

SPOOKY PLACES

Homeowners around campus are getting their houses ready for Halloween. Is their decor scary? PAGE 6



GHOSTLY GAME

A viral trend has college students across the nation taking ghoulish photos — and Rangers aren't missing out on the fun. PAGE 8



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IS IT OK TO SPRAY?

Students can carry pepper spray on campus, but officials say they must use it properly

By **LOGAN MERIWETHER**
Student Reporter

Is pepper spray a necessary and legal item to have on Northwestern's campuses?

The Northwestern student handbook doesn't say anything about pepper spray being an illegal item to have — as long as it is only being used for self-defense.

Caleb Mosburg, Northwestern's dean of student affairs, read the policy for weapons on campus. According to the handbook, the university bans "the possession or firing of firearms, fireworks, explosives or weapons or imitations of weapons including but not limited to bows, knives, or guns ... on campus in any student residence, sorority, fraternity, approved private housing or university-operated facility. ... NWOSU will enforce this policy with administrative action being taken or criminal charges filed for any person(s) who violates this policy."

"Guns, knives or anything that imitates a
See **PEPPER SPRAY**, Page 3



Photo illustration by Jordan Green

Students who break to-go-eating rules could lose dining privileges



Photo by Jordan Green

Signs in the Coronado Cafe list instructions for to-go dining. Students caught breaking cafeteria rules could temporarily lose dining privileges.

By **GEORGE SMITH**
Student Reporter

The Coronado Café reduced its seating by half this semester to allow for social distancing, and workers are trying to keep the number of dine-in eaters below the new seating limit.

Cafeteria officials introduced a to-go option this semester for students to take their food from the cafeteria to wherever they so choose. It was initially intended to keep the total number of students in the cafeteria at one time below the reduced occupancy limit, according to Tully Groom, a chef manager for Chartwells, the company that operates the

university's cafeteria.

"The university and Chartwells agreed that students would use the option of to-go boxes to take their meals elsewhere in order to keep their social distance," Groom said. "Seating was limited by half, from about 300 to about 150, and the to-go boxes were supposed to help keep the number of students in the cafeteria at one time below that 150 mark."

Students are urged to take their to-go orders out of the cafeteria by two signs at the check-in desk that state: "In order to provide the best dining experience for all of our guests, we ask that, if you choose to get your meal in a to-go box, that you take the meal to-go and do not use it for dining in."

Groom said the to-go option will end after pandemic restrictions are lifted.

There are consequential actions that can be taken against students caught using their to-go boxes to eat in the cafeteria.

Students who do not comply with the policy may have to pay a fine between \$25 and \$100. They may also be suspended from eating at the cafeteria for up to two weeks.

According to Matt Adair, the assistant dean of student affairs, those fines and suspensions are meant to be possible deterrents. The overall agenda of the to-go boxes is to allow for social distancing.

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News

QUARANTINE ROUTINES

Students found creative ways to fill up their days when in-person learning ended

GIFTS FOR GRANDMA



Juliet Chaloupek

By **DEVYN LANSDEN**
Student Reporter

When is the best time to learn a new hobby? When there is absolutely nothing to do.

After Northwestern closed down because of the coronavirus pandemic, Juliet Chaloupek was stuck in the Panhandle.

After spending much time on her phone, she thought it was time to find something more productive to do. She decided to teach herself how to paint. At first, it was not something she was good at. But with practice, she got better, she said.

Chaloupek then started to paint abstract paintings with inspirational quotes. She is still trying to improve and has a lot more to learn, she said.

She ended her time in quarantine with about five paintings. She gave one to a friend and one to her grandma, she said.

CLEAN KICKS

By **JARA REEDER**
Photo Editor

Kaleb Bethel had time to kill and needed money to burn.

He devised a plan.

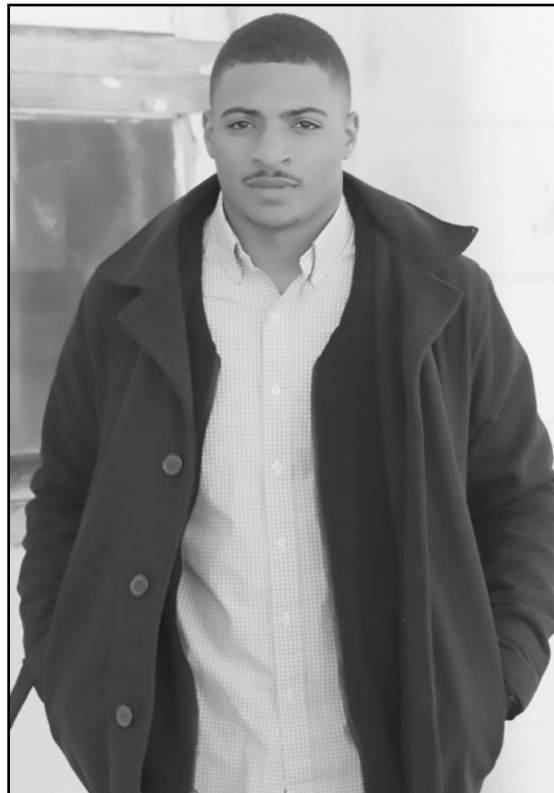
"I was not about to sit around and wait for school to start back up," Bethel said. "I didn't know how long COVID was going to last, so I started my shoe cleaning services in my own neighborhood."

Bethel, a senior criminal justice major from Tulsa, started cleaning shoes last semester in March right before schools shut down because of the coronavirus. Once he returned home, Bethel started looking for customers just a few doors down.

He went from door to door, asking friends and family members if he could wash up their used sneakers. He eventually found customers and got to work.

For Bethel, cleaning shoes is more than just a way to make money. It is also a way to unwind emotionally.

"Not many people like to clean their own shoes," he said. "I like cleaning and listening to music. It's my time to think and let the stress out on the shoes."



Kaleb Bethel

PAINTING WITH A PURPOSE

By **LANEY COOK**
Student Reporter

Maya Stewart, a junior special education major from NWOSU, took a creative route during her quarantine time in the spring by painting custom silhouette canvases.

She started out this process by seeing pictures of silhouette paintings on her Pinterest feed. She decided to try it out herself to take up some extra time.

"I started by making one of my family for Mother's Day," Stewart said. "We have six of us in our family, so it definitely took up some of the time."

After she made her first canvas and posted it to Facebook for her

"I went in to Hobby Lobby and bought as many canvases as I could to paint, and I sold all of them."
— *Maya Stewart*

friends to see, it became a hit.

"I went in to Hobby Lobby and bought as many canvases as I could to paint, and I sold all of them," she said. "So, I think I had over 10 that I sold."

She started doing this at the beginning of April, and her last project was in June for a fam-

ily friend. Most of her customers were family friends from around town.

Her reasoning behind starting this craft was to see the reaction of the person on the receiving end. When people asked her to paint one, it was most often a gift, she said.

"I love seeing their faces when I first show it to them," she said. "They just look so happy."

"My favorite one that I made was for a family that was really close to us," she said. "It was for a couple who had lost a baby a couple years ago and just recently had a newborn, so I painted a canvas with all four of their silhouettes. It was a very emotional time when they first saw it as a gift."

OF MINOTAURS AND MEN



Dylan Caywood

By **CONNOR GRAY**
Student Reporter

While stuck in quarantine, many students have had to come up with ways to occupy themselves. Some have found new hobbies that would seem to come out of left field.

Dylan Caywood found himself studying something he never thought he would: mythology.

Mythology has been a fascination for many different people in many different cultures around the world, especially with Norse mythology gaining a huge resurgence due to the Marvel movies and the popularity of Thor, the god of thunder, Caywood said. The mythologies Greek/Roman, Norse, Shinto and Mesopotamian each have legends and epics centered around the heroes and gods of each respective mythology.

Caywood said he used to think mythology was very boring, and he had no desire to know much about it. He came around to enjoying it after reading one of the most well-known books in Greek culture, "The Odyssey" by Homer. After reading about the journey

of Greek hero Odysseus trying to return home to his family after the Trojan War, Caywood went even deeper into Greek mythology. His inspiration for diving deeper was his love for adventure stories and stories about creatures that do not exist. He has read about Medusa, cyclops, minotaurs, and other strange creatures in Greek mythology.

Dylan's favorite creatures are minotaurs. They are half-human and half-bull.

"They can be a quiet species and have an ability to communicate with humans and other creatures," he said.

Besides creatures, Caywood has also studied many different gods: Zeus, the king of the gods; Aphrodite, the goddess of love; and Hephaestus, the god of fire.

Though he has mainly studied Greek mythology, he plans to do Norse mythology next. Odysseus is his favorite hero because of his will and drive to make it back home to his family. Caywood said he does plan to take a mythology class sometime in the future so he can learn more about other heroes and gods.



Maya Stewart

News

What's up?

ENROLLMENT PERIOD OPEN

Enrollment for spring courses will open Oct. 13.

New and returning students are encouraged to make appointments with an adviser to develop a spring schedule. They are also encouraged to enroll as soon as possible to ensure course availability.

The spring semester schedule of courses is available online at www.nwosu.edu/course-schedules.

The last day to enroll is Jan. 20.

Northwestern's 16-week spring semester classes will begin on Jan. 11.

To see degree program breakdowns visit the online graduate catalog at www.nwosu.edu/graduate-catalog.

PLAY OPENS TONIGHT IN HEROD HALL

A nationwide pandemic is not going to prevent students in Northwestern's Fine Arts department from doing what they love to do: perform on stage.

Students in the Fine Arts department have been working to get their first play of the semester ready for the stage. The first production is "45 Plays for 45 Presidents."

There are three different dates scheduled for the performance: Oct. 15 and 16 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 17 at 2 p.m.

Those wishing to view the play must reserve their seats by calling 580-327-8462.

Ticket prices are \$3 for students, \$5 for employees and \$10 for general admission.

DINING: Northwestern students have mixed views on dining rules

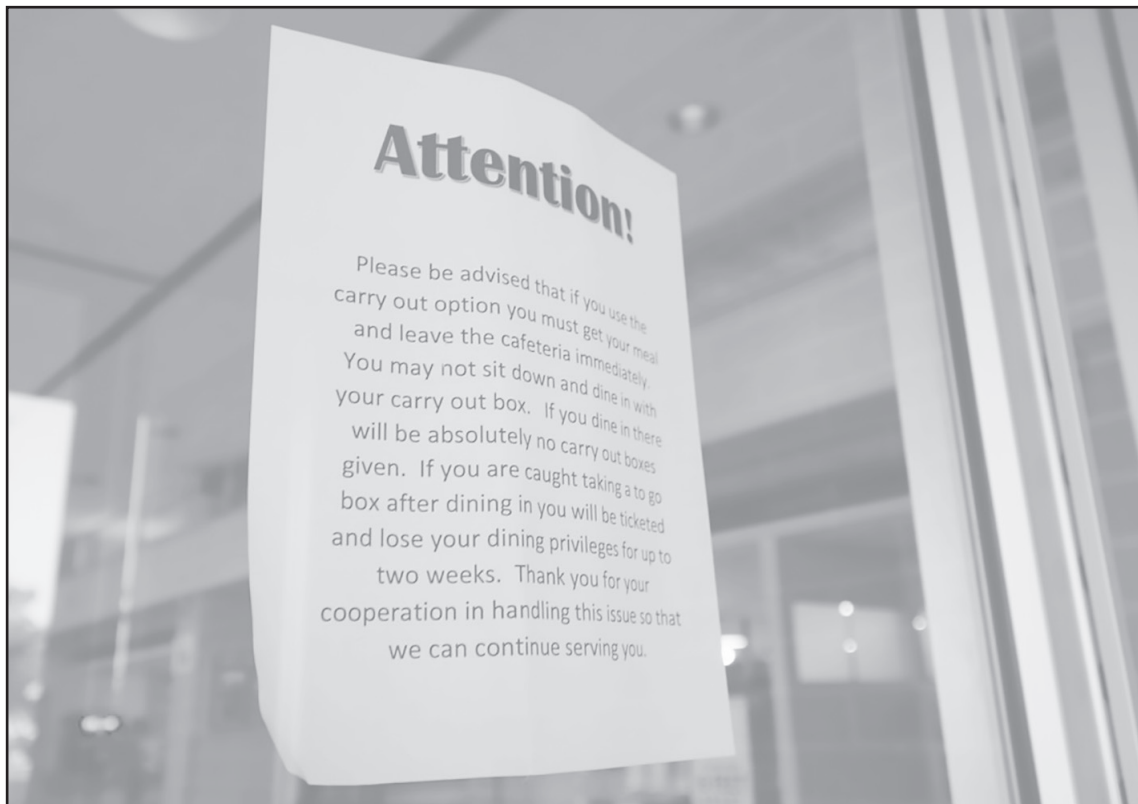


Photo by Jordan Green

A sign in the Coronado Cafe lists instructions for to-go dining. Students caught breaking cafeteria rules could temporarily lose dining privileges or be fined. Some students are opposed to the rule, and others support it.

Continued from Page 1

Students have varied opinions about the issue.

Freshman history major Rebecca Wagner said: "It's good if you're in a rush you have that ability to take your food to-go, but why does it matter if you eat with a Styrofoam plate in [the cafeteria] here?"

Junior political science major Tyler Gregory said: "I feel like it doesn't matter. It's unimportant, whether you have a Styrofoam cup or a Styrofoam plate, why you

"It's unimportant, whether you have a Styrofoam cup or a Styrofoam plate, why you can't eat and drink in here just the same."

— Tyler Gregory

can't eat and drink in here just the

same. It's one less plate that they have to wash back there."

Junior nursing major Gina Wilson suggested that some students may intentionally break the rule.

"Once the rule is set, people will be rebellious," she said. "They may continue not to listen and continue eating in the cafeteria out of the to-go boxes."

Senior biology major Jessalyn Rivet-Tissot said: "If they tell you not to do it, I don't see the difference. Just don't do it."

PEPPER SPRAY: Students should conceal spray in their purses, bags

Continued from Page 1

weapon – we are going to be very cautious about that and confiscate any item like that and remove it from campus," Mosburg said.

Mosburg said he knows some students carry pepper spray, though no Northwestern student has ever used it on campus for any reason other than self-defense.

"Traditionally, that's not something we look for," Mosburg said. "If someone is using it as a weapon, then we will make sure it is taken care of."

Mosburg said he encourages students to carry it if it makes them feel safe.

"We want people to feel safe on campus," he said. "If carrying your pepper spray while you walk across campus alone at night makes you feel safe, we want you to have it. We don't want students having it and using it as a weapon. Then, no one could carry it on campus because it would be deemed a weapon."

Matt Adair, assistant dean of student affairs, said that stu-

"We want people to feel safe on campus. If carrying your pepper spray while you walk across campus alone at night makes you feel safe, we want you to have it. We don't want students having it and using it as a weapon."

— Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs

dents who find weapons in dorms should report them to resident assistants. In an emergency, the student should immediately call the police.

The campus police may be reached via phone by calling 580-327-8511. The Alva Police Department may be reached via

phone by calling 911.

When it comes to pepper spray in the dorms, Adair said students would not get in trouble for having it if it is tucked away in a purse or bag. However, students may not offensively use it as a weapon to hurt others, and they may not set it off in the dorms as a prank.

Kyle Hair, police chief on the university's Alva campus, said pepper spray is allowed on campus unless it is being used as a weapon. In the instance of any weapon being used on campus, police officers will respond to the situation in the ways they have been trained, Hair said.

If a student calls the police and reports a gun in someone's truck, officers will check out the situation, determine who owns the vehicle, and find out why the person has it on campus. In a more serious situation, they will call in other police officers and handle the situation in a way that is going to keep everyone safe, he said.



Preserving the right of a free press.

When leaders threaten journalists, they threaten everyone's First Amendment rights. Journalists are often the first-responders on the public's right to know. They act as trusted watchdogs of government transparency.

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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.

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Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

Editorial

Podcasting the presidential debate

By SEAN DOHERTY
Student Reporter

Opinion: No, Joe Rogan shouldn't moderate the next presidential debate

After last Tuesday's presidential debate, calls for popular comedian and podcast personality Joe Rogan to be the next debate moderator grew all over social media.

The idea first started after episode #1535 of the Joe Rogan Experience aired on Sept. 11. Rogan's guest on the podcast, Army Ranger and UFC fighter Tim Kennedy, pointed out that Rogan's platform would be a perfect setting for the 2020 debates, which at the time were to be determined. Rogan said he would be willing, and the internet did the rest.

Kennedy tweeted out after the podcast, "Just the two candidates, cameras, and their vision of how to move this country forward. Who wants this? #debates #Election2020." President Trump responded the following Monday, "I do!" The first debate on Sept. 29 followed the traditional format with Fox News anchor Chris Wallace moderating. It was disappointing, to say the least.

It's been apparent for some time now that the traditional broadcast debate format falls sort of its intention to inform and clarify for the voting body of both presidential candidate's platforms. But advocates for Rogan to be the next moderator need to watch episode #961.

Rogan organized a debate between Michael Shermer, founder of The Skeptics Society and editor of Skeptic magazine; Graham Hancock, journalist and best-selling author; and Randall Carlson, geological researcher.

Hancock and Carlson back the theory that a global cataclysm—

most likely meteor impacts—occurred 11,600 years ago, ending the last Ice Age. The rapid melting of the ice cap caused a rise in sea levels, providing the basis for "great flood" accounts from ancient cultures around the world. Hancock goes further and suggests this cataclysm wiped out an advanced civilization, an entire chapter of human history. Shermer disagreed.

The episode started out civil, but quickly regressed as things got personal and more argumentative. Rogan, to his credit, did a decent job of keeping things on track, but it did little to make the listening experience more enjoyable. This topic may be important to Rogan, his guests and his listeners, but it pales in relevancy compared to an upcoming presidential election. The expectation that a debate between President Trump and Vice President Biden would go any smoother is naive.

It is not the moderator that is the problem—it's the format. It doesn't matter if the debate is on ABC or in a podcast studio, two opponents with hot microphones at the same time will always escalate to what we saw in episode #961 And last Tuesday.

This doesn't mean the podcast idea should go away completely. The Joe Rogan Experience is one of the largest podcasts in the world, averaging about 190 million downloads monthly as of 2019. Full, three hour episodes of the Joe Rogan Experience on YouTube regularly get millions of views, and short clips from the show get even more.

The popularity of the Joe Rogan Experience proves that people are willing to listen to long-form interviews and the podcast provides a platform that rivals, and sometimes outperforms, major cable networks. A full episode with either candidate would be more than enough to

flesh out each candidate's policies and stances on relevant social issues while engaging a bigger audience.

As for Rogan's impartiality, the former Fear Factor host and UFC commentator might be the fairest and most open-minded person in media right now. Rogan's politics lean left, but that hasn't stopped him from hosting guests with differing viewpoints.

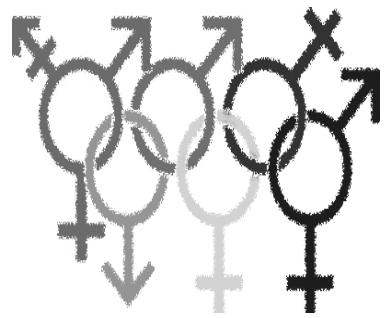
Rogan has hosted popular conservative commentators such as Ben Shapiro and Steven Crowder, Rep. Dan Crenshaw, Proud Boys founder Gavin McInnes and InfoWars founder Alex Jones.

Rogan, who hosted Bernie Sanders on the podcast and endorsed him for president, voices his concerns with both Trump and Biden regularly; concerns that voters on both sides share, as much as their campaigns would not like to admit. Both men would not leave unchallenged on their ideas.

An appearance from either major party candidate also gives credibility to Rogan's interviews with other political hopefuls such as Sen. Tulsi Gabbard and former Democratic primary candidate Andrew Yang. Potential third-party candidates could use the Joe Rogan Experience as a springboard to relevancy in a general election—something the traditional broadcast format historically makes difficult.

The Joe Rogan Experience, in a lot ways, represents the tidal wave of media in the digital age.

People are tuning out from national news networks and flocking to the internet for news and entertainment. An interview with a major presidential candidate could officially usher in a new era in media.



EDITOR'S RANT OF THE WEEK

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Editor-in-Chief

Everywhere you turn it feels like people in power are trying to take basic human rights from people.

Just yesterday I saw a headline that read "U.S. Supreme Court could roll back LGBTQ equality." Why? Why is it even a question?

When you ask those against equality of any kind they normally pull their religion into it...but isn't there supposed to be a separation of church and state?

Just because it is against your religion does not mean other people cannot participate in it.

This goes with so many arguments: Gay marriage, abortion, eating meat, tattoos and piercings and so many more. If it is against your religion...just don't do it.

Why does allowing others the same rights as you bother you so much?

Do you even know why those things are against your religion? Do some research it might surprise you. I am catholic but I fully support gay rights.

Did you know that the reference to homosexuality wasn't even added to the Bible until 1946 when it was retranslated? Maybe we should go back and investigate why they chose to retranslate it like that.

Just because I don't eat meat on Friday's during lent does not mean that you cannot eat meat nor can I stop you from doing so. Personally, I don't even care if you eat meat around me when I can't because it is my choice to practice my religion and yours to practice yours.

For some reason, people think that giving other people equal basic human rights takes away from their own...in no way can I rationalize that mindset.

Not everything is give and take. No one is diminishing your rights by giving rights to others.

If I want to get tattoos and piercings you have no right to tell me not to.

"Your body is a temple" is not going to stop me from getting metal shoved into my nose. Even temples are adorned with stain glass windows and statues.

Presidential Irony

By Michelle Willson



Editorial

'Needles are my safety blanket'

By **CARSON POLK**
Online Manager

Needles are my safety blanket. They help a lot of people, from medical reasons to... well, medical reasons. Anywho, it's a bit different for me. I love piercings to a level most people are not comfortable with. I currently have eleven piercings, soon to be twelve. Of those eleven piercings six are still healing because I always get more than one piercing at a time aside from my septum piercing.

All of my piercings, listed chronologically, are my first set of ear lobes, second set of ear lobes, septum, two low snugs, an industrial, eyebrow piercing, septum, and snake bites. By next week, it will be one more for my tongue if all goes to plan. After that, I will possibly (probably not) wait to get them all healed by December but I already have plans for more.

Why do I keep getting piercings? Well, its because I love making old people angry. Just kidding, I just love the look of them. Every time someone has a piercing I like, there is a chance I will have it within the next week. They make my life less boring and boredom is something I can-



Ironhorse is a tattoo and body piercing studio located in Enid, Oklahoma

not stand. Even if said hole in my head causes me pain, it is still worth it to me.

The fact some people do not want piercings, whether it be simple ones like ear lobes or more major ones like the lip piercings I have startles me. I live in constant want to change my appearance whether it be minor or major.

Yes, I am aware they will leave scars if I take them out. Yes, I am aware the scars are permanent. Shockingly, people actually research body modifications before getting them. But even if I didn't, mind your business. I am so tired

of old people thinking I care a single bit what they think of my piercings.

The holes in my head are mine and only mine. They have no effect to you and no, I didn't think of how it hurts you because it doesn't. The more old people comment on my body mods, the more I get.

Like I said, I live to make old people angry and that includes the ones around me. Piercings, whether they be minor or major, are something I live for and will continue to get no matter what anyone says.

Football kickers are important too

By **NICK DILL**
Student reporter

When people think of important positions on a football team, people usually think of a quarterback or a running back.

One of the most important positions on the football team is the kicker. Kickers are usually overlooked and are underrated players on a team.

Kickers are usually thought of as players that don't do anything at practice, and everyone thinks the kickers have the easiest job on the team. People think it's so easy to be a kicker, but what most people don't realize what all it takes to be a successful kicker.

Why is a kicker one of the most important positions on a football team?

Kickers are important because they score points, and they win games for their team. Kickers are usually the leading scorers in points on their team.

They also help determine field position. If a team has a kicker that can kick touchbacks, then teams will not have to worry about tackling anyone after their team kicks off the ball.

Most games are determined by the kicker. For example, the score is 22-20 with five seconds left in the game. The team is losing and down by 2. It's fourth down and the kicker will either make it or miss it, and that kick will determine who wins the game.

Kickers deal with the most pressure compared to

any other position on the team. A kicker's job is to be clutch when the game is on the line. They have to be ready to hit that game-winning kick as time expires off the clock.

Kickers train non-stop to master their craft. Kicking a football through the uprights is harder than most people think.

Kickers have to learn a specific technique. First, the kicker has to take his steps straight back and then straight over. Second, the kicker needs to make sure that he is lined up with his target point, and then finally the kicker has to make right ball contact on his foot and follow through straight after contact.

Kickers have to be alert and quick. One field goal operation occurs in 1.3 seconds, from the time it leaves the snapper's hands and then is kicked off of the kicker's foot.

A successful kicker will work tons of kicks with his holder and snapper to make sure they are prepared when it's their time to shine.

Kickers are also some of the most mentally tough players on the team too. They have one shot to either make it or miss it. There is no redo on a kick. For example, if it's first down and the quarterback throws an incomplete pass, then he has another down to complete a pass.

Although, a kicker just has one down to make a kick.

If there is one thing people should remember about kickers, it is this statement, kickers are people too.



Among Us is a popular game where players have to determine who the "Imposter" is.

This game destroys trust like 'Monopoly'

By **MICHELLE WILLSON**
Editor in Chief

Have you ever played "Monopoly" with friends or family? I guess a better question would be have you ever lost a friends or family members trust due to a game of monopoly? Are you tired of playing the same game over and over again to lose their trust? Try the game "Among Us"

It's a lovely game of decite and trickery that will bring new levels of distrust to your relationships. The whole point of the game is to win. So imposters kill and crewmates vote people out.

At first when your friends or family are imposters they will avoid killing you as much as possible but as time goes on the time they wait to kill you will dwindle. Until it gets to the point they kill you first.

I am by no means calling it a bad game but it will hurt some friendships. Every once in a while you will make up and decide you will help each other sabotage as

imposter but there always ends up being a betrayal where one kills or votes to kill the other.

If you have trust issues I would not play "Among us" with friends but this game will help you improve your lying and persuading skills....I don't know if that's a good thing but it's fun.

Once you get past the lying and deception it's not a bad game. You get to meet new people all around the world for a short amount of time...without the commitment of staying in contact. Some times you will even join groups with people you have already been in a group with and that just elevates the short lived friendship.

In rare occasions you will find people you click really well with. Personally, just yesterday I was in a group with a pink character named player. We stuck together as crewmates and even lied to protect each other as imposter. It was a tiny little love story for 30 min before they had to leave. It's players like that who make the game worth it in my mind. You get to create levels of trust with people you don't even know.

Interested in writing?

Share your opinions!

Contact McKayla Holson
mrholson30@rangers.nwsu.edu



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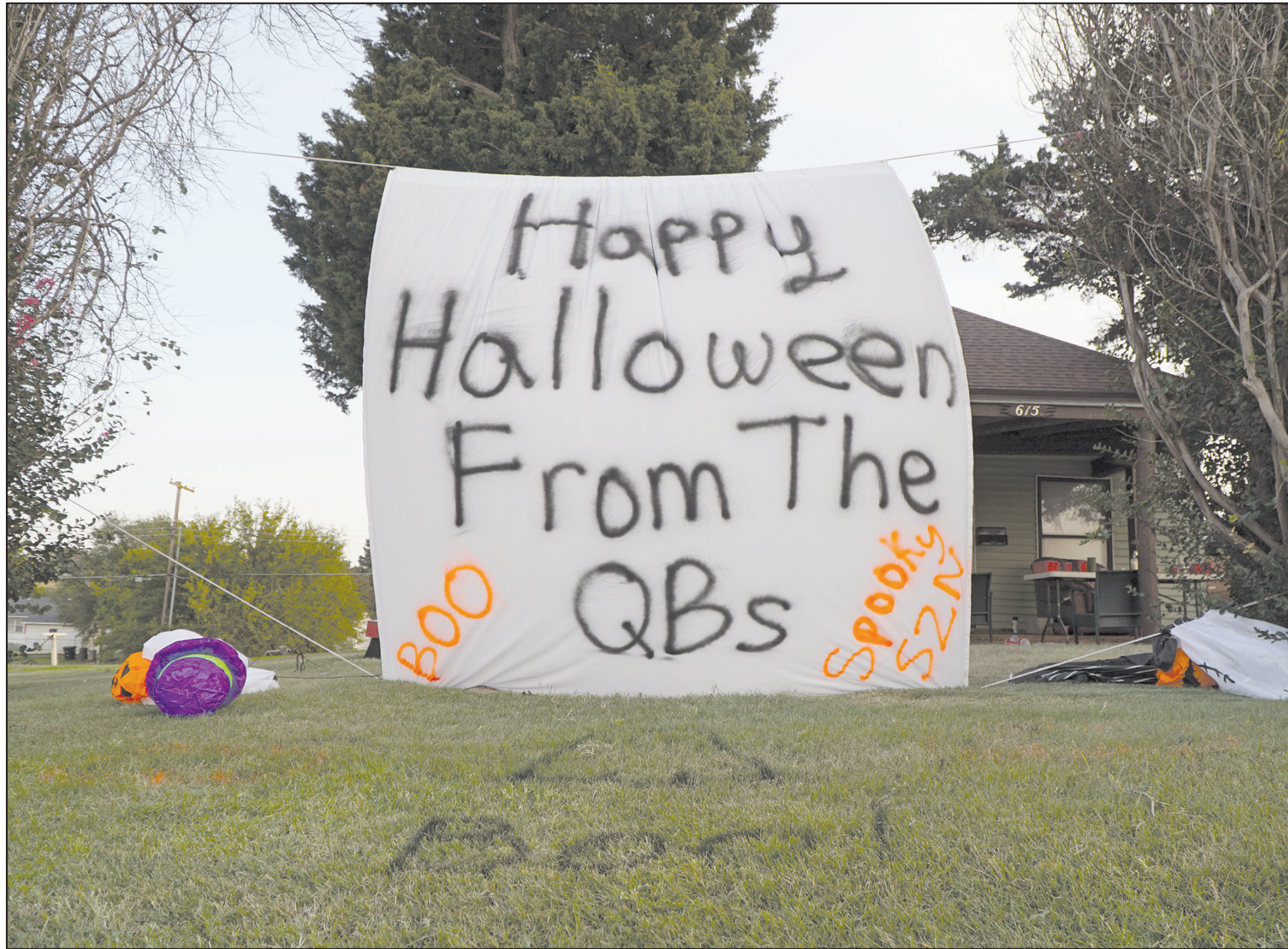
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Becky Zook- NwAHEC Director // 580-213-3170 // bkzook@nwsu.edu

Homeowners decorate for Halloween



Photos by Jordan Green

Halloween decorations brighten up the front yard of a home on Monroe Street south of the Alva campus on Sunday night. Bringing some Halloween cheer to students.

Alva residents are gearing up for Halloween, and several events celebrating the holiday are slated for Northwestern in the coming weeks.

To find information on ghoulish upcoming events, check out the Oct. 22 issue of the News for some delightfully scary information.



Above: Dr. Janet Cunningham, the university president, has already decorated the front porch of her home on campus for Halloween. Among her decorations are long, colorful ribbons; large, fake spiders; and bright,

plastic pumpkins. At right: This home on Eight Street features a skeleton and gossamer strings, which criss-cross the front porch of the home as well as the mailbox in front of the residence.

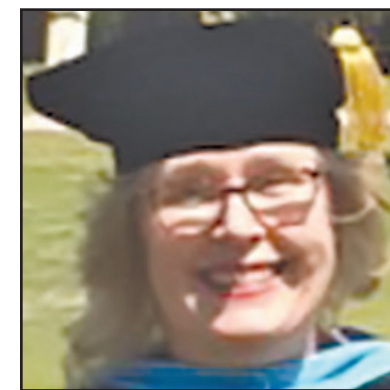


Photo by Jordan Green

A Northwestern maintenance worker uses a tractor on Friday to move sand at the construction site of a new sidewalk in front of the Student Center. Throughout the summer and the fall semester, the university's maintenance department has built new sidewalks in front of the building. The university also installed new windows in the building near the Alumni Foundation's offices.

Northwestern professors earn doctoral degrees

EDUCATION



Braten-Hall

Dr. Mariann Braten-Hall is an assistant professor of education at Northwestern and she recently earned her doctoral degree.

Q: Where did you earn your degree?

A: Oral Roberts University in Tulsa.

Q: What was the most challenging part about completing your degree?

A: Balancing all the work that goes on in life, as well as the time, extra writing, and research that goes into a doctorate degree.

Q: How do you feel your degree will impact the way you teach your students?

A: To show my students to work harder with people with diverse backgrounds.

Q: What would you say to students or faculty who are thinking about pursuing doctoral degrees?

A: I encourage them to do so. It takes commitment and hard work. Don't give up no matter how long it takes.

— Interview by Devyn Lansden, student reporter

CHOIR

Dr. Karsten Longhurst, director of choral studies and instructor of music, obtained his doctoral degree at the University of Southern California in March 2020.

Q: Where did you earn your doctoral degree, and why did you decide to obtain it there?

A: I earned my degree at Southern California in Los Angeles. I went there because it was an amazing school. It's an amazing location to study arts. I studied from four different conductors, one primarily, but I had classes from the three others. It also had a three-year doctoral program that enabled me to have a major and two minors, the major being academic emphasis.

In L.A., I got to sing with the Rolling Stones on their 50th tour. We did three shows with them. There were 16 of us singing as backup. So, I loved performing, and I loved to grow as a musician and a teacher too, so, it seemed like a good balance.

Q: What was the most challenging part about completing your degree?

A: Keeping up a balance between my family and a job and just all of my priorities.

Q: How do you feel your degree will impact the way you teach your students?

A: It's given me a lot of neat experiences. ... I feel like, because of the experience that I've had, it gives me a lot more to offer than not having any.

So, getting it has helped me in almost every way. I was conducting at the collegiate level while I was there. I was performing, I was



Longhurst

performing as a soloist, I was taking classes in theory, in history, in education, and music education.

It's given me a breadth and a depth, even some discipline, for more information and experiences to share with the students.

Q: What would you say to students and/or faculty who are thinking about pursuing their doctoral degrees?

A: Have a really good reason why you want to do that because many professions don't require it, and you can still be very successful without an advanced degree. If where you want to be required a doctorate, then that's when you should be thinking about it.

Otherwise, if you want to be a leader of some type in your field, then a doctorate does help. In order to get a job at a university, you pretty much have to have a doctorate, and that's what I wanted to do.

— Interview by Laney Cook, student reporter

BAND

Dr. Michael Seth Cudd, the director of bands at Northwestern, earned his doctoral degree earlier this year.

Q: Dr. Cudd, where did you earn your doctoral degree, and why did you decide to obtain it there?

A: It was at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. It is a really good school for composition, which was one of the main reasons. Also, me and my wife wanted to live close to New York City.

Q: What was the most challenging part about completing your degree?

A: I would say working full time while trying to finish it that was the hardest thing.

Q: How do you feel your degree will impact the way you teach your students?

A: That's a hard one. I think I always try to teach students with the idea that they might go to grad school ... so I always try to prepare them for grad



Cudd

school. So, in a way, I would say that it impacted the way I teach those students in the way I prepare them.

Q: What would you say to students or faculty who are thinking about pursuing doctoral degrees?

A: Try not to work full time and go to school is what I would say.

— Interview by Connor Gray, student reporter

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Feature



Photo by Michelle Willson

The Alva city park is a popular spot to host a ghost photo shoot with friends.



Photo by Michelle Willson

The trend includes using props to make your ghost a personality.



Photos by Michelle Willson

Halloween decorations are great props to add to your photoshoots.

Mostly ghostly

TikTok trend increases in popularity in Alva

By **KAYLEA BROWN**
Student Reporter

Turning leaves, carved pumpkins and aisles full of costumes can only mean one thing: Halloween is almost here.

This Halloween, doing a ghost photoshoot is a new way that younger generations are celebrating the holiday.

The trend started on the popular social media app, TikTok, and has started to appear on NWOSU's campus and many others across the world. According to three students on campus that have participated in the trend, all that is needed is a white sheet and a humorous or eerie place to take the photos.

"We live in the middle of nowhere with nothing exciting to do," said Carson Polk, a sophomore mass communications major from Hayden, Alabama. "Then this [idea] came up and anyone can do it from anywhere."

Emerging out of scenes from cartoons like Charlie Brown and Scooby-Doo, the idea of a ghost has turned to a person with a sheet thrown over their body. In this case, it also involves props including glasses, hats and a variety of others.

The possibilities of pictures that can come out of the photoshoot is what makes it interesting according to the girls. They said that it's also interesting because of the people that take interest in you while you are doing it.

"When people walk up to you with a sheet on your head and start talking to you it's kind of interesting," explained Carys Delaplane, a junior nursing major from Enid. "Anyone will come up to you and start asking questions when you have a sheet over you and you're taking pictures."

Being approached by curious people is something that all of the girls experienced, but it made for some of their favorite moments of the photoshoot. From being able to pet a stranger's dog to exploring a new place, the photoshoot is memorable because it is also something that you haven't seen a lot, said Lily Hattenhauer, a freshman art major from Stroud.

"It feels kind of goofy at first," Hattenhauer said. "But when the photos come out you're like wow this is actually really fun."



Photo by Michelle Willson

A group of students went to Vinson Hall basement to take photos.



Photo by Kaylea Brown

Ghosts often find themselves contemplating the meaning of life.

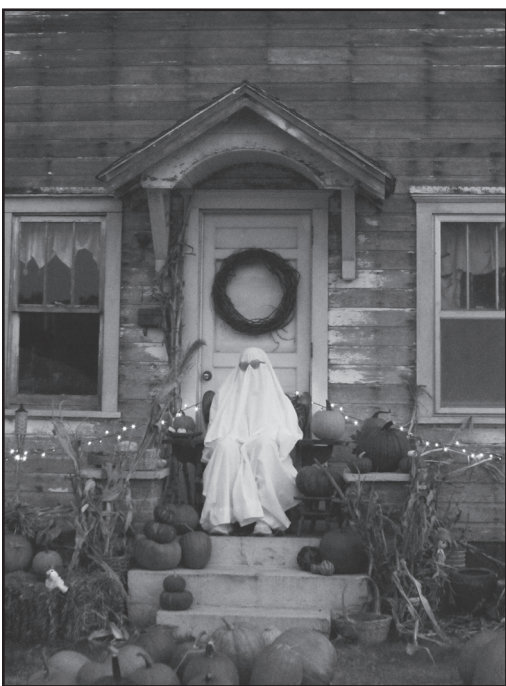


Photo by Kaylea Brown

Students were given permission to take photos on a decorated front lawn in Alva



Photo by Kaylea Brown

Students dressed up like ghosts and held photoshoots around the town of Alva and on Campus.

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'Unsolved Mysteries' too many questions

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Editor-in-Chief

"Unsolved Mysteries Volume 1" is a series on Netflix that was released July 1, 2020. From the producers of "Stranger Things," this six episode series follows unexplained cold cases.

The first episode follows the story of Ray Rivera, a happy family man who disappeared sporadically one day it took them a while before they found his car in a parking lot. After a few more days of investigation they found a hole in the top of a building next to the hotel at first it looks like suicide, but there's so many unanswered questions. The hole was too small, his phone and sunglasses were found on the roof with the hole unbroken and there's a 40 foot distance between the top of the hotel room to the hole even at a running jump It's unlikely that he would have fallen the way he did. Even the medical examiner said that his fractures in his legs don't match what it would look like if someone had fallen from that distance into a roof and through a ceiling.

I did not like this series because the cases are still open they don't give you a definitive answer on what happened. Each episode either leaves you baffled

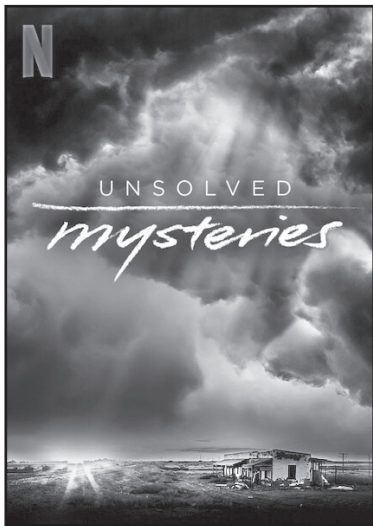


Photo from the Netflix Media Center

with what's happened or positive you know who did it and how they did it (which is unlikely because you just watched a 53 minute episode on the case). Either way you're frustrated that the episode does not give you any conclusion into the case at all.

I gave this series a two out of five stars overall and a one out of five on the scary scale. It's not meant to be scary. It's not scary and nor do I think there is any way they could twist it to make it scary. The scariest thing to think about is that someone probably got away with murder.

I recommend the series to anyone who is in to unsolved cases. anyone who is really into crime shows or anyone who likes to be left with questions.

'Cold Case Files' an inside look at crime investigation and solutions

Series ties up cold cases and leaves viewers with answers

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Editor-in-Chief

"Cold Case Files Classic" is another series on Netflix. I chose to watch this one after the unfinished questions from the "Unsolved Mysteries" I wanted something that would give me a definitive conclusion. This series is a 1999 documentary series about cold cases that they end up closing.

The first case that they look at is baby for sale. It first shows you the situation where they find the remains of an infant and for years they had no leads. They didn't know where this baby came from. All they found were tire traps and a boot print but other than that nothing.

Years later this guy is talking to his girlfriend and she says that she thinks her brother-in-law killed his daughter.

He calls the police and gives them the tip then they start searching for birth records which they find so they had too school records. They need some sort of evidence that she made it to school, but they find nothing.

They feel that this is



enough evidence to confront them. When they do, the mom says that her baby was stolen from her car and the dad says nothing, which is suspicious.

The series keeps you in just the right amount of suspense. It shows you what the investigators went through all the different options they considered and how they connected the pieces.

It's super interesting to see how the inner workings of an investigation like this goes.

I give the series a three out of five stars overall and a one out of five stars on the scariest scale, It's not scary, but it's not

really meant to be. It's about real life stories how they really happened.

I would recommend this series to anyone who is interested in police investigations, anyone interested in murder or murderers and anyone who likes any crime series.

I really like this series because it goes over crimes that are out of the ordinary like a couple finding a body in a barrel in the crawl space under their house, it's just things that stick out.

It's a great series and I think it deserves a watch.

Spooky student reviews

The Guardian



Rating: 4/5

By Laura Reed
NWOSU Student

I know what you're thinking. A Nicholas Sparks book? No way, he writes cliché romances. And you would be right. However, one of the scariest books I have ever read was "The Guardian." It has suspense, some dark themes, and some romance to boot. If you get your scares from more realistic stories, this is for you during this spooky season. The main character Julie has a devoted dog, as well as a pretty intense stalker. I would definitely recommend this story with a 4 out of 5. The only reason that I don't give it a 5 is that I had nightmares for days. I hope you enjoy this book during this spooky season!

Want to be featured in Spooky Student Reviews?

Send a two-paragraph review to:
nwnews@nwosu.edu.

Coraline



Rating: 4/5

By CARSON POLK
Online Manager

"Coraline" is a perfectly creepy movie to watch all year round. For those who have not watched it, it is about a young girl curiously finding another world within her new home. What I love about the movie is it is easy to follow along and can be enjoyed by anyone at any age. The animators really did everything they could to put an eerie vibe to every detail. After watching the movie, everyone needs to read more in depth of the secret messages within every scene. What I do not like about "Coraline" is the difference it shows from the book. The book does not include the side character "Wybie" and the book is more graphic, borderline disturbing in many scenes. Overall, I rate the book "Coraline" four out of four stars with a scary rating of two out of five.

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Sports

Women's basketball volunteers

By **ETHAN EVERSON**
Student Reporter

The Lady Ranger basketball team did a community service event for Beadles Nursing Home this past week.

The team wanted to give back to the Alva community, and this is just the start.

Coach Tasha Diesselhorst was excited to do this for all the residents in the nursing home and she said, "We love to see the reactions of the residents' faces after all that we did for them." They did as much as they could to help the home look and feel better. They cleaned the outside part of the home by picking up trash.

Redshirt Junior Kinsey Neiderer said, "It's important for us to give back to the community because of all the things that the community does for us and NWOSU."

The NWOSU Lady Rangers spent over three hours at the nursing home also repainting and cleaning up little areas of the outside part. Senior Bailey Brown said, "we always want to help the community anyway we can. They never fail to fill up our stadium

seats, so we wanted to find a way to give back."

Coach Diesselhorst put the girls on Facebook live to let everyone see what they were doing for the nursing home, and promoting Northwestern Oklahoma State lady's basketball team.

Everyone watching was amazed by how they were doing so much for them, definite-

ly spreading kindness and good spirits for everyone to see.

The Lady Rangers definitely want to do more projects for the future, but not sure what kind of projects.

"Because of COVID it has been hard to get more projects like these, but if another comes that we can do I'm sure we'll do it again." Neiderer said.



Photo by @NWOSUWBB

The NWOSU women's basketball team volunteered at Beadles.



Photo by Michelle Willson

The NWOSU football team practices to get ready for next season.



Photo by David Thornton

Number 79 gets ready to play offense while at practice.

A look into NWOSU SAAC

By **DAVID THORNTON**
Photographer

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) still plans to do great things in the other community regardless of COVID-19.

Some of the SAAC's Community service events have been put on hold. Sadiia Jones is Northwestern's assistant of athletics and student services along with being SAAC's supervisor. she said, "It's a safety precaution for our students and community to cut down on contact wear masks and social distance," Sadiia said.

SAAC has meetings twice a month and these meetings are open to all athletes. Every meeting they discuss things around the community and what plans

and ideas they have next.

The most common event they do is read and play bingo at the nursing home with the elderly patients, and due to COVID they can't normally do that. The last SAAC meeting they decided to make and gave out goodie bags for the nursing home. "They like to have candy coloring books, crossword puzzles and we also put in Halloween gifts," Sadiia said. Sadiia plans to visit the nursing home soon to give up these goody bags.

"Due to COVID we had to be creative and safe with what we do for the community," Conner Norman said.

"Being a SAAC member is fun, being about to connect with the community in anyway is great," Conner said.

"I'm just a supervisor, SAAC is for them to have an identity, and have a voice. I asked for their opinion and it's their ideas," Sadiia said.

SAAC consist of all athletes to from every sport at Northwestern.

"It's a great experience and practice for our SAAC members to communicate with non-athletic members in their community," Sadiia said.

Recently SAAC showed support for the local firefighters and EMS. One night they took Peter to them. Due to COVID that's all they did when usually they stay longer and the SAAC members talk about being student athletes.

SAAC is still doing great things for the community while being safe and following COVID guidelines.



Photo by David Thornton

The NWOSU football team gets to play a spring fall game for practice.

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Photo by David Thornton

Due to COVID-19 guidelines all contact sport teams have to wear masks while at practice.

News

‘I KNEW I WANTED TO HELP’

Amid pandemic, Forsyth and student athletes collect food for Campus Cabinet

By JARA REEDER
Photo Editor

Northwestern athletes are hosting a food drive until Oct. 19 to help out Northwestern’s Campus Cabinet.

Ariel Forsyth, a 20-year-old social work major from Quinlan, Texas, organized the food drive.

“As a social work major, we are required to conduct a service-learning project,” she said. “I spoke with many people, debating on what to do for my project. After I spoke with Ms. Angelia Case about Campus Cabinet, I knew I wanted to help create a food drive. I decided to involve the student athletes since we are such a big part of campus.”

Forsyth said she involved athletes because they are active in the community.

“Student athletes participate in tons of community service throughout the year,” she said. “With coronavirus this year, we are not getting to participate as much. The food drive is a great way for athletes to be able participate in helping the community this year.”

Students wishing to donate food should find a drop box around campus in which to place the items they’re donating.

Drop boxes will be located in the men’s and women’s locker rooms. There is also a box in the J.R. Holder Wellness Center for non-athletes wanting to help.



Photo by Jara Reeder

Above: Angelia Case, who oversees the Campus Cabinet, sorts through canned goods and other items in the food pantry in this August file photo.

“The goal is to help fill up the Campus Cabinet since, in the spring, we weren’t able to have food drives,” Forsyth said.

The organizers of the food drive are asking students and faculty to give at least two to three

cans of food. They are also asking for donations of hygiene products. Students who are in need of these supplies and more – including clothing, pillows, and blankets – can get help from the Campus Cabinet.

Gina Wilson, a 20-year-old nursing major from Perry, said: “I like how each team is contributing. It is true [that] the majority of our campus is sports-based. So, we should help those in need and if even there’s people on teams that may as well need it.”

Jessalyn Rivet-Tissot, a 22-year-old biology major from Chailloué, France, said: “I think it’s a good idea that athletes and students with extra goods could help out and also help the students that rely on the Campus Cabinet.”

Northwestern has nine active COVID-19 cases

By JORDAN GREEN
News Editor

Northwestern Oklahoma State University has nine active cases of the coronavirus, university officials said Oct. 9.

Eight students have the virus, a decrease of 11 student cases since Oct. 2. One university employee also has the virus, officials said.

The total number of positive COVID-19 cases among Northwestern students and employees includes cases at all of the university’s campuses in Alva, Enid, and Woodward.

Officials first reported on Aug. 28 the number of students who have COVID-19. At the time, six students had tested positive for it.

University officials report the number of COVID-19 cases each Friday on NWSU’s website.

To see the number of cases on all campuses, visit <https://www.nwsu.edu/coronavirus/active-covid-19-cases-nwsu>.

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After 79 years, WWII sailor brought home



Members of the Wichita Navy Reserve carry the casket of Rex E. Wise toward a hearse at the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport in Wichita on Tuesday.

A World War II Navy veteran was laid to rest in Braman, Oklahoma, on Wednesday, 79 years and 10 months after he died in service to the United States.

Rex E. Wise, a Navy Fireman 1st Class who was killed in the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii, was buried at the Braman Cemetery during a military funeral that morning. Braman is approximately 83 miles east of Alva.

Wise was a resident of South Haven, Kansas, approximately 10 miles north of Braman. He was stationed onboard the USS Oklahoma at Pearl Harbor on the Hawaiian island of Oahu on Dec. 7 when Japanese aerial forces bombed the harbor, the impetus for the United States to enter World War II. Wise was one of 429 men onboard the USS Oklahoma who died in the attack.

He was 21 years old at the time.

Personnel with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency identified Wise's remains on Oct. 17, 2019 after examining his dental records, the agency said in a news release.

The Navy presented Wise's casket to funeral directors with Roberts and Sons Funeral Home of Blackwell at Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport in Wichita during the ceremony Tuesday. Wise's casket was escorted to the funeral home in Blackwell following the ceremony

Photo by Jordan Green