

NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Volume No. 78, Issue 9

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

April 2, 2015

TODAY'S DATE IN HISTORY

In 1912, Titanic began it's mandatory sea trials to test for safety.



Student asks for a better teaching method instead of lectures

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"Insurgent" movie review

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Baseball and Softball fall on the road

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Freshman baseball player killed in accident; scholarship fund established in his name

By JORDAN MCLEMORE
Staff Reporter

Freshman Britten Shuck, a member of the Ranger baseball team, died March 26 in a one-vehicle accident while driving to Alva from his home in Seiling.

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said that the accident occurred at 7:05 a.m. on US-281 four miles north of Chester. Shuck was driving a 2000 Chevrolet pickup northbound

on US-281. For unknown reasons, the pickup left the west side of the roadway and entered a ditch. The vehicle went into a broad slide in the ditch; the front driver's-side tire hit a soft dirt embankment, and the pickup rolled.

Shuck was ejected and pinned under the vehicle when it came to rest. Airbags in the vehicle deployed. Shuck was not wearing a seat belt.

According to his profile on the Ranger Baseball roster, he was a member of a regional runner-up team while in high school. Shuck also excelled in football and was selected to the Great Plains All-Conference Team.

Shuck was born on Oct. 14, 1995, to Neal and Claire Shuck. He had one older sister, Addi. He was majoring in accounting at Northwestern.

Northwestern President Janet Cunningham alerted the campus of the loss of a fellow Ranger Thursday afternoon through e-mail,



Photo provided

saying, "It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the death of one of our own. Britten Shuck, a freshman from Seiling, was killed in an automobile accident early this morning. Britten was a member of the Ranger baseball team."

Baseball head coach Sam Carel posted on Facebook shortly after the news went public about the death of Shuck, saying, "Horrible loss today for the parents of Britten Shuck. Northwestern Oklahoma St baseball freshman infielder, Britten Shuck, lost his life today in a single car accident as he was coming back to catch the team bus from his home in Seiling this morning. One of the most liked, beloved, and

respected teammates I have ever had on any team. His energy was infectious and, as the picture illustrates, his love for his Ranger family was genuine and the love his Ranger family had for him was non-negotiable. RIP brother Shuck. #family." The picture referred to is displayed above.

Funeral services were held Monday at Elm Grove Community Church northwest of Chester, Okla., with Pastor Orville White and Pastor Michael Brien presiding.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Brit Shuck Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Seiling State Bank, 301 N Main Street, Seiling, OK 73663.



Photo courtesy of riderangersride.com
Shuck posing for his roster picture.

Annual Festival of Cultures to begin this evening on campus

By NATALIE SACKET
Staff Reporter

The International Student Association will be hosting its annual Festival of Cultures at 7 p.m. today in the Northwestern Student Center Ballroom,


The Festival of Cultures allows international students the opportunity to share the culture and flavor of their home countries with Northwestern. Organizers hope students, employees and community members attend. The evening will be filled with ethnic cuisine and performances representing the many cultures to be found at Northwestern.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and Northwestern students that provide a student ID. Children under 3 will be admitted for free. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

International students will be representing countries including Mexico, Ghana, Nepal, Nigeria, and more. International Student Advisor Megan Stratton said, "It's a great time to learn and taste the different cultures we have represented here at Northwestern."

To purchase tickets in advance or for more information, contact Stratton at mmstratton@nwosu.edu or 580-327-8435.





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(APRIL FOOLS!)

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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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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

“Don’t lecture me; I’m trying to learn!”; how effective are lecture-based classes?



RACHEL EMERSON
Columnist

We are all very aware that lecturing is the most used method to teach at the collegiate level, but how much are we actually learning with it?

You walk into a classroom, sit down, check your text messages or social media, or maybe you start conversing with some classmates around you, possibly about an assignment that’s due, an upcoming test or it could just be about that really good episode of “The Walking Dead” last night. Then your professor walks in and hushes the class, directs you to the black, white, or smart board and lectures for an hour and a half. Eventually, you lose focus, and suddenly your mind is somewhere else, like what you may want to eat for lunch, one of the many theories you have about who “-A” is on “Pretty Little Liars,” or why giraffes don’t yawn, elephants can’t jump even though they have four knees and cows sleep standing up. You just happen to tune in right as the professor addresses the homework assignment, which you won’t understand because you zoned out in the middle of the lecture. This is a feeling we all know a little too well, am I right?”

ment, which you won’t understand because you zoned out in the middle of the lecture. This is a feeling we all know a little too well, am I right?

Imagine that instead of lecturing for the entire class, the professor had explained it as simply as possible, then proceeded with a demonstration and ended the session with a hands-on project to reflect what had been taught. This would essentially allow students to learn the same lesson in three different ways: listening, watching and doing. Not everyone learns the same way, so I think that this would be the best way to ensure that everyone in the classroom effectively learned, understood and retained the information being taught.

Don’t get me wrong, I understand that sometimes it is necessary to strictly by lecture, and I get that it could seem quite “elementary” to teach any other way. Honestly though, I don’t see why it would matter if it gets the point across and helps to improve grades and test scores.

I also understand that not all classes are taught based strictly on lecture at our school. It does happen, though, and it makes it difficult to stay focused. I think for me it also makes it more difficult to study because I look at my next-to-perfect notes and try to retain it all, and when I do happen to remember enough information and ace the test, I don’t often remember it long afterwards. Even when I go over my notes on a nightly basis, I still have a hard time retaining everything well enough to test over it.

I’m sure some of you feel the same way I do, but I’m sure some of you learn better by listening to a lecture and taking notes and studying them. I still think that no matter how many different ways people learn, they should all be taught in a way that helps them to be able to understand and retain what they are learning.

Columnist questions the sincerity of “Oklahoman manners”



NATALIE SACKET
Columnist

“Hi. How are you?”
“Good. You?”
“Good.”

Ahhhh, the common conversation of greeting. With nearly every person you meet. Since when did typical interactions become so... typical?

A friend of mine recently asked one of his study-abroad students what he had observed about Oklahoma culture since his time here. My friend received an unexpected response. The student explained that while Oklahoman manners are indeed common, they aren’t always truly genuine.

Whenever we open a door for someone else (which is sadly becoming more rare) do we even acknowledge the presence of the other individual? When we say “have a good day” do we actually wish the other a good day? Or has that become a trivial sentiment? Are we truly happy when we greet others, or are our smiles typically forced? “You’re welcome” has been replaced with “uh huh.” “Thanks” has replaced “thank you so much.” Are we actually thankful, or are we just expected to say such sentiments?

We are conditioned. We are routine. We are nongenuine. What happened to authentic interaction with others?

Perhaps it takes the viewpoint of someone from the outside for us to realize the shells of lives we have created. Without sincerity, there is no authenticity in life.

Of course I’m not telling you to quit opening doors or saying hello to others. This is just a plea for our interactions to become more sincere.

“Sincere” is derived from

“sine cera,” which means “without wax.” We put so much emphasis on appearances. We choose to live as wax figures in our wax museums that we’ve carefully constructed.

Perhaps the core of it is that we’ve lost the desire to care about others. Even if you only see an individual once a day, once a week, once a month, or even once in your lifetime, every interaction can be worthwhile. Be sincere.

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WHAT'S UP?

Northwestern students, family open Alva location for successful Woodward clothing store

By KAYLEE HARRIS
Student Reporter

Alva welcomed a new clothing store, The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome, on March 24.

The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome in Alva is a branch of the main location in Woodward, Okla. The store sells both men’s and women’s clothing and offers a wide range of sizes for customers of all ages.

The store is located at 1016 College Blvd. Suite D, which is property that is owned by the Northwestern Foundation. All of the rent paid by The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome will go to the foundation fund.

The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome will offer a 5 percent discount to all Northwestern faculty and students when a campus

ID is presented at the time of purchase.

The owner, Daisy Adams, contemplated bringing the store to Alva.

“This is something I have dreamed about since high school, and we wanted to use God’s timing in all of this to give back to the wonderful community who has fostered my family for so many years,” said Adams

The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome’s location in Alva will be managed by Northwestern freshman Courtney Adams.

The store offers many services to customers. Adams said, “We offer free styling services to our customers. We invite men and women to bring outfits from home, shoes and all, and we can help them put their best foot forward in feeling confident and be presented in the best possible way.”

All of The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome employees are put through training to help promote the store’s credibility and provide customers with trustworthy styling options.

Adams said, “Our employees undergo intense and vigorous training to be on-trend and study

the quality of the product we sell. My daughter Chelsay Adams currently works for eight premium clothing designers across the U.S., so we take her stories and relay them to customers, and she is also another gateway our employees can learn top-notch skills.”

Adams said, “Customer service is our number-one priority. Above everything else, we want to offer our customer anything he or she may need. The customer may need therapy, a snack, a good laugh or great fashion. They name it, we jump on the opportunity to build that relationship with them.”

The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome was featured as one of the top 100 boutiques in Oklahoma by Shoptiques. It was featured on CNN Affiliate Discover Oklahoma and received another best of the best in Woodward award; styled Miss Oklahoma, Alex Epler, for ABC’s nationally televised Miss America Pageant; and flew a former Forever 21 designer from Los Angeles to Woodward for a weekend style show event for her apparel line, Veronica M.

The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome will be featured on the cover of the brochure for the Oklahoma Small Business Association campaign for the year 2015.

In conjunction with the two store locations, The Hotpink Daisy and Chrome offers the option of shopping online. Customers can view the website at www.hotpinkandchrome.com. Individuals can also like their Facebook page at https://m.facebook.com/thehotpinkdaisy?_rdr and follow them on Instagram @hpdalva and Twitter @hpdandchromehq.

RANGER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
APRIL				2 3:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m FFA Interscholastic Contest Jesse Dunn - All of Jesse Dunn including Kitchen 6:30 p.m - 9:00 p.m Secular Student Alliance Meeting Science - Science Amphitheater	3 8:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m PMFFA Interscholastic Contest Percefull Fieldhouse - Gymnasium	4 9:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m PMCEOE Teacher TestingIndustrial Education - Computer Lab
				9 8:00 a.m - 5:30 p.m PMDr. Linstrum Student Center - Ranger Room	10	11 8:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m CEOE TestingEducation Center - All Rooms 11:30 a.m- 2:00 p.m Color RunRanger Field - Football Field Tiers Near South Entrance
5	6	7 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Delta Zeta Learn to Listen Student Center Ranger Room 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Something Greater Ranger Perk	8			

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Eva's Espresso coffee will be closed on Saturdays, starting April 4th. It will still be open M-F 7AM to noon.

10 Years Of Service

STUDENT LIFE

Annual NAS division and first place winners gallery displayed



Students and faculty help clean up the boulevard

By HAYLEE BATES
Student Reporter

Northwestern hosted a boulevard cleanup project March 25.

Service and Learning Coordinator Theresa Lemke said 12 to 15 individuals, including students and faculty, picked up trash in two areas on the boulevard. There were student representatives from football, Alpha Sigma Alpha and volunteers not associated with a specific campus organization. Dean of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Caleb Mosburg, Dean of the School of Professional Studies Bo Hannaford and Lemke were the faculty who participated.

The group split into two smaller groups and covered an area by the Lite N Nite convenience store on the west side of town and another area between El Maya and Wal-Mart on the east side of town.

Alpha Sigma Alpha representative Arasely Quintana said, “It is a good way to interact with other students as

well as faculty and work as a team.”

The project is part of Keep Oklahoma Beautiful. It is sponsored by Devon Energy and the grant is sponsored by OGE Energy Corp. The grant allowed funding to purchase supplies for the project.

Together the groups cleaned a total of two miles and volunteered a total of two hours. Quintana said, “You do not realize how much trash is on the side of the road until you see how many bags of trash you gathered in a short amount of time. You also do not realize how much you can do for the community.”

The goal is to expand the project in years to come. Lemke said, “I am hoping that the project expands to the point that we can take a full day to better different parts of our community. I would like to help paint community members’ houses, remove unwanted shrubbery and expand the trash cleanup to other parts of town.” The plan is to schedule a cleanup project more than once a year. Lemke is considering a

seasonal cleanup throughout the school year.

Quintana said, “I encourage everyone to participate in a cleanup project”

Lemke said, “The purpose of this project is to get students involved with the community. We even had a woman stop and offer to donate to the organization that was picking up the trash on the side of the road. It showed how much the community appreciated the work we were doing, so I think the project was very successful and the university got recognition for its hard work.”

Lemke encourages all students to contact her and volunteer to participate in the next project, or students can contact her to schedule a day to clean up with their organization. Email her at tmlemke@nwosu.edu or call 580-327-8134.

Lemke said, “I want to thank all of the students and faculty that participated in the cleanup project, and I hope that after this project more students will get involved and help better the community that provides so much for them.”

Nursing department gives back with community service

By TAYLOR MORRIS
Student Reporter

Every year Northwestern’s nursing students give back to the community by showcasing what they’ve learned in school.

The nursing program has always had a large component of community service. Each semester the nursing students have to complete a total of four community service hours for their clinical courses on all of Northwestern’s campuses in Alva, Enid, Ponca and Woodward. For example, specifically for the juniors in their Adult Health II course and in their family course they must attempt to do something that encompasses their knowledge of medical and surgical nursing and also taking care of adults.

With this particular community service nursing students really get the opportunity to choose what type of service they would like to do as long as it is in the confines of their instructors’ requirements. Some have chosen to go to nursing homes around Alva to volunteer their time and knowledge and others not too long ago actually chose to hold a vital signs booth in the Student Center where students could get their vitals checked for free. According to student Edem Attor, who had her vitals checked by a Northwestern nursing student, “I think that it was really good and it helped me know where I was health-wise.”

Juniors in their family course and seniors in their community course will actually be having a Family Health Fair 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday on the Northwestern’s Enid Campus. A group of two or three will work

together to make an informative booth that ranges over various medical topics. Some of the topics are skin cancer prevention, contraception and even sudden infant death syndrome. There will also be interactive things such as checking of vitals, blood sugar and many other things that tie into their nursing skills as well.

This community service is beneficial to Northwestern’s nursing students because it shows them how important it is to be involved in their community. According to Leslie Collins, assistant chair in the Division of Nursing, “We want to show them that you can be a leader in your community and you can help your community by doing the things that you’ve learned in nursing school. Nursing is obviously a profession that really gives a lot to the community. We take care of patients and we never want to lose that aspect of it. We want them to see that they need to branch out and be there for what the community needs too.”

When the nursing students have fully completed their community service they are given an assignment to reflect on their overall experience. They turn in what they have learned from volunteering their time to the community, what it was that they experienced firsthand and how they feel they have benefited the community overall.

With the help of Haley Smith, the university relations specialist here on campus, the nursing programs community service is really receiving some PR. According to Collins, “This is actually the first year that anybody has really known what the nursing students were doing, so that is really exciting.”

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ENTERTAINMENT



By **NATALIE SACKET & CHRIS PUNTO**
Columnists

This week we decided to diverge from the new releases... see what we did there? Our pick this week:

“Insurgent” (2015)
Chris’ Review-

Wow. This makes me feel kind of like a seasoned veteran at this game. Now I will have reviewed both “Divergent” and “Insurgent.” This is cool. Anyway, now to the movie review part.

So seeing as how all of you are loyal fans and know exactly what I thought about “Divergent,” that it was a cheesy copycat version of “The Hunger Games” blah blah blah, we can go straight into “Insurgent.” This movie surprised me. It did a good job for a sequel of a movie I disliked. The actors grew further

into their roles and the flow of the movie was all around better.

Shailene Woodley, although I wasn’t exactly a huge fan of her new haircut, did a better job of conveying all of her emotions and traits. This I feel is important to the film because she is supposed to be the perfect specimen of all these traits that this society has set up. Theo James did a good job of... being an attractive male? Whatever. I’ll let it slide since all movies have one of those. *Cough cough* Liam Hemsworth. One actor who I hated that I loved was Miles Teller. His character is a certified jerk, but he was so witty and cool that you can’t help but like him. One problem I did have was that there was not a whole lot of room for other supporting characters to grow because the movie stressed the main actress so hard. I’ll bet she is a nightmare to work with, but that’s just me.

My biggest problem with the movie is something that I should really be taking out on the book series. The ending sucks. I’m

sorry to all the fangirls out there who are going to disagree with me and tell me that they cried tears of magic and joy at the end, but it did suck. Without giving away any spoilers, as if those of you who actually want to watch it haven’t already seen it, the ending leaves little room for a sequel. It just had to be done because that’s what the people want. If the series ended right here, it would actually leave some mystery and question and awe.

Instead, that’s going to be ruined by another two-part movie based on one book. You disgust me, Hollywood.

Bottom line: wait for the DVD. Actually, wait for the RedBox. It is definitely worth the watch from a Redbox. It’s one of those movies that you can be playing games on your phone to, look up and say oh explosions, or oh sex, and then continue on your phone. I’m probably being too harsh. It was good compared to “Divergent.” I’ll leave it at that.

Natalie’s Review-

Around a year ago I gave a fairly good review to the first film of the “Divergent” series. I’m sad to say that its sequel may be a significant factor in the plummeting success of this series. This is disappointing, because I had high hopes for this series’ theatrical adaptation.

Perhaps we can only hope that the third film will redeem the series.

I hate to make the typical comparison to the “Hunger Games” series, but this film reminded me too much of the latest of that series, “Mockingjay: Part 1.” There were several PTSD issues occurring with Tris, the heroine. It didn’t feel as genuine, though.

The film was too dependent on CGI effects and special effects, and those were not even cleanly executed at all times.

Also.. SO MUCH teen angst and whiny teenage romance. I could not handle it for a solid two hours.

This film left me wanting more and with many questions.

For instance... Tris, dear heroine, since you are a fugitive, why is your biggest concern whether or not your boyfriend will like your haircut? And why is your makeup perfectly applied all the time? Aren’t you busy hiding from your government and attempting to stay alive? And dear sweet EVIL Kate Winslet... What happened to sweet Rose of “Titanic” or quirky Clementine of “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind?” You’re such a witch in this series. WHY?

Bottom Line: It is definitely not the strongest of the many young adult film adaptations currently coming out in theatres.. I’d say it’s worth it only if you are a die-hard fan of the series.

TOP 10 BOX OFFICE MOVIES	
	HOME
	GET HARD
	THE DIVERGENT SERIES: INSURGENT
	CINDERELLA
	IT FOLLOWS
	KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE
	DO YOU BELIEVE ?
	RUN ALL NIGHT
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SPORTS

Sam Carel
5 hrs · 🌐

Horrible loss today for the parents of Britten Shuck. Northwestern Oklahoma St baseball freshman infielder, Britten Shuck, lost his life today in a single car accident, as he was coming back to catch the team bus from his home in Seiling this morning. One of the most liked, beloved, and respected teammates I have ever had on any team. His energy was infectious and, as the picture illustrates, his love for his Ranger family was genuine and the love his Ranger family had for him was non-negotiable. RIP brother Shuck. #family

Graphic by Avishek Thapa Magar

Columnist tells how Kentucky will take the title

By **TRAVIS HARMON-SMITH**
Staff Reporter

38 and 0.

If you’re not a Kentucky Wildcat fan during this era of college basketball, you have serious explaining to do.

Well, what needs to be explained?

The fact that Wildcat head coach John Calipari and the University of Kentucky are once again dominating college basketball. Throughout the 2014-15 season, the Wildcats have dominated both SEC and non-conference opponents.

Calipari has built a reputation for recruiting NBA-caliber high school players since he was at the University of Memphis. Calipari’s recruiting strategy over the years has given the collegiate basketball game an entirely different paradigm.

Calipari began his career in 1988 at the University of

Massachusetts, where he coached retired NBA standout Marcus Camby. Calipari stayed at UMass until 1996 before moving to the NBA. During a few years with the New Jersey Nets, Calipari didn’t make much of an impact, which caused him to step down from the professional ranks. While at the University of Memphis, Calipari’s recruiting success resumed; he coached top-ranked prospects and current NBA guards Tyreke Evans and Derrick Rose.

In 2008, the University of Memphis advanced to the national championship game for the first time, falling short 75-68 to the Kansas Jayhawks in overtime. Calipari left the University of Memphis for Kentucky.

Throughout his years there, Calipari has recruited some of the best high school basketball players the nation has ever seen. Former players include

John Wall, Demarcus Cousins, Eric Bledsoe, Patrick Patterson, Terrence Jones, Anthony Davis, Doron Lamb, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, Marquis Teague and Julius Randle. All are now playing in the NBA.

Despite his history of recruiting success,, and this season’s 38-0 record, some may ask if Kentucky is really that good. Earlier in the season, I would have said the Wildcats are a little overrated. But my opinion has changed.

Kentucky has defeated every opponent this season; some defeats were by large margins while some were by small ones. Whether you accept the facts or not, Kentucky’s fast-paced, up-tempo style of play is unmatched against opposing defenses.

Forward Willie Cauley-Stein has been a problem for opponents during this year’s tournament run. I’ve compared Cauley-Stein to former Wildcat standout and NBA player Anthony Davis. Cauley-Stein’s 7-foot frame, along with his incredible leaping ability, makes him the most unstoppable player in this year’s NCAA Tournament. For an individual of his size to run the floor like a guard, while displaying electrifying alley-oop dunks each night and blocking shots to the fifteenth row, he’s the guy I need in my program at this point.

Saturday afternoon during the Final Four, Calipari and the University of Kentucky will take on the Wisconsin Badgers for yet another trip to the national championship game. The Duke

Softball falls to Harding, 3-1

By **NICK VILLALOBOS**
Sports Editor

Northwestern softball suffered a devastating 3-1 series loss over the weekend to Harding.

Day one play began Sunday afternoon against the Bison and wrapped up on Monday in Searcy, Ark.

The Rangers opened the first day with a dominant 7-1 victory in game one only to find themselves falling in game two 8-6.

In the game one win, Rangers Jordan Haya and Allora Miller led the way, going 3-for-2 at the plate. Miller would just edge out her teammate however, as she managed three RBIs with one run, while Haya had two RBIs with one run as well.

Miller would start the scoring off early in the matchup as she fired a three-run home run in the first inning. The RBI for Haya came in the next inning as she connected for a single, which drove in teammate Stephanie Couser.

Ranger Madison McGraw would single in the third inning, which scored two more runs.

The scoring for the Rangers ended in the fourth as Haya would connect for a two-run home run to push the Rangers to a 7-0 lead.

The Bison would finally

tack one on the board in the sixth inning, but it would not be enough to come back on the Rangers as Northwestern took game one 7-1.

In game two of the day, the Rangers found themselves on the short end of a back-and-forth scoring affair. After falling to an 8-4 deficit late in the contest, the Rangers unfortunately could only close to within two of the Bison before the final out was recorded, leaving them with an 8-6 loss in game two.

In day two of the four-game series, the Rangers could not get any offense going as they only managed one run total against the Bison in both games.

In game one Monday, the Rangers were shut out 3-0.

In game two, the Rangers managed to tack on a run after Haya crossed the plate on a fielding error by the Bison.

Despite the lone run by Haya, the damage was already done to the Rangers as Harding opened the contest with eight runs in the first inning and seven more in the following innings leaving the Rangers at a 15-1 loss in game four of the series.

The Rangers will be back in action tonight against Arkansas Tech at the Alva Sports Complex beginning at 4 p.m. and tomorrow at 2 p.m.

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Blue Devils will face the Spartans of Michigan State.

Here’s my final tournament prediction: I’ll give Wisconsin the benefit; they’ll probably give the Wildcats a run for their money. However, the Badgers cannot handle Kentucky’s pace.

On the other side, Duke will annihilate the Spartans.

The national championship game will be between the Kentucky Wildcats and the Duke Blue Devils. No bracket busters coming my way!

It’s Showtime! Go Wildcats!

SPORTS

Second annual memorial bronc ride honors a fallen rider; Rider wins back-to-back titles

By SARAH OTTO
Staff Reporter

The second annual Rylee Miller Memorial Ranch Bronc Riding has wrapped up.

Miller was a Northwestern student from Brookville, Kans., and a member of the rodeo team. She ran barrels at college rodeos but also competed in ranch rodeos in her spare time. Her father was a bronc rider, so they shared a love for bronc riding together. Miller died in a car wreck on Jan. 14, 2013, but left behind an unforgettable legacy.

Her boyfriend for three years, James Hajek, is a Northwestern alumnus. He also shared a love for bucking stock and was heavily involved in helping with the

Northwestern rodeo team’s rough stock practices. He currently is a pick-up man at rodeos, and also runs his family’s ranch. He has a busy work schedule, but hasn’t let that stop him from keeping Miller’s memory alive. Hajek has put on two memorial ranch bronc ridings in her memory, and they have both been successes.

Hajek said, “It means everything to me to put this on. She had a love for ranching and rodeos that was beyond anything I could fathom. The bronc riding fits so well because of her love for it. I kept it in the family, with her dad and uncle as judges.”

This year the rodeo had 30 male entries, along with five female entries.

Hajek got sentimental while talking about Miller, and the strong connection

they had. He explained that they were dating, but seemed to be much more than that. He said that they had their lives planned out together, and were respecting her parents’ wish to wait for her to graduate before she got engaged. Hajek said, “She left behind that you can be a lady, and also a tough cowgirl. She could be a trophy wife in a dress one minute, then be in jeans, boots and a hat working cattle the next.”

Jennifer Pollmiller, a Littleton, Colo., native, is a Northwestern alumna and also a former member of the rodeo team. Pollmiller said, “Rylee became one of my good friends when I first came to school here. She always had a smile on her face, and was more than willing to help anybody and everybody. James has always dedicated

a lot to this event and does a great job remembering her and her legacy.”

This year, Shelby Long from Canton, Okla., won the men’s division and Maddie Banta from Ramona, Okla., won the women’s division. Both champions of the weekend weren’t extremely close to Miller, but are both very good friends with Hajek.

Long, who grew up on his grandfather’s ranch, was pleased with his weekend, in a sense. “I had a great ride in the short round, but unfortunately I hung up my right stirrup. I broke my leg after the bronc drug me a couple jumps. I scored a 78, and won the bronc riding,” Long said with a smile. “The Good Lord was watching over me, and I got out of my stirrup. I had surgery and am now recovering.” Long broke one

bone clean and also spiral broke another bone in his leg. Although Long’s weekend resulted in a broken leg, it was an honor for him to win the bronc riding.” He said, “It means a whole bunch to win this year. Last year, I didn’t draw very good and didn’t get to make the short round.”

Banta works for /U Ranch in Skiatook, Okla., and said, “It was really cool to win the first annual last year, but winning it two years in a row, made it really awesome. I competed against a great group of ladies. James makes the event very special because everybody can tell how much it means to him.”

There has also been a \$2,000 scholarship set up in Miller’s memory. Hajek said that he is hoping to expand the scholarship and set up another one in the future.

Rangers fall to the Tigers; Split series with Hillcats

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Sports Editor

Northwestern baseball fell to Ouachita Baptist in a three-game series over the weekend.

Day one play against the Tigers began for the Rangers in Arkadelphia, Ark. Friday afternoon.

In game one, both Matt Benn and Jason Freeman would lead the way for the Rangers offense. Benn would finish the day going 2-for-4 with one run, two RBIs and one homerun. Freeman was close behind as he collected three hits, one RBI and one triple.

As play began in game one of the series, the Rangers fell to an early 1-0 deficit. They managed to tie it up at 1-1 with a Freeman RBI triple, however, that would score teammate Logan Porter.

The Tigers would soon pull away though, as in the following innings they managed to add on three more runs, giving them a 4-1 lead.

In the eighth inning, Benn would spark a late charge by the Rangers, as he hit a two-run homerun, closing them to within two of the Tigers.

The Tigers would add on another run in the bottom of the eighth inning, pushing their lead to 6-3 and ultimately silencing the Rangers in game one.

In day two of play, the Rangers again found themselves on the short end of the contests in both games to close out the series.

In game two of the series, the Rangers were unable to get any offense going as the Tigers shut them out 8-0.

In game three of the series, the Tigers continued to pour on the runs and finish

off the Rangers.

The lone run for the Rangers in game three came in the fourth inning from an RBI double by Benn, which scored teammate Jeff Martin.

After the early score from the Rangers, the Tigers would run away from with the rest of the game, eventually winning 6-1 over Northwestern.

The Rangers next faced non-conference opponent Rogers State Tuesday afternoon.

Northwestern fell in game one to the Hillcats 4-1 but managed to get the 11-0 shutout in game two.

With the series loss to the Tigers and the draw to the Hillcats, the Rangers now move to 14-18 on the

season and 6-12 in GAC play.

The Rangers will be back in action Friday night at home in Myers Stadium beginning at 7 p.m., as well as Saturday beginning at noon as they face conference foe Henderson State.

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