MASK MANDATES

Northwestern volleyball players are required to wear masks during competitions, but not all sports teams have to. PAGE 10



What should you take with you if you have to quarantine? Here's a list of what you might not remember to bring. PAGE 8





PRSRT. STD. Permit # 5 Alva, OK 73717

Address Service Requested

Volume No. 82, Issue 17

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

February 4, 2021

Visit us online at northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com

Follow us on: If I

Few crimes reported on campus in 2019

By JORDAN GREEN Editor-in-Chief

0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0.

In order, those are the numbers of murders, rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, cases of incest and fires reported on Northwestern's Alva campus in 2019.

"It's a safe campus," said Calleb Mosburg, Northwestern's dean of student affairs. "There's really no better way to state it."

Northwestern officials published the university's annual campus safety and fire prevention report in December, showing that relatively few crimes were reported on the university's campuses in 2019.

The annual report lists crime statistics from the preceding year. Under the Clery Act, a federal law mandating that colleges and universities provide crime statistics and information to students, officials have nine months after the end of a calendar year to compile data and finalize information.

The report is usually published Oct. 1, but federal officials granted universities an extension for the 2020 report because of the coronavirus pandemic, Mosburg

In 2019, no instances of these crimes were reported on the university's campuses: murder, manslaughter by negligence, rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and arson.

No hate crimes were reported on Northwestern campuses in 2019, the report said.

The U.S. Justice Department defines a hate crime as a crime "committed on the basis of the victim's perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability."

In 2019, officials said two instances of domestic violence were reported on the Alva

See REPORT, Page 2



A Northwestern campus police car is shown in this November photo.

MONUMENTAL MEMORIES

Who is the Northwestern Ranger statue supposed to look like?

By LANEY COOK Student Reporter

As people gathered on the north side of Northwestern's Alva campus, a truck with a large flatbed could be seen coming down the road. On the back of the truck was the university's iconic Ranger statue.

Since Nov. 13, 2007, the statue - which depicts a cowboy riding a horse – has stood at the corner of Oklahoma Boulevard and Highway 281.

It's one of the first campus fixtures people see when they arrive at Northwestern. It represents the university's mascot, the Ranger. But who is the cowboy atop the stallion supposed to look like?

The answer: No specific person.

As part of a new series of stories uncovering the history of monuments and statues at Northwestern, the Northwestern News recently spoke with the wife of Harold Holden, the Enid artist who created the statue.

Edna Mae Holden said her husband wasn't trying to model a particular person when he drew plans for the cowboy atop the statue, a tall, mustachioed rider donning a western hat and leather



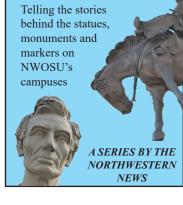
The Northwestern Ranger statue on the Alva campus was unveiled in 2007. It is shown in this Jan. 30 photo.

chaps.

"It's not anybody in particular," Edna Mae Holden said. "He [Harold] was contacted about doing that monument for the university to kind of represent a Ranger."

To design the statue, Harold Holden met with Tom and Brenda McDaniel, who donated the funds for it. Tom McDaniel was the university's former president.

"They just kind of wanted him to do something emblematic of the way the Ranger would be depicted," Edna Mae Holden said. "So, he did a little drawing. Then he did a little - what's called a 'pitch model,' where he just does a little kind of replica out of clay real quickly to show them what



MONUMENTAL

MEMORIES

he has in mind. And from there, they agreed on that, so he just proceeded to do that one

Skeeter Bird, the director of the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association, said the university bought three such statues as a package deal, with the ultimate goal being to put one on the university's campuses in Alva, Enid and Woodward.

"At first, we thought that with Enid and Woodward being bigger, that they would be the first campuses that would get one," Bird said. "But we had donors step up in both Alva and Enid."

The Oklahoman newspaper reported at the time of the donation See RANGER, Page 2

NEWS

EDITORIAL

PROFILES

FEATURE

SPORTS

Pages 2 & 3 Pages 4 & 5 Pages 6 & 7

Page 9

Page 10

News

RANGER: Statue on Alva campus one of three made

Continued from Page 1

that the McDaniels donated the Alva statue as a gift to the university. On the Ranger Statue in Alva, people who helped fundraise and plan for the statue carved their initials into it.

Bird said that, before the statue was mounted, everyone on the fundraising committee was invited to Holden's ranch north of Enid, where they were asked to carve their initials into the statue.

"At the time, I thought 'Oh, this is no big deal," Bird said. "And then later, I'm like, 'Hey, I can show my grandkids this one day."

Valarie Case, a Northwestern public relations specialist, said she was there on Nov. 13, 2007, to see the statue unloaded and mounted where it is now. It stands 10 feet high and sits on concrete base four feet wide.

"It was such an exciting thing to see the statue being driven up that day," Case said. "And now we have this beautiful piece of art to represent our university."

Three and a half months after the statue arrived in Alva, a Ranger statue was dedicated on the university's Enid campus on Feb. 29, 2008. Harold Hamm, the chief executive officer of Continental Resources, Inc., and his wife, Sue, donated the statue as a gift to the university.

Cheryl Evans, the president of Northern Oklahoma College and the former president of Northwestern's Enid campus, said there is a time capsule in the base of the Enid statue.

"We thought it would be fun to add some items that represented the university's campus," Evans said. "We ordered a capsule and added things like a class schedule, catalog, employee directory, newspaper clippings and stories about the Ranger."

After they gathered everything up, they put it in the capsule and placed it inside the base, Evans said.

Bird said the third statue is at the university's rodeo facility. It is not on display.

Before the statues were created, the Ranger mascot was the representation of the school, Bird said

"This statue was part of our 'Ride for Pride' to kind of bring back the pride in the school," Bird said. "It was a visible signature of that, and it has worked, I believe."

— Editor-in-Chief Jordan Green contributed to this report.



Above: Angelia and Valarie Case, who work at Northwestern, pose for a photo with the Ranger statue while it was being

Photo provided

Right: The Northwestern Ranger statue on the Alva campus was unveiled in 2007. It is shown in this Jan. 30, 2021, photo.

Photo by Jara Reeder



REPORT: No crimes reported on Enid, Woodward campuses since 2017

Continued from Page 1

campus. Both took place in university housing facilities, though the report does not say which buildings the violence occurred in. No domestic violence cases were reported in 2017 or 2018.

One instance of motor vehicle theft was reported on the Alva campus in 2019, the report showed. No thefts were reported there in 2017 or 2018.

In 2019, two students were

arrested on the Alva campus for carrying or possessing weapons, and eight were arrested for drug abuse violations. In 2018, no students were arrested on the campus for carrying weapons, but 14 were arrested for drug abuse violations.

No students have been arrested on the Alva campus for liquor law violations since 2017, officials said.

The report shows that 19 stu-

dents on the campus were referred for disciplinary action for liquor law violations in 2019, down from 34 in 2018 and 45 in

No crimes have been reported on the university's Enid and Woodward campuses since 2017, the report showed. Both campuses are commuter campuses, meaning no students live on the campuses.

While the university's safety

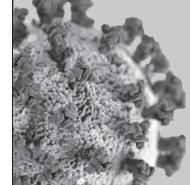
report tracks crimes committed on campus, it does not include information about crimes committed by or against students while off campus, Mosburg said.

"Anything that would occur on university property, things like that, we would have to count, but nothing that happens away from that," Mosburg said.

Mosburg praised Northwestern's faculty, staff and students for keeping the university safe. job," Mosburg said. "Our housing staff does a great job. ... I think everybody keeps a good eye out on campus. But, ultimately, I think with the people that we have – our students, our faculty, our staff – everybody knows the purpose of the campus and what our mission is. I feel fortunate we do have a safe campus, safe communities, including our Enid and Woodward locations as well."

"Our campus police do a great

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: CASE NUMBERS ON CAMPUS AND AROUND THE AREA



STUDENT CASES:

EMPLOYEE CASES:

IN ALVA:

33

active as of Feb. 2. Alva has had a total of 961 cases. IN OKLAHOMA:

27,860

active as of Feb. 2. Oklahoma has had total of 392,164 cases.

at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

This number includes cases

active as of Jan. 29.

active as of Jan. 29. This number includes cases at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

EDITOR'S NOTE: NWOSU reports new active student and employee cases weekly on Fridays at https://www.nwosu.edu/coronavirus/active-covid-19-cases-nwosu.

POLITICS

College Republicans club reactivated on campus

By CAITLIN HOFEN Student Reporter

The Northwestern College Republicans Club has recently been reactivated on campus.

Club President Braeden Cook sat down with Northwestern News to discuss club members' ideas and their mission as an organization.

Q: What is your club about?

A: It's called the College Republicans. It's a national organization that is active in several different states. There's the national organization and then the state organization.

Then, under that, there's different levels of college organizations. We just reactivated the chapter at Northwestern that has been here since 1967.

It's essentially a club to help prepare younger conservatives to be active in the Republican Party. They will be able to share their conservative values with confidence and be able to go out and



Braeden Cook

be politically active.

Q: Why did you decide to reactivate the chapter?

A: The political climate of today is really crazy, and it seems all-hands-on-deck, as far as conservatives are concerned.

It's getting to the point that it seems that everything is anti-conservative, in the sense of entertainment, education institutions, and a lot of mainstream media and news. It's time for us to get out there and be more vocal.

For the longest time, we've been passive in how we deal with issues. Now, it is getting to the point where it is affecting our daily lives. We have to get ourselves in gear and be able to fight back with new ideas.

Q: What is your club's mission?

A: Our mission is to spread conservative ideas throughout campus. Our college in particular is actually fairly conservative in terms of faculty and staff. There's a happy mix between Republicans and Democrats. That's not the case for a lot of universities. We want to keep up the diversity of thought on campus.

Q: What are some of your beliefs as a young Republican?

I believe in the American philosophy, which is the Declaration of Independence, for sure.

The Constitution is fabulous as far as a framework of government, but if you do not have a belief in the American philosophy

which is outlined in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution can be used for whatever you want. For there to be a limited government like we have always believed in, you have to have the Declaration of Independence and the idea that there are certain inalienable rights each human being has.

Each human being is valuable no matter shape, size, disability, whatever. That's one of the core beliefs both sides seem to be attacking.

I would say that's my core beliefs as a young Republican, is the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Q: How can people join?

A: People can join by following the College Republicans link on the student website. It will direct you to our teacher sponsor, Dr. Eric Schmaltz. You can email him, and he will direct you to me.

Q: How do you conduct meetings?

A: Our meeting usually starts

off with announcements and agenda planning. Oftentimes, we discuss on-campus activities and different ideas for events. We want to share our conservative values with students around campus. By the end of the meeting, we just have good conversations and fellowship. We are trying to build a community of like-minded people.

Q: When do you conduct meetings?

A: As of right now, our club meets over Zoom at 5:45 p.m. on Mondays. That's typically when most of our members are available, but we're flexible with changing it to whatever day might work better.

Q: What would you say to someone considering joining?

A: I would say, go ahead and try it out. See what it's like. Just know that it is a partisan club, and we hold conservative value to be true. If you believe in America and love the country, I believe it's an amazing club to be a part of.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

BLOOD DRIVE PLANNED FEB. 9 AND 10

Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Alva campus is partnering with the Oklahoma Blood Institute to host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 9 and 10 in the Student Center Ranger Room.

The blood donor goal for the event sponsored by the Northwestern Student Government Association and Ranger soccer team is 112 donors. This event is open to the public.

The blood institute has an ongoing need for convalescent plasma from donors who have recovered from COVID-19 to treat seriously ill patients, officials said in a news release. The need for convalescent plasma in this area has increased exponentially as hospitalizations surge.

with OBI can provide plasma to

up to four COVID-19 patients, in a process that takes about an hour and a half," Kaylyn Hansen, service learning coordinator, said.

coviddonor@obi.org to make a plasma appointment. The email should include the donor's name, date of birth, contact information and date of last COVID-19 symptoms. Individuals should also include proof of positive COVID-19 test results from a doctor or clinic.

Donors can save time and complete the screening questions online at http://obi.org/donor-express. The confirmation sheet must be printed on the day of the donation.

Donors need to have a photo ID available to give blood.

Appointments are preferred to help with social distancing, officials said. Walk-ins are accepted as the schedule allows. Attendees nwosu.edu. "A single plasma donation are required to wear face cover-

All donations will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies.

Those wishing to donate are encouraged to go online to make an appointment.

To make an appointment for Feb. 9, visit https://www.yourbloodinstitute.org/donor/schedules/drive schedule/337912.

To make an appointment for Feb. 10, visit https://www.yourbloodinstitute.org/donor/schedules/drive schedule/337913.

All blood donors will receive a free limited edition "Rise Up & Give" t-shirt, free health screenings and donor rewards points.

Free pizza will be available, and all donors will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win a \$25 Northwestern bookstore gift card.

To volunteer or ask questions about the event, contact Hansen at 580-327-8150 or at klhansen@

ART SHOW ENTRY **DEADLINE FEB. 24**

The entry deadline for forms to be submitted for the 18th annual Northwestern Oklahoma State University Art Society Art Show is Feb. 24.

The annual event takes place in the J.W. Martin Library. This year, it will begin March 7 and end March 26.

Artwork should be delivered to the library on March 3 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CORRECTION

Korina Dove's maiden name was incorrectly reported in a cutline Feb. 4. It is Dove, not Atchley.

GOT NEWS?

Let us know! Reach out to the Northwestern News via email at nwnews@nwosu.edu.

CALLING ALL LOVEBIRDS!



Tell that special someone or your best friends how much you care about them with a free, printed message in the Northwestern News!

Just fill out this Google doc form: https:// forms.gle/DNg4zCdG4ZYmFpoX7.

If you don't use Google docs, you can email your message to nwnews@nwosu.edu. These will appear in our paper on Feb. 11.

Messages must be 25 words or fewer.

You can choose to be anonymous when we print, but you must include your name when you submit your entry so the newspaper staff knows who you are.





Thinking of Moving?? Think Hi-Lo Apartments, LLC

1 & 2 bedrooms Within walking distance of campus School semester leases Laundromat on site

Sorry, no pets and no smoking in apartments.

NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Official Newspaper Northwestern Oklahoma State University

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

Spring 2021 Staff

Editor-in-Chief Jordan Green

News Editor Michelle Willson

Editorial Editor

Devyn Lansden

Sports Editor Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche

Assistant Editor Kevin Ford

Photo Editor Jara Reeder

Photographer David Thornton

Advertising Manager Jayden Dillon

Circulation Manager Dayra Verduzco Serrano

> Online Manager Bailey Judd

Adviser Dr. Kaylene Armstrong

News office: Jesse Dunn Annex 232 Telephone: 327-8479; Fax: 327-8127 E-mail: nwnews@nwosu.edu The News is printed by the Alva Review-Courier

The opinions and comments contained in the Northwestern News are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the policies or beliefs of the university administration. Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges or the editorial staff. The News gladly accepts submissions but does not promise they will

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

This institution, in compliance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, and other applicable federal laws and regulations, and to the extent required by law, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, genetic information, physical or mental disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

Inquiries concerning the application of these programs should be made to Calleb Mosburg, Director of Student Affairs, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 709 Oklahoma Boulevard, Alva, OK 73717,

This publication, printed by Northwestern Oklahoma State University, is issued by the University as authorized by the Regional University System of Oklahoma. 1,600 copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

All letters represent the views of the author.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

Editorial

The good times Editor's rant of the

By LEAH DARNELL Student Reporter

Family, one of the most important pieces that make me who

I have a close relationship with my parents, sister, brother-in-law and extended family. My family is one of my biggest support systems I have, and I am truly bless-

From my earliest memory, I could remember spending one week each with my grandparents during the summer.

During those weeks, my grandparents took pictures. And looking back on those memories, I am blessed to have time with both sets of grandparents.

For me, the hardest part of being close to family is when someone passes away. It's hard, but I remember they aren't in pain anymore, and I will see them again.

In August of 2018, my Grandpa Dacus passed away. For me, it was hard to see him in the pain before he passed, but I knew that God would call him home soon.

On the Dacus side of the family, I am the youngest grandchild out of 10. I have memories with him I will forever cherish. I remember running errands in town with him and my sister, Sarah, in his Ford pickup.

One errand I always remember was checking on the oilrigs.

Another thing he loved was John Deere tractors, which I quickly fell in love with since he loved them as well.

I remember a time my family was visiting during a holiday, and he gave me one of his John Deere hats.

I knew from that moment on that each time I look at or wear the hat, I know he is with me.

I also remember him loving John Wayne. In the garage, he had a cutout of him. At his memorial service, the John Wayne cutout made an appearance.

Also, I remember when my sister and I would spend the week with my Papa and Grandma. We would always watch "Home Alone" and "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York," even though it wasn't Christmastime.

I also remember him carrying a big cup filled up with half Dr. Pepper and the other half Diet Dr. Pepper.

I have a close relationship with my Grandma Dacus as well, I remember sitting on the kitchen floor and rolling cookie dough into balls.

Also, I remember in the mornings eating Nutrigrain bars or Honey Nut Cheerios and drinking hot chocolate out of John Deere

One of my favorite memories with my grandma was when my cousins, sister and I would play

"Courage is being scared to death ... and saddling up anyway." — John Wayne

"Sorry" with her. And somehow, she would always lose.

Again, she will always let us watch the "Home Alone" movies ,and also the newest version of "The Parent Trap."

Since my Grandpa Dacus has passed, when going back to visiting Grandma Dacus, all of those memories start flooding back from when I was a child. I wish I could run errands with my grandpa one more time.

Because I am getting older and in my last semester of college, it's harder to go see my Grandma Dacus, but I know every opportunity I get when I am not in school to see her, I will take it, because we aren't guaranteed tomorrow.

I am truly blessed to have parents who let me have a close relationship with my grandparents and spend a week with both sets during the summer, because those memories I will treasure forever.

Until we meet again, Papa, love and miss you!

"Courage is being scared to death ... and saddling up anyway." — John Wayne



By MICHELLE WILLSON Features Editor

I don't like to think about the future. It's always stressed me out. When people ask, "What do you want to be when you're older?" I get all flustered because I don't know. In one of my classes this semester, we had to pick three job ads that, theoretically, if we had our degree, we would apply for. I didn't know what to pick.

I will have my bachelor's degree in mass communication with a minor in librarian and information sciences. But I'm not sure if I want to go into either of those fields, and as a senior, I think I should know. Looking back at my experience, I've worked in a daycare, a nursing home, a pharmacy, a gas station, as an editor of the newspaper and as a resident's assistant.

I have lots of experience in multiple areas, but I don't know which one suits me best or what I was best in. I'm just worried that I'll apply for positions that I'll get to and realize that I don't have the qualifications or I'm not best fit

I really like my position as an RA at South Hall, and I really liked working at my mom's daycare. So, I think I want to work with people. But I don't know in which aspect.

I'm so jealous of those people that have natural talent and just know what they want to be. Those people who have a goal that they're working for and know the exact plan they're taking everything. Growing up, I wanted to be a meteorologist, or a marine biologist, or an astronaut. I did not go for any of those. I was a weird kid.

The next question is: Do I want to stay close to home? Probably not. I grew up in Kansas. I go to school in Oklahoma, and I think I just need to get away. But to where? I've been looking at Arkansas. I don't understand why my brain is just drawn to it. In particular, Eureka Springs Arkansas, but who knows. I'll probably still be around. I don't see myself accomplishing moving away like I had planned at the beginning of my college career.

Where do you start? How do I plan what I want to do when I don't even know what I like to do? I guess I'm going to have to do a lot of soul-searching before the semester ends to figure out my next steps, whatever they may be.

But as I think about what jobs I want to go into, I'm overlooking the fact that I can't graduate until I have an internship. I know it'll be most helpful to me if I get an internship that's in-person. But we're in a pandemic. I've tried to cut off as much contact with other people as I could to be as safe as I can. I guess if you have any suggestions, let me know.

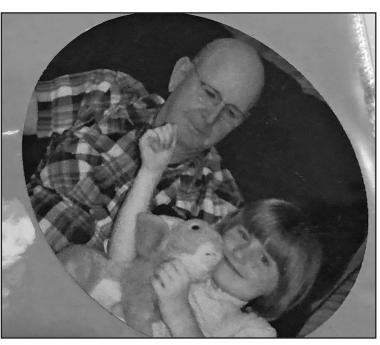


Above: Leah Darnell's favorite memory was of sitting on the kitchen floor with her Grandma Dacus making chocolate chip cookies during the summertime.

Top right: Leah's grandparents, Carlene and Clarence Dacus, smile for a picture.

Right: Leah Darnell sits on her grandpa's lap during a visit. This was her favorite spot when her grandparents visited or when she went to visit them in Oklahoma.

Photo provided

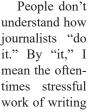


Editorial

Newspaper ink is in my blood

The time is 3 a.m. After a 13-hour day working on the newspaper, I'm finally in bed.

People don't understand how journalists "do it." By "it," I mean the oftentimes stressful work of writing



stories, taking photos, editing stories, designing newspaper pages — and working long, late hours to get it all done.

JORDAN

GREEN

SAYS

GREEN

Sometimes, even I don't understand how I stay up into the wee hours of the night writing about the day's events and placing those words on the pages of a newspaper — especially when the metaphorical "going" gets tough.

But every Wednesday night, I'm reminded why I love this job with all my heart.

On Wednesday, the presses roll.

Northwestern News, The Northwestern Oklahoma State University's student newspaper, is printed by the Alva Review-Courier, one of Oklahoma's finest family-owned newspapers.

A talented staff of reporters, advertising workers, office workers, editors and photographers assemble this outstanding community newspaper three times a week.

It's one of the few newspapers left in this part of the country that has its own printing press. And a good one, at that — a Harris model. (I'm a Goss Community press lover myself, but Harris equipment is good.)

Once a week, the Review-Courier staff share their presses and their labor with the News. Marione Martin, the Review-Courier's editor and publisher, as well as Jack James and David Canaan, the paper's pressmen, are three of the best press operators this side of the Mississippi.

They don't quit until the color registration is perfectly aligned, producing a shiny, vibrant, color-



Copies of the Jan. 28 edition of the Northwestern News pass through the Alva Review Courier's printing press on Jan. 27. The part of the press shown in this photo applies black ink to certain pages of the newspaper.

ful printed product for readers to enjoy.

Marione, Jack and David are kind enough to put up with me when I ask to watch the press run. I usually ask to press the "Start" button. And they let me.

Hitting that button is more than simply firing up a machine.

For newspaper folks, pressing that button brings to life the work into which we pour our hearts.

Newspapering is hard. Every day, we newspaperfolk do our best to figure out what people need to know about.

Then we track down facts by interviewing people, reading documents (sometimes having to fight with government agencies to get them) and making our own observations as we witness events unfold — as we watch history flash before our eyes.

We gather that information, and then we try to write it.

This usually takes a few different attempts before a worthwhile story is told.

We'll start writing, scrap the draft, and then start over. Sometimes, more than once.

We keep working the story over for as long as we can.

We'd take longer if not for deadlines. At some point, we have to finish our work and pass it on to an editor.

The editor reads our work, tries to make sense of it, and then tells us where we screwed up and how to do better in the future.

This is an important step; a reporter is only as good as his editor, in my opinion as someone who does both jobs.

Once the editor's done with the story, it's sent to a designer, who uses computer software to put the story on a digital copy of a newspaper page.

The designer places photos and headlines on the page to go with the story, adjusting and readjusting all of these components over and over again until everything fits on the page.

And finally, once all of that help them live better lives.

work is done, the paper is printed. After hours and days of interviewing, writing, editing and designing, the paper is finally born.

I've greatly oversimplified the process. When stories aren't finished on time, when sources don't communicate with reporters, and when computer programs go haywire, this becomes one heck of a stressful atmosphere. Normally, the work takes a long time — and it takes longer when the odds aren't in one's favor.

One must love the art of newspapering to stay in this line of work for very long. That's something I've learned in my three and a half years in the business.

It's hard, and some days, the work seems like it will never end.

But the newspaper? It is my lifeblood. It is my source of joy, completion and fulfillment. It is my reason for living.

This is my purpose in life: to inform people with fair, accurate, balanced information that can

And to put those stories on the everlasting printed paper.

That paper comes to life every Wednesday in one of the least glamorous — but one of the most glorious — ceremonies known to

When the start button is pressed, loud rollers begin to spin.

Paper begins to weave its way through the machine, passing over metal plates and round, rubber rollers covered with sticky, gooey ink until it finally reaches a sharp cutting blade, severing one copy of the paper from another.

The machine speeds up. Press operators have to adjust it to make sure it's printing properly.

This takes a while, and until those adjustments — the registration — are literally right on the dot, the paper doesn't look too spiffy.

Eventually, however, everything is in order. And that colorful, wet, inky, sweet-smelling newspaper is ready to be read.

I stand by the conveyor belt carrying the papers out of the machine. I pick up the first copy as it comes off the line.

I feel the ink with my fingers, covering my hand in tones of cyan, magenta, yellow, and black — the four colors used in the printing process, also known as CMYK. I lift the paper up to my nose and take a deep breath.

Newsprint has a distinct smell; mixed with ink and water, the aroma is more beautiful than the scent of a freshly-cut hay meadow in the springtime.

All of the stress of the job melts away. I have reaped the reward for my work; I am clutching it in my bare hands.

I close my eyes, and I take a deep breath. I smile. And I remind myself: Yes, I've got the best job in the world.

Every Wednesday, my baby is born. The press brings it to life, and I am there, waiting to catch it.

There is no sound purer, no smell sweeter and no feeling greater than the printing of a newspaper.

I don't bleed red. I bleed CMYK.



Northwestern News Editor-in-Chief Jordan Green smiles as he holds a copy of the Northwestern News.



Copies of the Jan. 28 edition of the Northwestern News zip through the Alva Review-Courier's printing press on Jan. 27. The News is printed each Wednesday night during the semester.

NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Jill Lancaster: From running to coaching

Alva native Lancaster became award-winning track athlete and now coaches student athletes at Northwestern

By DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPEKECHE Sports Editor

Till Lancaster always knew wanted to be an athlete. But while J growing up on her family's farm in Avard, she did not have access to a normal gymnasium for practicing.

She had to impro-

"I fixed a ball bearing and put it inside a tennis ball to practice my shotput with that," Lancaster said. "In the summer, I would be driving the tractor, Lancaster and you don't stop the tractor. Well, I

was still training, so I would get a small break and do my workout in the sand of the farm. I could check my long jump approach by drawing a line in the sand."

Lancaster was training herself to be a track and field athlete on the collegiate level. She has coached at multiple universities since 1983. Now, as a coach at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, she said she hopes to help her student-athletes achieve their goals and be

Lancaster started her athletic career running for the Kiwanis Alva Track Club during her childhood. She graduated from Carmen-Dacoma High School in the late 1970s. After graduation, she went to Norman to attend the University of Oklahoma, where she competed in women's track and field.

When she ran at OU, the women's track team was not in the NCAA. It was a part of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women.

Lancaster competed in the 600-meter dash, one-mile and two-mile relays while in college. Prior to 2018, Lancaster held the university's 400-meter hurdle record for more than 30 years with a time of 59.03 seconds.

Lancaster graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor of arts degree in recreation in 1981. A few years later, she received a bachelor of arts degree in

home economics fashion. She was the first female track and field scholarship athlete to graduate with a degree from the university.

From 1983 to 1986, Lancaster served as an assistant men's and women's track and field coach at OU. This coaching opportunity became her first of many.

THE YEAR THAT MADE HER

In 1988, Lancaster was inducted into the Drake Relays Hall of Fame, invited to compete at the United States Olympic Trials in the heptathlon, and received a head coaching job in Toledo, Ohio.

Lancaster had a few coaching opportunities before she took over the head coach job at the University of Toledo.

"That was scary, to be really clear," Lancaster said. "It was the best thing I ever did. Some of the best things are the

Officials with the Drake Relays sent Lancaster a letter on October 19, 1987, Jane Clough (above) clears a height on her way to winning the high jump and Jill Lancaster chases Jackie Joyner to the finish line in the heptathlon's 800 meter race. (AP Laserphotos)

Sooner Clough wins high jump

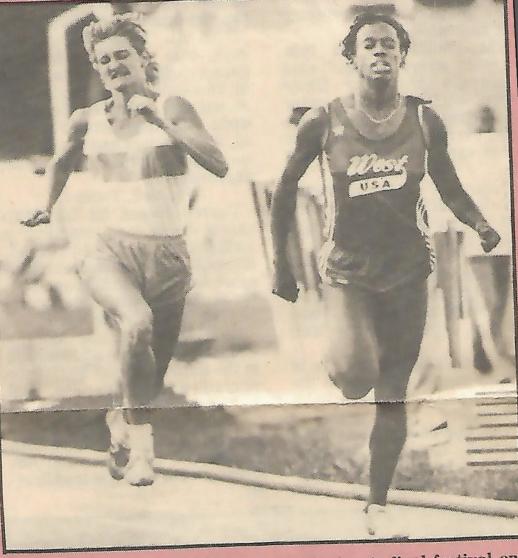
BATON ROUGE, La. -Jane Clough, a former Big Eight champion who just completed her eligibility at OU, soared six feet, 314 inches Sunday to win the women's high jump in the sixth National Sports Festival.

Clough's leap at the Southern University track tied a festival record. Her workout partner, Jan Chesbro, who also lives in Norman, claimed the bronze medal with a leap of 6-0. Mary Moore of Issaquah, Wash., was second at 6-2.

Former OU star and current Sooner assistant coach Jill Lancaster narrowly missed a medal in the heptathlon, finishing fourth with 5,275 points.

Olympian Jackie Joyner won all seven events to shatter the festival record with 6,718. She was followed by Lauri Young at 5,473 and Jolanda Jones at 5,411.

OU's other track and field representative — discus thrower Ed Wade of Sallisaw - finished eighth with a toss of 177-6. Mike Buncic of Lex-



ington, Ky., won with a throw of 214-2.

Former Sooner star Randy Wilson, now living in Knoxville, Iowa, was fifth in the 800 meters at 1:45.85. John Gray of Santa Monica, Calif., set a festival record of 1:44.66.

Norman's final festival entry, Ron Tripp, was fourth at 189 pounds in the judo competition. Tripp qualified for the medal round but lost all three matches there. William Worthington of Richmond, Calif., won the gold medal.

telling her that she would be in- try and track and field teams. toric track meet in the spring of 1988

This would not have happened if she had not bet on herself, she said.

She said she saw an opportunity to run in the heptathlon at the Drake Relays because they would not accept unattached runners in one-mile races because of the foreign professional athletes competing at the relays.

Lancaster trained for events in which she had never performed, helped her win the Heptathlon in 1983, 1984, 1985,

Lancaster competed in the 1988 United States Olympic Trials in Indianapolis, Indiana. At the Olympic Trials, she finished 14th in the Heptathlon.

DAYS AS A RANGER

Fast forward to 2017, when Lancaster was named the head coach of Northwestern's men and women's cross coun-

program a locker room.

The city of Alva donated the Dunning Performance Center, formerly the local National Guard armory, which would be used as new batting cages for the university.

A room in the Health and Sports Science Building on campus became vacant because it was the old batting cages.

Lancaster asked Brad Franz if she could utilize the room as an indoor practice facility and locker rooms for her

Franz was the athletic director during the hire of Lancaster. Prior to her position at Northwestern, Lancaster had been volunteering as a coach at Cherokee High School for their track team, but visited campus and saw that she could make a difference, she said.

"She understands when a kid is struggling," Franz said. "She knows when

been around at such a high level that she can relate to every student-athlete.'

Lancaster said her biggest challenge is balancing the needs of her stu-

"I can't always relate to them, but I can relate to what they are going through," Lancaster said. "There were challenges where I almost did not make t through college. Failure does not dictate who you are, it makes you better."

Sterlin Broomfield, a volunteer assistant for Northwestern's cross-country and track and field teams, has been with the program since before Lancaster took the head coach position.

Broomfield ran for Northwestern's cross-country team for two years after running at Cowley County Junior College. After completing his collegiate running career, he continued with the program as a graduate assistant.

Whenever Lancaster approached

her athletes need a big push. Not a lot of him, he was finishing up his bachelor's coaches have great empathy, but she has degree. He was then asked if he would join as a graduate assistant. He had com pleted his two years as a graduate assistant under Lancaster.

> Broomfield said he did not accept the opportunity right away. "I looked into her bio, and said okay,

she is the real deal." Broomfield said. Broomfield said that, even under Lancaster's guidance, he has a free reign

on things such as practice. He said he

appreciates that because it shows that she trusts him and that they think alike. Broomfield said that all of the recruiting trips meant a lot to him.

"She will tell me all the stuff about farming on those trips, and I don't know anything about farming," Broomfield said. "On the way back from Wichita, she put her slushie in the middle console. She was really laughing and having a good time that she accidentally lifted up the middle console to spill her slushie all over the vehicle."

She took over the program, which had only three runners at the time. Kayla Gourley, a former Northwestern student, was a part of that first cross-country team that Lancaster started with.

When asked about that memory, Lan-

caster joked that it was a waste of a good

Gourley said she will never forget how she met Lancaster. Lancaster drove to watch Gourley run a 5K. After that race, Gourley's junior college coach said she ran poorly, but Lancaster praised ley obtain 4th place in the Gourley saying she ran well, Gourley 10,000-meter run.

Gourley said Lancaster has a lot of knowledge to share with her athletes. Lancaster was Gourley's first female coach. Her favorite memory of Lancast- recruit kids who are unaware er was not on the track, but in the middle of Northwestern and let them of a Cracker Barrel.

After Gourley placed 4th in the 10,000-meter run at the Great American Conference Outdoor Championships, she thought she would enjoy a normal meal with her teammates and coaches. Family-oriented, open con-Little did she know that Lancaster had versation and the ability prepared a round of applause for Gour- to be who you want to be ley in the middle of the southern-style and still accomplish your

Gourley said that Lancaster has inspired her not only as an athlete, but as a coach, too. She still uses Lancaster's wisdom and workouts, she said. Gourley teaches at Wellington Christian Acad emy and coaches at Maize South High School, where she coached the 2020 5A Cross Country State Champions.

"I, to this day, still text her," Gourley said. "I ask her questions about workouts and get her input on it. I just wanted to be the runner she was, but never

Lancaster coaches more than 70 student-athletes on Northwestern's campus. She said that, through her coaching, she hopes she gives good inspiration to push

"I love an athlete, and I love someone who will do whatever it takes to be bet-





tathlon and placed fourth overall in seven events. In the heptathlon, Lancaster competed against Olympian Jackie Joyner, who took first place and shattered festival records. They are shown here in a newspaper article.

Center: Jill Lancaster at the participating in the heptathlon events. She took fourth

Above: During a track and field event, Lancaster gives a pep talk to a University of Oklahoma athlete.

that I have to relay to the athletes. You're not going to get your degree in a year. Your athletic career is much the same. I have to give them that inspiration to see the long-term

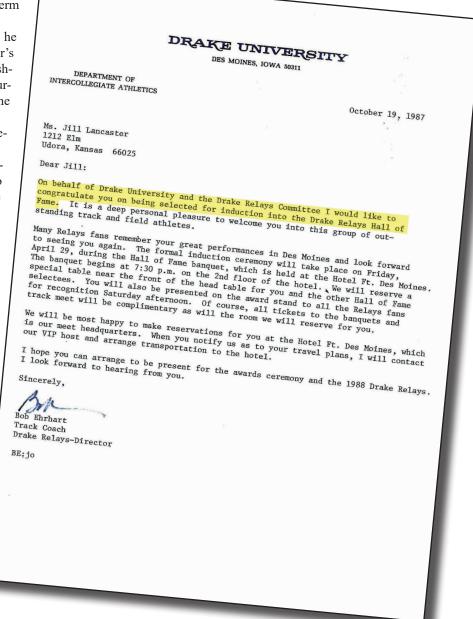
ter," Lancaster said. "You've got to be

willing to be patient. That is what I have

Sterlin Broomfield said he thought that, in Lancaster's time, her greatest accomplishment would be helping Gour-

To Lancaster, an achievement is more than an award.

"It's not the medals," Lancaster said. "It is the ability to know what this community and school has to offer. It is not for everyone, but there are a lot of kids who needs this environment.



The letter Lancaster received from the Drake Relays Committee saying she was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987 is shown here.

Photo provided

Feature

What to pack for a 14-day quarantine

By **ERICK LIVINGSTON**Student Reporter

Quarantine is a new reality to many people around the world. So, what do you need if you're going into quarantine? Keep reading to find out.

• A case of water: If you are going to quarantine, then water is a necessity. Buy a case or two to fight off the thirst.

• Groceries:

If you live in the dorms on campus, then food will be delivered for lunch and dinner. But the hours in between are on you. Stock up if money is tight. Go to the Campus Cabinet food pantry.

• Garbage bags: Trash builds up, and if you do not throw away the food and wrappers, the room will get smelly pretty soon.

• Shampoo/conditioner:

Just because you're in medical isolation does not mean you can go without taking a shower. Remember to rinse and repeat.

• Clothes:

By clothes, it means to have fresh, clean clothes. You cannot wear the same outfit for two weeks, so make sure to do laundry.

• Academic tools and studying materials: Get calculators, academic books, graphing paper, and anything else you need to make sure you

have what you need for

classes.

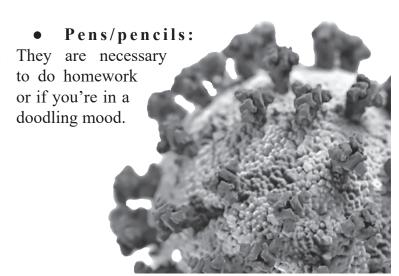
- **Books:** Television is not always exciting. Sometimes, a good book is needed to exercise the mind.
- Laptop: While in quarantine, most classes expect you to still complete assignments, so make sure you have your laptop or computer.
- Drawing/coloring book: Some people have artistic needs, and a great way to exercise those needs are by coloring and drawing.

• Medications:

Some people need medications for sicknesses or mental health. Get a refill if you're running low and ask your doctor for more options during quarantine.

• Gaming console:
After you do all your homework like a good college student, you will have plenty of free time in quarantine. Gaming consoles have streaming networks, YouTube and music apps. They're also a great way to connect with friends.

• Air freshener: Unless you keep your window open to air out your room, then a can of air freshener is just what you need to keep your quarantine zone fresh.



Some students on campus have been through the struggles of a quarantine. Here are some things that Collin Zink and Colton Reed were glad to have during quarantine.

Zink said: "The most thankful thing I had was my PS4 and Netflix. Those things kept me from going into cabin fever." Reed said a "good mom" was all he really needed. "She helped by buying groceries and really just checking up on me," he said. "I did not have a lot of people to talk to, but she definitely helped me out."



Photo by Devyn Lansden

Irys Pollock smiles as she works in the Ranger Market one January day.

Pollock is serving caffeine and smiles

By **DEVYN LANSDEN** *Editorial Editor*

It's 9:30 a.m. That always means students and teachers rush into the Ranger Market in the Student Center to get happyhour discounts on their Starbucks drinks.

As the market fills up with students, the woman in charge, Irys Pollock, makes her job look easy as she writes down each order, one after another, and converses with the customers. She makes every drink quickly, and the smile never leaves her face. When she finally hands over the drink, students and teachers are instantly satisfied, and they leave the market with a smile.

This process continues for the rest of happy hour, and Pollock never misses a beat.

Pollock graduated high school from Burlington in 2011. She has family members who are alumni from Northwestern. That is why she decided to attend NWOSU. Pollock has an 18-month-old daughter named Luna.

"My favorite part of working here is seeing everyone's smile," Pollock said. "And my daughter's."

Pollock has started taking classes at Northwestern but plans on continuing in the future. When she was taking classes, she majored in speech theater. In the meantime, she will continue putting smiles on people's faces.



Entertainment

Sia's movie receives backlash

By MICHELLE WILLSON

Features Editor

Sia's movie music problematic, and here's why. The first reason this movie caused outrage is that Sia casted Maddie Ziegler as the main character, who has autism.

Many wished that Sia would have casted an autistic person for this role. Her response was that an autistic person wouldn't work in the movie environment. In many cases in other movies, they would have accommodated to the actor. But Sia didn't.

When the trailer came out, people were appalled by the calming down mechanisms that Sia portrays in her movie. On multiple occasions, they use prone or supine restraint to pin Music to the ground, completely restraining her.

This has caused many autistic people to die. This is not the way that the situations should have been handled.

Many autism activists on TikTok say they are glad that Sia didn't pick an autistic creator to play music because of these pins to the ground. They're traumatizing to the autistic children, and to the person who's doing it.

When responding to the backlash, Sia said she did lots of research with the Autism Speaks organization.

It has a bad reputation in the autism community because it relates autism to a disease, and they are "trying to find the cure." Sia responded that they came on after the movie was done, and she didn't realize that they were such a polarizing group.

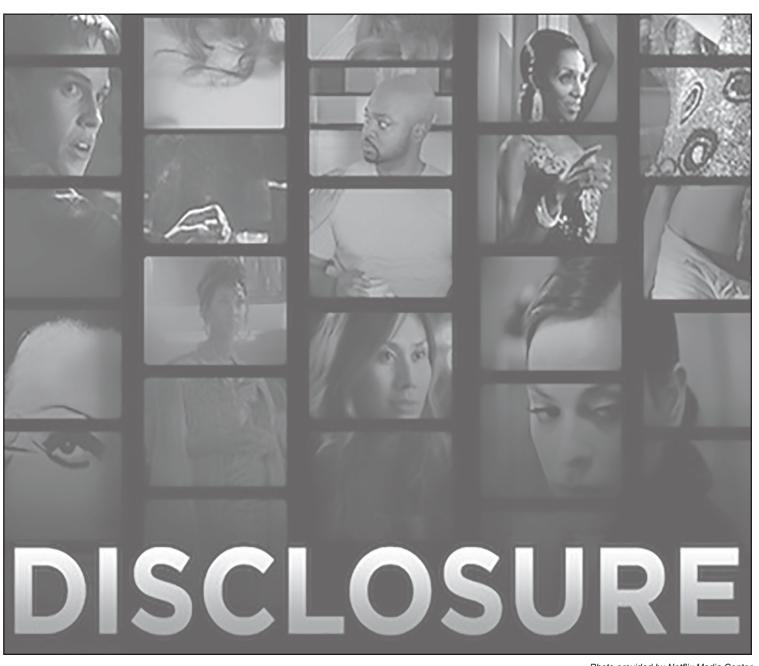
But anyone in the autism community could tell you that. Many have said that it's not a movie about autism, it's a movie that happens to have an autistic character that's poorly presented.

The movie will premiere on Feb. 10, but many people in the autism community are advising people not to watch it.

It's not only bad representation of an autistic person, but is also bad representation of how to interact with an autistic person.

I personally don't plan on seeing the movie. I think there is too much misinformation in it that it's not worth it.

I think a movie like this should be given a second try with actual people on the spectrum consulting and helping direct it to make sure it's going in the right direction.



Transgender portrayal in the media

Movie shows how media affects the views of the public

By MICHELLE WILLSON Features Editor

haven't "Disclosure" on Netflix, I would suggest you take a look. It's

about the media's portrayal of transgender people and how that's affected cis people's views

You get to hear from transgender people about not having accurate people to look at in the media. Really, the media has played transgenders as creepy, psychopathic and predatory.

Whenever transgenders are shown in movies, their characters normally die early, and their deaths normally have to do with their transition, whether it be assault, cancer or another

The reason I think everyone

should watch this is so they can see what it's like to be a transgender person and why there are so many misconceptions of transgender people.

They talk about good and bad portrayal, what they saw growing up in the media, the different tropes transgender movies have and much more.

It was really enlightening to see and hear first-hand experience and how it affected them and their views of themselves.

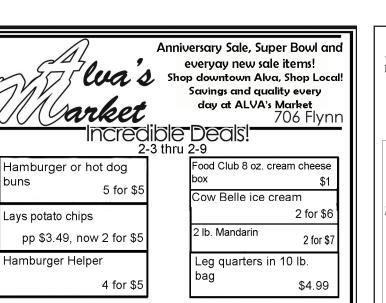
I give this movie 4 out of 5 stars. I love the diversity, the difference of opinions and all of Not everyone's journey is the what this movie encompasses.

I just wish there was more of film shows that.

it. I hope they plan on coming out with the sequel. This documentary really gives an indepth look that normally you would miss.

I highly recommend this to anyone who's open-minded and wants to learn more about the LGBTQ community, allies of the LGBTQ community and members of the LGBTQ community.

I feel like, as a community, one thing the LGBTQ members could do is have a better understanding of what other people go through. same as yours, and I think this





MON.& THURS. 8A.M.-5:30P.M. TUES.&WED: 7:30A.M.-5:30P.M. CLOSED FROM 12P.M.-1P.M. CLOSED FRIDAYS

5:15PM APPT TIMES DAILY!

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL (580)-327-2393

> AFTER HOURS CALL (580)-829-2026

ACCEPTED INSURANCE:

VSP. PVCS. MEDICARE. VISION CARE DIRECT, SOONERCARE, BCBS, EYE MED AND HEALTHCHOICE

"Complex contacts RX are our specialty" Dr. Troy L. Smith

504 College Ave

Sports

COVID'S IMPACT ON SPORTS

Volleyball required to wear masks during competition

By DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPEKECHE

Sports Editor

The Northwestern volleyball team started its season with two wins and no losses despite having to wear masks during competi-

Before the volleyball season began on Jan. 23, Northwestern athletic officials implemented a requirement that all volleyball players wear masks during practices and games.

Prior to the first volleyball game of the season, the Great American Conference released a set of safety guidelines that all member universities must follow.

Under the Great American Conference's safety rules, players, coaches and university staff members must wear facial coverings while on the sidelines of a game. However, players do not have to wear coverings during competitions.

"All personnel and student-athletes will properly wear face coverings," Great American Conference officials said in a Jan. 19 press release. "The lone exemptions from this requirement go to players and officials actively participating in the contest."

Some schools have required their players to wear masks during volleyball games, but not all schools have done so.

The Oklahoma Baptist University volleyball team played without wearing masks against the Southeastern Oklahoma State University team, whose players were wearing masks, on Jan. 26.

Oklahoma Baptist then had to postpone games against Great American Conference foes Northwestern Oklahoma State University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University, officials said.

Northwestern requires all volleyball athletes, including visiting athletes, to wear masks while playing in Percefull Fieldhouse.

"We are more conscious of what masks could do for us and protect us from an opponent that we don't know," Northwestern Athletic Director Brad Franz said. "It is not a Great American Conference rule, but it is a rule instated on our campus. We are just trying to minimize the possible transmission at our indoor sports."

The university's mask rule does not apply, however, to the men's and women's basketball teams, which also play in the fieldhouse.

Basketball team members wear masks during practice to reduce the spread of the coronavirus between teammates.

Players are not required to wear masks during games.

Officials with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention encourage athletes to wear masks during games.

"Limit high-intensity sports when indoors," CDC officials wrote in a December article on the organization's website. "People who are engaged in high-intensity activities, like running, may not be able to wear a mask if it causes difficulty breathing.

"Wear a mask if feasible, especially when it is difficult to stay less than 6 feet apart from other people and especially indoors, for example in close contact sports such as basketball."

Oklahoma State Department of Health officials also recommend that players wear masks.

"Players, coaches, officials, and all others on the court or interacting with players, should be encouraged to wear masks at all times," state health officials said in a Dec. 7 report.

"We practice in masks every day," Franz said in reference to the basketball team. "If I had it my way, we would play in masks. But the NCAA, with testing and all the things that are going on in all of our sports, the medium- to high-risk sports, we wear a mask whenever we are in practice."

Franz said student athletes who are not required to wear masks may wear them during competitions if they choose to.

When asked why the university does not require masks for the basketball teams, Franz replied: "I don't have an answer for that. In volleyball, the NCAA has said that it is less risk if you wear masks in volleyball. So, we decided to wear masks. That's it. In basketball, it's the same risk either way."

Like Northwestern, universities such as East Central University and Southeastern Oklahoma State require volleyball athletes to wear facial coverings during contests.

TEAM WINS TWO GAMES

The last two games at Percefull Fieldhouse for the volleyball team have been wins for the Lady Rangers.

In the first game, Northwestern swept the Friends University Eagles out of Wichita, Kansas.

In the second game, Northwestern beat the Tigers out of East Central University with a score of 3 - 1.

Franz said he believes the university's mask mandate is keeping student athletes safe.

"We have had very little transmission from team-to-team," Franz said. "There has been some transmission when there is a get-together, but very little. Part of that is because the athletes have been diligent in wearing a mask. Our campus and student body should be commended. We have been able to move on with little infections like we have had and conduct our classes in person like everybody wants."



Photo by Emma Sporleder

Northwestern volleyball players wear masks during a 3 - 1 win against East Central University on Jan. 27. ON THE FRONT COVER: Outside hitter Tara Parks, No. 17, prepares to serve a ball during a recent game.



Maggie Peterson substitutes out of the game sporting her Northwestern volleyball mask in last week's win.



Photo by Emma Sporleder

Kate Deterding starts her serve up in the Northwestern volleyball game last Wednesday in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Sports Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs will dethrone Brady

Food, football and advertisements. That is what the Super Bowl represents to many people around the world.

Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs will take on Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in Tampa Bay, Florida, for the 2021 Super Bowl on Sunday. Get your wings, burgers, and chips and dip ready. It is going to be a good game.

Brady will solidify his spot as the greatest player of all time at the quarterback position if he can lead the Buccaneers to their second championship.

The challenge will be tough as Mahomes returns as last year's Super Bowl MVP.

Mahomes will be my favorite to win the Super Bowl MVP this

We can be sure to have an amazing showing from the supporting cast on both teams.

Both teams have players that can produce, but only one can come out victorious.

I am predicting the Chiefs win this weekend's Super Bowl.

The Chiefs will most likely run the score up in the first half. as they usually do. What will be a test is playing strong in the

second half of the game to fin-

MCDOWELL-WAHPEKECHE

RANGER

REPORT

These teams met at the end

ish it off.

of November 2020. Brady and company almost came back after being down 17 - 0 in the first quarter of their regular season match-up.

If Brady and his team can start strong, then we can see him holding the Lombardi trophy above his head Sunday.

If the viewers of this year's Super Bowl need anything, it has to be commercials like Mountain Dew's "Puppy Monkey Baby."

It is truly a masterpiece and is a representation of what a good Super Bowl commercial is.

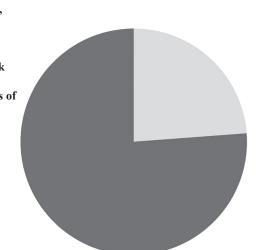
The commercials bring smiles to all football viewers' faces

2021 SUPER BOWL PREDICTIONS

On Monday and Tuesday, **Sports Editor Dacoda** McDowell-Wahpekeche polled 42 Rangers to find out which team they think will win the 2021 Super Bowl. Here are the results of his survey:

KANSAS CITY **CHIEFS**

Students say Chiefs will win



TAMPA BAY **BUCCANEERS**

Students say **Bucs will win**

Editor's Note: This poll is not scientific and may not be representative of all Northwestern students' views.

Graphic by Devyn Lansden

while viewers chew on burgers and wings. The advertisements will be good, regardless of certain companies stepping away from their usual airtime.

Abel Tesfaye, better known as The Weeknd, will perform his first Super Bowl halftime show. He was named the performing act

His new album, "After Hours," will provide entertainment to families and friends at home. One could say the players at this year's Super Bowl will be having to play under the "Blinding Lights."

Mahomes vs. Brady. Kansas City vs. Tampa Bay. Chiefs vs. Buccaneers.

Super Bowl 55 could be one to remember for years to come.

VOLLEYBALL



Fans cheered inside Percefull Fieldhouse during a Northwestern vs. Southwestern game on Feb. 13, 2020.

GAC approves guest list for indoor sports

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Great American Conference will allow a limited amount of fans to attend basketball and volleyball games, officials announced Jan. 29.

In 2020, officials barred fans from attending games because of the coronavirus pandemic. On Jan. 16, officials voted to extend the ban but repealed it Jan. 29.

Limited numbers of guests will be allowed to attend games.

Great American Conference officials said student athletes and coaching staff members can each invite up to four people to attend home sporting events.

The new rule went into effect

"Our presidents and administrators worked diligently to find a solution that allows GAC student-athletes to play in front of loved ones, but does not compromise our primary goals of campus health and continued competition," Great American Conference Commissioner Will Prewitt said in a news release.

Great American Conference officials said member schools can impose additional safety restrictions based on the size of the athletic facilities on their campuses.

Northwestern's plan is to allow three guest passes for each of their student athletes. The athletes may give the passes to their family and friends, Northwestern Athletic Director Brad Franz said.

Ticket sales will still be re-

WHAT'S NEXT FOR RANGER SPORTS:

BASKETBALL

Feb. 4

- MBB, NWOSU (2 4)
- vs. OBU (6 3) in Alva
- WBB, NWOSU (4 7)
- vs. OBU (1 10) in Alva

Feb. 6

- MBB, NWOSU (2 4)
- vs. SNU (5 4) in Alva
- WBB, NWOSU (4 7)
- vs. SNU (2 5) in Alva

Feb. 8

- MBB, NWOSU (2 -4) vs. SWOSU (5 - 4) in Weatherford
- WBB, NWOSU (4 -7) vs. SWOSU (9 - 1) in Weatherford

Feb. 9

— VB, NWOSU (2 - 0) vs. SOSU (0 - 2) in Alva

EDITOR'S NOTE: All scores accurate as of press time.

Livestreams of NWOSU home games available here:





Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 1-800-259-2582

Four die in Waynoka house fire



cluding two firefighters, died in a house fire in this Woods County town Jan. 29. Two Waynoka firehouse when the roof of the house collapsed, killing all four. The fire

WAYNOKA — Four people, in- fighters were trying to rescue two was reported at 3:07 a.m. at 1754 people who were trapped in the Locust St., the Oklahoma State Fire Marshall's Office said in a news release. The Alva Fire De-

partment responded to the fire at 3:24 a.m. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the fire. Fire officials said in a news

release that the home did not have working smoke detectors. In this photo, firefighters are seen at the site of the fire on Jan. 29