

NORTHWESTERN NEWS

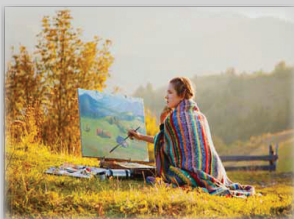
Volume No. 78, Issue 12

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 709 Oklahoma Blvd, Alva, OK 73717

April 23, 2015

TODAY'S DATE IN HISTORY

In 1914, the first ever baseball game at Wrigley Field in Chicago was played.



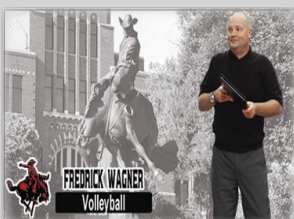
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Former student, cheerleader formally charged with felonies for communications with boy

By VICTORIA SCHNAUFFER
Student Reporter

A Northwestern student and member of the cheer team was arrested on felony charges stemming from sexually



Photo provided

explicit messages sent to a 13-year-old male.

Northwestern freshman Sam Sherer, Luther Okla., was formally charged April 13 in Woods County District Court with soliciting sexual conduct or communication with a minor by use of technology and, violation of an Oklahoma statute, via computer. Both charges are felonies.

Sherer was arrested April 2 in his Coronado Hall dorm room.

According to court documents, Sherer was texting and emailing sexually explicit messages to a 13-year-old male from New Mexico.

Court documents said Oscar Araujo contacted Northwestern campus police April 2. Araujo, the father of the minor, discovered

messages on his family computer from Sherer to his son. Araujo identified Sherer and Northwestern by his school email account and a picture his son received.

Following the phone call Araujo forwarded Sherer's emails dating back to Jan. 7 to Northwestern campus police. The messages between Sherer and the boy were graphic and asked for pictures from the minor, court documents said.

That day Woods County District Attorney's Investigator Steve Tanio, campus police officers Thomas McDow and Trevor Burden, Woods County Deputy Sheriff Ethan McOsker and Dewey County Deputy Sheriff James Bailey went to Coronado Hall with a search warrant and found Sherer in his dorm along with two iPhone 4s and a Toshiba computer. All three devices had photos of the minor as well as sexually explicit messages from Sherer.

The police arrested Sherer following the search.

Following Sherer's arrest he admitted to the police during a videoed interview that he had in fact been using his iPhones and Toshiba computer to communicate with the minor for a year, court documents said. Sherer also admitted to sending explicit photos and other communications to the minor.

Sherer gave the police a handwritten statement that read, "... I know it is very wrong to talk to underage kids, and I am truly so sorry... I found out he was 13 from his girlfriend about two months ago. I kept in touch with him because he was a nice kid, and he was polite to me."

Sherer is free on \$25,000 bail. Associate Vice President for University Relations Steven Valencia said Sherer is no longer living on the Northwestern Campus and is not a current student.

"Potpourri: a Night of Laughs" falls short of title, hosts two nights of lackluster student performances

By JORDAN MCLEMORE
Columnist

Theatre Review:

Last week amidst the rainy weather, the Northwestern Theatre department hosted the two-night performance of "Potpourri: A Night of Laughs." "Night of Laughs" is a bit of an overstatement. Though these were student-directed short plays, that doesn't account for the poor acting and lack of attention to detail.

The first short play was "4 a.m. (Open All Night)" by Bob Krakower and directed by Taylor Morris. Nick Coffey (as the role of the man), Brianna Louthan (as Jim), Natalie Sacket (as the woman) and Nathan Sacket (as Doc) seemed quite comfortable onstage with each other. Of the second night's performances, this was the most enjoyable to watch.

There was a sense of chemistry between each performer. The play's plot centers on a man who wonders if there is more to life than staying home all the time

with his girlfriend. The dialogue felt unnatural and forced. Coffey's over-the-top energy felt out of place and unnecessarily dramatic. Morris' direction was well-done, as the blocking and positioning for each character helped create immersion in the story.

Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre arts, was the director of the second performance, "While You Were Sleeping," by Alex Brown. This short play is about a series of misleading text messages sent in the middle of the night, unbeknownst to the sender. The cast included Tori Hurley, Arthur (AJ) Bohlmann, Megan Metcalf and Michelle Penner.

While this play had moments of humor, the acting took the viewer out of story and back to the stage of Herod

Hall. There was no tact in delivery, especially on Hurley's part; it was like watching a cold read of rehearsal. While Weast's direction of the play seemed organized and professional, the play felt more like a learning experience for the actors instead of a performance for the audience. It stood out as the low point of the second night.


The third play of the night

was "La Mouche," directed by Trenton Judd and written by Stephen Bittrich. The cast featured Jordan Evans (as the customer), Scott Bartley (as Pierre) and Patrick Wilson (as Jacques). This is a story of a man who finds a fly in his soup and causes a dispute between two clueless waiters.

(This story continues on page 5)



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto
(From left to right) Sacket, Coffey and Louthan perform in the first play, "4 a.m. (Open All Night)"



Official Newspaper

Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Published weekly throughout the school year except during examination periods and holidays and distributed to students and staff.

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This publication, printed by Northwestern Oklahoma State University, is issued by the University as authorized by the Regional University System of Oklahoma. 1,600 copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma of \$368.00.

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

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

All letters represent the views of the author.

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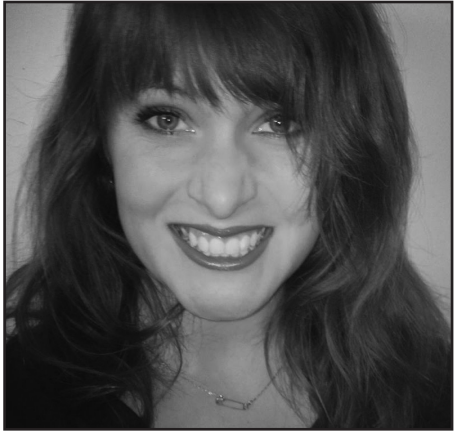
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MISSION STATEMENT

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

OPINION

When the music stops: why the arts are vastly important to our society



By **NATALIE SACKET**
Columnist

The humanities are becoming more and more referred to as trivial luxuries. Why write poems when you can develop new technology? Why paint when you can be an engineer with the promise of making hundreds of thousands of dollars? Why create music when you can create skyscrapers? Students are highly encouraged to pursue degrees in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) courses. And yet, when such a narrow-minded emphasis is placed on STEM, we are becoming... well, narrow-minded.

You see, STEM can serve as a backbone for culture, but it is vital that we integrate art to create STEAM.

It never fails; anytime someone asks what my major is and I respond with “English,” I am immediately asked if I want to teach. Or my favorite, “What on earth are you going to do with that?” Few seem to realize the value that can be found in a liberal arts education, which is a terrifying concept to me as I approach graduation.

I’ve been active in numerous art fields

With ‘dead week’ approaching, columnist says to reflect on life instead



By **NICK VILLALOBOS**
Sports Editor

Another year has come and gone here at Northwestern. Or has almost come and gone.

The last few innings or the championship rounds, one might say, have just begun for students and faculty.

For students these last few weeks mean one of two things. Either it means that they must conjure up some type of clutch performance in their classes to just pull off a passing grade, or for the students who have dominated their semester thus far, it means that they must continue their performance.

For faculty these last few weeks can mean heartbreak as they watch student after student break under the pressure and decide to drop from their class. Or it might mean success as each student pulls off the winning strategy right in the knick of time and passes

for years, including theatre, creative writing, visual arts and music. At theatre productions, we rejoice if a crowd of fifty shows up. Band concerts in high school consisted of parents and (if we were lucky) administrators.

In a world where our president makes comments such as “folks can make a lot more, potentially, with skilled manufacturing or the trades than they might with an art history degree,” little support or appreciation is given to creative endeavors.

America has always been forward-thinking, with a unique ability to create new ideas and products. The emphasis on general education, with an integration of the arts into math and science allows our future professionals to develop into critical thinkers with the creativity needed to stay ahead in the global economy. Don’t get me wrong, I believe physics, calculus and biology are essential courses; however, I also believe that courses such as English, music, and philosophy are as well.

Even Steve Jobs, a renowned innovator in the field of technology realized the profound importance of the arts, saying, “It’s technology married with liberal arts, married with the humanities, that yields us the result that makes our hearts sing.”

And yet, public school music programs are cut across the state while football programs flourish. Funding is cut for art supplies when new jerseys are bought for basketball teams every other year. Theatres remain in disrepair while entire football stadiums and fields are renovated.

I’ve always had an active imagination, thanks to my participation in the arts, but I certainly hate to imagine a future in which America has completely lost the value of humanities.

their class.

For me, however, these last few weeks mean a time of reflection (and continuing a dominating performance, of course).

If you don’t take time to look back at what all has taken place in your life over this past school year, then you might be missing out on why you are pushing so hard in these last few weeks.

Whether the times have been good or bad, the times we have here in college should be kept near and dear to our hearts, unless the times are only full of slacking and doing careless things all semester.

If they are full of just those things, then I would suggest just get through these last weeks by doing the best you can and get back home to rest and reset before next fall.

But as for you students who have made tons of awesome memories and awesome new friends and family this school year, then don’t hesitate to stop and take time to reflect on it all.

Take it all in. Smile. Cry a little if that’s how much each memory has meant for you, and then let that be the reason you put on that clutch performance in these late weeks as well as the reason you want to come back in the fall.

Let each and every moment, happy or sad, be the reason you push hard here at the end.

Biology professor explains importance of overlooked Openly Secular Day

This Letter to the editor was submitted by Associate Professor of Biology, Aaron Place.

Few people realize that today, April 23, is Openly Secular Day. It is a day in which the non-religious are encouraged to “come out” to their family, friends and colleagues. It is also a day for theistic allies of the non-religious to show their support. As you may guess, in northwestern Oklahoma it can be difficult. For those unfamiliar with the term, a secular person is any person who is atheist, agnostic, a freethinker, humanist, or non-religious.

The primary goal of Openly Secular Day is to help people understand the secular worldview. Too many people think the non-religious are amoral, rude, antireligious, morose, hedonistic white guys out to destroy Christmas. The fact of the matter is that most atheists hold the same values as the rest of the general population. The only difference is the source of their values. Instead of couching their behavior in a higher power, secularists believe in reason and the power of people. While there are probably atheists that fit the description I give above, most are happy, friendly, good people willing to help those in need. The atheists I know also tend to be proponents of social justice issues ranging from LGBT discrimination and domestic violence, to literacy and poverty.

As the faculty sponsor of the Secular Student Alliance I know there is a lot of misinformation and misunderstanding of the non-religious right here on our campus. A number of times signs announcing the SSA meetings have been torn down or defaced and social media exchanges condemning the group and their activities are not uncommon. I find this interesting given the track record of the group. Recall it was the SSA that spearheaded a project to paint a local family’s home. It was also the SSA that organized a canned food drive for an injured faculty member. This is proof positive these students are good, civic minded people who genuinely care for other people, despite the fact they are non-religious.

I have made it a point in my past letters to the school paper to not mention my philosophical beliefs. In the spirit of Openly Secular Day, I am going to change that. Through conversation, I have indicated to a number of people that I am agnostic, which is different than atheist. An agnostic admits our inability to know, through reason, if a god or gods exist. I have thought about this a lot. Perhaps more than most, which is unfortunate. I have decided one of the reasons I have not labeled myself atheist is due to the negative connotations of the term. More recently, and after a conversation with philosopher Michael Ruse, I think I am more appropriately labelled (If I must have a label) an agnostic atheist. I know we cannot know about the supernatural through reason, but I also conduct my everyday life as if there is (are) no god(s). As a result, I don’t pray for good things to happen to people, I make good things happen for people. And yes, I still find wonder and majesty in the world. I am daily inspired by the good deeds of people and awed by the beauty and complexity of the natural world. I just choose not to credit a higher power for it. I see no reason for it.

In conclusion, I know this letter will resonate, both positively and negatively, with a number of people on campus, both religious and non-religious. I encourage you to be openly secular or show your support for someone who is of a secular worldview. Together, both the religious and non-religious can make the world a better place, but only if we set aside our small differences and work together.

WHAT'S UP?

More volunteers and donors needed for rescheduled blood drive

By RACHEL EMERSON
Student Reporter

A two-day blood drive will be held on Northwestern's Alva campus next week April 28 and 29.

The blood drive was originally scheduled for one day with that day being today, but it has been changed to a two-day drive next week due to a conflict with Bahama Breakaway, another event Northwestern is holding today.

The Oklahoma Blood Institute staff will be on campus Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days in the Student Center Ballroom.

A photo ID is required to be able to donate. Northwestern wants to encourage students to attend both the Bahama Breakaway event today and also the spring blood drive, so the drive was rescheduled.

By rescheduling and extending the blood drive from one day to two days there is a need for more volunteers and donors. Anyone interested in volunteering or reserving a spot to donate should contact Rachel Stewart, student events coordinator, as soon as possible.

The goal for the drive is to have 156 donors. Reaching the donation goal is important

because the Oklahoma Blood Institute and hospitals in the area rely greatly on the donations from each drive to maintain adequate blood supply. Human blood cannot be substituted and needs to be renewed constantly.

Here are some important things to remember before, during and after donating blood: Always remember before donating to get a good night's sleep, drink plenty of fluids and eat a healthy meal three hours prior to the time of donation. For donors, it is a good idea to relax and find something to focus on during the donation, such as listening to music, reading a book or talking to another

donor. After finishing donating, grab a snack and rest for a few minutes in the provided refreshments area, continue drinking fluids and avoid heavy lifting or strenuous activity throughout the rest of the day.

Each donor will have to answer a series of pre-donation questions before to ensure that they are eligible to donate. To save time, Donor Express is a good way to complete those questions online before donating instead of on-site. Anyone wishing to use Donor Express can access it by visiting obi.org on the day of the donation and clicking the Donor Express link. After finishing all of the pre-

donation questions, simply print a form containing several barcodes. These barcodes encode the answers, so donors will need to take it, along with a photo ID and present it to the OBI staff. OBI staff will review responses and administer other health checks if needed to ensure that the donor is eligible and ready to donate. Donor Express will not only save time but also improve donor experience.

To volunteer to help, reserve a donation time, or for any additional information regarding the blood drive contact Stewart at 580-327-8178 or rsstewart@nwosu.edu.

Interscholastics competition hosted by Northwestern's Agricultural program

Earlier this month, Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Agriculture program played host to a two-day Future Farmers of America (FFA) Interscholastics competition. All Northwest District FFA chapters were invited to compete in the Quiz Bowl Contest. All Oklahoma FFA students were invited to compete in Career Development Event (CDE) contests and a speech contest.

The interscholastics competition on campus went very well, Mindi Clark, assistant professor of agriculture, said. We had students participating from several schools across northwest Oklahoma. This

is a contest we hold each year, and it brings a large amount of prospective students to campus, so we are glad for that; therefore, we plan to hold the contests again next year. We rely on our agricultural students to assist with the contests, and it not only exposes them to the organization required of hosting a large event, but it will also help them as future teachers in preparing their students to compete at contests like this one.

The Northwestern students who helped with the various competitions were: Clayton Davison, Guthrie freshman; Hayli

Miller, Norman junior; Betty Jo Hubert, Norman freshman; Trent Waugh, Laverne freshman; Tyler Blag, Talihina senior; Colton Foote, Alva freshman; Emilee Hughes, Garber freshman; Nicholas Cosby, Strafford junior; Montana McCullough, Kiowa, Kan., junior; Ashlye Pool, Fayetteville, Ark., sophomore; Scott Batchelder, Orland, Calif., sophomore; Jason Miller, Norman junior; Mack Wood, Olive freshman; Kyle Enis, Elgin senior.

For more information about the interscholastics competition or the Agriculture Education program, contact Clark at (580) 327-8484 or by email at msclark@nwosu.edu.

Northwestern Choirs to host free concert of Broadway performances

By NATALIE SACKET
Staff Reporter

The University Singers and Concert Choir of Northwestern will bring an array of Broadway performances Sunday to the Herod Hall Auditorium stage.

This annual spring concert will begin at 2 p.m.

According to Irene Messoloras, director of choral and vocal activities, the singers have invested a lot of hard work into preparing for this concert.

"This is a very different concert than anything that we've done in the past," Messoloras said. "Piggybacking off of our NYC tour, the Broadway

Showcase will feature 12 different musicals in what I would call grandiose choral numbers."

The University Singers and Concert Choir will perform songs from both traditional and contemporary musicals including "Grease," "Rent," "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Les Miserables."

According to Messoloras, the "numbers have been fully staged and choreographed," so it will be a lively and energetic afternoon of performance that will include a tap dance number.

Admission for the performance is free.

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NORTHWESTERN NEWS MEDIA

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STUDENT LIFE

SGA to host ‘Bahama Breakaway’ today

By **JORDAN MCLEMORE**
Student Reporter

Northwestern’s Student Government Association will host the annual Bahama Breakaway end-of-the-year event today.

Bahama Breakaway is from 1 to 4:30 p.m. on the Woods County Courthouse lawn located at 407 Government St.

According to SGA, the event is aims to reward students with a little fun for working hard all semester.

Students have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of events throughout the afternoon. There are over \$600 worth of prizes that students will have the chance to win by participating in the activities planned for the afternoon.

Eight students can sign up as a team to play in a sand volleyball tournament for a chance to win a cash prize. The first-place team will receive \$120, and the second-

place team will receive \$80. Teams can register at Bahama Breakaway, but all teams need to be registered by 1:15 p.m. to be able to participate in the tournament.

wheelbarrow race, a sack race, a water balloon toss, a three legged race, tug-of-war and this year there will be a limbo competition. Director of Student Life and

There will also be activities that students can participate in that do not involve a cash prize. There will be inflatable toys such as a cliff hanger and a photo

place their name in the raffle as they arrive at Bahama Breakaway. There will be drawings for the gift cards throughout the course of the event.

Students will also be able to enjoy free food at the event. The food is donated and prepared by the city of Alva. Hansen said, “The City of Alva has generously donated and prepared the food since I have been here to help plan the event.”

Frosty Joe’s will also be making free snow-cones for students. A new campus organization, Something Greater, will be sponsoring the snow-cones.

Bahama Breakaway shirts will be available for students to purchase. The shirts cost \$10 and are available in the Business Office in Herod Hall.

Hansen said, “Bahama Breakaway is a chance for students to come together and socialize and have a little fun before they start stressing out for finals.”

Students are encouraged to come to Bahama Breakaway, but they will not be excused from their classes for the afternoon. Hansen said, “We understand that students have class; this is why the event last from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. We hope that students are able to come after class or between classes to participate in Bahama Breakaway.”

NWOSU Student Government Presents... Bahama Breakaway

T-Shirts available in the Business Office for \$10.00!
Design Below



You've worked hard all semester - now it's time to have some fun.

Over \$600 in PRIZES!

Bring \$ for a FROSTY JOE'S Sno-Cone

Free Food, Sand Volleyball, Obstacle Courses, and Games with Cash Prizes!!

Date: Thursday, April 23rd
Downtown on the Square
1:00-4:30pm

Sign-up teams of 8 for the sand volleyball tournament on the square by 1:15pm
Volleyball Champion = \$120.00
Volleyball Runner-Up = \$80.00

Graphic provided

booth for students. Local stores and business have donated gift cards to be raffled off at the event. Students can sign up to

Bahama Breakaway will offer a number of other events called mini-challenges that will feature cash prizes. Mini-challenges include a

Counseling Kaylyn Hansen said, “Students always seem to enjoy competing with each other to win cash prizes at Bahama Breakaway.”

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ENTERTAINMENT

“Potpourri: a Night of Laughs” falls short of title, hosts two nights of lackluster student performances (cont.)

By JORDAN MCLEMORE
Columnist

(Continued from page 1)
The play is written to be slapstick funny. Evans’ performance was fun to watch, with his well-timed and subtle humor. The critique

here was the poor execution of the directing and the articulation of the accents. Bartley and Wilson spent the whole play trying to speak with French accents. This made it difficult for the audience members to understand what they were actually saying. Judd should have made it

a bigger point to have his actors articulate their lines.
Tracey Meza directed “The Chocolate Affair” by Stephanie Allison Walker. This play is about the struggles a wife and mother go through on a daily basis to do the right thing. The cast was Arthur (AJ) Bohlmann (as Mr. Goodbar), Ryley Kurtz (as M&M) and Kate Henning (as Beverly). Henning as the main character did a fantastic job of portraying her character’s struggle. I loved watching her onstage and her performance carried the show. This play was much deeper than the others and therefore was a taller order to perform. The duality of good vs. evil was not executed by Bohlmann and Kurtz well enough for everyone to grasp the deeper context. Henning, however, went from comical to serious, and we learned why she was in a seedy motel room eating candy. All in all, not terrible, and Meza was a decent director in this somber story.
Michelle Penner was the director for the final play, “Tis Not Me She Loves” by Steven Stack. The cast was Jordan Lyles (as Ty), Erin Hopkins (as Lady McCroy), Karen Linstrum (as Lady Hatplain), Richmond Adams (as Cap Hatplain), Nick Coffey (as Romero McCroy), Patrick Wilson (as Monty), Natalie Sacket (as Julia Hatplain), and Nathan Sacket (as Merc). There is obviously a family feud and they want to keep the fighting going. When the feud falters, they are willing to do anything to get it back; the only way to do that is through forbidden love. It’s Romeo and Juliet



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto
(From left to right) Metcalf, Penner, Bohlmann and Hurley read a text in “While You were Sleeping”.



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto
(From left to right) Kurtz, Henning and Bohlmann perform “The Chocolate Affair”.



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto
(From left to right) Wilson, Evans and Bartley perform “La Mouche”.



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto
(From left to right) Wilson, Hopkins, Nathan and Natalie Sacket, Lyles, Linstrum, Coffey and Adams feud in “Tis Not Me She Loves”.

meets Hatfields and McCoy’s. The catch is that Romero McCroy and Julia Hatplain don’t actually love each other. It was by far one of the funniest of the plays to watch and second on the list for favorites. The characters seemed to instantly mesh well on stage. Adams and Linstrum were enjoyable. Penner’s directing was among of the best of the night.

Her work was excellent with each actor prepared to deliver each line and were blocked appropriately.
To many, it felt as though these plays were rushed and were not polished to their fullest potential. All in all, the “Night of Laughs” was not quite as advertised. There was definitely room for improvement in each of the shows.



By NATALIE SACKET
& CHRIS PUNTO
Columnists

This week we were forced into watching a movie we had no business watching. We really didn’t have a choice in the matter. I personally would have rather reviewed Furious 7 again. Our pick this week: “Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2” (2015).

Chris’ review-
★★★★★
0 out of 5 stars
Do I really have to do this? Fine. Here we go. I hated this movie. The end.
I have to keep going? Okay. So lets talk about why I hated this movie. Terrible acting. Terrible directing. Terrible script. Let’s dive right in shall

we?
The acting sucked. Plain and simple. Kevin James, who you may know as the least funny guy in “Grown Ups” (which was already not funny), plays our main protagonist, and I say that word loosely. I would like to state first that I don’t dislike James because he is fat, but I hate that all of his jokes and movies are centered around making fun of his weight. We get it. You like food. I would say that the supporting characters were bad too, but they really aren’t even worth mentioning
Up next we have a so called director doing a terrible job at what I assume he got paid thousands for. This movies style wanted to be an action movie so bad, but what ended up happening was that the directing just added to how outlandish and silly this entire movie was. Leave the cool fighting sequences to the big boys.
The script was no better. I honestly didn’t crack a smile the entire time I was sitting in the theater. Every punch line was predictable and awkward. And the touchy-feely

moments between father and daughter were all cliché. “Oh I don’t want you to go to a good school and better your life.” Good parenting there, Blart.
Bottom line: go watch another movie. Go to redbox and rent something. Heck, go to Enid and watch something else. Just do not watch this movie. This movie is not a comedy. It’s not an action film. It is a disgrace.

Natalie’s review-
★★★★★
0.5 stars out of 5
Making a sequel in the film

industry is always a big risk. With the exception of some sequels that do a series justice, such as “Lord of the Rings” and “Toy Story 3,” most sequels should just not exist... such as “Mall Cop: 2.”
Now, “Mall Cop” was by no means a cinematic masterpiece or even remotely a success at the box office, so I thought it wouldn’t be difficult for the sequel to be marginally better. I was wrong. I was very, very wrong, and this film was very, very bad.
Much like Paul Blart himself, this movie was uncomfortable, awkward, poorly put together, not at

all funny and sweaty. If films could be described as sweaty, this would be the one. There were too many terribly awkward moments that left me cringing. The jokes were about as funny as Chris’ usually are.
I honestly wanted to leave 45 minutes into the film, but in honor of my three loyal readers/fans (my mom and I included) I powered through to the end... and hated every second of it. Laugh count: 0. Eye roll count: 5 trillion.
Bottom Line: Paul Blart believes in security and justice, and if this were a just world, this film would not exist on this planet.

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SPORTS

Ranger baseball falls to Wonder Boys; dominate Hillsdale

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Sports Editor

Northwestern baseball traveled to Russellville, Ark., on the weekend to take on the Wonder Boys for a three-game GAC match up.

The Rangers were unsuccessful in all three games against Arkansas Tech, falling 15-1, 16-2 and 3-2.

In game one the Wonder Boys got the bats going early in the second inning when they scored four runs.

Arkansas Tech would continue to pile on the runs for the next three innings, giving them a 15-1 lead over the Rangers.

The lone run for Northwestern came from Logan Porter, who connected for a solo home run in the sixth inning.

The series then moved into Monday for a double-header, but yet again the Rangers were unable to get a victory in either game.

In game two the Rangers managed to score twice but neither were enough to halt the relentless pace Arkansas Tech was on as they took the game 16-2.

The two runs from the Rangers came in the fourth and sixth innings.

The first was by Ranger Joshua Caruso who collected an RBI single that scored teammate Matt Benn. The second came by Ranger Greg Marco, who connected for an RBI double that scored Freeman.

Game three was another heartbreaker for the Rangers, as it would go into extra innings eventually leading to a Wonder Boys walk-off 3-2 victory.

The Rangers were first to get on the board in game three as in the second inning Cody Jones scored Caruso after an RBI double.

Arkansas Tech would tie the game up at one apiece in the third inning, then eventually take the 2-1 lead in the fourth.

The Rangers would have

a solid seventh inning as they managed to tie the game up at 2-2.

The Wonder Boys were able to get the 3-2 win in the tenth inning though, as they scored off of an RBI double.

Northwestern was in action again on Tuesday in Enid, Okla. as they faced non-conference opponent Hillsdale Baptist.

As the single game Tuesday evening got under way, the Rangers quickly got their bats going.

Within two innings, the Rangers compiled 10 runs with help from a two run home run in the first by Caruso and key doubles by Benn and Jason Freeman.

Hillsdale added their first runs in the fourth inning as they scored four runs.

The Rangers would add on another run in the fourth as well, extending their lead to 11-1.

In the fifth and sixth innings, Hillsdale added on three more runs, but the Rangers countered the attack

with three of their own.

The Rangers would continue their hot at-bats in the seventh and eighth innings when they tacked on three more runs.

In the seventh inning, Porter connected for a two-run home run scoring Jeremy Smith.

In the eighth inning, Caruso would cap off his great night at the plate with a walk-off solo home run to end the game.

Caruso would lead the way for the Rangers for the night after he went 5-5 at the plate, scoring five times, collecting 5 RBIs and grabbing three home runs.

The win moves the Ranger's record to 8-19 in the GAC and 18-27 overall.

Ranger baseball will take to the diamond at Myers Stadium to close out their season Friday beginning at 7 p.m. and Saturday, with games beginning at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. against rival Southwestern.

Upcoming Sports Events Thursday April 23

OPSU Rodeo @ Guymon, Okla.

Friday April 24

Softball vs Ark. Monticello -Alva 2 p.m.

Softball vs Ark. Monticello -Alva 4 p.m.

Baseball vs Southwestern -Alva 7 p.m.

OPSU Rodeo @ Guymon, Okla.

Saturday April 25

Softball vs Ark. Monticello -Alva Noon

Baseball vs Southwestern -Alva 1 p.m.

Softball vs Ark. Monticello -Alva 2 p.m.

Basebal vs Southwestern -Alva 3:30 p.m.

OPSU Rodeo @ Guymon, Okla.

Football Spring Game -Alva 7 p.m.

Cowgirls win at Fort Hays St. rodeo; Men finished top five

By SARAH OTTO
Staff Reporter

The Northwestern women's rodeo team claimed first place at the Fort Hays State University rodeo.

The men's team finished the weekend in fifth place. Jon Laine Herl was second in the Men's All-Around race, with Ty Batie right behind taking third.

The Northwestern women took control of the goat tying with four cowgirls representing Northwestern in the championship round. Shayna Miller once again claimed first place, while Lauren Barnes split third for the weekend. Elli Price split seventh, and Tearnee Nelson finished ninth.

Samantha McGuire was the only Northwestern cowgirl who made it back to the short round

in breakaway roping. McGuire finished her weekend eighth. In barrel racing, Sara Bynum claimed seventh and Kelsey Cloud took ninth.

Five Northwestern cowboys made the trip back to the short round in team roping. Dalton Richards roped on the head side for Ben Whiddon from SEOKSU and finished the weekend second. Herl and Chase Lako wrapped up their weekend with third, and Edgar Fierro and Batie claimed fifth.

In steer wrestling, Herl split second, and Batie took fifth. Grayson Allred finished sixth for the weekend.

The Rangers will be back in action today through Saturday at Panhandle State University, the final stop before the College National Finals Rodeo.

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SPORTS

Wagner selected to lead volleyball program

Northwestern Oklahoma State and Director of Athletics, Andy Carter are pleased to announce the hiring of Fredrick Wagner, the third ever head coach of the women's volleyball program.

"Our Volleyball program is in great hands with Coach Wagner," Carter said. "He has tremendous experience in the sport and a track record of building quality programs."

Wagner is very excited about the opportunity given him and his family.

"I am extremely excited for the opportunity to lead the Ranger volleyball team into a new era of competition at the DII level of the NCAA," Wagner said. "During my visit it was easy to see the vision and commitment that athletic director Andy Carter has for the success of the athletic programs at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. I felt that dedication speaking with Dr. Cunningham and the great people I met at every turn, I felt right at home. I

am convinced this will be a great place for student-athletes to succeed in the classroom and on the volleyball court."

Wagner spent two seasons at Iowa Central Community College in 2012 and 2013 and collected a 55-36 overall record. The Tritons finished 7th in the nation in 2012 while going 9-0 in conference play. He also coached one First-Team All-American, a Second-Team All-American and two Academic All-Americans in his first year at the helm.

Before becoming the head coach at ICCC, Wagner was the head coach at Kansas City Community College where he coached one All-American and eight Academic All-Americans. They also had some of their best seasons while he was at the helm.

Prior to his time at KCCC, Wagner was the head coach at Avila University where he took them to the school's first ever post season appearance.

Before heading up the program at Avila, he assisted the

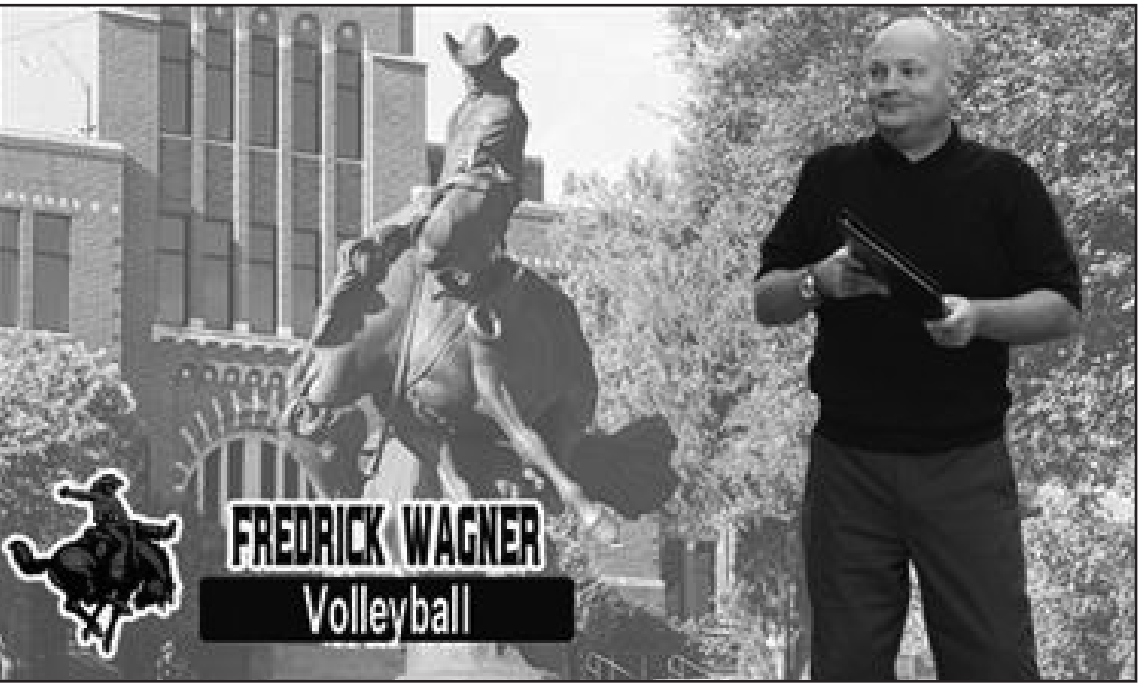


Photo courtesy of riderangersride.com

University of Central Florida in 2003 and 2004 seasons, Campbell University in 2002 and 2003 and Metropolitan State College in 1999 and 2000.

Wagner also had an extremely successful coaching career in the high school ranks

where he took Overland High School to three state titles in '94, '95 and '99.

He earned his Bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State College in Denver in 2001, where he earned a degree in Psychology.

Wagner received his Master's degree in the fall of 2014 from Central Missouri, where he earned his degree in Kinesiology Sports Management.

Wagner and his wife Shelly have two daughters, Regan (14) and Kyla (12).

Rangers softball split series against Fort Hays Tuesday



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto

By **NICK VILLALOBOS**
Sports Editor

Ranger softball faced Fort Hays St. in a two game series in Enid, Okla. Tuesday.

The Rangers were able to seal a 2-0 win in game one but fell 6-5 in game two.

In game one, the Rangers jumped on the board early in the third inning when Ranger Jordan Haya doubled bringing in teammate Stephanie Couser.

They added another run in the fifth inning when Couser crossed the plate again, this time off of a Haya single.

The second score by Couser would be enough for the Rangers as they managed a

2-0 win.

In game two however, the Rangers would lose 6-5 after a late comeback fell short.

After putting up six runs on the board, Fort Hays was left hanging on in the last inning as the Rangers began to cut into their lead.

In the final at-bats of the game, the Rangers scored five runs, cutting the deficit to one.

Ranger Lindsay Thorstenson be the biggest contributor during the attempted comeback for Northwestern as she fired a three-run home run over the back wall.

The home run by Thorstenson would score teammates Audrey Estes and Peyton Garrett.

Thorstenson would finish the game going 2-for-3 from the plate, collecting three RBIs and crossing the plate one time after the three-run home run in the seventh inning.

They were unable to complete the comeback however, as Couser would record the last out of the game when she popped out, leaving them with a 6-5 loss.

The loss for the Rangers move them to 19-26 overall heading into their last series of the season against Arkansas Monticello. The series will begin at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Friday and at noon and 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Alva Sports Complex.

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