

## Smile of the Week



Photo by Leah Darnell

Dr. Dean Scarbrough, a professor of agriculture, is smiling because he enjoys when his students laugh at his “dad” jokes.

## Inside:

### NEWS

• The 2020 presidential election season has begun, and the first round of voting is Mar. 3. Find out more about when and where to vote.

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### EDITORIAL

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### ACTING IT OUT

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- The NWOSU rodeo team competed at K-State.
- The Rangers fell to OBU.

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## SHOOTING FOR THE STARS



# HAVING A BALL

## Brown scores 1,000 points

By EMMA SPORLEDER  
Student Reporter



*Editor’s Note: This story is the first in a series, “Shooting for the Stars,” which features NWOSU basketball players who have scored 1,000 points or more during their current collegiate careers.*

Bailey Brown, a junior biology and chemistry major from Enid, put her name in Northwestern Oklahoma State University’s record books when she became the thirteenth basketball player in the program’s history to score 1,000 points for the Lady Rangers.

Brown started playing basketball at the Alva Recreation Complex in first grade and decided that she loved being in that type of atmosphere.

“I really like winning,” she said. She said it’s her favorite part about competing.

Before graduating from Chisholm High School in 2017, she decided to visit Northwestern to find out if she wanted to become a member of the Lady Rangers basketball team. The former players and her coaches persuaded her to be a part of the Ranger family.

Little did Brown know that she would become a record-breaking athlete in fewer than three years. Not only has she scored over 1,000 points in her collegiate career, Brown has also earned several awards. She has been named Great American Conference Player of the Week twice, NWOSU Athlete of the Month twice, Great American Conference Honorable Mention, NWOSU Female Athlete of the Year, and NWOSU Sophomore Female Athlete of the Year.

In 2019, a 20-year-old single-game rebound record changed in Percefull Fieldhouse after the Lady Rangers blew out Southeastern Oklahoma State University 90-44. During this game, Brown put her name in the record book when she pulled down a game record: 26 rebounds, one shy of tying the

See BROWN, Page 2



Photo by Leah Darnell

## The power of diversity

### Diversity meetings will be open to all

By ASHLY STREHL  
Editor-in-Chief

Diversity is a topic that is not often discussed but that is heavily prevalent in today’s society, especially on higher education campuses.

Today, starting at 2 p.m., Northwestern Oklahoma State University will host Shewanda Riley, a professor of English at Tarrant County College in Hurst, Texas. She will deliver diversity training sessions that are open to the campus and community. The sessions will end tomorrow.

Riley discusses diversity-related topics across the nation,



Shewanda Riley

and she has completed a number of publications and presentations. During the two-day event, she will speak about racial diversity, host readings, and meet with faculty, staff and students.

Riley plans to speak on the title, “White Fragility for Beginners: How Higher Education Can Handle Conversations About the Elephant in the Room.” Riley said the “elephant in the room” is referring to the issue that people know is there but, for a variety of reasons, choose not to acknowledge.

“Sometimes, this occurs because of fear, anxiety, ignorance or misinformation,” Riley said. “When it comes to the issue of ‘white fragility,’ the elephant in the room is the sometimes overly emotional response that people have when it comes to discussions of race in higher education.”

Every year, the diversity committee at Northwestern works to See DIVERSITY, Page 2

## Oklahoma leaders create new state logo

By MEGAN BROWN  
Student Reporter

The state of Oklahoma recently made the decision to rebrand itself with a new logo and slogan.

The new brand will soon be seen on welcome signs, license plates, and other materials.

Governor Kevin Stitt said during an interview: “We feel like we came up with a world-class brand. It was by Oklahomans, for Oklahomans.”

The process of creating the new brand started during the summer of 2019 and took over nine months to complete.

See BRAND, Page 3



# News

## \*\*\*\* DECISION 2020 \*\*\*\*

### What you need to know about the Mar. 3 presidential primary

Voters across the nation will head to the polls Mar. 3 for the first round of the 2020 presidential elections. Here's some basic information about when to vote, where to vote, and what names will be on the ballot.

#### EARLY VOTING

Early voting is open today and tomorrow from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. It will also be open Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Early voting is available at the County Election Board office, located at 410 4 St., Alva, OK, Suite C.

#### ELECTION DAY

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 3rd. Lines are possible at peak voting times. Wait times will likely be shortest mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Anyone in line to vote at 7 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

#### CHECKING REGISTRATION

Those who need to look up their polling place or verify their registration can access the information on the Oklahoma State Election Board's website: <http://www.elections.ok.gov>.

Those who vote by mail can also check the status of their ballots using the online voter tool. Sample ballots are available at the county election board office and on the state website under the "voter tools" tab.

#### ID REQUIREMENTS

Oklahoma law requires every voter who votes in-person at the precinct polling place or during early voting at the county election board to show proof of identity before receiving a ballot. There are three ways for voters to prove their identity under the law (only one form is required): a valid photo ID issued by a federal, state, or tribal government; the free voter identification card issued to every voter by the county election board; or a signed affidavit. (If the information on the affidavit matches official voter registration records, the ballot will be counted after Election Day.)

To obtain a new voter ID card, call 580-327-1452.

#### DISABLED VOTERS

Polling places have accommodations for: physically disabled voters who cannot enter the poll-

ing place; those who need help marking their ballots; blind or visually disabled voters; and illiterate voters.

They may be assisted by a person the voter chooses. In all cases, a person providing such assistance may not be the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union.

A person providing assistance also must swear or affirm that the voter's ballots will be marked in accordance with the voter's wishes.

Alternatively, all blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled voters in Woods County may use the audio-tactile interface. This is a feature offered on all Oklahoma voting devices during early voting and during Election Day.

#### I'VE MOVED

Voters who have moved since the last election, but who have not transferred their voter registration to their new address, may do so on Election Day by going to vote at the polling place where their registration has been in the past.

While voting, they may fill out a form instructing the county

election board to transfer their registration to the new address before the next election.

#### DON'T CHEAT

Any violation of election law will be reported to the proper law enforcement authorities. Electioneering is not allowed within 300 feet of a ballot box.

#### LOCAL POLLING PLACES

The polling places that will be open are based on ZIP codes. They are as follows:

- 760001 – Northwest Technology Center
- 760002 – Waynoka Housing Authority
- 760003 – The Homestead
- 760004 – Dacoma Community Center
- 760005 – Alva City Hall
- 760008 – Freedom Methodist Church

Check the bottom left-hand corner of your voter ID card to find your polling place location.

All mail-in absentee ballots must be received in the election board's office on or before Mar. 3 to be counted.

### DIVERSITY: Speaker hopes to address tough topics

Continued from Page 1

bring in relevant speakers who teach campus and community members about issues in today's culture. Committee members include: Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology; Dr. Roger Brown, associate professor of business; Dr. Steven Mackie, professor of education; Dr. Coleen Golightly, associate professor of education; Mary-Ann Braten-Hall, instructor of education; Shawna Gilbert, access services librarian; Karsten Longhurst, instructor of music; and Dr. Wei Zhou, associate professor of business.

Also included are Dr. Henry Trabuc, assistant professor of education; Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work; Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology; Sadiya Jones, associate director of athletics for compliance and student services; and Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management.

Riley said she believes the topic of diversity affects every aspect of people's lives.

"I've found that diversity can connect and as well as divide and separate," Riley said. "I like to approach diversity from the perspective of opening conversations that unite. I'm personally able to learn from and respect others that may appear different from me."

Riley believes this topic can be quite effective when it comes to higher education.

"It helps more effectively equip faculty, students, staff and administrators to better serve the needs of the increasingly diverse student populations," Riley said. "So much of what we do in higher education extends beyond the traditional teaching time in the classroom. We can not only build student centered programs and curriculum, but we can also be better prepared as higher education professionals."

The 2 p.m. session and the 7 p.m. session today will be available via the Zoom Meeting app at the Enid and Woodward campuses, and so will the 10 a.m. session tomorrow.

For more information, contact Decker by phone at 580.327.8521 or via email at [kldecker@nwsu.edu](mailto:kldecker@nwsu.edu).

### DEMOCRATIC BALLOT

OFFICIAL DEMOCRATIC BALLOT  
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY  
March 03, 2020  
WOODS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA  
PRECINCT 760001-REG  
Page 1/1

TO VOTE: FILL IN THE BOX NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE(S) LIKE THIS:

PRESIDENT

FOR PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

- ELIZABETH WARREN DEMOCRAT
- CORY BOOKER DEMOCRAT
- DEVAL PATRICK DEMOCRAT
- MARIANNE WILLIAMSON DEMOCRAT
- JOSEPH R. BIDEN DEMOCRAT
- TOM STEYER DEMOCRAT
- AMY KLOBUCHAR DEMOCRAT
- MICHAEL BENNET DEMOCRAT
- BERNIE SANDERS DEMOCRAT
- JULIÁN CASTRO DEMOCRAT
- ANDREW YANG DEMOCRAT
- PETE BUTTIGIEG DEMOCRAT
- TULSI GABBARD DEMOCRAT
- MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG DEMOCRAT

### REPUBLICAN BALLOT

OFFICIAL REPUBLICAN BALLOT  
PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENTIAL PRIMARY  
March 03, 2020  
WOODS COUNTY, OKLAHOMA  
PRECINCT 760001-REG  
Page 1/1

TO VOTE: FILL IN THE BOX NEXT TO YOUR CHOICE(S) LIKE THIS:

PRESIDENT

FOR PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

- MATTHEW JOHN MATERN REPUBLICAN
- JOE WALSH REPUBLICAN
- ZOLTAN G. ISTVAN REPUBLICAN
- ROQUE ROCKY DE LA FUENTE REPUBLICAN
- BOB ELY REPUBLICAN
- DONALD J. TRUMP REPUBLICAN

Sample ballots provided by Woods County Election Board

### BROWN: Junior player has varied interests

Continued from Page 1  
Great American Conference single game rebound record.

Brown's favorite memory from basketball was going to Hawaii in 2019 with her teammates from

Northwestern and playing two games while they were there.

With big plans of attending medical school after graduating college, Brown keeps herself busy by balancing road trips to games,

practices, workouts and homework.

"It is definitely hard balancing everything, but being organized helps me a lot," she said.

Her dream job is to one day be-

come an anesthesiologist.

When Brown isn't shooting money balls and pulling down rebounds, she enjoys painting, taking care of her plants and going on vacations to the beach.

Thanks for supporting the *Northwestern News!*



# News

## What's up?

### BRAND: State hopes new image will boost tourism

Continued from Page 1

People from across the state who are in different forms of advertising and marketing volunteered their time to help create the new image.

While a large majority of the creativity was found within the state, a company out of Canada was paid to finalize the project.

According to *The Oklahoman*, this was done because officials did not believe that choosing one branding firm in Oklahoma would benefit the state. Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell said if one firm had been chosen, others would not have been willing to bring their ideas forward.

The new tagline, "Imagine That," will soon be found across the state. While there have been some controversial views over this slogan, the wording was meant to be open-ended in an attempt to hint at all the hidden treasures the state has to offer. After the slogan was revealed, many took to social media to share their opinions.

"The phrasing 'Imagine That' almost comes across as sarcasm," April Shultz, a NWOSU student, said. "People often say that when they are trying to imply that they already know what is being said to them."

While Shultz does see the sarcasm, she also believes that the state was ready for an update.

As for the image, the new logo consists of many different colors in the shape of a circle with a star in the center. The shape is meant to represent that the fact that Oklahoma is in the middle of the United States.

The color range is to symbolize the different earth tones found within the state. For example, the blue represents water, while the red hints towards being the red-dirt state. The layout also pays tribute to those who have served within the state.

As for the star in the center, this is directly related to American history and the stars upon the American Flag.

Along with months of time, this creative process also used thousands of dollars. While a large amount of work was volunteered, according to Pinnell, more than \$200,000 was put into



Graphic provided by Lt. Gov.'s office

The new logo for the State of Oklahoma is shown in this graphic.

the project. This money was put towards the Canadian company that handled the rebranding and launch. Oklahoma taxpayers were responsible for paying \$100,000 of this cost, while the other came from private investors.

Many social media posts were raising questions of why tax dollars were not being put towards things like fixing streets and oth-

er issues across the state. While the controversial conversations continue on the web, Stitt and Pinnell both said they believe the new branding represents that state well.

"Together these elements form a circle and direct their energy inward again dramatizing Oklahoma as a hub, the center of America," Pinnell said.

#### TONIGHT:

##### GOODIE GIVEAWAY

The second to last Goodie Giveaway of the semester will be held at tonight's Ranger basketball game.

There will be a baked item giveaway fundraiser. Buy three tickets for \$1.

The event will be held in Percefull Fieldhouse, and it begins at 4:30 p.m.

#### FEB. 29:

##### FINAL GOODIE GIVEAWAY TAKES PLACE TONIGHT

The last Goodie Giveaway of the semester will be held at tonight's Ranger basketball game.

There will be a baked item giveaway fundraiser. Buy three tickets for \$1.

The event will be held in Percefull Fieldhouse, and it begins at 12:00 p.m.

#### FEB. 28:

##### REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR TO BE HELD

Public school students and their teachers from the area will be on campus for the day. Northwestern students, employees and community members will serve as judges.

The following rooms on campus will be used for the event:

- Use of Ranger Room for Division I projects (grades 10 - 12)

- Use of Ballroom for Division II and III projects (grades 6 - 9)

- Use of Ballroom for awards ceremony

- Use of President's Room for hospitality
- Use of Wyatt Room for judges

For more information about the event, contact Dr. Steven Maier by phone at 580-327-8562 or via email at [sjmaier@nwosu.edu](mailto:sjmaier@nwosu.edu).

#### MAR. 4:

##### ART DROP-OFF

Those entering pieces in the annual art show must drop their work off in the library between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.



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## NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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

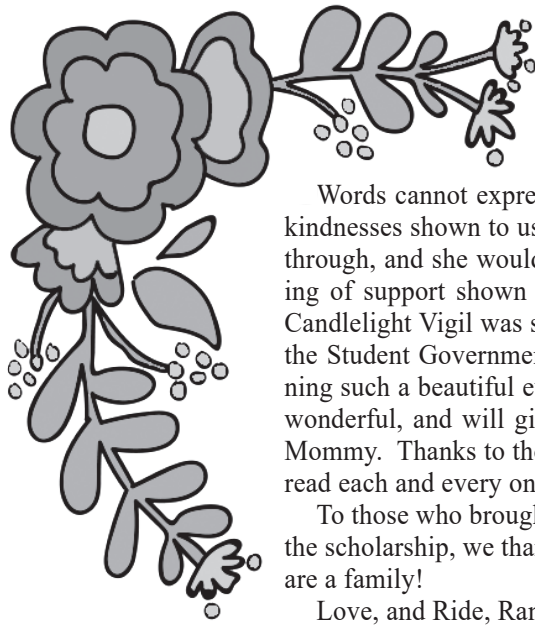
Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to [nwnews@nwosu.edu](mailto:nwnews@nwosu.edu). Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to 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



## To our Ranger family:

Words cannot express how appreciative the Cunningham family is for all the kindnesses shown to us during Allison's passing. She was a Ranger through and through, and she would have been overwhelmed and humbled with the outpouring of support shown by the students, faculty and staff at Northwestern. The Candlelight Vigil was so moving and we will remember it always. Thank you to the Student Government Association and their sponsor, Olivia Yandel, for planning such a beautiful event. The Memorial Issue of the Northwestern News was wonderful, and will give Brooklyn and Zane such a timeless keepsake of their Mommy. Thanks to those who posted memories on all kinds of media. We have read each and every one and appreciate them so much.

To those who brought food, sent flowers, sent cards and/or made donations for the scholarship, we thank you. The outpouring of support shows that we all truly are a family!

Love, and Ride, Rangers, Ride  
The Cunningham Family

## EDITOR'S RANT OF THE WEEK

By ASHLEY STREHL  
Editor-in-Chief

This week I am going to talk about something that is a bit out of context for me. I am going to talk about meditation.

Now, initially when I thought of the word "meditation" my mind immediately used to think of the bald people saying, "ooo-ouuhhmmm," but now, it has a whole new meaning to me.

Almost every night before I go to sleep I meditate. I lead quite a busy and stressful life and at the end of the day, sometimes I can actually find it hard to relax. Fun fact: there are a plethora of meditation videos on YouTube! Some of them are just relaxing music, some are sounds like the ocean or rain and some will have an actual person talking you through the meditation. The best part; all of this is free, as long as you don't mind the occasional 30 second dove shampoo ad at the beginning of every video.

I used to find it so weird that people would listen to others talk so they could fall asleep, but here I am, utilizing it. I find myself falling asleep during the videos and waking up to find that the video ended.

Your mental health should be your absolute first priority in life. College has taught me that I cannot perform my best if my mental health is not in check.

There have been semesters where it was harder to manage than others, but I have always stayed on track. You have to find out what relaxes you and do that.

**There should be no excuse for not taking care of yourself.**

If meditation is not your thing, I just want to leave you with one message: take time for yourself to relax. Ever since I started meditating I have noticed a positive impact in my sleep and in my life.

Take time to relax whether that's laying down before bed or even sitting outside in the morning, (when it gets warmer of course). Remember, you would not have a life without you in it, so take care of yourself Rangers!

# Is it natural?

By MEGAN BROWN  
Student Reporter

Throughout my life people have always recognized me as "the girl with the hair." Having curly hair has always been a conversation starter and often times opens the door to some off the wall statements.

As a child, I always resented my hair and would wish that it was straight, like the majority of my friends hair. I remember many nights of fussing and fighting with my parents over getting my hair brushed. While people always had positive comments to make about it, I had a hard time understanding the hype behind the curls.

When I was around 10 years old I made my first curly girl mistake,, I cut my hair. All the girls in my class were rocking chin length bobs and I decided I wanted to join the club. I am not sure why no one stopped me (thanks mom) but this short hair cut just did not mesh with the curls. I ultimately ended up rocking a puffy, triangle shaped haircut for a couple of years until it grew back out.

Having different and difficult hair has taught me a lot of things, including patience and how to rock a very, very messy bun.

One of my favorite questions I get constantly is "Do you brush your hair?" Yes, people, I do brush my hair! Just not the same way most people do. Running a brush through my dry hair is asking for a disaster. My hair is only combed through while it is wet and has conditioner in it. This prevents breakage, lessens the pain and gets rid of tangles.

Now, on the odd chance that I do run a brush through my hair dry, I look as if I have been electrocuted, which leads me to my next story.

Working with the public has opened a door for people to make comments on my hair almost daily. I once had a man ask me if I had stuck my finger in an outlet, which I was confused by at first, until I realized he was referring to my hair. I was not offended, I just laughed, but not the most appropriate way to

address the mop on my head.

Another point I want to make, and I think I can speak for most curly haired people on this, I know it may be tempting but please don't touch my hair unless we are friends or you ask first! Attempting to run your fingers through my hair is only going to create an awkward situation for everyone when I have to help you untangle your hand after it gets stuck.

Overall, I have grown to love the hair I was blessed with and I learned how to tame the mane, sometimes. I appreciate each and every compliment I receive on my locks as it has helped me build the confidence to stand out in a crowd.

And to answer the question everyone is always dying to know, yes, it is natural!



Illustration by McKayla Holson

**Interested in writing?  
Share your opinions!  
Contact McKayla Holson**

**[mrholson30@rangers.nwosu.edu](mailto:mrholson30@rangers.nwosu.edu)**



# Editorial

## Are workers being railroaded?

*A state lawmaker filed a bill to protect members of the railroad industry, but, even if the legislature passes the bill, it will be derailed.*

By **JORDAN GREEN**  
News Editor

A state lawmaker has filed a bill to protect the hard-working men and women of the railroad industry. But even if the Legislature passes his bill, it's going to be derailed.

Rep. David Perryman, a Democrat from Chickasha, has filed House Bill 2874, which would require all freight trains in Oklahoma to have two-man crews: an engineer, who runs the locomotive, and a conductor, who inspects cars and directs the engineer.

So, why?

In May 2019, the Federal Railroad Administration dropped a proposed rule that would have required two-man crews on trains. It was first discussed in 2016 in response to two train-related accidents that occurred three years prior. At the time, FRA officials said they would review whether crew sizes have an impact on railroad safety.

But alas, the verdict from the government: You don't need two people on a train to make it safer.

Ronald Batory, administrator of the FRA, said in the Federal Register that the agency has found no evidence showing that staffing requirements increase safety. But that's in direct contradiction to the testimony of more than a thousand railroad employees who said two-man crews are critical to protecting the lives of crew members and the public alike.

During the rule-making process, the FRA accepted public comments. The consensus among railroad workers: Staffing requirements are imperative.

"The vast majority of comments supporting crew staffing requirements, approximately 1,418, were filed by members of the public on behalf of themselves as individuals," Batory wrote in the Federal Register filing. "Most of these individual commenters identified themselves as current, former, or retired train crewmembers. These commenters largely provided anecdotal information supporting why they thought trains staffed with fewer than two persons created unsafe conditions."

Even if two-man crews don't improve safety, as the government wants you to believe, they're still vital to the industry. As a railroad

worker myself, I can tell you why.

Engineers are responsible for operating the locomotive. They sit in the cab and watch the rail ahead, blow the horn at crossings, and keep their hands on the throttle.

It sounds simple. But in reality, there are dozens of moving parts to keep track of. Engineers also have to watch out for pedestrians and cars on the tracks.

But what happens if, say, a brake hose on the train comes apart? Each train car has brakes, and if just one car's brakes fail, the entire train will eventually stop. Without a conductor there to help remedy the problem, the train could be stuck for quite some time until a repair crew comes along. If the train is in a remote area, it's going to take even longer. That leaves a train sitting somewhere – potentially blocking road crossings used by commuters and emergency vehicles – for hours.

Conductors play an important role in quickly finding and repairing those kinds of problems.

But for Batory, a longtime railroad executive, hearing from the men and women who ride the rails every day wasn't convincing enough. He wrote that staffing requirements would "impede the future of rail innovation and automation."

In other words, requiring two-man crews is bad because it would protect people's jobs and prevent corporations from replacing people with machines. And that's exactly what major railroads are wanting to do right now.

Hunter Harrison served as president of CSX, one of the nation's largest railroad companies, for just a few months before he died in 2017. May he rest in peace.

Even though his tenure was short, his impact on the industry wasn't. He created a practice called precision-scheduled railroading. Here's the gist of it: Make trains longer, that way you can employ fewer engineers and conductors. Get rid of customers who don't make you enough money. And force your remaining customers to abide by your schedule – or get rid of them, too.

The goal of PSR is to give railroads short-term increases in profit by reducing expenses. In that way, the program worked – for a while. But as the Wall Street Journal reports, those profits are

already drying up. In August 2019, the Journal reported that rising stock prices for CSX, Norfolk Southern, and Union Pacific had already started to slow down. It's becoming cheaper to ship goods by truck, and it's becoming easier, too. Trucking companies probably won't turn down shipping opportunities for smaller businesses. Even if they did, independent truckers would pick up the slack.

Thus far, PSR hasn't improved the business of railroading. But it has railroaded thousands of employees. According to a January article in the Washington Post, more than 20,000 railroad workers have lost their jobs in the last year. When they receive government assistance, it's the money earned by We the People – not large companies – that supports them.

Large railroads will come off the rails if they continue to slash staffing and cut customer contracts. The victims here are employees who have families to provide for, and customers who have goods to ship but no efficient way to bring them to market. The tragedy of the situation is that the federal agency designed to keep workers safe is letting railroads go ahead with plans to further reduce staffing levels.

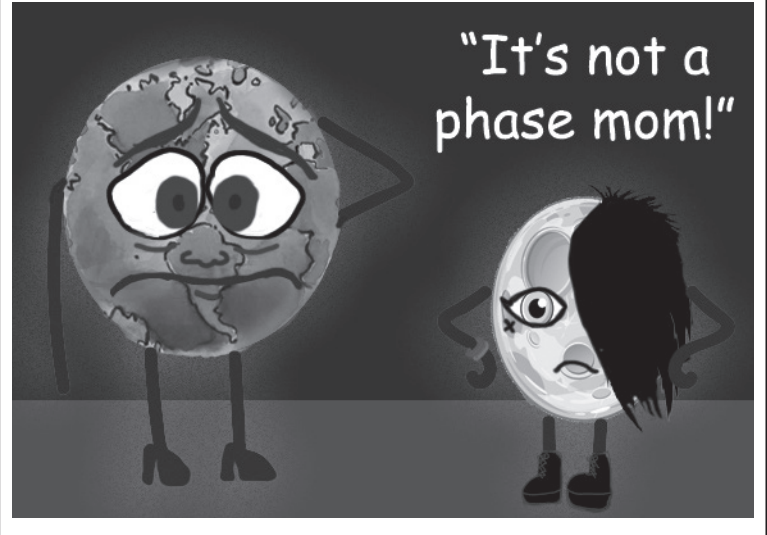
After dropping the proposed staffing rule, the FRA imposed a preemptive directive; it overrides and essentially nullifies any state laws meant to protect staffing requirements. So even if the Oklahoma Legislature passes Perryman's bill, it would be unenforceable.

For the railroad industry, which has historically prided itself on giving Americans good-paying jobs, PSR is a terrible about-face, one that the federal government should put to a stop. But the FRA has ignored the testimony of railroad workers and instead bowed to the demands of large corporations, who finance political campaigns and abuse the endless benefits of our nation's capitalistic economy.

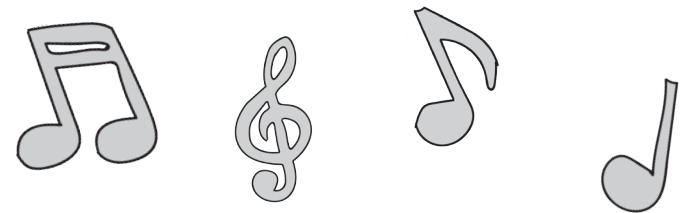
Perryman has his heart in the right place by trying to protect the people who work day and night to keep this country moving. But thanks to career politicians and wealthy shareholders in Washington, his noble plan to safeguard the livelihoods of railroad workers has already been derailed.

Astronomical Parenting

Michelle Willson



## Comic Corner



## Music soothes the soul

*Music helps take your mind off of issues and worries you may be having by releasing endorphins and oxytocin.*

By **ALEJANDRO AARON**  
Student Reporter

Music plays a bigger role in our lives than we are able to realize on the day to day basis.

Music can stimulate the body's natural feel good chemicals such as endorphins and oxytocin. It helps energize your moods and take control of your feelings. It can help you work through life problems at times.

When you find your specific genre, artist, album, song or playlist that is relatable to your life or what you been through just hits the heart different. You feel like you have found someone that can relate to what you are going through or how you feel.

Music is a type of art. Just like any other form art making and observing art can help soothe the soul. Making art can help you express how you feel. Music can make you feel a certain way.

Sometimes in certain songs you may just like just the beat, the flow, the rhythm, or the lyrics. Everyone has their own taste on what they like more when it comes to music. Most of the time it's what the artist is saying and the message they are sending out in that specific song. Sometimes it can be how they say it as well.

Just like any other form of art every artist has a talent (which is being creative when it comes to being artistic) and they have their own style. Everyone has a liking for a certain style and that is how listeners find out which artist or song they like.

You will find what you like and listening to it gives you that good feeling. When you have found your favorite artist you will continuously be looking and waiting for them to drop new music that will give you that good feeling again.

That feeling that music gives you helps you in ways you don't even realize. It helps you take your mind off of problems and helps you stop worrying. It can also give you ideas on how to solve problems. It's a necessity when it comes to life.





# Love found in unexpected places

## 'Almost, Maine' tells stories of love lost and love found



Photos by McKayla Holson

Jeffery Cher-aime confesses his feelings to Duncan Brown before literally falling for him.



Michael Day and Sydney Endsley share a kiss after confessing their attraction to each other.



Chuy Dominguez doesn't know how to feel after receiving a kiss on the cheek from Trinity Mendez.



Madison Wilson expresses intense emotion after receiving a ring from Justin Meyer. She said yes.



Trinity Mendez uses an ironing board to protect herself from Chuy Dominguez while Dominguez explains his list of what hurts and what he should fear.



Maleah Schmitz and Brenner Clark decide it is better to go their separate ways after having an argument.



Justin Meyer and Madison Wilson share a kiss after Meyer gives all of Wilson's love back to her in the form of a ring.



Michael Day and Sydney Endsley strip down and make plans to call in "sick" to work the next day after spending the night together



Aliyah Bidwell reminds Austin Morton of the bar's special, free "buds" for sad people.



Austin Morton and Adria Lujan catch up in the bar after bumping into each other.



# Feature

## SGA hosts Grocery Bingo in Cafe



Photos by Leah Darnell

Courttni Gullett, Jaci Sims, Allysa Donaldson and Lynnlea McGuire smile as they hope to win big at Grocery Bingo.



Caitlin Johnson tries to decide on what to get after getting a Bingo.



Marisella Perez adds paper towels to her sack along with her other goodies.



Students getting ready for another round of grocery bingo.



## Fischer's stepping stones for the future

*Working here and getting her masters of edu.*

By **GEORGE SMITH**  
Student Reporter

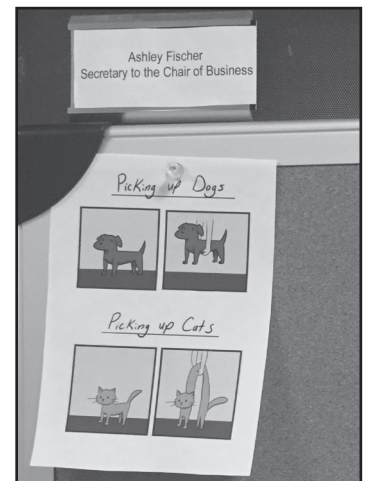
The start of something new can be a challenge and a steppingstone all in one.

With a bachelor's degree in computer science from Northwestern and a love for numbers and Excel, an entry level job as the secretary for the Division of Business at Northwestern seemed to suit Ashley Fischer just right.

While she works for the Division of Business, she is also working on a master's degree in education, but she is still unsure of her area.

"I would like to teach computer science," Fischer said, "but business and accounting sounds fun too because of all the numbers to play with."

On her commute from Kiowa every day with her husband, Richard Fischer, they indulge in conversations like which fish tastes the best, a lesson she learned while deep sea fishing for red snappers off the coast of Key West and how kids show their animals in the FFA, which she would have liked to do in high school seeing as how she graduated from the rural district



Ashley Fischer's office door in JD

of Chisholm Public Schools.

With her minor in the visual arts, Fischer is quite the artist. Although she hates selling her pieces because of the, "personal attachment to them."

"I sold my first one at the show with all of the other art majors," she said, "and I felt awful about it. It hurt to sell something that you've worked on for forty plus hours"

Some of her paintings are hung up in her room on the second floor of Jesse Dunn along with her sense of humor on the door with pictures of memes and other quirky cutouts pinned up.

Overall Fischer says that her position is a good steppingstone toward furthering her career as a teacher and hopes that the lessons learned in school and at work will help her succeed in the future.

# Leaping into 2020

## Why we have leap years and leaplings

By **EMMA SPORLEDER**  
Student Reporter

A year is usually defined as the amount of time it takes a planet to complete one orbit around the sun. For Earth, this takes 365 days, five hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds, or about 365.25 days. This is called a tropical year or a solar year. A common year, which is what we see on a calendar, has 365 days. Do you notice a problem?

Even though it takes the Earth about 365.25 days to go around the sun, our calendar only has 365 days in a common year. This means that every four years, we need to add an extra day to our calendar to make it match up with the tropical year again. We add an extra day to the calendar in the form of February 29, also known as Leap Day.

Julius Caesar, a soldier and



politician who lived in Rome about 2000 years ago, came up with the idea of correcting the calendar. His idea was to add one day to the calendar every four years if the year was evenly divisible by four.

So, for example, the year 1200 is evenly divisible by four, so it would be a leap year, while the year 1350, which isn't evenly divisible by four, wouldn't be a leap year.

Therefore, 1700, 1800, 1900 were not leap years, and 2100 will not be a leap year. But, 1600 and 2000 were leap years because those year numbers are evenly divisible by 400.

People born on Leap Day are called Leaplings. There are only about 5 million people in the whole world who were born on Feb. 29, with the odds of being born on Leap Day standing at about 1-in-1,461.

Several famous people including actress and singer Dinah Shore (born 1916), motivational speaker Tony Robbins (born 1960) and hip-hop artist Ja Rule (born 1976) are leaplings. Leaplings technically only get to celebrate their birthdays once every four years, but they do get bragging rights for being born on a day that only happens every four years.

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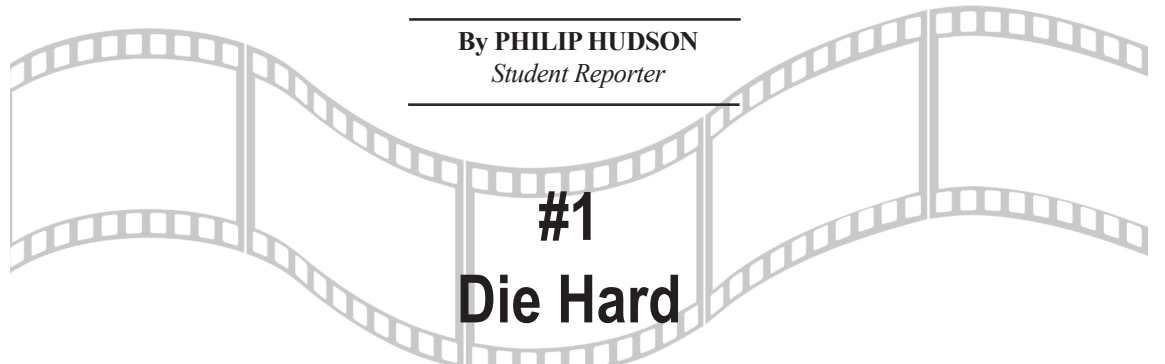
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# Entertainment

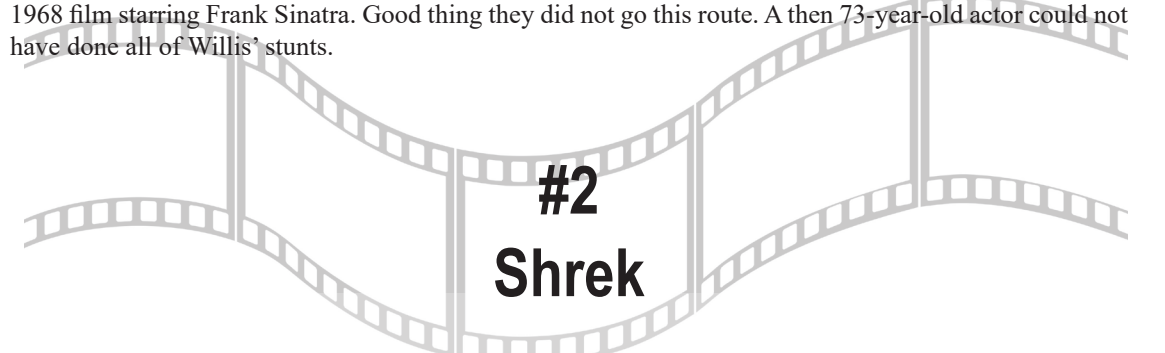
## Films to see before you die

By PHILIP HUDSON  
Student Reporter



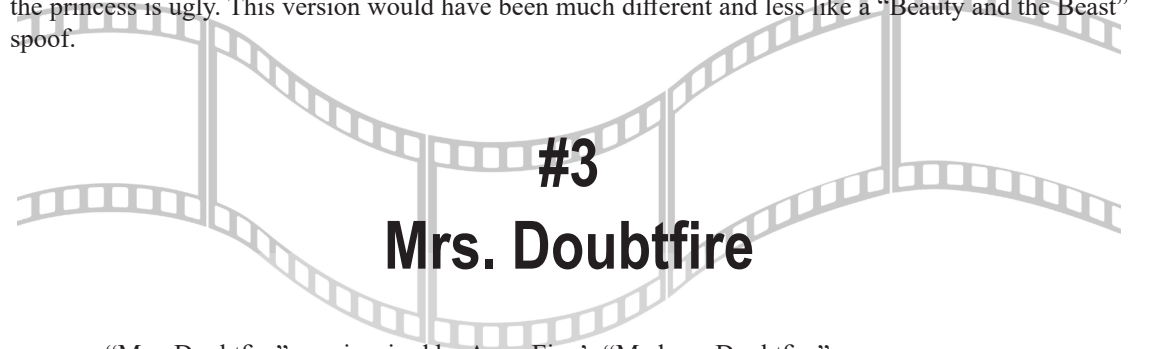
“Die Hard” was inspired by Roderick Thorp’s “Nothing Last Forever”

“Die Hard” (1988) is a film about a New York police officer trying to stop a robbery at his wife’s company’s Christmas Party. The book the film is based on has several differences: it’s his daughter who works at the company, the group are terrorists but they are sympathetic, and John McClane is actually a WWII vet named Joe Leland. This book is also a sequel book, “The Detective” which was made into a 1968 film starring Frank Sinatra. Good thing they did not go this route. A then 73-year-old actor could not have done all of Willis’ stunts.



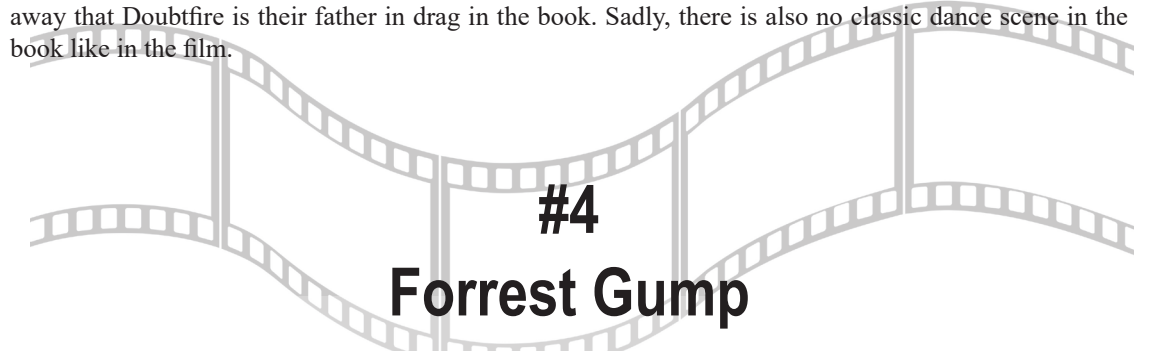
“Shrek” was inspired by William Steig’s “Shrek”

“Shrek” (2001) is a film about an ogre trying to get his home back and ends up falling in love with a princess. This mishmash of fairy tales and comical post-modern references is actually based on a graphic novel of the same name. It was published in 1990 and features a terrifying ogre who is kicked out of the family roost and he explores the world, when he accidentally saves a princess. Another difference is that the princess is ugly. This version would have been much different and less like a “Beauty and the Beast” spoof.



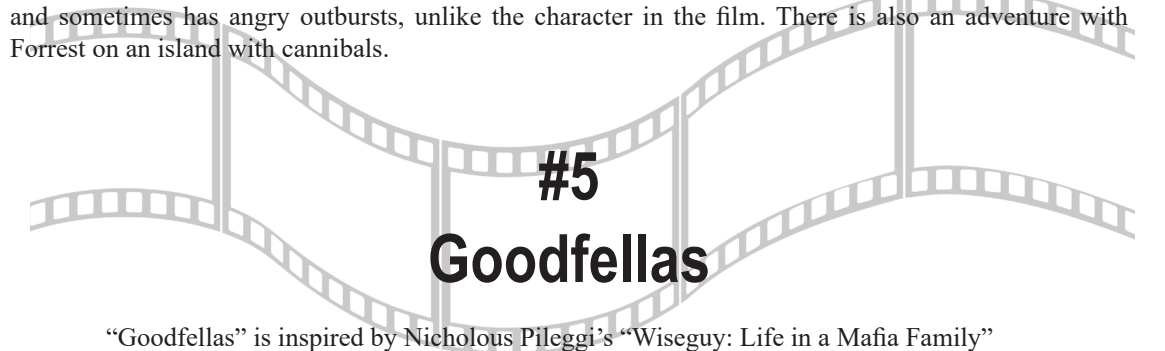
“Mrs. Doubtfire” was inspired by Anne Fine’s “Madame Doubtfire”

The 1993 film stars a struggling actor as he tries to stay close to his family by pretending to be a woman. This is the same premise as in the 1986 book, though the couple start off divorce in the book where in the movie they become divorced in the film. Another difference is that the children know right away that Doubtfire is their father in drag in the book. Sadly, there is also no classic dance scene in the book like in the film.



“Forrest Gump” is inspired by “Forrest Gump”

The novel and film both follow Forrest Gump, who has many misadventures. In the film he is a charming man who makes people happy with his simple thinking. Forrest in the book is very different though. He does drugs while visiting Harvard, uses profanity, explores a career as a professional wrestler, and even gambles. Although the character in the book seems to mean well, he makes many bad decisions and sometimes has angry outbursts, unlike the character in the film. There is also an adventure with Forrest on an island with cannibals.



“Goodfellas” is inspired by Nicholas Pileggi’s “Wiseguy: Life in a Mafia Family”

“Goodfellas” (1990) is about Henry Hill’s misadventures as an informant who fled the mafia. Several misadventures in the film did not occur in the book, and vice versa. The scene deemed “funny like a clown” occurs only in the film, never in the book. A scene in the book not in the film is Henry and his family getting harassed by a mysterious person, which leads to Henry beating up a gay man. Something else that is different is DeNiro’s character. Jimmy is a man in his mid-twenties and in the film he is supposed to be the same, DeNiro is definitely not in his twenties in the film.



## No longer a side chick - the liberation of Harley Q

*‘Birds of Prey’ sends a powerful message to girls*

By MICHELLE WILLSON  
Feature/Entertainment Editor

Walking into the theater for “Birds of Prey” I did not know what I was getting into. I had not watched “Suicide Squad” or read any of the comics. In the end, I was surprised by how much I actually liked the movie.

My friends and I went to see the movie on Sunday and were surprised that we were the only ones there. I took it as a bad omen telling us the movie was going to be bad.

The movie starts out with Harley and The Jokers break up and you watch Harley Quinn do the classic after a bad break up routine which includes a new hair cut and a drinking problem. The “I’m nothing without him” syndrome.

I was so scared that the Joker was going to jump in and save the day.

Once word got around about their break up, Harley was targeted by everyone she had made mad in the past. They thought without Joker around she was vulnerable. She gets herself into some bad situations and has to make some sketchy deals to save her face.

One of my favorite parts of the show is that every time a new person starts attacking Harley these video game stats appear on the screen that states their name and their grievance.

A knee-slapping moment came when Black Mask is interrogating Harley. One of the goons is searching for her card in her pocket and he pulls out a tampon.

This separates itself from a superhero movie because when Harley or one of the other girls did a fighting move they didn’t land perfectly which makes it more realistic. Multiple times Harley did super rad moves and ended up on her butt.

I give this movie a 4 out of 5. This movie pushed the envelope for girls but in some aspects, I wish they would have pushed farther or done more.

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# Sports

## Lady Rangers win; men fall to OBU

By **DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPEKECHE**  
Student Reporter

The Lady Rangers basketball team traveled to Arkadelphia, Arkansas to play the Tigers of Ouachita Baptist.

Coming off two straight losses, the Lady Rangers looked to improve their 11-13 record.

Northwestern came out slow with the Tigers taking the lead 14-11.

The Lady Rangers would eventually take their first lead of the game in the second quarter, but Ouachita would come back and finish the half up 27-24.

The Northwestern Lady Rangers had a point-filled third quarter.

The Lady Rangers scored 25 points, more than they scored in the first half. This would be led by Presley Payahsape, Kyleigh Leverich, and Hillary Hurst. To end the quarter, Northwestern would finish the quarter up 49-43.

The fourth would be played like the third quarter was. The Lady Rangers held on to win 67-59.

The team's field goal percentage was 44.7% which topped Ouachita's 36.8%. The Lady Rangers were led by Hillary Hurst who finished with 17 points, closely trailed by Presley Payahsape who scored 15. 5'4" Point Guard Kyleigh Leverich led the team in rebounds with eight.

The Rangers followed the Lady Rangers game.

Northwestern had not found their stride until the Rangers gained momentum at the 10 minute mark in the first half.

After that, the Rangers kicked it into gear with threes draining from Parrish Hewitt, Cole Jones. And Jack Peck.

In the first half, Jaedon Whitfield and Parrish

Hewitt led the Rangers in points.

Both of the Rangers came out and ended the half with 13 points each. Almost every Ranger who got at minute of playing time got some points besides two showing all around team involvement. The Tigers were held to 35 points with Northwestern up by 11.

Early into the second half, the Rangers would build their lead up to 13 points.

Ouachita Baptist was not out of it though, crawling back with defensive stops eventually got their Tigers within one.

Northwestern showed spirit and built their lead back up just to be brought within one again. With six minutes left the game was back and forth. In the final minute, Ouachita kept their lead and won 90-88.

Jaedon Whitfield finished with 29 points and eight rebounds. Parrish Hewitt followed with 13 points, Cole Jones hit four threes to end the game with 12 points.



Photos by Leah Darnell

Lady Rangers won against Ouachita Baptist.



Men's basketball lost to Ouachita Baptist in the final seconds, 90-88.



Northwestern basketball will host Arkansas Tech on Feb. 27.

## Men's b-ball loses

By **ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rangers dropped their final road game against Great American Conference opponent Henderson State University Saturday afternoon.

The Red-and-Black showed serious grit as they fought their way back from a 19-point deficit in the first half and continued to battle through the second half but could not quite catch the Reddies and took the loss 91-72. This loss gave the Rangers an overall record of 8-18, with a 5-15 record in the Great American Conference.

The Red-and-Black offense was led by Jaedon Whitfield who had 22 points, 5-7 from the field and 10-13 from the free-throw line. Other stand-out players included A.J. Jones with a season-high 17 points and led the team with eight assists and six rebounds. Jack Peck and David Thornton had 10 and nine points respectively.

The Reddies took advantage of their home court early and rolled with the crowd using four three-pointers to pull away from the Rangers after a 9-9 tie. This led to a 15-3 run in Henderson State's favor and gave them a 26-12 lead with 12 minutes and 57 seconds left in the first half. The lead grew to as many as 19-points with around six minutes left to play which triggered Whitfield and the Red-and-Black to battle back and pull to within 10, heading into the half with a score of 51-41.

A dunk from Thornton started the second half off with a bang. Both teams showed off their defensive skills as the Rangers used a 2-3 zone that was far from the norm for most of their season. The Red-and-Black pulled to within seven points on two different occasions led by Jones and Whitfield. Unfortunately, the Reddies defense kept Northwestern without a field goal for almost six minutes straight and was able to pull away to a 19 point-lead with two-minutes left to play and eventually took the game with a final score of 91-72.

## Rodeo competes at K-State

By **ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Megan Turek hasn't capitalized on circumstances as well as she would like this season for the Northwestern Oklahoma State University rodeo team.

She's hoping it all changed this past weekend in Manhattan, Kansas, where she made two solid goat-tying runs to finish second at the Kansas State University rodeo. It more than doubled her points on the 2019-20 season and moved her up two spots to seventh in the Central Plains Region standings.

"I had made a few mistakes in the round, but thankfully it all worked out," said Turek. "Hopefully it'll set the tone for the rest of the spring."

That's vital if she intends to qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo in June. There are five events remaining on the regional schedule, and she'll need to finish among the top three in the standings at the campaign's conclusion if she is to advance.

Turek stopped the clock in 7.0 seconds to place in a tie for fourth in the opening round. She was then 6.8 seconds to finish second in the championship round and the two-run aggregate.

"The goats were pretty tricky, so you had to be pretty aggressive with them and make sure you had them all tied," she said. It's also an experience to compete in historic Weber Arena.

"It's definitely different, and a lot of goat horses don't work there," Turek said. "I don't know why, but a lot of horses were cutting girls off. I knew mine wouldn't, but it took quite a few girls out. It's fun, especially when it's packed full. It's a neat building you don't see everywhere."

She has quite a bit of trust in her equine partner, Bugs, a 16-year-old sorrel gelding that has served as a ranch horse for the family in Nebraska.

"He drew the short stick and gets to be a goat horse," she said with a laugh. "He's not really nice, but he works for me."

Turek wasn't the only Ranger to collect points in Manhattan. She was joined by barrel racer Kayla Wilson of Quincy, Illinois, who finished third in the first round, fourth in the short round and second place overall.

A trio of steer wrestlers also grabbed points, led by Colt Madison of Whiting, Iowa, who finished second in the aggregate.

He was followed by Jace Rutledge of Harrisonville, Missouri, who placed fourth, and Bradley

Ralph of Wann, Oklahoma, who finished in a tie for first in the opening round and placed sixth overall.

Bo Yaussi of Udall, Kansas, earned some valuable points in tie-down roping, placing in both rounds and finishing in a tie for fourth in the average.

Meanwhile Kass Bittle of Krimlin, Oklahoma, was solid in his two runs with partner Sam Goings of Oklahoma Panhandle State University to finish second in team roping, while the team of Brandon Hittle of Topeka, Kansas, and Jayden Laubhaun of Follett, Texas, finished second in the first round and sixth overall. Daniel Durkes of Eskridge, Kansas, and Cole Koppitz of Alva finished fifth in the opening round.

For Turek, the strong start to the spring portion of the season is a good indication, but she understands what's ahead of her and the rest of the team.

"I'll keep practicing hard, keep working at it and keep a good mindset," she said. "We have a lot of girls that are really good in all the events, so we just need them to fall together on the last few weekends of the season. I know, for sure, that we have the girls to do it."



# Sports

## OBU sweeps baseball

By ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Rangers looked to respond Saturday afternoon after dropping the series opener Friday night.

However, the Bison had other thoughts as they went on to win Game one 14-10 and won game two 12-7 Saturday afternoon.

Oklahoma Baptist completed the sweep of the Rangers and now improve to 15-0 in the head to head series since the Division II era.

### Game 1:

Rangers finished the game with 10 runs on 10 hits in game one of the day. Yugo Hamakawa and Bryce Donovan led the teams in hits with two apiece.

They were followed by six different players each with one. Three players in Daschal Johnson, Brett Erickson and Brock Randels had two RBI's each in game one. Donovan, Colton Whitehouse and Billy Rogers each had one to round it out.

Colby Carlson was set to start game one for the Rangers. He went one inning giving up three

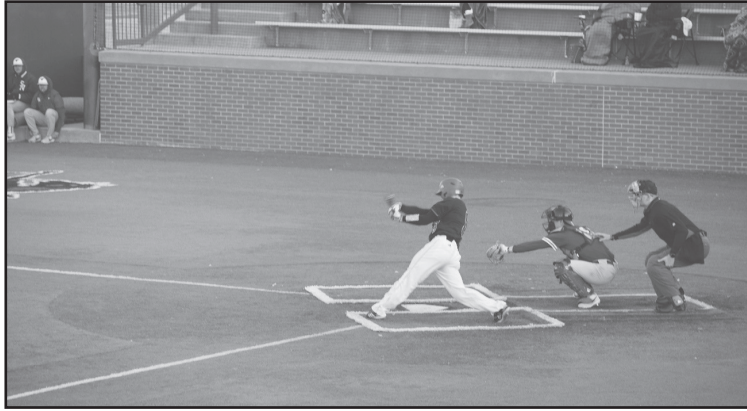


Photo by Laney Cook

Baseball lost all games to conference competitor Oklahoma Baptist.

runs on four hits while walking one. He was relieved by Grant French who went three and a third innings. Kaleb Honea finished the game outgoing three and two-thirds allowing six runs on seven hits.

The Bison jumped out early on in game one getting three runs across the board to start the bottom of the first inning. Hector Ruvalcaba would follow the doubles with an RBI single to left field to extend the lead to 3-0.

The game would stay tied until the third inning when Randels stepped up to the plate. Randels

would hit a solo homerun in the third inning to cut the deficit to 3-1 after Johnson would get on. After three innings the Rangers trailed 3-2.

The eighth and ninth inning would be scoreless frames as the final score in game one would be the Bison 14 over the Rangers 10.

### Game 2:

Rangers would score seven runs on seven hits in the second game of the doubleheader. Randels would lead the team in hits with two hits.

Blake Hoffman would get the starting call for Game two. He

would allow seven runs on seven hits. He was relieved by Brody Shook who lasted 2.1 innings giving up two runs on three hits and two strikeouts.

The final pitcher of the game for the Rangers was Koby Hudson who pitched one inning surrendering three runs on four hits.

The game started with a positive note as Johnson led the game off with a solo homerun to give the Rangers the early 1-0 lead.

But by the sixth inning, the Bison would extend their lead to 12-5 from a Gomez two-run homerun followed by Ruvalcaba RBI single.

Rangers were not going to give up but their comeback bid would fall short. After a solid ninth inning the Bison retired the side and won the game 12-7.

With the loss, the Rangers drop to 5-10 on the season and 3-3 in Great American Conference play.

Northwestern will be back in action Tuesday afternoon as they travel to Kansas to take on Newman University with first pitch scheduled for 2 p.m.



Photo by Leah Darnell

Northwestern will host Arkansas Tech on Feb. 27.

## Women's b-ball falls to Henderson

By ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Red-and-Black were set to take on Henderson State after winning at Ouachita Thursday night. However the Reddies used a strong second quarter to take control of the game and never looked back. This helped lead the home team to an 81-62 victory over your Lady Rangers.

The Lady Rangers were led by senior Kalea King who finished the game with 24 points. With those 24 points, King achieved a new milestone of hitting 1500 points in her Northwestern career.

Bailey Brown got the scoring started for Northwestern knocking down the first four points of the game for Lady Rangers. After the Lady Rangers scored making it 20-18 the Reddies used a 6-0 run toward the end of the quarter to create separation from the Lady Rangers.

Lady Rangers went into half-time trailing 47-29 to Henderson State.

The Reddies nevered looked back after the strong second quarter.

The Lady Rangers drop Saturday afternoon's game 81-62.

The Red-and-Black fall to 12-14 on the season and 8-12 in Great American Conference play.

Lady Rangers will be back in action on Thursday night against Arkansas Tech with a 5:30 tip-off. Senior Night will be Saturday, February 29th at 1 PM.

## Softball loses to OBU

By KOLTON FISHBACK  
Student Reporter

Northwestern could not claim a win against Oklahoma Baptist during the weekend series to start conference play.

The Rangers dropped all four games with scores of 10-5, 11-0, 11-4 and 10-8.

### Game 1

Freshman Hannah Howell got the start for the Rangers. She held the Bison to zero runs throughout the first three innings.

Sophomore Kalie Johnson led the offense for Northwestern going 3-for-7 with two RBI's. Morgan La Neve went 1-for-4 with two RBI's and tallied her second homerun on the season. Abby Datar had two hits on the day.

The Bison took a commanding 9-2 lead in the top of the fifth inning scoring nine runs on seven hits and one error by the Rangers.

### Game 2

Oklahoma Baptist started the second game of the series with five runs on five hits and one error by the Rangers. They tacked on four more runs in the top of the second inning.

Northwestern had no answers



Photo by Alex Aaron

Softball dropped all four games to Oklahoma Baptist University.

throughout the game with only three hits on the day. The hits were in courtesy from Zanca, Johnson and Bushey.

OBU added two more runs in the top of the fifth inning, which led to the mercy rule.

### Game 3

Sophomore Ariel Forsyth got the start for the Rangers on the mound in game three.

The team responded in games three and four with eight hits in each match. Joey Casey led the team with four hits on six at-bats,

along with two runs and one RBI. Mesa Gann went 2-for-7 with three RBI's and one run.

Johnson had a great game, as she went 3-for-5 with two runs and one RBI. Lindsey McElroy added two hits, two RBI's and one run. Jayden Flowers, Morgan La Neve and Alexis Bailey each had one hit during the match.

Oklahoma Baptist took the early lead with a two-run homerun. The Rangers answered with back-to-back doubles from Bailey and Gann.

Women's track away

Men's b-ball home:

Softball home:

Baseball away:

Women's b-ball home:

GAC  
Feb. 28-29

Arkansas Tech  
Feb. 27

Southern Arkansas  
Feb. 28-29

Southern Arkansas  
Feb. 28-29

Arkansas Tech  
Feb. 27

Up Next for Ranger Sports



# GSA members attend college summit

By MICHELLE WILLSON  
Feature/Entertainment Editor

Members of NWOSU's Gay-Straight Alliance joined other college students at Freedom Oklahoma's College Summit on Oklahoma City University's Campus.

Freedom Oklahoma's website states "Our annual summit is an incredible opportunity for LGBTQ+ and allied students from across the region to come together, network, share best practices and learn from experts in the field of advocacy, civil rights, law, and LGBTQ+ health."

The Summit was made up of different speakers and sessions that the students could go to.

This years topics included White Accountability, Queer Sex Ed + Consent, 2 Spirit History + Life and Queer Spiritual Trauma.

The Keynote speaker was AC Dumlao. An activist and creator of the "Call Me They" Facebook page.

Booths were set up for college students to peruse and talk to. Booths included Free Mom Hugs, Dell electronics, Youth Crisis Center and ASP Cares.



Student were able to make their own nametag with their name and pronouns they prefer.

Freedom Oklahoma made sure that the summit was all-inclusive. They had gender neutral bathrooms, a quiet sensory room for those who might get overwhelmed and for lunch they had gluten free and vegan options.

