

## Enrollment numbers dwindle

By CAITLYN PRAY  
Student Reporter

For freshmen, that first semester of college is really a make-it-or-break-it trial run.

Some students bounce back once the new year starts, but for others, they never quite make it back after Christmas break.

“In many cases, one in three first-year students or more won’t make it back for sophomore year,” U.S. News said. “The reasons run the gamut from family problems and loneliness to academic struggles and a lack of money.” Whatever reason there may be for students returning to college for a second year, statistics also show that the dropping out usually shows over the course of Christmas break. Jasmine Seevers, a sophomore crop and soil sciences major at Langston University, says the pressure of college is what drove her to leave after her first semester at Northwestern.

“I personally felt overwhelmed going into the whole college experience,” Seevers said. “Winning Miss Cinderella, I knew I had to maintain good grades, but I was given a pretty large amount

of class work that was giving me so much anxiety and stress. Even walking to my classes would make my heart race because I’d think, ‘Is there something I’m forgetting or not getting done?’ Ultimately, it was just too much, so with the help of my family, I made the hard decision to leave college, the path that everyone says will make you succeed in life. After that, I took a year off which helped me really focus on what I want to do for the rest of my life. Northwestern was definitely a new beginning for me, however, it wasn’t the right one. However, I can proudly say a family back in Alva, growing up around that town and the scholarships received, Northwestern is still a college that wants to make you feel like you’re one of their own.”

Although Northwestern has a retention rate that is notably higher than average and overall good according to student success coordinator Andrea Lauderdale, no college or university—not even Columbia, Stanford or Harvard—is without this problem.

“You know, I think that’s kind of an ongoing issue for colleges in general,” Lauderdale said, referring to spring enrollment being lower than the previous



Photo by Caitlyn Pray

Northwestern has a retention rate that is notably higher than average.

semester, “I’ve looked recently at a list of retention rates for colleges from the fall, and a majority of them are down; that’s just the way it is. We are not down as much as many of the other colleges. I know we’re doing

okay. Even though the numbers have gone down and it might look a little scary, it’s not. I feel like it’s a trend—a state-wide trend. We’re not in bad shape.”

Recent numbers from the University Relations office prove

this point. Northwestern appears to be tightening the gap between number of students in the fall to spring

See **DECLINE** pg. 2

## Campus art show portrays the talents of its people



Photos by Megan Brown

The art could be made by students, employees, retired employees and alumni.



All artwork that earns an award in this show will be moved to the Winners’ Show that will take place in downtown Alva during the First Friday Art Walk April 5 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Runnymede Hotel.

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# News

## Decline in enrollment is common

“As far as strategies go, we’re trying to incentivize enrollment, which we’re needing ideas for that too.”

Continued from pg. 1...

semester. In 2015, statistics showed approximately 200 students did not enroll in the spring semester for various reasons, while in recent years that number for dropping out has dwindled at approximately 30 to 40.

The 30 to 40 students still remain vastly important to Northwestern, though, and for Lauderdale she will do all in her power to help students succeed and return at Northwestern.

“I want them [students] to come to me so we can solve the problem before they feel like they have to leave,” Lauderdale said. “I work with some students who are struggling, or wondering where they can get help for something, or they’re not liking something and they’re thinking about transferring, and in each case I want them to contact me first. I’m not going to make them stay or necessarily change their mind, I just want to solve the problem before they leave. That’s a retention strategy that we’re picking up is just sort of personalized retention, because I don’t want to do across-the-board lectures or whatever. If you have a question

or a concern, I want the student to come talk to me so we can solve it before it reaches the point that they feel like they have nowhere else to turn and they just have to leave.”

Despite Lauderdale’s personal dedication to her students and their success, not all students take her up on her invitation to help or enroll without a hitch, and thus Lauderdale has also placed retention strategies in place.

“As far as strategies go, we’re trying to incentivize enrollment, which we’re needing ideas for that too. We’re trying things like Free Food Fridays which we tried last fall, and is where you show your proof of enrollment slip and get free food—just things that gets kids out and encourage them to turn their enrollment slips in rather than them trying to get them in at the last minute. We’re hoping that will then help us gauge better what our numbers look like instead of waiting until the semester starts and enrolling, which makes it hard on us to know who to talk to or try to go after. Also, we’re trying to get reasons from the kids that don’t come back. We try to talk to them and track them down and figure out



Photo provided

Fall Enrollment Day in October of 2009 and the line of students waiting to get into Herod Hall in the early morning.

why, so if we can help to get them back we do.”

Looking forward, Lauderdale said they are already on the ball for fall 2019 enrollment that will

open soon.

“On enrollment day we’re doing the food truck theme again,” Lauderdale said. “We have food trucks come to campus on March

26, which is just another way of incentivizing enrollment on that day, and to get people outside and to enjoy some different food.”

## The era of celebrity candidates - why do they run?

By LOGAN JONES  
Student Reporter

Is it too early to announce a presidential election run?

The United States is still a good two years away from its next election; however, this does not deter the future potential candidates.

According to ballotpedia.org, as of Feb 18, 537 candidates have filed with the Federal Election Commission to run in the 2020 presidential election. This includes 184 Democratic candidates, 69 Republican candidates, 19 Libertarian candidates and 14 Green candidates.

While this may seem like an absurdly large number, experts, such as Dr. Aaron Mason, a political science professor at Northwestern Oklahoma State, say this is just public perception.

“Due to ballot access laws, most of candidates will never get close to primary or caucus ballots,” he explained. Of the large number of people who have filed with the FEC, about six big names

stand out, Mason said. Those big names include the likes of Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-Calif.

According to the FEC.gov website, the running candidates must register with the Federal Election Commission once they either receive contributions or make expenditures over \$5,000. Within 15 days of reaching the \$5,000 threshold, they must file a Statement of Candidacy, authorizing a principal campaign committee to raise and spend funds on their behalf. Within 10 days of that filing, the principal campaign committee must submit a Statement of Organization. From then on, the campaign will report its receipts and disbursements back to the FEC on a regular basis.

Despite the current number of registered candidates, a vast majority of them are not expected to last.

“I see it as a two-year election cycle, like an ‘exploratory era,’” Mason said. “A lot of work goes into a two-year long campaign.”

Mason went on to add that people starting their campaigns now may end up dropping out of the race around June or July of next year. However, even with

large numbers expected to drop out, Mason still expects to see a healthy number of serious candidates in the summer of 2020.

“It’s not crowded yet, but I do expect more in the future,” Mason said. “It’s too early to tell, but if I had to guess, I would say there will be around 10 to 15 candidates.”

It is not uncommon for the political party out of office to have a large number of candidates run for

the party nomination.

During the primaries of the 2016 presidential election, 12 Republican candidates were still running, including Sens. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and Marco Rubio, R-Fla., former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee and Dr. Ben Carson.

Even with President Donald Trump announcing his run for re-election back in January of 2017, the Republican party can still back a different candidate for the 2020 election, although it is unlikely, Mason said. One thing that is interesting is the emergence of “famous” or “celebrity” candidates. See CELEBRITY pg. 8

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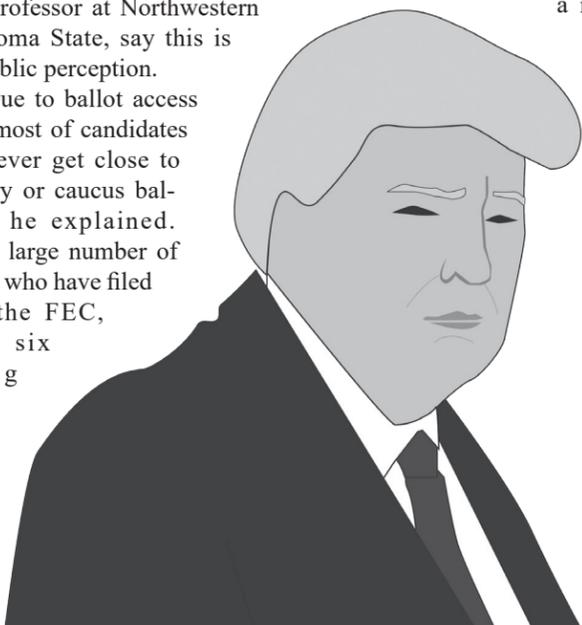
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# News

## What's up?

### Regional Science Fair

March 11

Tentative Schedule:

9:00 – 11:00 AM  
Registration (Student Center Wyatt Room)

10:00 – 11:30 AM  
Project setup (Division I in Student Center Ranger Room; Division II in Student Center Ballroom)

12:00 – 2:00 PM  
Judging (teachers cannot be present)

2:00 – 3:00 PM  
Overall judging (students and teachers cannot be present)

5:00 – 5:30 PM  
Project takedown

6:00 – 7:30 PM  
Awards (in Student Center Ballroom)

### Career & Internship Fair

Northwestern Career Services is hosting an on-campus Career and Internship Fair that is FREE for all students, alumni, and job seekers to attend!

March 11

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Burgers and Baseball

SGA will be serving hamburgers at the home baseball game at Myers Family Stadium.

March 12

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Band Concert

Band concert in Herod Hall Auditorium.

March 10

2 p.m.

### Spanish Club/Sigma Delta Pi Movie Night

Spanish Club and Sigma Delta Pi are playing "ROMA," the 2019 Oscar-winner for Best Foreign Language Film.

March 12

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Speed Friendshipping

Similar to the concept of speed dating, however for friendships! All students are welcome to attend this free event in Student Center Ballroom.

March 13  
7 p.m.

## Employees take on Campus Cabinet pushup challenge



Photo screen-shots from NWOSU Facebook

The J.R. Holder Wellness Center employees deliver their pushups for the 246 items collected to help fill the shelves of the Campus Cabinet.

J.R. Holder Wellness Center staff delivered 246 items to the Campus Cabinet Food Pantry after food drive!

If YOU would like to have a food drive to benefit the Campus Cabinet, just let us know!  
CampusCabinet@nwosu.edu

If you have an event that you would like featured on our "What's Up?" section, just contact us at [nwnews@nwosu.edu](mailto:nwnews@nwosu.edu).

Include date, time and a short summary.

**Attention all Ranger Students!**

Community Rewards Cards are now available at any of three locations:

- Ampride
- Ranger Mart
- Lite N Nite

See cashier inside to get started earning points! it also benefits the schools in Alva!

Want an ad? Email us at [nwnews@nwosu.edu](mailto:nwnews@nwosu.edu). Our smallest ad size is only \$6.00 per issue!

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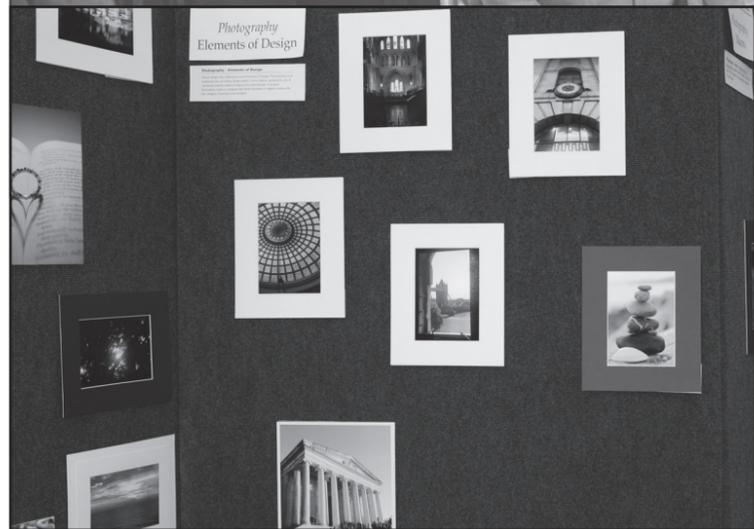
# Campus

## Annual art show is now open



Photos by Megan Brown and Michelle Wilson

The entries are in and the artwork has been submitted – it's time for the 16th annual Northwestern Oklahoma State University Art Society Art Show. The show will take place March 3-29 in the J.W. Martin Library on the Alva campus and will be open during the library's regular business hours.



### Campus club of the week

## Diversity throughout campus - NWOSU's ISA

By SHANNON NESSERALLA  
Student Reporter

At Northwestern you can find a wide variety of students from different countries that have decided to further their education here. Northwestern is currently home to 46 international students from 19 different countries. The International Student Association is a club that is open to all students

enrolled at NWOSU. The associations main focus is to help educate students on international cultures that are represented on campus. Many international students come together to not only inform students on campus but also off campus as well. One of the clubs biggest events is the Festival of Cultures, which they put on every April. This event allows

students and the public to come together for a night and enjoy food and performances from another country. This year the festival is scheduled for Friday, April 5, from 5-7 in the Student Center ballroom. Tickets may be purchased at Fine Arts 126 until the day of the event. Ages 13 and up are \$10, ages 4-12 and NWOSU student are \$5 and children three and under are free.

Tickets may also be bought at the door for an additional \$2 added to the original price.



Photo provided

Festival of Cultures 2011. This year the festival is scheduled for Friday April 5, from 5-7 in the Student Center ballroom.

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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 Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwsu.edu. 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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Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

# Editorial

## Global warming effects

By: MEGAN MAHARRY  
*Sports Editor*

Christmases in Minnesota are usually white Christmases.

Winter holidays spent in Minnesota usually consist of piles of white, fluffy snow covering the ground. Children, and even some adults, spend hours outside, sledding, building forts, having snowball fights. School days were rarely cancelled because there was nothing unusual about the freezing temperature and mountains of snow.

In recent years, the temperature and snow accumulation have declined in Minnesota. Every decade, the winter temperature in Minnesota has grown by a degree and a half. Between the months of December and February—typically Minnesota's coldest months—the temperature has risen nearly one degree per decade since the 1970s.

Minnesota climate is not the only place to experience changes. Global warming is affecting many areas of the world, causing glaciers to melt, sea levels to rise, forests to die and harming animals.

There are many factors to consider in global warming. There are some environmental factors that play a part in global warming and are caused naturally. Natural events such as volcanic eruptions and weather patterns like El Nino

play a role in affecting climate change. These events only account for approximately two percent to the recent warming effect.

The rest comes from human-caused factors, mostly by releasing heat-trapping gases as we go about our daily lives.

While levels of greenhouse gases have altered throughout Earth's history, scientists are discovering within the past century humans are now enhancing the greenhouse effect and warming the Earth significantly.

National Geographic said humans have increased the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by more than a third since the Industrial Revolution. Changes that have historically taken thousands of years are now happening over the course of decades.

Global warming affects sea levels. A study in National Geographic predicts by 2050, sea levels will rise between one and 2.3 feet as glaciers melt.

In an article in Life Science, the National Snow and Ice Data Center conducted a study that said there is now 10 percent less permafrost, or permanently frozen ground, in the Northern Hemisphere than there was in the early 1900s.

Ice in the Arctic Sea has hit an all time low in the past couple years.

The sizes of glaciers have decreased immensely. In a U.S. Geological Study, only 25 glaciers

bigger than 25 acres are now found in Montana's Glacier National Park, where about 150 glaciers were once found.

Rapid change in climate also harms wildlife. While the climate is changing so rapidly, animals and plants are struggling to adapt quick enough to the new conditions. Animals are having trouble migrating as the change of climate is faster than they are able to migrate.

In a 2013 report by the journal of Natural Climate Change, if effects of global warming are unchecked, it will likely contribute to the disappearance of up to one-half of Earth's plants and one-third of animals from their current range by 2080.

It is also predicted weather will become more extreme. Major storms, too much rain and long periods of drought will be a challenge humans and wildlife with have to face.

Global warming is happening more rapidly than many people are willing to admit. To help slow the process, we can change minor things in our lifestyle: power homes with renewable energy, reduce water waste, drive fuel-efficient vehicles and buy better light bulbs.

Only one Earth exists, and to help maintain its environment is important.

Minnesota deserves to continue to have its very snowy winters.

### EDITOR'S RANT OF THE WEEK

By ASHLEY STREHL  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Hello, it's me. I'm back and better than ever with my somewhat unoriginal ideas.

This week I wanted to talk about/ show you all something I think we can all relate to. So, every day, almost every one of my social media platforms brings about "memories" which are posts that I shared exactly one year ago on that day. For some reason I was allowed access to social media when I was like, 12, and I posted some pretty cringey stuff.

Sometimes these things make me laugh, and sometimes, they make me cringe, bad. So here are my best cringiest posts from when I was a delinquent annoying middle-schooler/ high-schooler.

**1. I think I'm tough.**



**2. I was 12 and I thought the Facebook status bar was the search bar...**



**3. "Diss-add" me!**



**4. Yes... a true life hack**



Lets just say, I don't post much anymore. I've learned to just keep my mouth shut,

**"Unfortunately, most of our politicians are ignorant of these proposals"**

*Jacob Marie  
The Daily Campus  
University of Connecticut*

**"...it's the perfect time to contact city officials and have your voices heard — just make sure they're not too loud, or you might be cited for unruly behavior."**

*Taylor Nguyen  
The Review  
University of Delaware*

**Interested in writing?  
Share your opinions!**

**Contact Michelle Willson**

**mdwillson99@rangers.nwsu.edu**

# Religion on Campus

## Why or why not are students going to church?

By **BRYANT VENOSDEL**  
Student Reporter

It is Sunday morning, you just woke up and are ready to spend the day playing, but before you can do that you hear your parents say "get ready for church."

This is something that has surely been said to most everyone when they were growing up and living with their parents, but now that college students are grown up and for the majority away from home, has that made the majority of students stop going to church in general?

On Northwestern's campus, it has shown that the majority of students did grow up regularly attending church, but now that they are in college it is seen that they do not regularly attend church anymore, so there must be some reason, what is it?

Looking at Northwestern's campus, there are some main reasons as to why students are not attending church. One problem that a student was vocal about is that they are not from Alva and don't feel at ease just popping into any church. "I'm not from this town, so I don't feel like I'm able to go to any church and feel comfortable with it," Ashley Sellers said, a senior at NWOSU.

Looking at a survey that was conducted on campus, 65 percent of students said they did grow up regularly attending church. But now it is on the other end of the spectrum, with 60 percent of students not currently attending church.

Dr. Wilson Tyree is a professor at Northwestern and a pastor at the College Hill Church of Christ who has also published books discussing topics about the Bible and religion.

"There is so many other things that grabs a student," Tyree said. "Take a young couple that's living together: they've got each other to think about, they've got jobs to think about and they've got class to think about."

With the juggling of activities that all students do, it seems going to church and expressing their religious beliefs are on the back burner. Most students do not think it is necessary to go to church to have to be religious.

"I grew up with my parents going to church and once I got into college I was into sports and didn't have much time to go to church," said Trevor Johnson, a senior at NWOSU. "I'd say I am religious, I have many friends that are very religious."

Friends have an impact on each other's lives and the topic of religion can make or break friendships. In the campus wide survey that was conducted, 40 percent of students said their friends are religious and when asked if they think most college kids are religious, only 8 percent said yes.

The numbers reflect that we look at our friends in a light that shows them being religious, but when looking at the college as a whole it is believed the average student is not.

Although the number of college students attending church is dropping it is also the young adult generation as a whole that has been not attending church. "It is not just the college group," Tyree said. "The young adults attending have dropped off by several percentage points, the longer you don't go to church the easier it is to not keep going."

Students attending NWOSU are for the majority comfortable expressing their religious beliefs. In the survey, 65 percent of students said they were comfortable being able to express their religious beliefs on campus and just 9 percent said they were not. "We co-exist really well," Tyree said.

"The ones who are not believers don't criticize openly the ones who are religious and the ones who are don't criticize those who aren't."

Co-existing is a big part of being in college and interacting with other classmates. According to the Atlantic in an article titled "Why College Students Are Losing Their Religion," it is seen in a different view. Their take is that college students are starting to realize that perhaps their behavior regarding religion was based on pressure from their communities, parents and friends.

Now that the average college student has moved on into a role in their life, where they are away from all these factors and able to realize what is important to them or what they want to focus on for themselves, religion is not something that seems too important.

The campus life experience for students attending Northwestern Oklahoma State are going to be different than a student who is attending the University of Oklahoma or Oklahoma State University. These colleges are much larger and attract a bigger range of people from different walks of life to attend. With the bigger colleges, you are more likely to see different gatherings and events that are church or religion oriented.

Inside Higher Ed. has published an article discussing religion on campus titled "Declining Exposure to Religious Diversity." In their article it was discovered that college students will less likely interact with students who have differing religious views as they do.

In the survey conducted, it is seen that students do not feel embarrassed talking about or expressing their religious beliefs on campus, which is a good thing, but students are not actually doing the action of expressing these beliefs, which might in turn make sense to why students are not interacting with students of other beliefs because they are not actually having conversations expressing their own beliefs.

"It is kind of a balance of both," Johnson said. "You don't like to hang out with somebody who doesn't believe in the same religion, because it has a big impact on you."

The balance being that you must be open minded to people with other beliefs that differ from yours, but

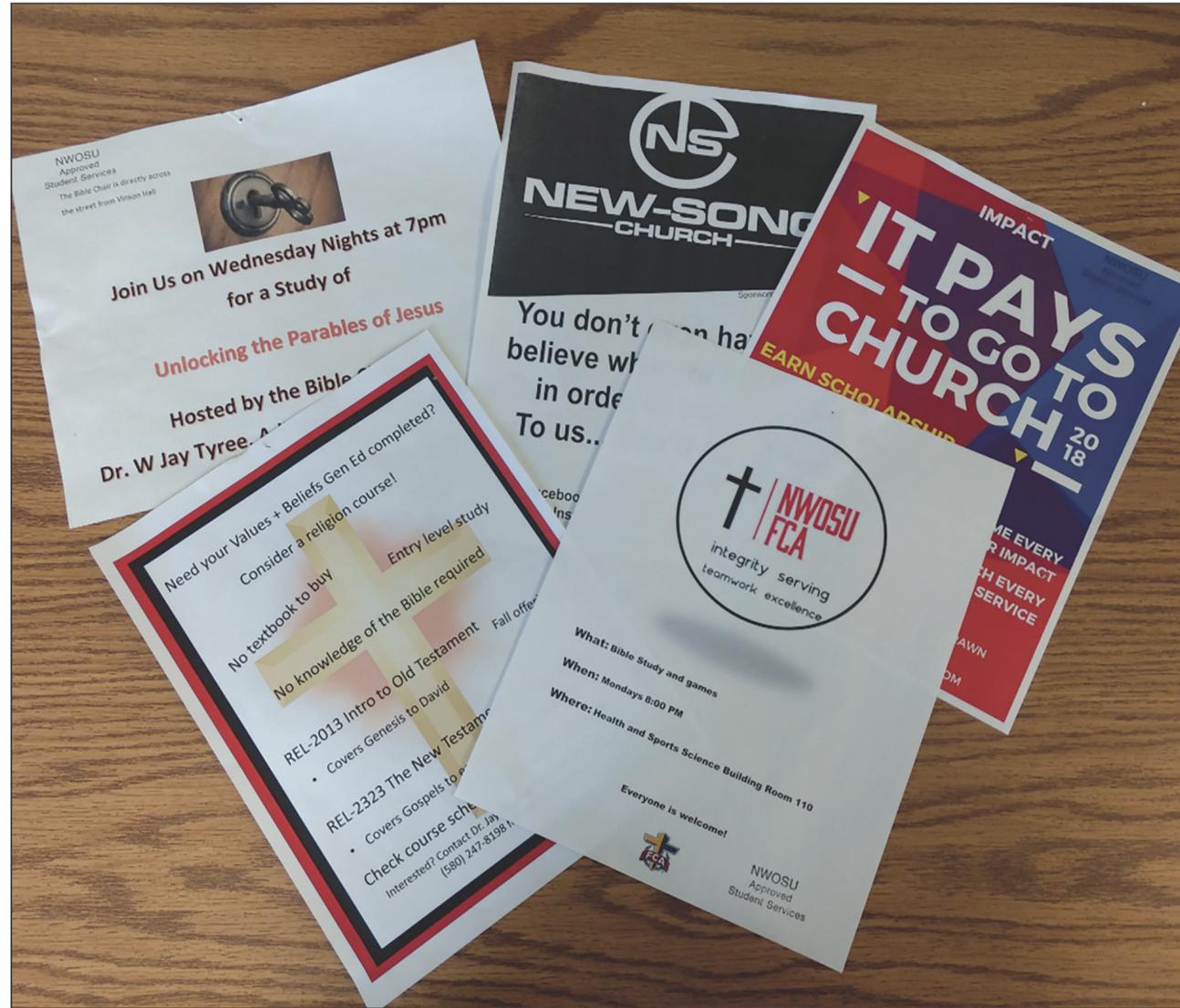
at the same time it can be spiritually draining if all the interactions that a student is having is with someone with a differing religious belief.

According to Inside Higher Ed.'s article, they found that "43 percent of students said they had talked about religious or spiritual topics with their teachers before college, but that number dropped by 18 percentage points in their first year on campus." Students haven't stopped talking to their teachers they have just stopped talking about religion, which is something Dr. Tyree sees. "Occasionally, not real often, I'll have a student pull me aside and want to talk to a preacher," Tyree said.

There are an endless number of reasons that the average college student can come up with for not attending their chosen religions church. Straying from your faith might not seem like a big deal in college, since there are so many other things happening, if a student does want to go it needs to be for themselves and not their family or peers.

As college students are getting ready to prepare themselves to take the next step in life, it will be easier and easier to stray away from religious beliefs. If a student has been veering off the path and not been going to church as often as they think they should, then there is no time better than the present to get back involved.

And if you are not religious then that's OK too, college is a place for discussions and opening up to new ideas, as Dr. Tyree said, "Jesus didn't come to build religion, he came to build relationships."



Informational church and worship organization flyers posted around campus to inform students on events coming up, churches to go to and places to worship

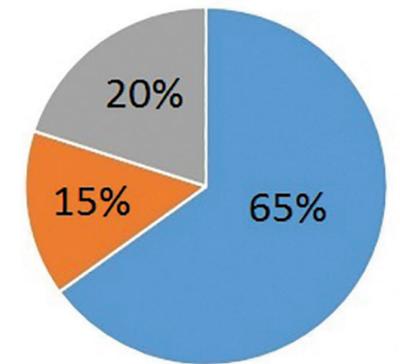
Photo by Bryant Venosdel



People placing their hands on a bible to get ready to pray

Photo provided

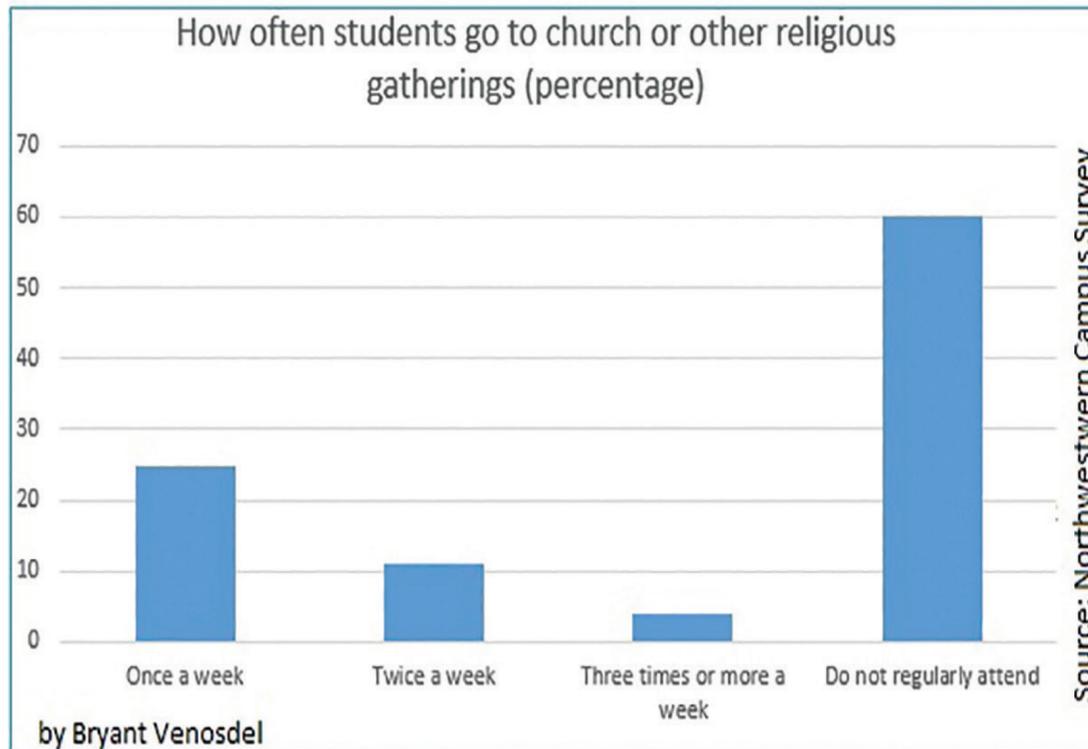
Students who regularly attended church as children



Children that grew up regularly attending church  
Children that did not regularly attend church  
Children that somewhat attended church

Source: Northwestern Campus Survey

by Bryant Venosdel



by Bryant Venosdel

Source: Northwestern Campus Survey



A scenic walkway and a gazebo to sit and relax, visit with people or worship at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Alva

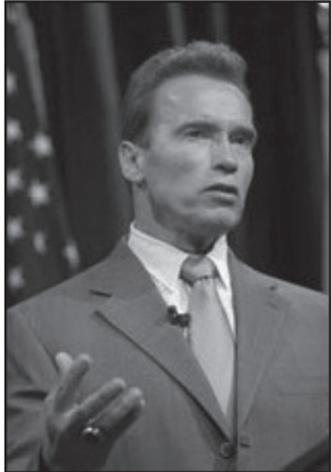
Photot by Bryant Venosdel

# Feature

## Celebrity candidates CONT.

Continued from pg. 2...

This is not the first time people of recognition have spent their time in public office. Perhaps the most recent is actor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who was the governor of California from 2003 to 2011. Other examples include the likes of retired professional wrestler Jesse Ventura, who served as the 38<sup>th</sup> governor of Minnesota from 1999 to 2003, and singer Sonny Bono, who was a California congressman from 1995 to 1998.



“Name recognition is key,” Mason said. “What people perceive is their reality in politics.”

Perhaps people are getting this from a reality-show state of mind that they see so much of on social media and television. With big celebrity names such as Dwayne Johnson and Kanye West contemplating their own presidential campaigns, it is not out of the realm of possibility.

“An important question that the Democrats need to answer is ‘do we want a progressive, far-left candidate or a safer, moderate candidate?’”

Mason said. In the 2016 presidential election, the Democratic party went with the more moderate Hilary Clinton. “She is left of center on the political spectrum, but she is not as progressive as some of the other Democrats such as Bernie Sanders,” Mason said.

Steven Deckard, a senior criminal justice major, said he is against these celebrity candidates. “I just don’t think that they know enough about the ins and outs of politics and how to effectively run it,” Deckard said. “For example, compare

Oprah and Donald Trump. Both may have successful businesses under their names, but Oprah acts more as an investor than a business owner. She didn’t build the business herself. Trump, on the other hand, built his businesses from the ground up and made them profitable.”

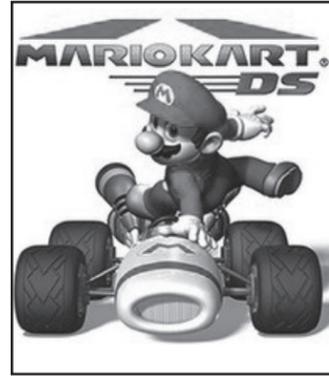
Whether an influx of celebrity candidates who run for political office will occur in the future, only time will tell, but the trends of the government are not set in stone.

“The presidency is an evolving institution,” Mason said. “We might be coming up on the age of the celebrity race, and I don’t know if that’s good or not for the country, but it seems to be where we are headed.”

The United States government was founded on the premise that the people are capable of governing themselves. This has come to be known as the American experiment. “We either survive on that principle or we fall on that principle,” Mason said. “The American government is an experiment, an ongoing experiment, and I hope it continues to prosper.”

## Mar.10

### Editors Picks: Favorite Mario games

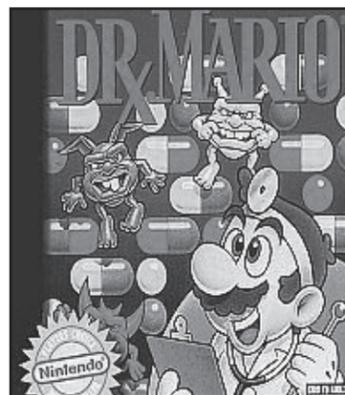


**Ashley Strehl**  
Mario Kart DS.  
“As a kid, my friends and I would play it together. It was always a good time and I knew all the short cuts on each map.”

**McKayla Holson**  
Mario Kart Wii  
“I would spend hours playing with my family. My sister was absolutely awful at Rainbow Road so we’d play that map over and over again. It is just a lot of fun.”



**Michelle Willson**  
Dr. Mario on the Nintendo NES  
“Dr. Mario is one of the games that my whole family enjoys. It is a way we bond with each other. Though my mom can easily beat all of us.”



**Megan Maharry**  
Mario Kart Wii  
“I love playing Mario Kart on the wii especially with a big group of people.”



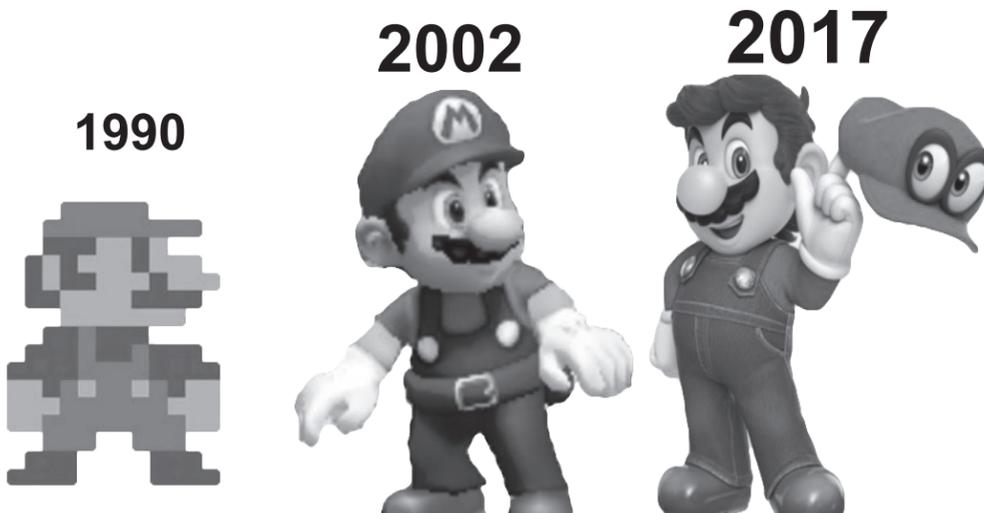
## National Mario Day March 10

# The plumber that stole our hearts

By MICHELLE WILLSON  
Feature/Entertainment Editor

March 10 is National Mario Day. It was dedicated as such because when the date is abbreviated to Mar.10 the 10 looks like an ‘io’ finishing out the name “Mario”.

The beloved plumber first appeared in an arcade game of Donkey Kong in 1981 as jumpman and quickly rose to fame, said IGN.com. He was renamed a year later in Donkey Kong Jr. The Nintendo Entertainment System (NES) was Nintendo’s first U.S. home videogame console. It was released in 1985 with Mario starring in Super Mario Brothers, Super Mario Brothers No. 2 and 3. The evolution of Mario shows how much technology has advanced over the recent years.



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# Entertainment



## Fascination with superheroes

By **KEVIN FORD**  
*Student Reporter*

“I like Captain America for his hard work and his patriotism,” senior health and sports science major Brycen McClendon from Pampa, Texas said Tuesday. McClendon expressed his excitement for the upcoming Captain Marvel movie. News for superhero fans: that movie premieres Friday nationwide.

According to boxofficemojo.com, eight of the top 20 all time grossing movies are superhero movies from Marvel Cinematic Universe or DC universe. The top 20 movies all have grossed over 1 billion dollars worldwide. The charts for superheroes have skyrocketed significantly since the end of the 2000s. Superheroes have

become larger than life figures due to their impact on young children and pop culture popularity. What makes the Marvel Cinematic Universe so successful is the quality of their movies. When a series of movies improve upon the original, it is evident to gain more and more support as to suspect why the box office numbers are so high. These movies are not just for kids, but for the entire family and valuable life lessons can be learned whether an adult, elder or a child.

McClendon mentioned how he actually prefers DC movies over Marvel movies. “To be honest, I think Captain Marvel is going to be good, but I am more looking forward to Shazaam,” he said. “I like the Marvel movies, but I am a bigger fan of the DC universe and in

particular Batman.” Batman has a blue collar work ethic, one that all people should strive to have, McClendon said.

Superheroes allow for kids to grow up with an inspiring role model. “I think as young kids, we look at superheroes and dream of saving the world,” said Erick Cook, senior psychology major from Pensacola, Florida. Cook is a big fan of Superman and enjoys the superhero movies, despite not being all caught up with the latest. “I like Marvel and DC, but I don’t really keep up with the latest movies or none of that,” Cook said.

In the latest entry to MCU, Captain Marvel features a female lead played by Brie Larson. Nick Fury, played by Samuel L. Jackson, returns to the screen as well. Fans have been buzzing about the new

spin, having a female lead. This is huge. Other fans of MCU are looking past this movie and just looking over the horizon for the next Avengers film.

Shazaam may also spark a lot of attention for a bunch of fans as well. “Not too thrilled for the upcoming Captain Marvel, but Shazaam on the other hand looks pretty cool,” McClendon said.

McClendon’s favorite superhero movie is the Dark Knight from 2008. This Oscar winning spectacle featured Christian Bale as Batman and the late great Heath Ledger as the Joker.

“I love the Joker, he makes that movie totally worth it,” McClendon said. It is interesting to see which superhero movie is next to crack the billion dollar worldwide grossing mark for this calendar year.

### What’s New on Netflix

#### March 7

Doubt  
The Order

#### March 8

After Life  
Bangkok Love Stories: Hey You  
Bangkok Love Stories: Innocence  
Blue Jasmine  
Formula 1: Drive to Survive  
Hunter X Hunter  
Immortals  
Juanita  
Lady J (FR)  
Shadow

Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams  
The Jane Austen Book Club  
Walk. Ride. Rodeo.

#### March 12

Jimmy Carr: The Best of Ultimate Gold Greatest Hits  
Terrace House: Opening New Doors: Part 6

#### March 13

Triple Frontier

#### March 15

A Separation  
Arrested Development: Season 5 B  
Burn Out (FR)  
Dry Martina (AR)  
Girl (BE)  
If I Hadn’t Met You  
Kung Fu Hustle  
Las Muñecas de la Mafia: Season 2  
Love, Death & Robots  
Paskal (MY)  
Queer Eye: Season 3  
Robozuna: Season 2  
The Lives of Others  
Turn Up Charlie  
YooHoo to the Rescu

## Today’s Top 10 Hits:

- Shallow – Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper
- 7 Rings – Ariana Grande
- Without Me – Halsey
- Sunflower – Post Malone and Swae Lee
- Middle Child – J. Cole
- Happier – Marshmello and Bastille
- Thank U, Next – Ariana Grande
- Wow. – Post Malone
- Thotina – Blue Face
- Sicko Mode – Travis Scott

# Sports

## Lady Rangers set to compete in GAC Tournament

By **LOGAN JONES**  
Assist. Sports Editor

For the first time since joining the Great American Conference back in 2012, the Northwestern women's basketball team is going to the conference tournament.

"It's awesome," said freshman Katelyn Schieber. "Whenever you get to do something for the first time in school history, it means a lot."

The Lady Rangers finished the 2018-19 regular season with a 12-17 overall record and a conference record of 9-13, good enough for the eighth seed in the GAC tournament.

After starting the season playing .500 basketball through their first ten games, the red and black seemed to run into a wall, losing eight of their next.

However, the ladies kicked it into high gear as they finished the season winning five of their remaining ten games.

The Lady Rangers are led by head coach, Tasha Diesselhorst, who is in her third year as head coach of the women's squad.

In her previous two years at Northwestern, the Lady Rangers narrowly missed the conference tournament in 2017 and 2018, finishing in ninth place both times.



Photo Provided.

The Lady Rangers face rivals Southwestern Oklahoma State University tonight at 5:45 p.m. in Bartlesville.

Led by redshirt-junior, Kalea King and freshman, Bailey Brown, the Lady Rangers not only exceeded expectations but broke records as well.

Brown broke the school record for rebounds with 26 in a game against Southeastern Oklahoma State. Similarly, King and Jade

Jones recorded their 1,000 collegiate points this season.

With the majority of the team comprised of mostly of freshman and sophomores, this relatively young Rangers team looks to turn some heads and surprise people during the tournament.

"I'm excited to see what we

can do," Schieber said. "Not only during the playoffs, but for the years ahead as well."

After falling in their final two regular season games to Arkansas Tech and Harding, the Lady Rangers look to their first game in playoffs.

An tough match-up is set be-

tween the Lady Rangers and heated rivals Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

The Lady Bulldogs are 27-1 overall and a perfect 22-0 in GAC play.

The game is scheduled for March 7 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Tip-off is set for 5:45 p.m.

## Men's basketball rounds out season

By **EMMA SPORLEDER**  
Student Reporter

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University men's basketball fell to Arkansas Tech, but defeated the Harding Bison for the season finale.

The Rangers faced the Wonder Boys of Arkansas Tech Thursday night when sophomore Jack Peck earned his career high 27 points in the close contest on the road in Russellville, Ark.

Despite the Ranger's tough loss to the Wonder Boys 79-78, the Rangers had a good day shooting from the floor as they finished hitting 53.6% of their shots, as well as going 9-for-11 from the free-throw line.

This was the Rangers second-best shooting performance of the season behind the first time they played Ark Tech.

Along with the great scoring performance by Peck, the box score was balanced for the Rangers as they tried to build up some confidence heading into the final game of the season on Saturday.

Bryshon Bryant finished the game with 13 points, followed by A.J. Jones and Eric Andres Jr. both having nine points apiece.

Andrew Clopton closed the book with eight points, while David Thornton and Cole



Photo Provided.

The Ranger men end their 2018-19 campaign.

Jones rounded out the scoring with six points each.

On Saturday afternoon, Northwestern faced the Harding Bison and were successful for the second time this season against Harding.

The Rangers closed their season with a 64-57 victory over the Bison.

Cole Jones, a freshman from Pond Creek, contributed a career high of 18 points, which included six made three-point baskets, this was the most made in a game by

a Ranger.

Cole Jones finished the season with 42 three-pointers made, the most by a freshman since Marshall Bell in the 2009-2010 season.

Bryant went 7-for-11 from the floor and had 15 points, and Peck finished with 12 points.

Jones had eight assists and wrapped up his junior season with 171 assists, which was one shy of tying the school record of 172.

The Rangers finished their year at 8-20 overall and 6-16 in the



Photo Provided.

## Softball falls to No. 3 Southern Ark

By **MEGAN MAHARRY**  
Sports Editor

The Lady Rangers took to the road to face No. 3 Southern Arkansas Friday and Saturday.

The nationally ranked Lady Muleriders proved to be a tough opponent as the Lady Rangers dropped the series 4-0.

In the double-header on Friday, the Lady Rangers dropped game one 3-0 and game two 14-2.

The Lady Ranger defense in game one held the Lady Muleriders to only three runs.

Senior pitcher Karly Murray did work in the circle, as she dished out six strikeouts.

Game two, the Lady Rangers struggled to get out of some tough

innings.

Three straight big innings for Southern Ark was enough to shut down the Lady Rangers.

The Lady Rangers had trouble producing successful offense as they could only put up a handful of hits against the Lady Muleriders.

In Saturday's double-header, the Lady Rangers dropped game three 10-2 and game four 8-0.

Once again, the Lady Rangers had trouble keeping up with the Lady Mulerider's elite offense and defense.

Freshman Madison Friest collected two hits in game three, but that was the extent of offense.

The Lady Rangers look to bounce back in their upcoming home contest on March 8 and 9 against Arkansas-Monticello.

# Sports

## Baseball drops series

By **LOGAN JONES**  
Assist. Sports Editor

The Ranger baseball team opened up the month of March with a three-game series with the #18 ranked Southern Arkansas Muleriders this past weekend.

Despite putting up a good fight, the Rangers dropped all three games of the series.

The series opened with a double-header on a mild Friday afternoon.

SAU drew first blood in the top of the second inning, scoring two runs on three hits.

The Rangers answered back in the bottom of the inning, cutting the lead in half with an RBI single from Brock Randels.

Northwestern would extend their lead in the third, capped by a bases clearing, pinch-hit triple from Bryce Donovan that brought the score to 5-2.

The Muleriders quickly responded by scoring two runs in the fourth, and one in the fifth, tying the ballgame at 5-5. The score remained tied until the seventh inning where two costly errors allowed the Muleriders to plate two runs and giving them a 7-5 lead.

Despite attempts in the eighth and ninth, Northwestern could not shift the momentum, ultimately losing 7-5.

Game two of the double-header started out much like game one.

SAU scored two runs in the first and the Rangers responded with one of their own with an RBI single by Dash Johnson in the bottom of the inning.

In the third, two more Muleriders came around to score, giving SAU a 4-1 lead.

Northwestern would again retaliate by scoring another run in



Photo by Megan Mahary.

The Rangers next head to Arkansas to face Arkansas-Monticello.

the bottom of the inning thanks to an RBI single by Colton Whitehouse and then again, driving in two more in the fourth.

After the fourth inning, both offenses seemed to stall as both teams tallied only three hits in the remaining three innings.

At the end of the seventh, the Rangers again lost the game by two with a score of 6-4.

The series finale was held on a brisk Saturday, but the cold weather did not stop the offensive output. Once again, SAU struck first scoring three in the first inning and one in the second.

The Rangers responded by putting up a 4-spot in the bottom of the second, tying the game at four a-piece.

Junior infielder Tanner Rutledge, who made his first North-

western start, made his presence known by driving in three of five Northwestern runs, one of which came in the bottom of the third, giving the Rangers the lead.

The Muleriders would tie the game in the fourth, where the score stood until the seventh, when ASU took the lead on a sacrifice-fly, putting the Muleriders up by one.

Over the next three innings, Northwestern could not get any momentum going, ultimately losing by the score of 7-5.

The Rangers record moved to 3-6 in GAC play and 10-7 overall.

Next, the boys will travel to Tahlequah to play the Northeastern Oklahoma State Riverhawks on Tuesday, March 5, before making the trip to Monticello, Arkansas to take on UAM on March 8 and 9.



Photo by Megan Mahary.

The Rangers could not outlast Southern Arkansas, and dropped the series. They will travel to take on NEU next Wednesday

## Brown earns GAC Player of the Week

By **ERIC SCOTT**  
Athletic Communications

After a great performance in a pair of games over the past week, Bailey Brown was recognized for her work as she was named the Great American Conference Women's Basketball Co-Player of the Week on Monday.

Brown led the Lady Rangers to a pair of wins over Ouachita Baptist and Henderson State, helping her squad clinch the program's first every GAC Championships Tournament bid.

In the two games, Brown averaged 22.5 points, including a career high 28 points against HSU, and 7.5 rebounds in the two games.

This is the second time in her career Brown has been named GAC Player of the Week.

A native of Enid, Oklahoma, the sophomore recorded her sixth double-double of the season against the Lady Tigers of Ouachita with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Brown went 11-for-11 from the line in Saturday's tournament clinching victory, the second best



Sophomore Bailey Brown.

perfect game from the line in program history.

Brown is the leading scorer for the Lady Rangers this season at 14.8 points a game and is fourth in the conference with 8.1 rebounds a game.

## Johnson honored with Freshman of the Week

By **MADISON PARROTT**  
Athletic Communications

As the Rangers entered their opening weekend of Great American Conference play, Kalie Johnson earned her first GAC Freshman Player of the Week honor after an outstanding series, the league announced Tuesday.

Northwestern opened GAC play with a split against Oklahoma Baptist University. Johnson finished the series with a team high eight hits, four runs scored and 12 total bases. Johnson also sent one

deep for her first collegiate homerun in the last game of the weekend improving her slugging percentage to .857 in the four games.

A freshman from Tecumseh, Okla., Johnson is fourth in the league with a .462 batting average. She is one of three freshmen hitting about four hundred in Madison Friest and Abby Detar.

Joining Johnson in earning GAC honors was Player of the Week Franki Hull, high school teammate of Johnson's, from Oklahoma Baptist and Pitcher of the Week Bailey Shaffer from Arkansas Tech.



Freshman Kalie Johnson.

Photo by the Athletic Department.

