from health and mental wellness problems, accidents and damage to our economic productivity will far out strip any tax obtained."

Other economic issues that arise from the legalization of marijuana pertain to the public safety side of the economic spectrum, for example, in that of drugged driving.

Studies have found, according to another one of Evans articles, 'The Economic Impacts of Marijuana Legalization,' that drivers under the influence of marijuana typically exhibit reduced reaction speed, frequent lane-weaving and they are twice as likely as unimpaired driers to be involved in traffic accidents.

Also within that article, Evans said the legalization of the drug presents issues with current and long-term fiscal costs exceeding the tax revenue from marijuana due to the variation in regional demand for the drug, future demand of the drug, revenue allocation among levels of government and regulatory compliance and enforcement.





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.

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By RYAN SHUMAKER Columnist

Bachelor No. 1

A Jesus-loving, soft spoken, passionate leader straight out of Oologah, Okla., Nick Villalobos is looking for the woman of his dreams right here in Alva.

An interest in the mass communications program brought him to Alva, and a future in sports journalism is what he hopes takes him out, hopefully with a good ol' Northwestern Oklahoma gal on his hip.

Villalobos enjoys watching sports and playing golf in his free time, but because of his lack of free time, he

mostly spends his time dreaming of the day when he finds his Ranger queen. He is the editor-in-chief for the Northwestern News, so being in charge is definitely one of his strong suits.

An active member at the New Song Church in Alva, he's that perfect blend of take charge and get what he wants and laid back and relax under the direction of the good Lord above. You may see Villalobos strutting around campus with his long dark hair and bushy caveman-like beard, but don't let his rough looks fool you, when he opens up that mouth located deep within the hair of his famous beard, his soft, kind voice is sure to melt any Ranger girl's heart.

A Walking Dead addict, any girl willing to spend her Sunday night

trying to figure out what's happening next during the action-packed AMC thriller is the right girl for him. Villalobos also enjoys watching any movie, so you know a night in with him won't be filled with boring sappy love movies

Standing at 6 feet 2 inches tall, with a thin yet sculpted frame, Villalobos has the physical stature that would make any potential suitor feel just as protected as they could ever dream.

So any woman looking for that good ol' take home to your dad kind of guy, go ahead and hit up Nick Villalobos. Most likely, you'll find him in the Northwestern newsroom located in the Jesse Dunn building, chewing out his editors for not providing opinion articles for the weekly newspaper.

Graphic by Natalie Sacket

Bachelor No. 2

Every woman loves an accent, but a guy with an accent and a motorcycle? Game changer.

Osamu Sakamoto is your typical Japanese bad boy with his thick accent and slick cruising motorcycle. It's going to take a special lady to tie down this ball of Japanese wild man. All the way from Tokyo, Japan, this future nurse is all a lady can handle and more.

and his murals of his American dream woman line the walls of his dorm room. The sound of his motorcycle roaring through campus can make any girl's head turn, but once you lay your eyes on the five foot five inches of solid muscle he possesses, girls will be taking each other out trying to get a piece of him.

PAGE 3

Constantly working in the Wellness Center on his fitness, if you're a girl ready for some relationship goals, work out selfies with him are sure to follow.

A ride to the Welly on his bike, a workout that the Japanese powerlifting team has been rumored to use and then a photo shoot of all the gains earned in the gym is sure to be expected.

Now meeting Sakamoto's parents could be a little bit of an issue, but don't let his bad-boy image scare you away from introducing him to your folks. Coming from a nation that prides themselves on respect, he knows exactly the tricks needed to fool them into believing he's an innocent foreign exchange student.

Sakamoto's artistic abilities are also expressed through his wellknown cooking skills. Any lady that can turn down a home-cooked Japanese cuisine might not be the woman for him.

Now with his bad-boy tendencies, Sakamoto has been known to get into a little mischief. A minor motorcycle accident and a practical joke on editor-and-chief Nick Villalobos has previously landed him in some hot water, but who doesn't love a little excitement in their life.

A foreign, artistic daredevil may just sound too good to be true, but wake up ladies, you're not dreaming. He's right here on Alva soil, Mr. Osamu Sakamoto.



We want your input on the battle!

With a battle this good, we cannot decide the winner ourselves!

We at the Northwestern News would like to hear from you on who you think won the 'Battle of the Bachelors.'

Please! Send in your pick as

tence response explaining why either Nick or Osamu should be declared the winner.

Your response will be featured in next week's issue of the Northwestern News as we announce the results of the battle.

You may send your responses

edu. The deadline for your re-

sponses is Monday at noon. Hurry up though, because

with two eligible bachelors like

Nick and Osamu, the feud between the two might just boil over! Only one will win, so please

An artistic genius with his photography skills that could match any Hollywood paparazzi, man or woman,

well as a short two or three sen- to our email, nwnews@nwosu. choose wisely!



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NORTHWESTERN NEWS PAGE 4 April 14, 2016 News Computer science students win big

Continued from pg. 1

Austin Mount a sophomore at Northwestern said, "I'd probably stick with just the game showcase. I'd do the Code Jam also, but as long as we have a big enough team. The dedication from doing both is stressful, but can be manageable with a good team like we had this year. Hopefully by next year we will have a bigger team. I've already been talking with a friend, and we hope to have a game ready by next year."

Richard Fischer a sophomore at Northwestern and a first time attendant at the Heartland Expo said, "It was really amazing to see the time, effort and imagination that were put into the project here. It really inspired me to up my game next year."

This year's special guests included Greg Rahn, an audio director who is a veteran in the video game industry with more than 200 soundtracks. He most recently led an audio team in San Francisco best known for "Star Wars: Uprising," "Marvel: Contest Of Champions" and "The Hobbit: Legends Of Middle Earth." Also appearing were Todd DeMelle, Art Director for the award winning MMORPG "The Lord of the Rings Online" and Rachael Messer, a professional voice actress who has made a living by voice acting. She has voiced in popular games like "Warframe," "Heroes of Newerth" and many other games. One of the most popular guest speakers was Jason Gregory, the lead programmer for Naughty Dog, who helped develop engine and gameplay software for popular games like "Uncharted 4: A Thief's End" and "The Last of Us."



Northwestern Computer Science students and professors traveled to Tulsa last weekend to compete in the Heartland gaming expo. Almost all of the students who competed brought home an award from the competition.

This year the Heartland Gaming also hosted their first Collegiate StarLeague sanctioned Invitational League of Legends tournament. The tournament was open to only college teams this year, with a \$1,000 prize pool. Yet, they were unable to find eight teams, so the tournament was opened to the public. The tournament kicked off with a single elimination tournament, where teams would compete in a best-of-three set. The final two teams faced off each other in a best-of-five set for the title of champion for this year's Heartland Invitational. Northwestern brought in their own League of Legends team this year, but lost during the best-of-three set.

Austin Anderson, a junior at Northwestern said, "It was an interesting experience. This was my first time at the Heartland Gaming Expo and my first tournament with my new team.

I haven't been playing League of Legends for long, and even though we lost, we did learn a lot from that loss. I hope that for next year, Northwestern will have a stronger team."

Scott Bartley, a senior at Northwestern and returning attendant at the Expo, said, "It was a whole new experience to go from a supporting role last year to a solo entry this year. There was so much more on my mind about presenting my music scores compared to last year, where I made music that I was told to make."

Bartley also brought back second place in the Gallery showcase where he designed his own music composition.

Computer games can represent one of the best displays of technological expertise and artistic expression.

Evan Vaverka, Instructor of computer science, said, "The computer science department is proud of everyone that competed. Many of the students will be returning next year and are already excited for the event."

This year for the college category in the Game Design showcase, Bruno Miguel a junior at Northwestern won first place as a solo entry this year for his game Garuna Island.

"The greatest and best feeling of winning is achieved when you hear your friends cheering when your name is being announced," Miguel said.

Mailer said, "This year for the Heartland Expo, we wanted to try something new, and the committee decided on a raffle drawing. The prizes for this year included a gaming laptop, 1TB Xbox One Bundle, 500 GB Xbox bundle, and a PC Minecraft Bundle. It was the first time we tried pulling this off, and it went off without a hitch."

For anyone who wishes to

start out in game developing or in any of their passions, it doesn't matter whether you're young or old. Daniel Mooney, founder of Moomat, returned again this year as a judge and showed off a new program he started off in a few elementary schools. There, he meets with young minds that are interested in creating games where they meet once a week to learn about simple coding and game design. He hopes to help jump start kids into skills that many other students wouldn't have thought of learning when they were younger.

Mooney said, "Even though Moomat started off as a small company, we are slowing growing, and we've never given up. Do what you love, and just do it. Don't let someone's advice bring you down. Take it with a grain of salt, always take their advice and learn from it, but never give up on what you are doing. Think of it more as a push so vou can do better."

Vaverka said, "Everyone had a fun time and did well at the competition. It was a great learning experience for the new attendants, and the students already seem eager to do it all again."

Mark Bagley, instructor of computer science, said, "This is three years in a row that Northwestern computer science students have placed or won in their categories at the Expo. It is very rewarding to see their commitment to excellence paying off in such dramatic ways. I am very proud of the twelve students who composed this year's six team entries."

More photos on pg 12

Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors

The Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors are taking applications and the deadline is quickly approaching.

Deadline approaching:

The Northwestern Scholar Ambassador members are a group of academically high achievers who serve as student ambassadors to the university. Some of their duties include acting as a host/hostess, tour guide and recruiter. They assist with Freshman Connection, Alumni Spring Reunion, Family Day, Miss Cinderella Pageant, blood drives, campus tours and several other campus activities.

To be eligible, students must be an undergraduate student and maintain a 3.25 cumulative GPA at all times and receive no failing grade. They must enroll and successfully complete a minimum of 12 credit hours each semester. Students must have a satisfactory fulfillment of the student contract.

Students are required to participate in assigned duties at special events on campus, conduct campus tours as scheduled by the Recruitment Office with a minimum of one hour every week. They must also addend meetings as scheduled.

As a representative of the university, members are expected to conduct themselves in a mature and responsible manner, appear neat and groomed at all times and arrive to all events on time and stay the whole time.

Being a part of the Northwestern Student Ambassadors gives members an opportunity to develop strong leadership skills. Officer positions include president, vice president and secretary.

Applications are due on Tuesday, April 19, and can be turned in to the recruitment office. A copy of the application is available at www.nwosu.edu/ nsa

For more information about the Northwestern Scholar Ambassador group, contact Paige Fischer in the Recruitment Office, or by email at plfischer@ nwosu.edu.



Photo by Charles Boldes

Northwestern senior and computer science student, Scott Bartley (Right), discusses his game concept with Northwestern senior, Kaci Hall (Left).

News

Delta Zeta to host 'Turtle Trot'

By SELENA ESTRADA Student Reporter

Come join one of Northwestern's sororities as it hosts its first annual Turtle Trot.

Delta Zeta is one of the two sororities at Northwestern and on Saturday they will be hosting a "Glow Run" themed 5K or mile walk or run. This event is being held to raise money for one of their Philanthropies, the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

This event will be held at the Alva Recreational Complex at 7 p.m. Registration for the run will be open at 5 p.m.

The cost for the 5K run is \$15 for

students and \$25 for the community. For ing the mile run the cost for students will be

\$10 and for the community it will be \$15. The girls will also be selling shirts for \$15. Desiree Fritz, a sophomore psychology major, is Delta Zeta's Philanthropy Chairman and is the one in charge of this

event. Fritz said the Delta Zeta chapter actually has a national Turtle Trot, which is where the girls got the idea. They decided to bring to Turtle Trot to our community here in Alva.

Fritz said the chapter's goal for this event is to raise at least \$5,000, which is how much it costs for one set of hearing aids. The Starkey Hearing foundation helps not only children, but also adults. The foundation offers a chance for those with hearing imparities to receive hearing aids.

"With the help from everyone in our community we can give someone the ability to hear the world around them again or for the first time," Fritz said. "The Delta Zeta girls are proud to be partnered with an amazing community such as the Starkey Hearing Foundation."

As this is their first annual Turtle Trot, Fritz said the chapter had several things to do to prepare for it. She said one of the main things is to get the word out so people can get ready for it.

Fritz said the whole Delta Zeta chapter hopes to see everyone at their first annual Turtle Trot, it's a good way to help others have the chance to be able to hear.

Cheer coach announces squad for next school year

By KATELYN BALL Staff Reporter

Northwestern's head cheer coach, Tyler VanVickle, announced next year's cheerleading spirit squad on Saturday April 9, 2016.

A small teaching clinic was held on Friday, April 8 and tryouts were the following Saturday morning.

The new team includes 24 women and 5 men for the 2016-2017 school year.

VanVickle said he would like to continue the great tradition that Kaylyn Hansen and Brook Ciolino have started and continue to build from their hard work.

"I think being a male coach, I bring a few different things to the table, and I'm super excited to get to work," VanVickle said. "Tryouts showed me that we have potential to be one of the most skilled squads that Northwestern has ever had."

VanVickle's said he hopes to take the new squad to competition in Orlando or Anaheim.

The positivity for the team has spread to the community as well.

VanVickle said, "our community is unlike any other community I've been a part of. The support we receive from Alva and the University is truly unmatched!"

"I am really excited to showcase the new squad and what they can do," Van-Vickle said. "Cheerleading is the greatest sport in the world and Northwestern is the greatest university which makes my job super easy!"

'Bahama Breakaway' offers students fun event before finals

By KATELYN BALL & BETHANY SYZEMORE Student Reporters

It's that time again, to take a break from school before diving head first into finals week!

Bahama Breakaway has been around for many years. It has fostered a relationship with the students and the community. Some say it is the last "hoo-rah" before those pesky finals and the year is over.

Bahama Breakaway will take place on Thursday, April 21 from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the square in downtown Alva.

This event is sponsored by the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Student Government Association.

Every year, a t-shirt is created for the

event. This year, the Bahama Breakaway shirt is a tank top. Shirts are on sale for ten dollars in the business office, located in Herod Hall.

The occasion will include many fun things and activities including free food, Boss Music DJ, 100 foot obstacle course, wrecking ball dunk tank, frosty Jo's Sno-Cones and so much more.

There will also be an annual sand volleyball tournament. Each team will consist of at least 8 players. Teams must sign up by 4 p.m. on the day of the event. The Volleyball Championship price is 120 dollars with a runner up prize of 60 dollars. So take a load off, and attend the 2016 Bahama Breakaway!

For more information contact Kaylyn Hansen by email at <u>klhansen@nwosu.</u> <u>edu</u> or by phone at (580)-327-8439.



Many students showed up last week to enjoy a game of bubble soccer, hosted by the Student Government Association.

Bubble soccer saw great turnout

By JORDAN MCLEMORE News Editor

The Northwestern Student Government Association held a bubble soccer game April 7 at the intramural field. This event was open to students at Northwestern and was free to attend and play.

Altogether, there were about 60 to 70 students that showed up to play a game of bubble soccer.

Games lasted about five minutes and consisted of two, five player

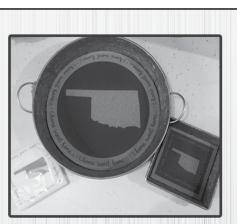
teams. Nearly 20 games were played from 6:30 to 9:00 and everyone who attended had a great time.

This was the last event for the current SGA officers, and Bahama Breakaway will be hosted by the current and future officers as elections were held this week.



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Entertainment 30 reasons to watch a play

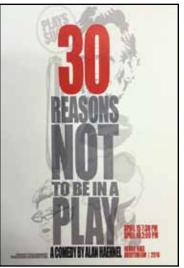


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Even though NWOSU Theatre will tell you 30 reasons not to be in a play, they will really enjoy being in a play while doing so.

Friday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 16 at 2:00 p.m., NWOSU Theatre will present a comedy by Alan Haehnel. This play, "30 Reasons Not to be in a Play," will be the final production of the semester. The production will be in Herod Hall Auditorium.

"30 Reasons Not to be in a Play" is a satirical and sarcastic play depicting the horrors that can befall those involved in a theatrical



Graphic by Kyle Larson

production. From childhood nightmares to spurring World War III, this hilarious production is filled theatre; Trenton Judd, Sapulpa with humorous short skits.

The production is a huge undergoing, requiring an extensive cast. The students acting in the production are Taylor Morris, Pacoima, Calif., junior, mass communications; Daniel Pacula, Alva junior, music-non-teaching; Tori Hurley, Sheffield, Iowa, sophomore, speech/theatre; Nicole Marema, McPherson, Kan., junior, early childhood education; Charles Wylie, Ponca City senior, English education; Megan Metcalf, Enid, freshman, psychology; Nicholas Wygle, Noble freshman, biology; Morgan Biaggi, Dalhart, Texas, senior, biology; Mickey Jordan, Iowa Park, Texas, junior, speech/

senior, speech/theatre; Amanda Metcalf, Enid sophomore, instrumental music; Eddie Venegas, Woodward freshman, vocal music; ShyAnn Floyd, Skiatook freshman, speech/theatre; Zach Frische, Dalhart, Texas, senior, psychology; Tania Garcia, Laverne freshman, psychology; Irys Botta, Amorita junior, speech/theatre; Ashley Litke, Salina junior, music; Michelle Penner, Cherokee graduate student; Michael Collins, Hooker senior, mass communication; A.J. Bohlmann, Alva, senior, instrumental music; Chance Mayhall, Ponca City, junior, vocal music; Patrick Wilson, Northwestern Bookstore employee. Admission is \$5 for the general public, \$3 for Northwestern employees and \$1 for Northwestern students with an ID.

Even though the Northwestern students are presenting reasons not to be in a play, Kimberly Weast, professor of fine arts and director of this production, said, "There is a sense of magic when one can create and be a part of a different world," Weast said. "Then there is the excitement and responsibility when you know you are entertaining, educating and exposing others to wonderful stories and truths that can inspire and encourage them."

NWOSU Theatre encourages students, staff and community to join them for a production filled with laughter and entertainment.

'The Boss' doesn't impress

By TRENTON JUDD & NATALIE SACKET **Columnists**

Trenton: 2 out of 5



It looks like Melissa McCarthy is up to her old comedy routine again, but isn't it starting to get old?

"The Boss" is a comedy about Michelle Darnell, played by Melissa McCarthy, who is a wealthy, self-made business woman; unfortunately she loses her entire fortune and is put out on the streets. Darnell ends up staying with her assistant, played by Kristin Bell, and her daughter, played by Ella Anderson, until she can get back on her feet. However, a wronged person from Darnell's past, played by Peter Dinklage, has his eyes set on revenge.

This type of McCarthy movie has been seen numerous times. The bulk of the humor relies on extreme physical injuries, foul language and anatomical references. This kind of humor gets real old real quick and it got old about four movies ago, which is a shame because this makes McCarthy look like a socalled one trick pony. However, if you've seen her acting in "Spy," "Bridesmaids" and "Mike & Molly" then you know she can be hilarious. The problem with this movie is the writing. The jokes are flat and overused, the characters are bland and two dimensional and the forced drama feels very out of place and incredibly awkward. There are a few over the top scenes, but I didn't think they went far enough as in being more animated and cartoony; instead the scenes just stayed at this awkward level that felt out of place.



The best part of this movie was Peter Dinklage as the villain because he was over the top and animated in most of his scenes to a point where you can tell he is just having fun with the

Natalie: 2 out of 5

Have you ever seen a comedy with Melissa McCarthy? Yes?

McCarthy is hysterical. But the act is getting a little old. It's the same anatomical humor with a mix of profanity and crude humor. The same jokes, again, but this time, I wasn't laughing expected more from her.

The writing and directing for the film was just painful. Unfortunately, the director and head writer was McCarthy's husband, so this will make for some uncomfortable conversation when they begin reading the reviews of "The Boss" and seeing the heat he's getting for it.

The plot is predictable. McCarthy's character is a tough, ballsy character who is just a bit down on her luck. It's when she softens for the sentimental moments of the film that her character gets bland. Kristin Bell had a strong performance, but it wasn't funny enough to match McCarthy or entertaining enough to carry the film. Perhaps my favorite part of the film was Peter Dinklange, who clearly was having a ton of fun in this role. He was probably just excited to get a break from the superserious drama of "Game of Thrones "

Bottom Line: If I had to sum "The Boss" up into one word, it would be "okay." If you're quite as hard. The slapstick a diehard Melissa McCarthy you're tired of the whole shtick, however, you might want to pass on this one.

role he was given. McCarthy was animated, but it just felt bland because we have seen this routine time and time again to a point where it just becomes boring to watch. McCarthy was okay acting wise, but we've just seen it all before. There were a few tender moments in the movie, but they were completely lost because they are not addressed and this makes the movie's story look unstructured

and faulty. Bottom Line: "The Boss" is an okay movie, so if you like McCarthy's standard routine then you'll like this movie. If you want to see a new comedy style from her, then this may not be the movie for you; although Dinklage's performance is something to behold.

Great! Well then, just substitute that film in place of "The Boss," and essentially you get the same experience.

Don't get me wrong; I think

comedy is just too weak, and film, this is definitely for you. If I struggled to pay attention throughout the film. McCarthy has such comedic talent; I just



NORTHWESTERN NEWS





Pictured above is the product of fires northwest of Alva, which came perilously close to residential areas. The fire damaged over 117 acres of land.

Photos by Charles Boldes

Drought brings fire, peril

By SAVANNAH TILLMAN Student Writer

Fires continue to pose a serious threat across western Oklahoma.

Last Wednesday, sparks ignited west of Ridgway Road, in Alva, caused 117 acres of land damage. As firefighters approached the scene, clouds of smoke arose, and flames burned fast. With the heavy winds, the fire continued to grow.

Volunteers aided in the efforts to end the fire. Firefighters from Green Leaf, Capron, Dacoma, and Burlington, along with Woods County road graders, bulldozers, and private dozers from Bates Farms assisted the Alva Fire Department. Air support was on its way to aid in the fire that continued near Woodward, Okla., when the call came that a fire had started west of Alva. Rerouting north, they began to pour powder retardant on the flames.



An aircraft helps put out flames northwest of Alva, Okla.

and other nearby departments and volunteers did a fantastic job at protecting the town and its residents. Dedication to get us to this point has been proven by the hard work the Alva Fire Department has done for our town and our state."

This fire is not the only fire that Oklahoma has seen in recent weeks. Flames have spread along the northwest region of our state and even into Kansas. The fire that started at Anderson creek burned 400,000 acres of land, destroyed countless homes, and wiped out herds of cattle. The fire lasted almost two weeks and is still under investigation. Numerous other fires have been started and along with the aid of wind, continue to cause much concern. What could be causing these fires to start and to spread so viciously like they have? The Woods County Burn Association was created by ranchers to eradicate the cedar trees. The Red Cedar grows all over Oklahoma, and does so at a fast rate. Trekell said, "The cedar trees are like pouring gas on a flame. When the cedar trees catch on fire, the fire spreads rapidly."

trol and doing more damage. Control burns of the cedar trees have been ruled out because of the recent fires. They spend months building fire breaks in order to properly dispose of cedar trees.

"We should educate ourselves about the Red Cedar in hopes to eradicate it and prevent future disasters," Trekell said.

Safety tips for wildfires

Do NOT panic.

Have a kit prepared ahead of time, including first aid supplies and copies of important documents and valuables.

Don't get in the way of emergency responders and firefighters.

Have a safety plan and know emergency exits and safe zones.

 Pay attention to social media and other forms
of communication.(Northwestern social media, City of Alva webpage, etc.

Stay aware and stay safe.

Alva residents watched in concern for their homes and their property. Many residents along Ridgway Road and nearby locations chose to evacuate in case the fire spread, while others stayed.

Kirk Trekell, Alva Fire Chief, said, "We kept close watch on the fire to assure that it would not put Alva residents in harm's way."

With much effort, firefighters managed to get the fire under control and not lose a single house to the wind-driven flame. The cause of the spark is not certain, but Trekell is positive the fire started from a limb that fell on the highline wire. There was a power surge just moments before the fire started, and that, along with a limb on electrical wire, could have been just enough for a spark.

Mayor of Alva, Kelly Parker, said, "The Alva Fire Department

This association hopes to put an end to the cedar tree and potentially prevent fires from getting out of con-



Pictured above, an aircraft assists in putting out flames northwest of Alva.

NORTHWESTERN NEWS

April 14, 2016

Features

Delta Zeta aids charity Share some laughs

By NATALIE SACKET Feature Writer

To help the world, one person at a time, is the primary mission of the Starkey Hearing Foundation.

Northwestern's Delta Zeta chapter has partnered with this foundation to help them raise money for their mission.

For over 50 years, William F. Austin, founder of Starkey Hearing Foundation, has been helping people all over the world gain access to proper hearing. The organization's vision is "So the world may hear."

The foundation started in Minnesota, but has now spread across the nation and to nearly 100 different countries. Through this process, they have provided nearly 2 million hearing aids to people in need. Delta Zeta has helped bring



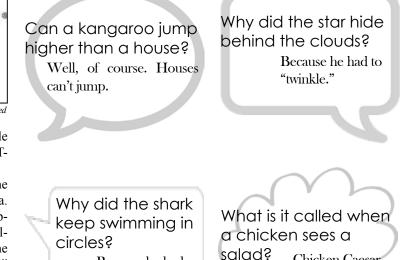
that message to Alva, Okla.

Delta Zeta is putting on a 5K and one mile race to help raise money for the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The race will take place Saturday, April 16 at 7 p.m. at the Alva Recreational Center. To register for the race, contact a Delta Zeta member or contact the Northwestern chapter through their Facebook page. The price is \$25 for the general public. Student prices are \$10 for the 1 mile run and \$15 for the 5K run. Tshirts will be on sale for \$15.

Desiree Fritz serves as the philanthropy chair for Delta Zeta.

"Knowing that we as a chapter can give someone the ability to hear again or even for the first time is an amazing feeling," Fritz said. "We are asking people to join us to help the world hear again."

for International Moment of Laughter Day today



Because he had a nosebleed.



Become educated about autism for April, Autism Awareness

By CHRISTINA MUNSTER Student Writer

One out of every 68 American children is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Autism.

This disorder affects brain development affecting social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors. ASD can be a intellectual disability due to difficulties with motor coordination and attention and physical health issues. Some diagnosed with Autism will excel in visual skills, music, math and art.

The month of April is Autism Awareness Month. With the high numbers of diagnosed children in the United States, all of us have been around someone with Autism knowingly or unknowingly. It is more common in boys affecting 1 out of 42 and 1 in 189 girls.

As of right now there are no known causes or cures. A normal family dealing with a child with Autism will spend \$60,000 a year. Researchers have narrowed factors down to mutations, genetics and environmental factors. With numbers continuing to increase in the United States, awareness is important. Individuals with Autism can be talented in a specific field or art. Famous names such as Albert Einstein, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Temple Grandin (professor of Animal Science, Colorado State University) had autism.

Those dealing with Autism, are dealing with a fight that few are educated about. Their social and communicative skills are much different than others, but can excel in other skills.

So whether you've been personally affected or you know someone with Autism, either way you have met at least one person in your life that is autistic, so wear blue in support and awareness of a very common disorder.

Sophomore prepares to leave home, go abroad

By HAYLEE BATES **Student Writer**

She hurried across the campus lawn continuously glancing at her watch to reassure herself that she would make it on time.

This is how Seanna Randall, sophomore at Northwestern, could be seen making her way to her 8 a.m. class on Tuesday.

"I don't like to be late," Randall said. "It always makes me feel irresponsible, so I try to plan ahead to avoid that feeling."

In relation to her striving to be punctual, Randall's upcoming months include a series of deadlines as her family prepares to move to Dominica, an island in the Caribbean. The Randall family has to make sure that all of their documents, living belongings and



Seanna Randall

arrangements are planned far in advance.

Even though preparing for the move may be stressful for the Randall family at times, they have a number of activities planned to help them appreciate the things that Dominica has to offer, like its diving and hiking.

family enjoys participating in," Randall said. "I am excited for the snorkeling and observing the sea animals in the area, specifically the jellyfish."

Although Randall will be moving to another county in May, she plans on taking courses offered in the United States.

"I still plan on continuing my education," she said. "I took an online course through Northwestern, and it was an enjoyable experience that makes me more confident in taking future online courses."

Despite the fact that Randall was only able to spend two years on Northwestern's campus, she learned a lot in her time here.

"My time at Northwestern has been a time of growing and learning more about myself and others," she said. "It has prepared me to go onto new and different experiences."

Diagnosis will usually be at 2 to 3 years of age; however, symptoms will show earlier.

So what causes autism?

"A unique opportunity has risen, and the location offers a lot of outdoor activities that my



<u>Sports</u> Women rodeo No. 1 in region

By RANGERS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Momentum is a major factor in any team's success.

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University women's rodeo team proved that with a dominating performance this past weekend at the Southwestern Oklahoma State University rodeo in Weatherford. In doing so, the Rangers leaped over Southwestern and into the No. 1 spot in the Central Plains Region standings.

"We're pretty stacked," goattying winner Laremi Allred said of number of talented members on the Rangers team. "We're especially stacked in goat-tying. When we're on, we're on, and you can count on us all coming back to the short-go. When we're coming back with three or four of us cheering each other on, that's really nice."

That happened in Weatherford. Shayna Miller of Faith, S.D., won the opening round and was the top Northwestern cowgirl among four that competed in the finale, joined by Allred of Kanarraville, Utah; and Katy Miller and Tearnee Nelson, both of Faith.

While Shayna Miller won the long round with a 7.1-second run, Katy Miller and Allred were 7.5 to finish in a three-way-tie for third place. Allred then sped to a 7.3-second finish to win the short round, followed by Katy Miller's 7.6 to finish second. Allred's cumulative time of 14.8 seconds on two runs earned her the title and the bulk of



Photo by Rangers Athletic Department

Oklahoma native Elli Price and the rest of the women's rodeo team have taken the first place position in the region standings, which will hopefully lead them to a berth in the College National Finals Rodeo.

the points, while Katy Miller was second overall. Shayna Miller was fourth, and Nelson finished in a tie for fifth place.

"My horse worked really well," Allred said. "In the long go, I had a little pause when I got to my goat, but it was a good run. I knew I needed to fix that little pause. In the short-go, my horse worked outstanding."

That horse is Flax, a 22-yearold sorrel gelding with flaxen main and tail. He's been used in team roping and steer wrestling, and Allred uses him as her breakaway-roping and goat-tying horse.

"I got him as a graduation present from my grandpa, who passed away from cancer that year," she said. "I really love him, and he fits me perfect. He's really special because he is from my grandpa. My uncle owned him before me. We raised him, and my uncle bulldogged on him and won the Pro-Rodeo in Pendleton (Ore.) on him."

A horse of that magnitude is beneficial in rodeo, and the Northwestern men and women have stalls full of great ones. Take Shayna Miller, who capitalized on her solid performance in goat-tying while also doing well in breakaway. She finished second overall in that event and won the all-around title in Weatherford.

Teammate Sami McGuire of Backus, Minn., won the breakaway roping title with a two-run cumulative time of 6.4 seconds. Shayna Miller's 6.9 earned the runner-up spot. Teammate Ashton Johnson of Benton, Iowa, finished in a tie for sixth overall. Barrel racer Sara Bynum of Beggs, Okla., finished fifth in her discipline.

The men, who finished third at the Southwestern rodeo, were led by steer wrestler Jacob Edler of State Center, Iowa, who placed in both rounds; his 5.7-second openinground run finished third, and his 5.5 earned him the short-round title and the average championship.

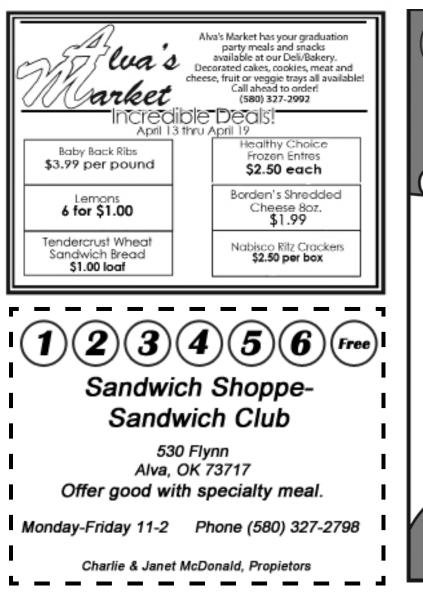
Teammate Maverick Harper of Stephenville, Texas, was 5.5 to share first place in the long round, then held on for sixth place overall. They were joined in the final round by Tyrell Kline of Hennessey, Okla., who finished in a two-way tie for third in the opening round.

Tie-down roper Chase Lako of Hunter, N.D., utilized a fast 8.7-second run on the final day to win both the short round and the average with a two-run cumulative time of 18.6 seconds. Bryson Seachrist of Apache, Okla., placed third in the long round, short round and average. Bareback rider Austin Graham of Jay, Okla., won the first round but failed to mark a score in the finale.

While Northwestern leads the women's standings, the Rangers men sit third and will need to put together solid performances during the final two weekends of the season if they hope to earn a team spot in the College National Finals Rodeo. The teams will compete in Hays, Kan., this coming weekend, then will close out the season the final weekend of April in Guymon, Okla.

Individually, contestants must finish among the top three in their respective events if they hope to compete at Casper, Wyo., in June.

"The goals I made were making seven out of 10 short-goes this year, and I've made six so far," Allred said. "My other goal is to finish in the top three in goat-tying, and I'm fourth right now and within reach of getting into the top three. Now that we've moved up in the team standings, I think it would be really cool if we could win the team deal. If we have a weekend like we just did, we'll be fine. I think we should go ahead and win this thing since it's this close. I don't think that would be unreasonable."





April 14, 2016

<u>Sports</u> Softball endures busy stretch







The Rangers softball team competed against Henderson State University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University in three separate days of doubleheader action. The Rangers picked up two victories during the stretch and were led by sophomore Madison McGraw's outstanding performance throughout the weekend at the plate. In the losses the Rangers suffered, an issue with getting runners in scoring position home became evident. Look for McGraw and slugger Jordan Haya to continue to produce in the middle of the line-up with other Rangers supporting the duo in getting runs on the board in the final series of the season April 15-16 at the Alva Rec. Complex.

Photos by Walt Watham

Baseball's struggles continue

By NICK VILLALOBOS Editor-in-Chief

The Northwestern baseball team fell to Henderson State in a three game sweep over the weekend on the road and to non-conference opponent, Oklahoma Christian on Tuesday.

The Rangers and Reddies began play on Friday with a Henderson State walk-off 6-5 win.

Then when the series shifted into Saturday, the Rangers were handed a 4-8 loss in game two and a Rangers were kept off the board through five innings before having their bats come to life in the sixth.

The Reddies tallied up a seven run lead before that though and the Rangers were unable to overcome the deficit.

To make matters worse for the Rangers, the Reddies added another run following their four runs in the sixth which ultimately halted any momentum they had.

In game two on the day, Henderson opened by scoring two quick runs off the Rangers starting pitcher, Robert Lawhon, in the first inning. The Rangers looked as if they were going to rally past the Reddies in the final inning, but Henderson State closer, Nick Vanthillo managed to keep the Rangers silent.

As the final out was recorded, Rangers Lawhon would go a full six innings allowing six hits, two runs as well as recording seven strikeouts against the Reddies. Unfortunately, he would also be handed his sixth loss of the season as well.

For Northwestern, the series loss drops them to a tie for ninth with Arkansas Tech in the Great American Conference standings.

Following the series against

Oklahoma, on Tuesday, and fell in a heartbreaking, 8-9 loss.

The Rangers opened the game with a 5-3 lead through the first three innings, but the Eagles managed to track them down and surpass the Red-and-Black in the fifth and sixth innings.

With the deficit at three in the eighth inning for the Rangers, Northwestern's, Jeremy Smith, sparked a quick rally with a threerun, RBI double that scored teammates Gregory Carrington, Greg Marco and Christian Hammerl.

Following the Ranger's rally in

but unfortunately the Rangers inability to close out games would prove once again, costly as they prevented them from completing the comeback against the Eagles.

With the game on the line, the Rangers allowed the Eagles to get on base by way of a short stop throwing error.

Then following a single, a bunt, a wild pitch and a passed ball by the Eagles, Oklahoma Christian sealed the one run win over the Red-and-Black.

Next up for the Rangers is a trip to Searcy, Arkansas, to face

1-2 loss in game three of the series. In game one on Saturday, the the Reddies, the Rangers then faced Oklahoma Christian in Edmond,

the eighth, the teams then entered the Harding Bison on Friday and the ninth inning deadlocked at 8-8, Saturday.

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<u>Sports</u> Softball takes down Bulldogs

By RYAN SHUMAKER Sports Editor

Northwestern softball experienced mixed results in three separate doubleheader contests over the last few days.

The Rangers started out the busy stretch by welcoming Henderson State University to the Alva Rec. Center and lost the series 3-1.

On the Friday afternoon, the Rangers dropped the first game 6-1 to the Reddies. The Rangers could only muster up one hit, a double by sophomore Madison McGraw in the bottom of the second inning. Starting pitcher Madison Garza struck-out eight batters over her five innings of work, but was unable to overcome the offensive absence and picked up the loss.

The offense would experience a touch more success in the second game of the afternoon, leading to a 2-1 Rangers victory. Freshman Karly Murray picked up the victory after pitching five innings and only giving up one earned run. Garza would come back on and pick up the save after closing out the ballgame. Slugger Jordan Haya fin-



Photo by Walt Watham

Senior Jordan Haya and the rest of the heart of the Ranger's line-up had great production during times over a busy stretch for the softball team. The Rangers defeated rival Southwestern during that stretch 8-6.

ished 1-3 at the plate for the ballgame, driving in one run and scoring another run for the Rangers. Centerfielder Peyton Garrett provided the other RBI for the Rangers as well.

The Rangers came back out on Saturday and left seven runners on base in a 6-0 loss. McGraw once again led the

Rangers at the plate going 2-3. The Rangers left three runners on third base throughout the ball game.

The Rangers then welcomed rival Southwestern Oklahoma State University to Alva on Tuesday afternoon. The Rangers took the first game 8-6 behind a spectacular performance from the middle part of the Rangers line-up. The three, four and five hole from the Rangers went a combined 6-11 from the plate with six RBI's and five runs.

The Bulldogs jumped out to 2-0 lead in the first inning, but the Rangers responded with two runs of their own in the bottom half of the inning. Junior Megan Sanders gave the Rangers their first lead of the game with a two-run homer in the second inning.

PAGE 11

Another home-run from McGraw gave the Rangers a 6-2 lead heading into the third. The Bulldogs could only answer with one run in the fourth inning, and the Rangers capitalized, adding another run to their lead making it a 7-3 ball game.

Pinch hitter Caitlin Coody homered in the fifth inning, which provided the spark the Rangers needed to finish out the Bulldogs, despite a three run seventh inning for the visiting team.

The Bulldogs would come back with vengeance however and run-ruled the Rangers 10-1 in five innings in the second game of the doubleheader. Mc-Graw continued her outstanding hitting however, going 2-3 from the plate while providing the lone RBI for the Black-and-Red.

The Rangers record sits at 11-34(8-26 GAC). They will face-off against Harding University in their final home series of the year at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on April 15, and then 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. on April 16 at the Alva Rec. Complex.

Golf takes on Hardscrabble

By RYAN SHUMAKER Sports Editor

The Rangers men's and women's golf teams participated in the Lions Classic golf tournament at Hardscrabble Country Club in Forth Smith, Arkansas on Monday and Tuesday.

The men's team was unable to post a first round team score due to Junior Drew Sims and Sophomore Brandon Jones failing to sign their score cards after the

completion of the round, resulting in disqualification. On the second day of play the Rangers shot a 316, which put them in ninth place for the second day scores.

Sophomore Cole Ward led the Rangers with a two-day total of 155. Freshman Tyler Miller finished five strokes behind him with a 160 total while junior Trevor Montgomery rounded out the individual scores that counted with a 163 total.

Oklahoma City University took home the team title after winning by 26 shots. Rupert Kaminsky of Oklahoma City University also took home the individual title after firing round of 64-66.

The only other GAC conference foe to compete in the tournament was East Central University, who took home third place honors. The Tigers shot a second day team score of 294, so the Rangers have a number of how many strokes they need to improve on in order to compete in the conference tournament.

The Ranger women also

competed in the Lions Classic and finished in sixth place. Freshman Kennedy Jewell fired her lowest score of the year during the first round of competition, an 86, which helped the Rangers shoot a 357.

The Rangers came back on the second day and improved their total by two strokes behind solid rounds from freshman Nikole Donk and sophomore Ami Adkinsson.

Rogers State University took home the team title for the girls

with a two day total of 604, ten shots clear of second place Arkansas-Fort Smith. Annie Stiles of Arkansas-Fort Smith won the individual title after rounds of 71-73.

The next competition for both teams will be the most important of the year, The Great American Conference Championships at Hot Springs Country Club in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Both teams will play three days of competition beginning on April, 24.

:: . Intramural Softball Standi

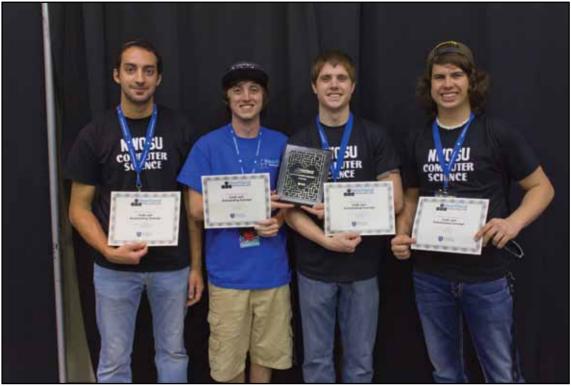


Win	Loss	%
5	0	1.000
6	1	.857
6	1	.857
5	2	.714
4	4	.500
3	3	.500
4	4	.500
4	5	.444
3	5	.375
3	5	.375
2	6	.250
2	6	.250
1	5	.167
1	6	.143
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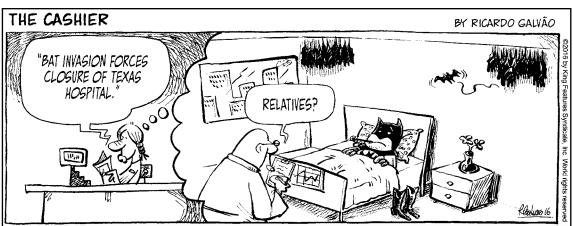


Tues, & Wed. 7:30-12:00, 1:00-5:30

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Northwestern's computer science majors (Left to right) Mahmoud Taleb junior, Matt Day junior, Garret Logan senior and Austin Mount sophomore, took home the award for the 24-hour code jam outstanding concept.





April 14, 2016

Daniel Mooney, founder of Moomat, discusses his new program to judges.

