

Smile of the Week



Photo by Leah Darnell

Nursing major Makenna Sterling is smiling because there are only 23 days until homecoming!

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Homecoming: 99 years in the making

A look into the history of NWOSU's annual homecoming

By **MCKAYLA HOLSON**
Editorial Editor

Homecoming is quickly approaching, and preparations for the annual celebration have begun.

Two of the most popular facets of homecoming are football and royalty.

How did homecoming start?

The homecoming tradition began on college campuses. It started as a celebration of the first football game of the season. Now, homecoming is celebrated in many types of schools, and it is not always centered around the first game of the season.

The date of the first homecoming celebration is unknown.

The University of Missouri claims to have invented homecoming in 1911, but the University of Illinois says it started the celebration in 1910. Baylor University of Texas is also in the debate: It claims to have started the event in 1909.

While there is a debate over which school actually started the celebration, games such as "Trivial Pursuit" and "Jeopardy!" use the University of Missouri as the answer to the question of which school pioneered the tradition.

Date of first NWOSU celebration unknown

It is unclear when Northwestern first celebrated homecoming, and when the first Ranger Queen was named.

The NWOSU website's Ranger Royalty list begins in 1920, with Mae Sutton of Winchester holding the title of queen.

A 1957 article in The Northwestern News said that year's celebration was the 38th one the school had held. That would mean the first celebration occurred in 1919. It is unclear if there was a queen then. However, conflicting evidence can be found in a 1988 Northwestern News article, which says the first Ranger Queen was elected in 1924.

The history of the Ranger King and Freshman Queen history is less murky.

The same 1988 Northwestern News article says the first king was elected in 1926, and the Freshman Queen tradition began in 1931.

Ranger Royalty is still a major part of Northwestern's homecoming, though it has changed through the years.

In the past, candidates for the title of queen were selected by various clubs and groups on campus. An organization would sponsor a woman to be their candidate. Those organizations could be residence halls, swim clubs, and classes of students.

Today, students are encouraged to submit applications to be a member of Royalty. Students are not selected to represent individual groups as they once were.

The process of selecting winners of the crown is different also. Today, candidates campaign for the position they want, and then students vote for the winner online. The winners are announced at the football game.

In the past, students voted for the candidates in the student center and in dorms. Winners were still announced at the football game.

Events changed over time

The festivities of homecoming have also changed.

In 1933, homecoming included a band concert in Herod Hall, several meetings, a homecoming parade, and a Phi Sigma Dinner at the Teacup.

The 1958 homecoming celebration featured Weems Band with Molly Bee, Jean Carter and Phil Maraquin at a dance. Like this year's homecoming parade, the majority of homecoming celebrations included the Miss Cinderella competition.

A large band performance is also a part of homecoming. Bands from high schools around the area march in the homecoming parade and perform music at the halftime of the football game.

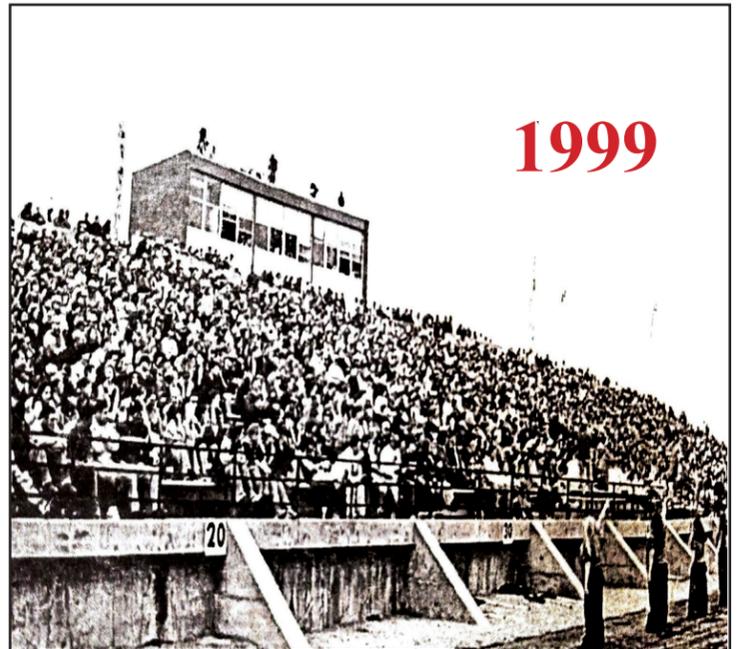
In 1930, a "massed" band of 186 players from area high school bands played before and after the coronation ceremony of that year's queen, Zelma Fisher. Three thousand people watched the football game.

The 2018 massed band consisted of 450 students. One thousand registered, but inclement weather the day of the parade caused the number to decrease.

The massed band in 2017 consisted had approximately 1,000 students. This year, around 500 students have registered, and the number is expected to increase.

For more information on homecoming, visit the NWOSU website at <https://www.nwosu.edu/homecoming>.

Homecoming will be held Oct. 24 - 26.



Photos provided

The crowd at NWOSU's 1999 homecoming football game.



NWSOU's 1968 Ranger Queen, Mary Elaine Williams



The 1957 homecoming queen candidates from left, Barbara Stewart, Jane Cordell and Patrica Hopkins.

Campus

Take the money and run Northwestern students receive refund checks

By **GEORGE SMITH**
Student Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University offers more scholarships than any other college in the region, meaning some students have money left over after their educational expenses have been paid for.

On Sept. 26, the NWOSU Financial Aid office sent out refund checks to students who have more scholarships and/or grants than they need to pay for tuition, books, fees, and housing. Financial aid employees deposited the leftover funds into the students' bank accounts via direct deposit. Some students may have received a paper check.

The transactions were completed Sept. 26.

This year, the process of receiving financial aid changed thanks to a new software program NWOSU is using. Called the "Self-Service" system, the program allows students to accept scholarships, grants, and loans without physically having to sign for them. Software manufacturer Ellucian created the program.

According to University Bursar Paige Fischer, the new software program will make accepting financial aid awards easier for students. Financial aid workers are available to help students navigate the system.

"We look forward to streamlining many of our business processes

that impact student accounts as we progress through this academic year," Fischer said. "Our number one goal in the Business Office is student satisfaction.

"We feel confident in the new Ellucian system and have received positive feedback on the Self-Service accounts that students are able to view and control. If any students have questions about their accounts, setting up a refund method or payment plan, or utilizing Self-Service, we encourage them to drop by the Business Office, and we will be happy to assist them."

What will students do with their checks?

Now that they've got cash in the bank, what will NWOSU students who received refund checks

do with their money? The Northwestern News sat down with three students to find out.

Health and sports science major Easton Maxwell said will use his refund check to make some repairs to his vehicle, though he said he might use it to help pay for his rent.

Dawson Manning, a senior at Alva High School who is taking concurrent classes at Northwestern, said he is saving the money for college.

"It's not like I have to pay for much right now," Manning said.

Business student Brooklynn Hesson said that getting a refund check is a good "bonus" income for her. She said she will use the money to boost her "aggressive" stock portfolio.



Photo provided by NWOSU

Buttons for the 2019 Homecoming celebration are on sale now.

Homecoming buttons on sale now

By **LOGAN MERIWETHER**
Student Reporter

With Homecoming just around the corner at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, school officials are urging students and alumni to purchase Homecoming buttons.

Homecoming buttons cost \$10 each. They serve as admission tickets to the Miss Cinderella pageant, Talent Night, and the Homecoming football game. Some Alva merchants will offer discounts to customers wearing buttons during Homecoming week.

Each Homecoming button comes with a number, which is entered into a drawing for \$500 worth of Alva "Chamber Bucks." The drawing will be held at half-time during the football game.

Funds from the sale of the ceremonial buttons pay for "the Miss Cinderella Pageant for high school senior females, the Homecoming parade, band and parade float competitions, Ranger Royalty, and more," according to a statement on the NWOSU website.

The theme of this year's Homecoming is "Paint The Town Red."

To purchase buttons, contact Karen Koehn, chairperson of sales, at (580) 327-7273; the Alva Chamber of Commerce office, located at 502 Oklahoma Blvd., at (580) 327-1647; the Northwestern Foundation office, located in the Student Center, at (580) 327-8593; or the Northwestern business office, located in Herod Hall, at (580) 327-8536.

Homecoming will be held Oct. 24 - 26.

Seven-course race, one-course snack



Photo by Jordan Green

Juliet Chaloupek works to move a tasty cookie into her mouth without using her hands in order to participate in the Sept. 26 Health and Fitness Obstacle Relay Race, which was held at the intramural football field near Coronado

Hall. The event, sponsored by Resident Assistant Caitlin Johnson, featured seven different obstacles that teams of students had to pass over or through. Participants began the race after successfully eating an Oreo. Then, they

moved onto a water bucket-dumping exercise. A total of seven teams competed in the event. At the end of the race, winners were able to slide down a slip-'n-slide. Teams from both of NWOSU's sororities participated.

'Arsenic & Old Lace,' set to premier Thursday, has a sweet and secretive plot

Cast members say the allure of the show comes from the 'plot twists'

By **CAITLYN PRAY**
Student Reporter

"No family tree is without its nuts," explains Mickey Jordan, director of Northwestern Oklahoma State University's upcoming

theatre production of "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Add a plethora of family secrets to that tree and one gets a real show that leaves spectators on the edge of their seats. This production will welcome students, faculty, staff and community to Herod Hall

Auditorium Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

General admission is \$10, Northwestern employee admission is \$5 with valid university ID, and student admission is \$3 with Northwestern ID.

Jordan, who just began serving

the university as its director of technical theater this semester, said the first production of the school year has a lot to offer its audience.

"Basically, without giving too much away because there's a lot that happens in it, it's a show about

See ARSENIC, Page 6

News

What's up?

Cafe teaches cooking skills

Tonight

Theater Production I
"Arsenic and Old Lace"

Herod Hall

7 p.m.

Oct. 4 at 7 p.m.

Oct. 5 at 2 p.m.

\$3 with student ID

\$5 for faculty and staff

\$10 for general admission

Tonight

Medical Sciences Club Meeting

Medical Sciences Club members will plan their upcoming events for the semester. The club meets in Science Amphitheater. Open to all interested students.

6 p.m.



Photos by Leah Darnell

Left: Josiah Marshall and Camille Soderstorm adding an ingredient to make a salad during the teaching kitchen with Head Chef of Coronado Cafe, Tully Groom.

Writing Marathon at the Graceful Arts Gallery

Community members and students alike are invited to the the 5th annual writing marathon, where participants will write their way through downtown Alva.

This event is for anyone who wants to join a group of people who enjoy writing.

Oct. 4
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Writers' Round Table Meeting

Writer's Roundtable is for anyone who has an interest in writing. Members respond to writing prompts and then get the option to read them aloud to everyone else.

Members then give positive feedback and constructive criticism. Vinson Hall 200.

Oct. 8
5 p.m.



Middle Left: Colton Reed and Carlos Izaguirre cutting up oranges, a key ingredient to make a salad.

Middle Right: Marshall dicing up cucumber.

Bottom Left: Tomato Cucumber Salad, made by Marshall and Soderstorm.

Bottom Right: Sunrise Barley Salad, made by Reed and Izaguirre.



Want an ad?
Email Jayden Dillon at:
jadillon07@rangers.nwsu.edu.

Or, call Jayden! at:
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If you have an event that you would like featured on our "What's Up?" section, just contact us at nwnews@nwsu.edu.

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NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Official Newspaper

Northwestern Oklahoma
State University

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

Fall 2019 Staff

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The News is printed by the Alva Review-Courier

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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.

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@nwosu.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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

Editorial

It's not all bad

By JORDAN GREEN
News Editor

Those of us in the newspaper business have one job: To tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. We aren't supposed to frame news in a way that makes it look "good" or "bad." We're just here to report the facts and let you make up your mind.

With that said, sometimes, you just can't help but call it like it is: We've got some great news for you in today's edition of the Blackwell Journal-Tribune.

In this week's paper, I reported on two wonderful things that have happened within our local school district over the last week. Haley Curfman, a teacher at Blackwell Elementary School, won a \$25,000 grant from State Farm to help build a sidewalk to the school. Ashley Heitschmidt, the art instructor at Blackwell High School, has been named the Secondary Art Educator of the Year by the Oklahoma Arts Education Association.

First, let's talk about the grant. The elementary school was built 10 years ago, but students have never had a safe way to walk to school. They have two options: Walk in the road where cars are, or walk in the bar-ditch, which is usually filled with water and trash. Not exactly a great way to start off a school day.

Thanks to Curfman – and the helpful Blackwell residents who got online and voted for her cause – our city has secured some of the funding it needs to build the sidewalk. City Manager Janet Smith has already started gathering the information needed to begin the construction process, so now it's up to the City Council to allot the remaining funds.

Once that sidewalk is put in, it's going to be a huge

asset for our students. Let's give a round of applause to the people who are making Curfman's dream come to life.

While the sidewalk is welcome news for the elementary school, Heitschmidt's award is exciting news for the high school.

The Secondary Teacher of the Year Award is the top award the education organization offers to high school art teachers in Oklahoma, and it's one that Heitschmidt greatly deserves. She's been in our school for several years, helping students discover artistic abilities they didn't know they had. She has poured her heart out to help our students, and for that, our students are better off. Thanks to Heitschmidt, our children have been exposed to different cultural ideals, and they have found new ways to express themselves through art. They'll be able to keep those abilities with them for the rest of their lives. That's why Heitschmidt's peers said she's the best of the best.

Isn't all of this great to hear?

Despite what you would think from watching the nightly news, there is a lot of love in the world today. Just look to our local educators: If they're not busy teaching students new life skills, they're making sure that our students have safe ways to get to class every day.

Blackwellites, we're fortunate to have such wonderful teachers. We can't thank them enough for what they do for our community.

There's an old Anne Murray song I often sing when I'm working on something at the paper: "Sure Could Use A Little Good News Today." Thanks to our local educators, I'm happy to say you can find plenty of good news in today's edition of the Journal-Tribune.

Global climate strike

By BRYANT VENOSDEL
Student Reporter

Students recently took to the streets to strike against fossil fuels in what was called a "Global Climate Strike."

Montreal, New York, London and Boston are just a handful of the cities that were participating in the strikes and where students had organized events during their walk-outs during school. Businesses also closed for a day such as Ben & Jerry's and the clothing company Patagonia.

New York and Boston are some of the cities in the U.S. that allowed students to walk-out. They were allowed because these cities actually gave students a pass and let them skip school if they were going to participate in the strikes.

The students who protested seemed to have got the

attention of some people to make a change, as Jeff Bezos recently announced a plan to combat climate change that he will be showing to the UN. Climate change has been an issue in the past years as it is believed that fossil fuels are contributing to the rise of global temperatures and eventually in the next 10-15 years that the earth will not be habitable.

Recently a 16-year-old, Greta Thunberg has made the news for being the poster child for climate change activism. She sailed to the United States on a boat to New York to promote her activism. Strikes for climate change are still scheduled later in the year, as Thunberg will be promoting her activism and making more speeches to some of the world leaders as she recently already has just earlier this week. You can go to Global Strike's website at globalclimatestrike.net to see more upcoming events or plan one of your own and also learn more about their cause and what they are expecting to accomplish in the future with their activism against climate change.



"Global warming is not a conqueror to kneel before - but a challenge to rise to. A challenge we must rise to."

Joe Lieberman

"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

Native American Proverb

EDITOR'S RANT OF THE WEEK

By ASHLEY STREHL
Editor-in-Chief

Sometimes in life, we all get lazy.

Here's what I think, being lazy is rude and selfish. Basically, before you decide to be lazy, think about who it is affecting.

I know we all have those days where we can feel overwhelmed and we just want to give up and do nothing. But is that really the best choice?

I'm not going to be a hypocrite. I get lazy. I like to lay in bed with no pants on and play Roblox all day as much as the next guy.

However, what sets me apart from others is that I only do that when I have NOTHING to do, and no one is RE-LYING on me to do it.

Someone has asked you to do something and you agreed to do it. Make sense? THEN FREAKIN' DO IT. If you think you can't, THEN DON'T VOLUNTEER!

This seems like it would be easy enough to understand but I guess it isn't!

I haven't had something to rant about in a long while. Mostly because I try to keep a peaceful mind and not get as aggravated about things.

When it comes to my job as Editor-in-Chief I have problems with lazy people often. "Oh waa waa I don't wanna write this story," "Waa waa I'm busy with other stuff"

Bull poo-poo. No you aren't. You literally just don't want to do it because you are LAZY. And in turn? YOU MAKE MY LIFE HARDER AND MY JOB MORE STRESSFUL THAN IT HAS TO BE.

You're probably wondering, "You mad bruh?" YEAH I'M MAD.

If you say you're going to do something then do it. I literally won't get mad if you don't say that you are going to do it in the first place.

Leaving this story in 12 point font so you all can see that I'm BIG MAD. QUIT. BEING. LAZY.

Editorial

Finding my place

By McKayla Holson
Editorial Editor

I admire those who have a clear direction of where they are going in life.

Not only do I admire these people, but I am jealous of them as well.

They have a goal to work toward, they are determined, they know what they want.

What do I want? I don't know.

For years now, I have been told "Oh, you have plenty of time, you'll figure it out, it'll come to you," but I'm running out of this "time" they keep telling me I have.

Here I am, in my third year of college, and I still have no idea what I want to do for the rest of my life.

Where will I end up? What will I do?

These questions are almost haunting me. The time ticks by, so slow yet so fast, and the questions just burn deeper.

Sure, I have my major and I can do a lot with the degree, but will I find something that makes me happy and that I enjoy? Will I find my dream career? Whatever that may be.

Speaking of my major, I get asked a lot if I'll pursue my master's after I graduate. How could I possibly make a decision about that when I don't know what I'll be doing? If I knew what I wanted to do, I could decide if a master's would be beneficial or not. Unfortunately, I have no clue what career I want to focus on.

As the years fly by, I wonder if I'll ever actually find the career that is the best fit for me. I wonder if I'll ever have my great "Ah, yes, this is what I want to do for my life" moment.

Will I ever be like the students who so confidently say "I'm going to be doing this at this place in this many years" and be able to follow a clear career path?

I know I'll eventually find my place. Unfortunately, the journey to that discovery is long and sometimes stressful.

I love you, mom...

By CAMILLE
SODERSTROM
Northwestern Student

"I love you, Mom."

It's a common phrase, one that Michael has said a million times and typed out a thousand. Today, as he stares at his phone, tears in his eyes, he makes that number a thousand and one.

Had he told her last night? What about this morning before leaving for school? He can't remember, but if he could go back in time, he would make sure he said it so much that his mom would grow sick of it.

The rapid-fire BANG BANG BANG of gunshots rings through the hallway again interrupting the constant flow of the active shooter alarm. Michael flinches into himself at the noise and prays that his

hiding spot in the supply closet remains undiscovered.

He is only eleven years old and still has a million more I love yous to give to his mom. He can't die... Not yet, and not here in his own school.

He hears footsteps approaching over the sound of the alarm, and he types out one last message on his phone.

Get inspired!

"Never stop fighting until you arrive at your destined place - that is, the unique you. Have an aim in life, continuously acquire knowledge, work hard, and have perseverance to realise the great life."

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

"The path from dreams to success does exist. May you have the vision to find it, the courage to get on to it, and the perseverance to follow it."

Kalpana Chawla

"Believe in yourself, and the rest will fall into place. Have faith in your own abilities, work hard, and there is nothing you cannot accomplish."

Brad Henry

Have a poem, opinion or story you would like to share? An opinion in need of expressing? A topic you find interesting and think more people should know about? Send it in!

If you would like your work to be shown in the pages of the Northwestern newspaper, don't be afraid to send it in. We'd love to hear what you have to say!

If you would like your work to be shown, email me at mrholson30@rangers.nwosu.edu or the newspaper at nwnews@nwosu.edu.

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News

What do SGA senators do?

By **AMBER SCALES**
Student Reporter

What will your student senators do for you?

Members of the NWOSU Student Government Association have elected several new senators since the fall semester began, leaving some to wonder what the role of a senator is. To answer that question, The Northwestern News spoke with SGA President Jordan Harris and two new senators, Kaylea Brown and Dawson Maxwell. Here's what you need to know.

According to Harris, senators vote on issues brought to their attention by members of the student body.

"Senators are involved in the voting process for anything that needs to be voted on," Harris said. "They are also there to help with events, whether it is setting up or tearing down, and they're just another voice on campus for students."

An NWOSU student can become a senator by attending SGA meetings and filling out an online application. Aspiring senators must complete the application, print it off, and get signatures from other students.

"They fill [the applications] out, and they have to get signa-

tures," Harris said. "Then they come to a meeting and stand up and say why they want to become a senator, and then the members vote on it. There are 15 members, and I know we have a ton of people who have not turned in their applications yet, so we are growing all throughout the year."

Kaylea Brown was one NWOSU student who applied for one of the coveted leadership positions. She said she became a senator to get more involved and to "have a say" in activities taking place around campus.

"I hope that I'm able to help students see what I first saw when I got to campus, which was a group that would get others involved and help others see it as their home," Brown said.

Dawson Maxwell said he became a student senator because he was involved in student council in high school, and he wanted to continue serving others.

"As a senator, you have the right to vote for stuff that is happening on campus, and I like to let my voice be known," Maxwell said. "My hopes are to be the voice of the student body, such as if they want different events. [I want to] help the SGA put those on, and to voice the opinions of the students."



818 Diner open for business

By **BAILEY RANKIN**
Student Reporter

The opening of the 818 Diner was six years in the making.

For six years, the Parsons family talked about opening a yogurt shop. Then a coffee shop. And finally, a diner.

Terri Parsons, one of the 818 Diner's four owner/operators, said that she and her family have wanted to open something like a diner in the past. For a while, time was the only thing that kept the family from opening one. However, they have now found the time to do it.

Parsons said she and her family opened the diner to help the community.

"We felt like Alva needed [a diner]," Parsons said. "I felt like Alva needed something that opened early and was open on Mondays because so many things

in Alva are closed on that day."

The 818 Diner is open 6 a.m. – 2 p.m. every day except Tuesdays. Parsons said the diner is not open on evenings yet because the business is "new," and the family is still "ironing the little things out."

"I need to make sure I love it and am not 'over-committed,'" Parsons said. "Maybe someday we will be open in the evenings, but we just need to get it open, do it right, and get those good key people around."

Parsons and her husband, Don, operated restaurants before they moved to Alva with their two sons, who help run the restaurant. Most days, Max arrives at 5 a.m. to start cooking. Joe checks on customers and greets those who come in.

So far, the hardest part of opening the diner has been choosing which items to put on the menu – and telling the cooks how to make the recipes Parsons has called for.

"It's hard to get what I envision

to the cook's hand so that they can make it like I want done," Parsons said. "It is a process, but we have some great staff that are doing a great job, and we've been really lucky with that."

Parsons said business has been great since the diner opened. So far, the diner has had several "repeat" customers. In fact, Parsons said, one customer shows up each day at 6 a.m.

"We've had a lot of people in, a lot of happy people," she said. "I mean, it hasn't been perfect every time, but most of the time it does go well."

Parsons said her goal with the diner is to do good for the community.

"I hope we do a good job for the community," she said. "I think the food and the service is getting better every day. It's getting faster, and we just want to be an asset to the town of Alva."

ARSENIC: Cast excited to portray Brewster family, others on stage

Continued from Page 2

family secrets," Jordan said. It's very unassuming, but once it gets started it has twists and turns, and it's great. There's a murder, there's a wedding, there's a who-done-it aspect, there are Irish cops, convicts, Germans—it's really crazy. It's one of those shows that if you're not familiar with it, it's going to be a treat to watch it for the first time."

Jordan explained that the plot follows the Brewster family—a family consisting of two sweet, old sisters who live in a large Victorian house with their three nephews—in 1940 Brooklyn, New York. The play shows events of their day-to-day life, which Jordan said is very natural and unassuming at first, but quickly turns into an in-depth plot of mystery, suspense and intrigue.

"The story itself is just super quirky," Dena Walker, associate professor of mathematics who is portraying one of those sisters in the role of Martha Brewster, said. "Anything with a title like 'Arsenic and Old Lace' makes you think, 'Well is arsenic even involved?' or is that just the writer's way of trying to get people into it, so there definite-

ly are a lot of questions just about the title. Other parts of the play also get really fast and involving really fast, which just makes the audience ask more questions and makes it even more fun. I know people will enjoy it if they come out and see it."

Of course, such an involving production does not come without some long hours of work from the cast and crew months in advance.

"Arsenic and Old Lace" will be Jordan's capstone project in fulfillment of his master's degree requirements, which means that on top of his usual duties in the theater, he is in the full director's position of nearly every decision and aspect of the production as well.

"Before the show even starts, you spend about three months putting together a director's notebook," Jordan said. "That's where you put in all the blocking, how the characters are going to move, and the director has to do all of these character analyses to figure out the who, what, when, how and why of the characters. Then you have auditions to try to find who best fits in that role, then you have rehearsals and set-ups. It's very much like an iceberg because the production of

what Northwestern and what the community sees really is just like the very tip of it then underneath the water there is so much that goes into it. We are so pleased that there are so many people that came out to audition and want to be involved in Northwestern theatre. It's very exciting; we're off to a good start this semester."

Although they didn't have to begin their work quite as early as Jordan, the 14 members of the cast have been rehearsing since Aug. 26 and have had journeys of their own.

One such journey is Walker's as she learns more about her character and how to portray her.

"She is about 65 years old... she's a classy lady, very Brooklyn 1940s so a very classy, elegant woman," Walker said describing her spinster character. "I'm excited to play somebody so much older. I'm an Oklahoma girl so I'm still trying to achieve the Brooklyn 1940s voice. Mickey gave me a couple of videos to watch to hear the voice and how it should move and sound like, so I've been watching those and then I've been practicing my lines after I hear those and see those, which has really helped."

Altus freshman Adria Lujan, who portrays Elaine Harper, said that although college theater has been a different experience from what she was used to in high school, she also has enjoyed the experience and production.

"I'm basically the love interest of the main character Mortimer Brewster," Lujan said. "She's the minister's daughter, so she's modest, but she has a little spunk to her I guess. They have a very cute romance going on that's fun to watch. It's not going to be sappy or over-the-top; it's just fun to see it. She's also kind of like a voice of reason throughout the play."

Lujan said that one of the main aspects she is working on to get into her character has been to constantly be mentally placing herself in her character's shoes.

"It's not been super difficult because they said they liked how I portray her, and they thought that I would fit the role very well. For me, though it's like I have to put myself ahead and in her shoes thinking what the character is going to do next and how she is going to respond. With the guidance of my director, he has shown me how I should really portray Elaine, and it's come to be really fun."

Feature

Roberts: Self-Published, Self-Made

By PHILLIP HUDSON
Student Reporter

The last document was uploaded to Kindle Direct Publishing. Baleigh Roberts looked over the document, moving it from place to place until she liked how it looked. It was a simple process, but it still took some time to get it all set up in her book, “The Moon Can Take His Time.”

“When I’m writing poetry it allows me to work through things I’m going through or anything that might be bothering me at the time,” Roberts said.

Roberts does not recall what initially got her into writing, just that it gave her the chance to escape into her own world. Over the years, she has created many worlds through not only poetry, but also her young adult novel with the working title, “The Most Important Thing.”

Roberts has always been interested with young people and how their minds work. She hoped that by writing for and about them that perhaps she would be able to help them in some way.

Kate Lane, the English department chair, helped Roberts work on her young adult novel in an independent study. Writers sometimes need another person to observe their work in case there is something that does not exactly work: character development, some words not encapsulating what that writer wants or if scenes slow the story down.

“Like most new writers, she has an image in her head and assumes everyone can see it. She is getting better,” Lane said.

“Dr. Lane helped me with con-

tent and figuring out some things in terms of the direction of the novel. She was also a really good second set of eyes for me in terms of grammar and spelling issues,” Roberts said.

Besides the independent study with Lane, Roberts worked with a writers workshop with another professor’s two independent studies.

Dawn Allen said people take independent studies when they need another credit hour, usually a humanities.

“Bale is a dark writer,” Allen said, “Young adult dark is edgy. Talks about HIVs and teen pregnancies; stuff parents like to pretend teens don’t talk about.”

Roberts is not shy, but is very critical of her own work. She will not come up and ask you to read her work, but she does put it on social media for people to read.

“I do show my poems. I have an Instagram for them. You can literally search my name on Instagram and find me,” Roberts said.

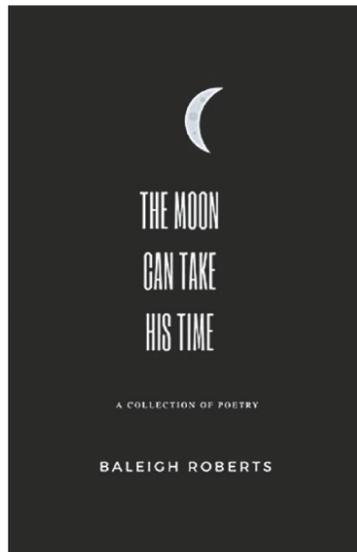
Allen countered, saying, “Not everybody has an Instagram, Baleigh.”

The poems on Roberts’ Instagram are all short, the longest being eight lines, and her longest line with nine words in it. She does not write any particular style like a sonnet or with any rhyme scheme. Roberts says they are like experiments.

“I have no idea what kind of poetry I write. Maybe free verse,” Roberts said.

While her poems are out both in book and on social media to read, there is no mention about her young adult novel, because Roberts hasn’t let many people read it. The few that have read her book enjoyed the literature.

“She is a solid writer, imagi-



native, and she has a keen eye for observation,” Lane said.

Lane said most of her advice about Roberts’ book about fleshing out the characters. Her main character, the young woman that in her narrative is between childhood and adulthood, needed to be more sarcastic to fit Roberts’ description.

Patricia Pixler, a fellow senior English major and president of Alva’s Writers Roundtable—which Roberts was a part of for a year—is one of the few people who has read parts of the novel. She described it as very creative, sarcastic and good-natured. Roberts has not let her fully read it, but Pixler describes it as a romantic coming of age story. Pixler prefers fantasy novels but she definitely wants to fully read Roberts’ book when she publishes it.

“She’s such a natural writer,” Pixler said, “very emotive.”

Roberts felt her that her work is emotional too.

“It is thought-provoking and heartfelt,” Roberts said.

Changing your Major

Roberts was not on the path to be a writer as a living. She was a nursing major at first. Bethany Pierce, a junior, took chemistry with Roberts.

“She wrote behind me in class,” Pierce said.

Outside of class, Pierce and Roberts worked one year together in the NWOSU library.

Roberts is still involved with nursing, working as a certified nurse’s aide at The Commons retirement community in Enid.

Roberts still worked at the college library while she attended NWOSU, working there during the week and at the Commons every other weekend.

Pierce is very interested in seeing where Roberts’ poetry will take her.

“I could see her getting into the publishing business. Start her own company maybe. Being her own boss,” Pierce said.

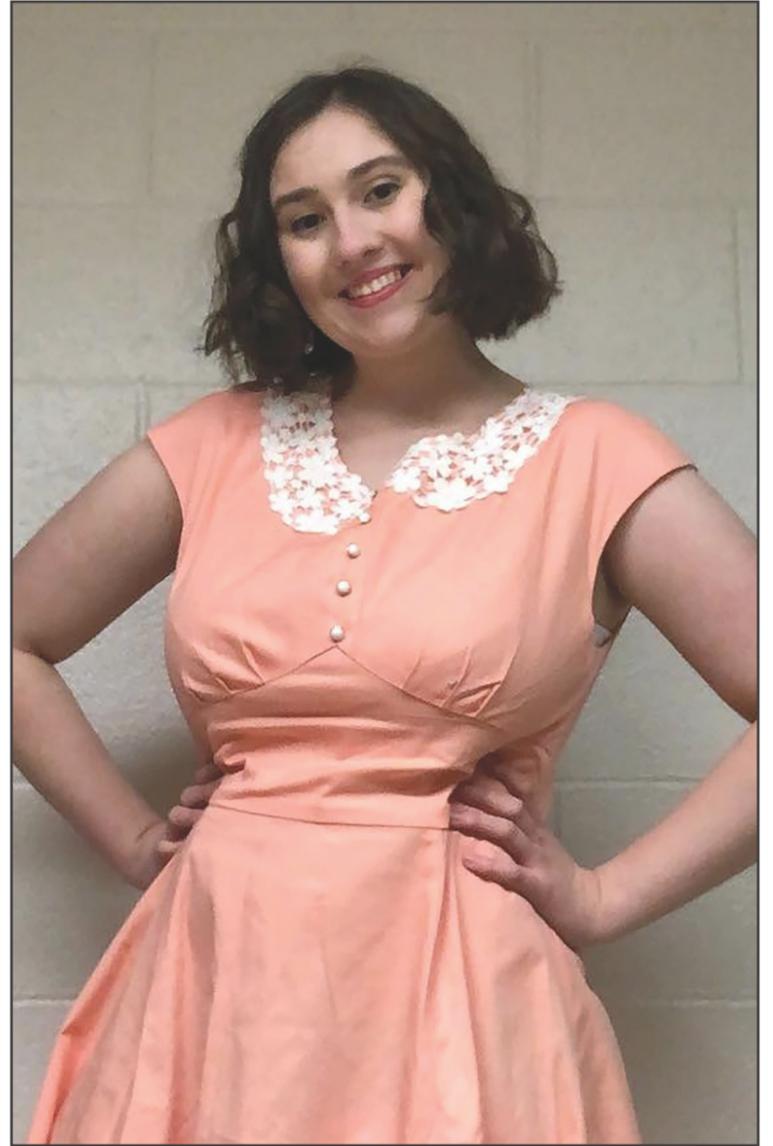


Photo Provided

Baleigh Roberts, who was an English major at NWOSU, self-published a book of poetry before graduating in May 2019.

Not being a writer herself, Pierce knows Roberts in a different way than Lane and Allen.

“She’s very passionate about being a descendant of English Quakers,” Pierce said, “she has an excellent sense of humor, but somebody said she looked Asian and it bothered her.”

Roberts used to know all the lyrics to the soundtrack of “Hamilton”, the Broadway musical about Alexander Hamilton, loves Gilmore girls (not the new season) and knows a lot about British royalty, according to Pierce.

Part of the reason she knows a lot about British royalty may be to the fact that, according to Pixler, Roberts is a history minor. Pixler also says Roberts loves cats.

“We have bonded over our love for cats, Emily Dickinson and Jane Austin,” Pixler said.

Austin and Dickinson are among a few of the writers that Roberts said have influenced her, but also William Wordsworth, Rupi Kaur, Byron, John Green and Charlotte Bronte. Lane said that she is not surprised by the writers Roberts reports as her influencers.

“There are subtle nuances. It’s difficult to not pick up bits from our favorite authors,” Lane said.

Pierce has not read any of Roberts’ poetry. She did not know she had even published a poetry book. Lane did not know either. Roberts did not come to her for help on her poetry.

“She did that independently,” Lane said.

Roberts may come off shy at first, but her fellow scholars describe her as being very independent. Roberts worked two jobs and published a poetry book on top of graduating college with an English Bachelors in three years in May of 2019.

“I admire how hard she works both school and two jobs,” Pixler said.

Pixler desires to publish some work as well. She is very shy about her work as well.

“It was inspiring that she published a book. I am an introvert and she had the motivation to do it,” Pixler said.

Pixler graduated in 2019 as well. She and Roberts thought about going to graduate school, but they look too forward to not having school work getting in the way of them writing.

After editing, and while she has her school work out of the way, “The Moon Can Take His Time” is just as Roberts wants it.

**I am fairly certain one day I shall end
and meet the last day of my summer
as I fall to Winter’s End.
As my flower petals fall,
circling one by one
and landing on the ground as if to
bow down to the sun.
When my time has drawn to a close
and the curtain closes on me
remember how I tried to be:
I tried to be so happy.
And if you see tears in my eyes
ignore them as you pass me.
Pretending isn’t all that fun
I’m breaking, bending black sheep.
I fall like snow as I come and go
each time is unlike the last.
For every time I saw a line
I fear it shall be my last.**

— Baleigh Roberts
(Posted on Instagram: Baleigh.writes)

Feature

Spilling the beans Favorite Starbucks Drinks

In honor of National Coffee Day, September 28, we asked students what their favorite Starbucks drinks are. The campus Starbucks is located in The Ranger Market in the Student Center. The market has a "Grumpy Hour" from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. and a "Happy Hour" from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., where you can get half price Grande or Venti sized-drinks. The Starbucks is open from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. weekdays.

By **LYLA MURIE**
Student Reporter

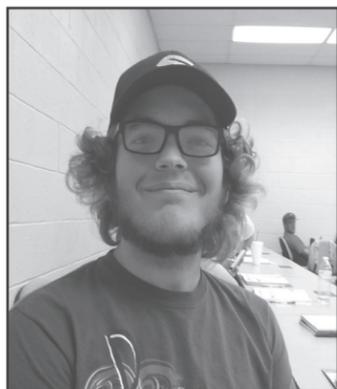


Michael Oakes
Freshman
Sociology major
Cinnamon Mocha Latte

Italy Custard
Freshman
Business major
Caramel frappe



Troi Lynnne
Freshman
Biology major
Double chocolate frappe



Braylon Bratt
Freshman
Agriculture major
French vanilla frappe



Trinity Goff
Freshman
Health and sports science major
White chocolate mocha



Trinity Mendez
Freshman
Social work major
Mocha frappe

Exploring majors

Vocal Music Education

Getting a sneak peak into a different major every week.

By **BRAYDEN WILSON**
Student Reporter

Why did you choose this major?

I felt that my heart belonged in music and teaching others. I had started out as a Nursing major, but felt music pulling me, so I answered that call

What is your favorite class?

My favorite class is definitely Applied Voice with Mrs. Newell. Every year I get to improve and see that improvement in my performances

What is the best part of being in your major?

The best part about my major is seeing myself grow in my music and general confidence. Every time I go on a stage it feels like the hardest thing I've ever done, but pushing through that feeling and improving is what makes me happy.

Tips for underclassmen in this major?

The only tip I'd have to give to an underclassmen in this major is to be sure you have a passion for it. If you're doing things properly you spend hours in practice rooms getting ready for whatever thing you need to do next. It's never boring, but it's never easy either.

What is your dream job within this career?

My dream job with this major would be to have a business teaching people how to sing or make their own music. Along with making my own music.



Michael Day

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Entertainment



Illustration by Michelle Willson

Fulfilling your prophecy: A real royal adventure

By **MICHELLE WILLSON**
Feature/Entertainment Editor

Everything in life can be looked at in different ways. That is exactly what happens in Gimlet's "The Two Princes," a podcast on the Apple podcast app. It is a series of seven episodes; the storyline follows Prince Rupert as he travels to break a mysterious curse that has come over his kingdom. Rupert grew up surrounded by parties, celebrations, and gifts that prevented him from getting any formal training.

He has not heard the prophecy — he didn't even know there was one. One day, the forest attacks, and he is told he must go to the heart of the magical forest to break the curse started by his father. Along the way, he runs into some trouble with magical obstacles the forest throws at him. Right before he is about to be eaten, a mysterious man swoops in and saves him.

He comes to find that the man was Amir Prince of the

East. The prince lies about his true identity, and the two team up to go to the heart of the forest. Along the way, they find out they work better as a team. But, upon their arrival to the heart of the forest, they discover some shocking news. The prophecy has to be fulfilled; otherwise, the forest will swallow up both of their kingdoms.

This story's podcast was suspenseful. It kept my attention the whole time. The voice actors are phenomenal, and the way they used their words to "set the scenes" makes you feel as if you are in their "realm."

I give this podcast a 4.5 out of 5 stars, only because I wish there were more episodes.



Photos by Michelle Willson

"Arsenic and Old Lace" opens Thursday at 7 p.m. It is directed by student Mickey Jordan.

It's show time: Show's cast prepares for opening night



Alumna Erin Lehr and Dr. Dena Walker, professor of mathematics, portray the Brewster sisters.



Brenner Clark, Michael Day, and Ducan Brown all portray police officers in the show.



The show takes place in the Brewster house as Mortimer finds out his aunt's secrets.

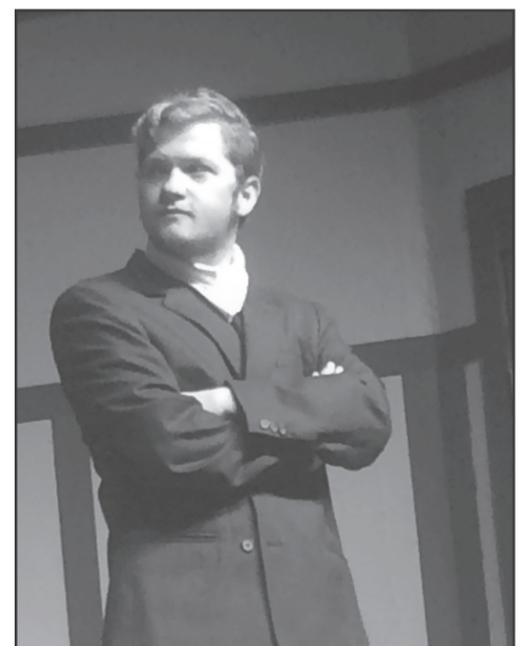
Your Presence is requested...

"Arsenic & Old Lace"
Joseph Kesselring
Directed by Mickey Jordan

Hered Hall Auditorium
October - 3rd & 4th 7:00pm. 5th 2:00pm
General admission \$10
Faculty \$5, Students \$3 (with id)

2019

Poster By Mickey Jordan



Sophomore Dakota Retherford plays Mortimer Brewster. The show follows him as he unravels the dark secrets of his family.

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Sports

Cross country competes at first NWOSU invite

By **NICK DILL**
Student Reporter

The Northwestern Women's Cross Country team finished second in the NWOSU Invitational on Friday. The meet took place at the Alva Golf Course and Country Club.

Jasmin Garcia finished the highest for the Rangers. Garcia placed fourth with a time of 20:38.83 in the 5,000-meter race.

Southeastern Oklahoma State won the race. They placed four in the top five and six in the top 10.

Camille Lear finished in eighth place with a time of 21:44.00. Northwestern will run next at the Chile Pepper Festival on October 5th in Fayetteville, Ark.

On the mens side of things, Garrison Blanton finished first place at the NWOSU Invitational on Sept. 27. The Ranges had an amazing meet.

Northwestern placed in each of the top-six spots. The Rangers won the battle against Redlands Community College 15 to 49.

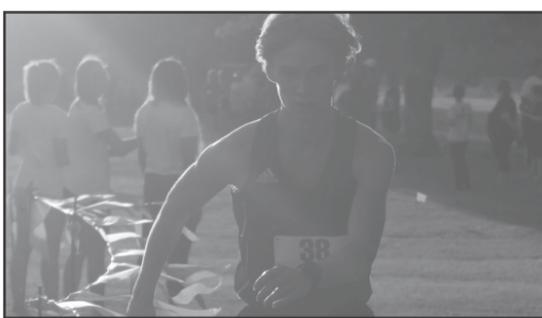
Blanton dominated the race. He finished with a time of 28:38.75. The closest competitor to Blanton finished two minutes and twelve seconds behind him.

Rounding out the top five were many talented runners for the Rangers. Deven Marshall finished second with a time of 30:50.07.

Moises Ortega claimed a third-place finish with a score of 31:01.06.

Jayden Watkins finished ran 31:15.40 to finish in fourth place, and Noble Buckhaults closed out the top five with a time of 31:57.15. Buckhaults finished in fifth place.

The Rangers look to continue their success as they race again at the Chili Pepper Festival on October 5th in Fayetteville, Ark.



Photos by Leah Darnell
Garrison Blanton won the NWOSU Invitational.



Jasmin Garcia finished in fourth place for the rangers.

Volleyball comebacks to win against SNU

By **MADIOSN PARROT**
Athletic Communications

Ranger's volleyball responded to Tuesday night's loss in sensational fashion. After dropping the first two sets to Southern Nazarene, Northwestern answered with three straight wins to take the match 3-2.

Three different Rangers had ten kill games. Kiauna Clark earned 10 kills.

Kaydee Honeycutt and Kate Deterding also had ten kills each. Sydnee Miller led the team in digs with 26 while Kaitlyn Robinson led in assists with 32.

The first set was mainly controlled by SNU as there was only one tie and zero lead changes throughout the set. SNU would use their 17 kills through the first set to win the first one.

After the Crimson Storm opened the match with a 23-14 lead there was a sudden spark in the Northwestern team.

The spark came after Head Coach Fred Aubuchon received a yellow card, but unfortunately it was too late to finish the comeback as NWOSU dropped the first set 25-18. However, it carried into the rest of the match.

The second set was the closest of the match. There was a ton of energy from both teams as they traded point after point.

This was a set that featured 11 ties and four lead changes which was the most for both categories in the match.

The third set is where the match took the turn. After the close second set the crowd helped take over



Photo by Leah Darnell

NWOSU volleyball will play Southeastern on October 4th in Durant.

the match. After trading multiple points early on NWOSU rode an 8-0 run to take a 22-14 lead to take over the set.

Steered by a balanced attack from seniors Clark, and Jennifer Eubanks, who combined for 3.5 blocks and 4 kills. Rangers would finish the set and won by a score of 25-19. The crowd erupted after getting the first set win and never quieted down.

The fourth set started a little shaky as SNU opened a 4-0 lead. After an early timeout called by Aubuchon the Black-and-Red came out aggressively.

The Rangers immediately went on a 9-0 run led by Honeycutt's challenging serves. The Rangers snagged the lead and never let go of it taking the fourth set with a score of 25-18.

The Rangers picked where they left off as they gained the lead

from attacking early and often. A huge kill by Clark, one of two in the set was the turning point for the Black-and-Red.

Northwestern finished with a 15-8 set win and the crown exploded with excitement.

As students stormed onto the court it was hard not to see how excited the fan-base was for the huge come from behind win.

"Comeback wins in any sport are very special, but it means a little more to do it on your home floor," stated Coach Aubuchon after the game. "I'm very proud of how our team responded in this difficult situation, especially against a great team like SNU. That being said, there is no doubt our fans were the driving force behind this victory! The win absolutely goes to Ranger Nation."



Photo by Angel Perez

Northwestern will play Henderson State on Saturday October 5th.

Football stuns Monticello

By **ASHLEY WATTS**
Sports Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University football played Arkansas-Monticello last Saturday and shut them out 28-0. This puts Ranger football at a 2-2 record for the season.

Once again the black and red defense had an outstanding day. The defense had three interceptions and a fumble recovery that led the Rangers to a big win. James Ellis proved his worth with 11 tackles, three solo and a 15-yard pick-six.

With this game the Rangers add to their Great American Conference leading Red Zone Defense. They stopped Arkansas-Monticello a total of 3 times. Northwestern also leads the conference in turnovers. With the

three interceptions during this game Northwestern has tied the school record with most interceptions in a game as an NCAA program.

On the offensive side of the ball quarterback Trent Easley completed 16 of 23 passes for 160 yards and two touchdowns. Denzel Davis had the first touchdown of the game with a 16-yard touchdown catch. Davis was the leading receiver for Northwestern with six catches for a total of 50 yards. Torrence Stevens finished the game with 19 yards on two catches, and Conner O'Neal made his first collegiate career field goal from 24 yards.

Northwestern will look to improve their record as the travel to Arkadelphia, Arkansas, on Saturday, October 5th for a matchup against Henderson State University.

Sports

Soccer ties SWOSU in first GAC game

By **ALEJANDRO AARON**
Student Reporter

“Being able to comeback from a goal down and equalize the score with just 75 seconds to go. This really shows the resolve and character of our team.” said head coach Erik Solberg.

SWOSU attacked the Rangers but the Rangers were able to defend very well as it opened up a little attack of their own. Northwestern and Southwestern shot three shots one team after the other.

In the 39th minute of the first half SWOSU was able squeeze in a goal and make the score 1-0 in their favor.

Southwestern battling hard with aggression gets them a yellow card, and not to long later Northwestern gets one of their own.

The second half was mainly both teams shutting down each other’s shots with good defense.

NWOSU’s Alissa Carlson scores the goal that evens out the



Photo by Angel Perez

Northwestern soccer wil play East Central on Saturday October 5th.

score in the 88th minute of the game and extends the game to overtime.

“To get that last goal we had a lot of chances throughout the game always felt like we were going to score one,” Solberg said.

“We did go a little more direct there at then end. We got the ball forward faster and caught them out. Scored a nice goal, we had a lot of chances to score.

On that goal we really threw numbers forward. The girls grind-

ed it out and were able to find the equalizer,” Solberg said.

The overtime periods would turned the game into a defensive game as both were scoreless with a few shots taken.

It was a very even matchup as both teams finished the game with 14 shots with NWOSU out shooting SWOSU 9-8.

“Thought we played well enough to win the game,” Solberg said. Had the run of play at times. At the end of the day we will take the point against a team that has been the class of our league for the course of a lot of years.

To go into a place we have not won or tied in a long time is something to be pleased about. The girls showed a lot of resolve, character and grit to pull this off,” Solberg said.

Northwestern Oklahoma State will return to action Saturday October 5th against East Central University. NWOSU record is now 3-3-1 while ECU’s is 2-4.



Photo provided

Friday placed in 66th for the Rangers.

Golf takes part in UCO classic

By **ASHLEY WATTS**
Sports Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University women’s golf team competed at the UCO Classic last Monday and Tuesday.

As a team the women’s golf team shot a 349-356-705.

Freshman Samantha Friday led the way for the Lady Rangers as she shot a low score of 84-86-170, which finished her in 66th place.

Sophomore Madison Masch turned in the low score for the Rangers on the second day of the tournament. Masch improved 4 strokes from the first day 89-85-174.

Ashley Watts posted a 93 the second day and an 85 the first day. Watts finished in third for the Ranger team with a total of 178.

Sophomore Mackenna Tennyson was up next for the Rangers as she posted a two round total of 91-92-183. Angela Egger rounded out the Lady Rangers with a total of 93-96-189.

The lady Rangers finsihed in 16th place out of an 18 team field. Central Oklahoma took home the trophy by shooting 306-295-601.

The women’s golf team will take a week off as they travel to Lawton to play in the Oklahoma Intercollegiate on October 14-15.

Volleyball wins in rematch against Texas A&M-Kingsville

By **MADISON PARROT**
Athletic Communications

Northwestern Oklahoma State University volleyball team earned a rematch win against non-conference opponent Texas A&M-Kingsville Monday afternoon in Weatherford, Okla.

The Rangers took the first two sets easily, dropped the third, and then finished business in the fourth to take the match [25-11, 25-19, 22-25, 25-20].

The Black-and-Red earned an overall hit percentage of .245 while they also out-blocked the Javelinas 9-5. Kiauna Clark added another fantastic game to her already phenomenal senior season with a team-leading 18 kills, and a hit percentage of .324.

Kaydee Honeycutt and Jennifer Eubanks followed with 11 and nine kills respectively, while Eubank’s five blocks led the team. Kaitlyn Robinson led the team in assists,40, and service aces, 4, while Sydnee Miller earned a team high 23 digs.

Northwestern took control of the first set quickly with a 5-0 run which made the score 8-3. Back-to-back kills from Clark gave the

Rangers their highest lead of the game 12-6 and they never looked back.

The Javelina’s small rally was squashed by the Rangers with two more Clark slams to take the win 25-21.

The second set started out with a back-and-forth battle, but it was only a matter of time until someone gained control.

The Rangers decided that was going to be them as they went on an 8-0 run which made the score 12-7.

The latter half bounced between the two teams until the Rangers took advantage of some Javelina hitting errors which gave the Black-and-Red the second set 25-19.

Northwestern came out hot in the third set with a 5-0 run after a Clark kill and a huge block by Clark and Alexi Beach.

The Javelinas stayed just a few points behind and then came screaming back to tie the score 16-16. Texas A&M-Kingsville refused to back down after that as they snatched the third set 22-25.

The Javelinas rode their momentum into the fourth as they gained control of the early parts of the set.



Photo by Angel Perez

NWOSU will take on Arkansas-Monticello at Ranger Field on Sept. 28.

The upper classmen in Honeycutt, Eubanks, Clark, and Kate Deterding took control of the second set as they combined for fifteen kills through the set.

Another pair of back-to-back kills from Clark slammed the door on the Javelinas. The Rangers earned the fourth and final set 25-20.

Northwestern is scheduled to play against opponent Southeastern Oklahoma State University

Friday October 4th.



Volleyball travels:

Southeastern State
Oct. 4

Soccer travels:

East Central
Oct. 5

Football travels:

Henderson State
Oct. 5

Women’s golf travels:

Oklahoma Intercolle
Sept. 29- Oct. 1

Cross Country travels:

Chili Pepper Cross Country
Festival
Oct. 5



Health and fitness obstacle held on intramural field



Top Right: Members of sorority Alpha Sigma Alpha stand together at the obstacle course last Thursday

Left: Sophomore Chris Ortiz participates in the water bucket dumping event

Bottom Right: Two competitors participate in the water bucket dumping event at the Health and fitness obstacle course



Photos by Jordan Green