



YOU'VE GOT MAIL!

Happy Valentine's Day, Rangers! Check out this edition of the Northwestern News to see if your friend wrote you a nice note — or if your Valentine wrote you a love letter. PAGES 6&7



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HAZY SHADE OF WINTER



Photo by Jordan Green

A blanket of snow covers Northwestern's campus in this Monday photo. Ice and snow fell on parts of

northwest Oklahoma over the weekend, leaving area roads impassable. University officials canceled classes

Monday and Tuesday in response to the inclement weather. Wrecks were reported on roads across the state.

COVID-19

Postponed in fall, 2020 HOCO celebration canceled

By CONNOR GRAY
Student Reporter

Northwestern's 2020 Homecoming celebration, which was postponed last fall because of the coronavirus pandemic, has officially been canceled.

The annual event takes place in October and includes a parade, a highly attended football game and a pageant. Officials said it was postponed to comply with safety restrictions.

However, officials say they are planning for the 2021 celebration to take place in a traditional format.

Dr. David Pecha, the university's vice president of administration, said the annual weekend celebration helps the local economy and is an enjoyable event for university students and alumni. The university's Homecoming committee made the decision to cancel the 2020 event.

See HOCO, Page 2

I'll be watching you

Alumni foundation sets up live camera on Student Center

By CADE KENNEDY
Student Reporter

The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association has set up a live-stream camera overlooking the front of the Student Center, and students are starting to discover it.

The camera, known as Rangercam, was installed by the alumni association back in December for three reasons: to show people that

the university is open and people are wearing masks, to show progress on construction work in front of the Student Center, and to encourage people to visit the new alumni association website.

Allen "Skeeter" Bird, the CEO of the alumni association, said the feedback he has heard from both students and alumni has been positive. He said some were "very pleased" with the camera.

Bird said he has not seen many interesting occurrences on camera, mainly because he did not have time to watch Rangercam. When asked about the number of students that know of Rangercam's existence, he said, "I do not

think many know that it is there."

Some Northwestern students' reactions fell in line with what Bird said. They told the Northwestern News that they camera was interesting, but that they had no idea it was there.

Students said they would watch Rangercam or share the link with someone else.

When asked about what they would do in front of the camera, some said they might do something funny, while others said they would not.

To watch the Rangercam, visit <https://ournorthwestern.org/> and scroll to the bottom of the homepage.

The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association's new camera, called the Rangercam, is shown in this photo. The camera is on top of the Student Center.

Photo by Jordan Green



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News

Arts coalition leader speaks to NWOSU students

By **JORDAN GREEN**
Editor-in-Chief

A representative from a statewide organization promoting art education told Northwestern students Feb. 4 that the organization is able to help students live out their passion for creativity.

Alexa Goetzinger, associate director of the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, gave a 45-minute presentation to several students who are minoring in art at Northwestern. She told students about internship opportunities in their chosen career field, and she spoke to students about grant funding opportunities to help make their work come to life.

"We're here as a resource if you want to pursue a degree in art," Goetzinger said.

The Oklahoma City-based non-profit was established in 1988 to help artists "realize their potential through education, promotion, connection, and funding," its

mission statement reads.

Goetzinger told students about the organization's Momentum program, which allows artists under the age of 30 to display their work in a public exhibit and meet other artists.

"This program was designed to foster emerging artists, and this actually has become one of our most popular programs," Goetzinger said. "In a normal year, it's like a big, weekend party. It's one weekend only, and thousands of people show up. We normally get a pretty awesome band.

"Of course, that isn't happening this year, and we're doing it like a regular exhibition that's going to stand for a length of time."

The organization chooses some artists to "spotlight" during the program. Those artists are paid to create art for the program and then give detailed presentations about their work.

Works entered in the program will be on display from March 3 to March 27 at

the Mainsite Contemporary Art Gallery in Norman. They'll also be on display at the Living Arts gallery in Tulsa from April 2 to April 23, the organization's website showed.

A virtual tour of the exhibits is available on the organization's website, <https://www.ovac-ok.org/momentum>.

Goetzinger also told students about paid summer internship opportunities the group offers. Each summer, the coalition hires two interns to work at least 150 hours at a rate of \$10 per hour. In lieu of pay, interns can count their experience for college credit, Goetzinger said.

"Internships help you figure out what you want to do with your life," Goetzinger said. "It's one of the most important things you can do as a college student because you don't really know if the career path you're choosing is what you want to do until you dip your toes into the water. And so that's what this particular internship at OVAC really prepares you for. You see if you want

to be an arts administrator. ... And if that's not for you, that's OK. But it is a way to figure that out."

Goetzinger encouraged interested students to apply.

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take," she said. "Even though this is a very competitive internship, it is so worth it if you are accepted."

Kyle Larson, an assistant art instructor at Northwestern who was named to the coalition's board of directors in 2019, said Goetzinger's presentation was helpful for the university's art students.

"We were lucky to have her and her time to give a presentation, specifically to art students," Larson said. "I think OVAC is just such a great organization. It really helps us out here, where sometimes, students and artists feel disconnected from the larger art world. OVAC is something, as an organization, that bridges that gap and gives students opportunities to get their work out there."

HOCO: 2021 event set for October 7, 8 and 9



File photo

Northwestern President Janet Cunningham and her family wave from a car during the October 2019 Homecoming parade in downtown Alva.

Continued from Page 1

As the first year of the pandemic is nearly over, universities and schools are still grappling with the economic and social fallout from the virus. Sporting events and student events have been canceled, and officials have imposed strict safety guidelines aimed to help stop the spread of the virus.

Pecha recently talked with the Northwestern News about the possibility of the 2021 Homecoming celebration happening this fall.

He said the plan is to make

Homecoming a reality, and that all the plans for the 2020 Homecoming are expected to take place this year, though those plans are not set in stone.

University officials are tentatively planning to host Homecoming Oct. 7, 8 and 9.

"The plan, as of now, is to go back to a traditional Homecoming with normal things that happen," Pecha said.

The university does not plan to replace the 2020 Homecoming, and school officials will instead prepare for this year's fall event, he said.

COVID ON CAMPUS

Annual recruitment event switching to online format

Spring Showcase will be available on YouTube Feb. 27

By **CARSON POLK**
Student Reporter

Northwestern is offering scholarships to potential students who sign up for the university's first virtual Spring Showcase.

University recruiters put the annual event together to encourage students to attend the university.

This year, however, the event will take place online.

"It's virtual," said Selena Gates, a Northwestern recruitment officer. "All they (students) have to do is register, which they can do by calling us or they can go online."

To participate in the event, students must tune in at 10 a.m. Feb. 27. to the university's YouTube channel, named "Northwestern Oklahoma State University," to watch a live video about Northwestern.

Students who watch the video and choose to attend the university will receive a \$500 scholar-

ship.

A virtual tour of the university's campus will be linked to the live video, along with introduction videos for the university's departments and clubs.

The videos show graduating high school students and transfer students what is available to them if they come to Northwestern.

"It has a big impact that gives just another opportunity for students to have one day on the

calendar to be able to see what Northwestern has to offer," said Calleb Mosburg, Northwestern's dean of student affairs. "We hate that we can't do it on campus the semester, but the virtual events will be really good."

In years past, as many as 1,000 potential students have signed up for Ranger Preview, Mosburg said.

Administrators hope to see similar numbers this year.

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

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CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: CASE NUMBERS ON CAMPUS AND AROUND THE AREA

STUDENT CASES:

4

active as of Feb. 5.
This number includes cases at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

EMPLOYEE CASES:

1

active as of Feb. 5.
This number includes cases at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

IN ALVA:

33

active as of Feb. 9.
Alva has had a total of 978 cases.

IN OKLAHOMA:

24,516

active as of Feb. 9.
Oklahoma has had total of 404,064 cases.

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>.

News

That's the way the

C O O K I E

CRUMBLES



Photos by Dylan Whitely

Above: Boxes of Girl Scout cookies are shown in the back of a van. At right: Mandy Whitely, a local Girl Scout troop leader, is shown in this photo. Local Girl Scouts will start selling cookies in Alva. The cookies help Scouts pay for uniforms, trips, supplies and other expenses for the organization.



Page designed by Jordan Green

Girl Scout cookie sales ramping up

By DYLAN WHITELY Student Reporter

Local Girl Scouts are selling cookies, and one local troop leader recently spoke with the Northwestern News about why cookie sales are important to the organization.

Mandy Whitely, a Scout leader for one of the Alva Girl Scout troops, said cookie sales help pay for girls' patches, uniforms, supplies and registration fees for events.

There are four local Girl Scout troops that make up Service Unit 629 of the Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma.

The troops in Alva meet weekly. The service unit includes girls from Alva, Waynoka and Cherokee.

It has 25 adult volunteers.

Whitely said cookie sales help girls get out of their comfort zones and improve their skills.

"It teaches the girls entrepreneurship," she said. "It teaches the girls leadership. It teaches the girls public speaking. They have to get over

those inherent fears that we all have, especially little ones."

Whitely encourages people to buy cookies from Girl Scouts, especially when Scouts are selling their goods at local establishments. She asks those who are not interested in buying cookies, however, to decline politely.

The top three cookie flavors stay the same year after year, Whitely said. Thin Mints are the No. 1 seller. Samoas are the second-best seller, and Tagalongs are the third best.

She said her personal favorite flavor has always been Tagalongs, with her love for them spanning back all the way to when she was a Girl Scout. Each girl has her own website that people can buy cookies from.

Their websites tell a little about the girls and why they're selling the cookies, whether that be for an upcoming project or something else. Besides the girl's individual websites, they will also have booths set up around Alva to sell cookies. They will set up their booths starting Valentine's Day weekend, and they will be set up every weekend until March 21.

They will have a booth set up at Walmart, with booths possibly being set up at Atwoods, Alva's Market and Shepherd's as well.

The S'more's and the Toffee-tastic cookies cost \$6 per box, and every other kind of cookie flavor costs \$5 per box.

Editor's Note: Mandy Whitely is a distant cousin of reporter Dylan Whitely.

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

Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. 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 art show will go on

By JACOB COMP
Student Reporter

Despite much uncertainty, Northwestern Oklahoma State University will be hosting its annual art show this year.

The art show will be set up in the J.W. Martin Library for students, faculty, staff and community members to view from March 7 to March 26.

"There has been some doubt, but thankfully, we've come through well so far," said Angelia Case, an event organizer. "We're confident we can do this."

Because of COVID-19, there will be extra precautions taken to keep people safe.

"The extra precautions are going to be the same as the library already has installed, so the viewers won't expect to see much difference other than having to wear a mask and socially distance while viewing the art work," said

Allison Huffmaster, vice president of the NWOSU Art Society.

The art society will offer prize money this year just as it has in years past, but because of the pandemic, the art society has not had a chance to host fundraisers this year. The prize money will not be as much as it has been previously.

It is not about the prize money for Angela Eggers.

She won best in show at the NWOSU Art Show last year.

"It was a very humbling when my piece was chosen as best of show," Eggers said.

The art show features around 300 pieces from students, employees, alumni and retired employees, Case said.

The show features a wide variety of art pieces. There are 22 main categories that art can be entered in.

These range from artisan crafts to photography. The winner of each category will receive \$10.

Students are required to enter

all-original work.

There are no major requirements for the show. Students of all majors are encouraged to participate.

The deadline for entry is February 24.

"We strive to encourage and stimulate the creativity behind the Northwestern community and allow students to put their work out for others to see," Huffmaster said.

If you are unable to enter a piece, you can show support by stopping in to see the artwork.

"Students should come to the art show because it only happens once a year," Eggers said. "They should come out and support the visual arts students just like they would athletes. The visual arts program needs as much support as it can get. Sports isn't the only public activity here on campus."

Entries will be in the J.W. Martin Library from March 7 to March 26.

Editor's rant of the week

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Features Editor

I hate cold weather. It makes my joints hurt, and I am already clumsy. There is no need to add ice to the mix. Plus, I get stir crazy walking around my dorm with nothing to do. I got a week ahead of homework, and now I am out of energy drinks. I am so bored I could take a nap. I honestly don't know what else to do.

I also hate layering. So, when it's cold and I am forced to layer to stay warm, it's rough.

I know as soon as I get to the next building that the heater will be on high. I will have to take the extra layers off and then put them on again when I leave, and I personally hate the thought of that.

I'm lucky. My suite mate and I get along really well, so I am not stuck in a situation that I hate. But a lot of the time, we just stare at each other, asking each other what we want to do and not making any decisions.

I did have to walk across campus to Jesse Dunn on Tuesday, and I nearly slipped multiple times. I found it easier to step on the grass as much as possible to avoid the slick sidewalks. But at some points in my long, treacherous journey, it was impossible to avoid cement. Thankfully, I made it all the way there without slipping.

I wish I would have thought about going to Walmart before this all hit. But I can survive on Ramen Noodles for a few days, and I can stock up at the Student Center as soon as school gets back in session.

I do appreciate the "snow days." It has been nice to stay inside, sleep in and get ahead on homework.

I was hoping the cold weather would encourage people to wear their masks, but I have yet to see it helping in any way. I have watched people wear their mask outside and take it off as they enter Walmart. Why? I don't know.

I swear that people are being babies when it comes to masks. No joke. I can ask my mom's daycare kids to wear masks, and they can keep them on without taking them off. One of them is 2 years old. If I told her to wear it, she would. What does that say about the adults refusing?

I know all my rants end up ranting about the same things, but that's really the only thing that outright angers me.

I hope everyone is staying safe and warm. I know being at home can be boring, but it's better than risking your and your families' lives. Just because we are in an ice storm doesn't mean COVID is gone.

Continue to follow the COVID rules, and remember to use lotion every once in a while.

Enjoy being young and have fun

By DEVYN LANSDEN
Editorial Editor

I am 20 years old and a junior in college.

I have learned so many things, yet I still have so much to learn. I decided to write about what my favorite age has been so far and why.

Ever since I came to college, I have realized what is important and what isn't.

I think my favorite age is 20 because I have grown so much in a year, and I have cut so many bad things out of my life.

I have changed my mindset, and I am appreciative of so many more things.

I plan to travel a lot this year. I love being 20 because I am still in college. I still get breaks.

Before I graduate and jump into the real world where there are no breaks, I will be taking advantage of them.

My aunt and uncle live in Corpus Christi, and I went there this past summer and loved it. It is so beautiful, and there are palm trees everywhere.

I want to go back to do more and see more.

Going on walks is my favorite, especially walking and exploring new places.

Hiking is something I want to do all the time now.

Unfortunately, living in Oklahoma, there aren't many places to go. But there are a few, and I want to go to all of them.

I went to Colorado on a weekend in September. That was the most spontaneous I have ever been, and that was also the most fun I have had.

I want to do more things like that this year. I want to take ad-



Photo provided

Devyn Lansden stops to pose during her hike before she climbs more

vantage of being young and being able to get up and go somewhere new.

I used to prefer the beach over the mountains, but since I went to Colorado, I like the mountains more.

But I think it will change every time I go to the beach or mountains.

When I was in high school, my family and I went to Red River, New Mexico, a lot. We would ride Polaris Razors on trails and hike mountains every summer.

I always loved walking around and seeing mountains in every direction and then getting to the top of the mountain and seeing all of them disappear in the distance.

Additionally, I have appreciated my health. I want to stay healthy so that, when I get older, I will still be able to get up and do things.

The best time to start is now, and I am having so much fun learning new things about my health.

Another perk to being 20 is that I am so close to graduating, and that is such an exciting thing.

I am in control of everything. I get to choose where I want to live after I graduate. But, I am not rushing to graduation.

I take one day at a time, appreciating everything.

I enjoy every conversation with my teachers, classmates, people at the store and everywhere else.

I like talking to new people and learning more about them.

Being young is fun, but it is also very important because every decision matters.

I have realized that and I appreciate new things.

Editorial

Don't let your knowledge get to your corona

JORDAN GREEN SAYS



JORDAN GREEN

Don't let what you're about to read go to your corona.

A while back, I was reading a textbook for one of my journalism classes.

In one passage, the author discussed how

journalists conduct good interviews.

As journalists, part of our job is to observe details: people's behavior, their clothing, their facial expressions and the idiosyncrasies of their speech.

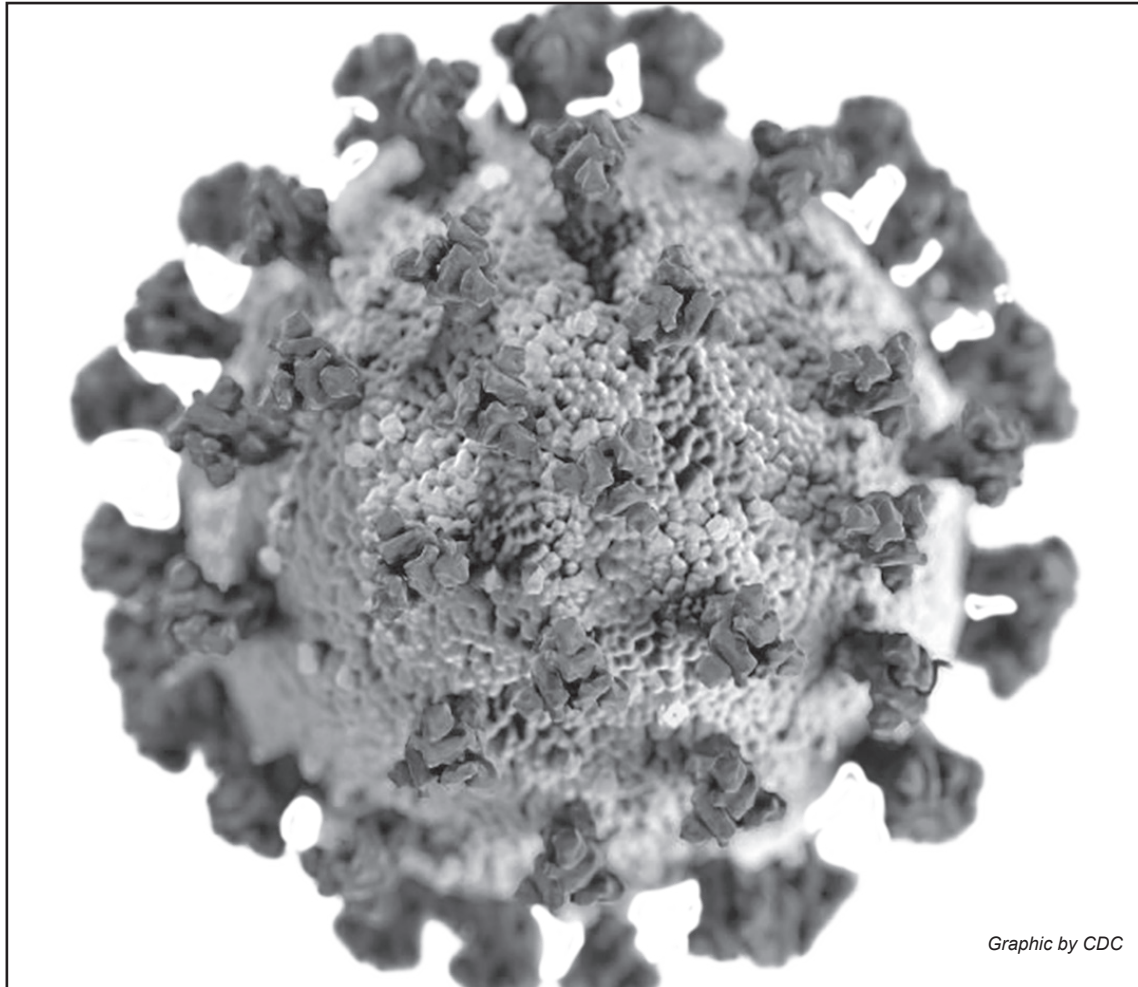
The author included an example of how journalist Tom Wolfe described the hair of an older man he was interviewing for a story.

I was reading through the example when I came across a word – one that has become far too familiar to all of us. In describing the man's hair, Wolfe used the term "corona" to name the pattern in which the man's hair flowed around a bald patch on his head.

Quote: "Around this bald spot swirls a corona of dark-brown hair that becomes quite thick by the time it completes its mad Byronic rush down the back of his turtleneck and out to the side in great brushes over his ears."

I was confused. Corona? This book was written long before the pandemic. What does he mean?

I typed in "corona hair" on Google to see what popped up. Just a few articles about how the coronavirus is having an impact on people's hair. This, of course,



Graphic by CDC

was not what I was looking for.

I tried again. This time, I typed in the phrase "What did 'corona' mean before the virus?" And I found an article about the virus in which the author said the word "corona" by itself means "crown."

There we go. Then, I searched the phrase, "The word corona means crown."

I found an article from Dictionary.com, which defined the word in a few different ways.

Interestingly enough, the word

has several usages in meteorology.

I was a little surprised. I know that words and languages change, but I had no idea that "corona" could be used – or had ever been used – outside the context of the virus, which has taken on several different forms and strains throughout history.

According to Dictionary.com, "corona" has several meanings.

First, it is used to describe "a white or colored circle or set of concentric circles of light seen

around a luminous body, especially around the sun or moon."

Second, the word can be used to describe "such a circle or set of circles having a small radius and ranging in color from blue inside to red outside, attributable to the diffraction caused by thin clouds, mist, or sometimes dust."

Third, it describes "a faintly luminous envelope outside of the sun's chromosphere, the inner part consisting of highly ionized elements."

Fourth, it describes "a long,

straight, untapered cigar, rounded at the closed end."

The word can be used in botany to describe "a crownlike appendage, especially one on the inner side of a corolla, as in the narcissus." And finally, as I learned in my reading, it's used to describe "the upper portion or crown of a part, as of the head."

So far, nobody has updated the dictionary website's entry to include the usage that we've come to know all too well this year.

Many people refer to the coronavirus as "corona." It hasn't caught on with the dictionary heads yet.

The website includes a lot of information about the word's history, starting around the year 1555.

Apparently, its usage also extends beyond the anatomical, botanical and meteorological realms.

I found out there's a town in California named Corona. I wonder what they think about their town's name now.

And let's not forget that Corona is also the name of a beer and the name of a skin ointment.

I'm not sure I learned anything useful from my research. And I seriously doubt I've taught you anything you'll ever use or even remember after you put down this week's paper.

But now that you've got all of this useless information, don't go around acting like you're smarter than everybody else.

Nobody likes people who let their knowledge and power go their corona.

The love for the game never dies



File photo

Some of you may like storybook beginnings,
Or some of you may like storybook endings.
I got a story for you, so sit down and take a seat,
Because it's going to take a while to hear this beat.

Growing up, I loved the game of football,
I watched a lot of games and wanted to watch them all,

Back in middle school, I was the team's kicker,
However, the starting kicker pretty much differed,

The coaches really didn't pay attention to me,
I was different and pretty much that's where the world had me,

I practiced a lot but I rode the bench quite often,
The grass beneath my cleats started to harden,
Coaches said, "Don't be asked to be put in,"
But it was different for me.

Cerebral palsy is not what everyone has, but it was something that I had,

It was something I had to cope with,

But the coaches pretty much did not want to roll with it,

High school came and things got worse,
I practiced a lot but I wasn't first,
Coaches say "next man up" but it wasn't "next man up,"

It was more of if you had the athletic gift,
And practices were about keeping that gift,
Once I was a wide receiver,
And in my head I was a believer,

But the coach said go kick because you're messing up the QB's timing.

Then I was a linebacker,
However I was still treated like a broken down tractor,

In a game when the coach needed a helping hand,

I raised mine and said "I'll go,"

But by now you should know that the answer was no.

Fast forward to my sophomore year in college,
Adaptive PE is part of me gaining my knowledge,

A man named Zadoronzy teaches that class,
And I am glad for that fact,

After class he listened to my story,
And no his first name is not Cory,
I felt a careness in him, a careness for a random student,

Isn't there a rule to treat others the way you want them to treat you?

He gave me inspiration and hope and confidence,

And no, I am not on the fence

My first day of class I had tears in my eyes,
Because he was teaching about things that's in my life,

Like I said he made time to stop and talk to me,
He made me feel like I got rid of some of this grief,

This grief of sleepless nights,
And it felt like nights of 100 frights.

Collin Zink, a student at Northwestern, wrote this poem.

To: Kate Deterding

Happy Valentine's Day to my forever girl, I love you!

From: Jake White

To: Fine Arts Faculty

Thank you for your love and commitment to all of us within the Fine Arts. Thank you for caring about me as an individual

To: Victoria Caywood

You are going to go far and do amazing things, Victoria! Your students I already know are going to have their lives changed because of you and will be so blessed to know you. I certainly am! I love you!!

To: Sara Houchin

Love you so much, Sara, and am so thankful to know such a beautiful heart as yours!!

To: Caleb Decker

You're too wonderful for words. You're not a one-in-a-million; you go beyond as an unbelievable one-of-a-kind. I can't believe the Lord blessed me so richly to let me even know you, but I thank Him often and so earnestly that He did. I love you, Caleb!

From: Caitlyn Pray

Calling all lovebirds!

To: Emily Pray

Roses are red Violets are blue I hope you always know, how loved are you! You're more smart, beautiful and sweet than you realize. Every day with you is a blest day spent!

To: 110 Babes

I'm so thankful for y'all and love you so much! Thanks for being my friends!

From: Mallory

To: Leah Darnell

You are one of the most hardworking, determined, loyal, and lovely Rangers the campus has ever known. This campus is blessed and privileged to know you and so am I! Thank you for your endless service and all you do for everyone. I love you!

To: Saydy Graybill

You're such a crazy, wonderful, beautiful you! I love you so much and love every adventure I get to spend with you!

To: Alyssa Jones

You're truly beautiful from the inside out! I am so thankful I met you that first day of moving in and have been able to keep in touch with you since. You brighten my day every time you're in it! Love you!!

To: Duncan Brown

I am so excited to go on more adventures with you by my side! I pinky promise it is gonna be great! I love you!

From: Maleah Schmitz

To: Maleah Schmitz

Can't believe it's been over a year can't wait to spend more with you! I love you sweets

From: Duncan Brown

To: Elizabeth Childs

You are the love of my life, I am with you to the end of the world!

From: Lizzie (Rick) Childs

Happy Valentine's Day Rangers!

From: Northwestern News

To: Katherine Retana

Thank you for always being the positive and loving person that you are. Te adoro hermosa. Keep shining as you do.

From: Luis Mendoza III

To: Emily Pray

Whether we're together or together-but-not-together, I love you just as much either way! Thank you for being the beautiful, funny far-out friend you are! I love you!!

To: Aliyah Bidwell

I know I have a lot to say but I love you with all my heart Happy Valentine's Day baby

From: Dupree Brown

To: Gracie Scarbrough

You are one of the most beautiful souls that has graced this campus. Your zest for life, positive attitude, and glowing smile are a testament of the beautiful person you are on the inside as well as the outside. You are truly beautiful, Gracie, from the inside on out! I love you!

To: Yosbelli Lora

Thank you for being the inspiration this campus needs but much more than the friend so many souls crave. You're just the light God knew this world needed. Love you, Yosbelli!

To: Step-hen

Love you more than the stars in space xx

From: Dae

To: Roy

I want to let you know how much I love you and appreciate you. My life is so much better with you in it. I love you to the moon and back!!!

From: Leticia

Feature

Stan Kline and his 'Harry' sidekick

Body shop owner talks about K&K Body Works and his bulldog, Harry

By **LANEY COOK**
Student Reporter

The windows are down. Harry, the dog, is hanging out the window, tongue out, barking at everyone as they pass by.

Stan Kline, owner of K&K Body Works since 1981, drives over to the shop at least every day with his dog, Harry, to keep up with not only the financial side, but also the mechanical side of his business.

K&K, 301 Flynn St., was started by Kline's father, Harry Kline, in 1958 with a joint partnership.

Then, in 1978, Stan Kline bought out half of the company from his dad's business partner. In 1981, he bought the other half from his dad.

K&K's lobby is filled with Harley Davidson motorcycle figurines, LEGO cars and a small shrine for the previous bulldog, Harley.

But Harry will still be found lying around, napping or watching people from the door.

"Most of the time when people come in for anything other than getting their car checked out, it's to see the bulldog, Harry," Kline said. "When we're out and about, people I don't even know will come up to me and ask about him."

Back in the shop, there are three workers who take care of customers' cars.

They all do their part to get the customers' car back in good condition in a reasonable amount of time, Kline said.

Up in the front is Kline's main desk and a back office for the secretary, where the bills and



Photos by Laney Cook



invoices are taken care of.

All throughout the office, large collections of LEGOs are on display cases.

"I couldn't even tell you how many LEGO sets I've ended up

putting together since I started," Kline said.

There are at least 30 sets at the shop and even more at his house, he said.



Photo by Michelle Willson

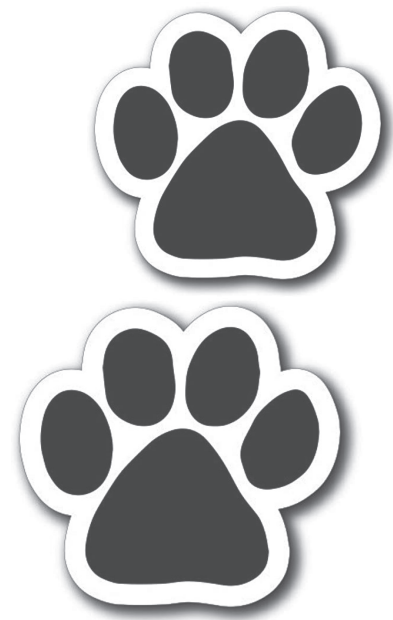
The South Hall resident assistants hosted a Super Bowl watch party where they served walking tacos and beverages to dorm residents.

South Hall hosts party for Super Bowl



Photos by Michelle Willson

Residents were able to enjoy the football game while socially distancing and wearing their masks.



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Entertainment

Monster struck gold with their new flavor

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Features Editor

I have been drinking Monster energy drinks since high school, and I rarely try new ones because

I always go back to the classic White Zero Ultra.

Recently, me and my suite mate have been trying some of the new flavors. First, we tried the Swiss chocolate milk one and really liked it. And recently, we came across the Ultra Gold can on TikTok and knew we had to try it.

We went on an adventure for about half an hour, going from gas station to gas station in Alva, and we happened to find it in Shepherd's.

Now, be warned, the ultra gold is pineapple flavor. If you don't know that before drinking it, then it might surprise you.

I must say I was pleasantly surprised by the taste. I even made a pineapple orange smoothie and poured a can of the ultra gold Monster in it.

I was amazed at how good it was. Definitely going to do that again.

Even though I did really like a new Monster, I don't think it surpasses the zero ultra on my favorite list because the taste will get tiring pretty fast.

I feel the zero ultra probably never will. I mean, it has lasted almost eight years as my favorite energy drink.

I do have to tell you that the ultra gold is the prettiest Monster can.

It looks so elegant, but we are not here for looks. I wish I could tell you that one gives me more energy over the other.

But honestly, energy drinks don't affect me like that. Though I can say that neither has made me fall asleep as other energy drinks do. Is that a problem? Probably. But I am not going to address it at the moment.

All in all, I give this new monster energy drink a 4 out of 5 stars. It's good, but the taste is very subjective. It does win on the pretty scale, but it is pretty much just pineapple juice.

I recommend this drink to anyone who like Monsters or other energy drinks or anyone who likes pineapples or pineapple-related food.

I like that Monster is still experimenting with new flavors, and I look forward to seeing what they do in the future.

Top 40 US Christian & Gospel Albums

Chart updated: 39 minutes ago.

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 1 | Lauren Daigle - Look Up Child | \$4.99 | iTunes |
| 2 | Bryson Gray - God Wins | \$8.99 | iTunes |
| 3 | Semler - Preacher's Kid | \$4.99 | iTunes |

Photo from iTunes charts

A new name in Christian music

Semler's 'Preacher's Kid' highlights queer religious experiences

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Features Editor

"Preachers Kid" is Queer Christian Ep that the artist Semler released on Friday the 5th. It features eight songs that speak to the experiences lgbtq members face as they grow up in the church.

Semler submitted to streaming services as Christian artist because her songs are Christians songs though they sound different and are about different types of topics.

Semler promotes her music on TikTok and has quite the following. Leading up to the release she teased her songs in Tiktok videos.

In one of her TikToks she described her eps topics to be about Toxic Theology, Faith, Doubt, Love, Loss and Rejection.

This ep is something I can relate to. It is the first artist who directly sings about many of the same experiences I grew up with.

I tired to explain one of the stories and my non-religious friend didnt quite grasp.

I Explained that its like the story of Icarus, From one persepective he got too ambitious and died and everyone asked "how could he do that?" "He was a child he didnt understand what he was doing.

The other persepective or translation of the story is that Icarus knew what he was doing, he new the risk and he never felt more alive.

People treat sexuality the same way. "Your not old enough to make that decision" "you dont understand what that means" but we do.

Comming out is somthing that has not only been on our mind for years but we have thought about it from every angle and we know their is no way to be happy unless your being yourself.

I have always related to Icarus but I have never been able to understand why till now.

Semler released her song "Jesus in Texas" as a demo earlier this year and I have been obsessed with it.



Photo Illustration by Michelle Willson

It talks about I have been listening to the whole ep none stop since it released.

I give this ep a 5 out of 5 it is the first time I have really felt a Christian artist speak to me and the songs are amazing.

I recommend that everyone

listens to it. I feel like people can relate to situations that they have never been in when it's in music so I feel like this would be a great opportunity to hear another side of the story.

The Ep can be found on all music streaming sites.

Want to write a review for the entertainment page of the newspaper?

Talk to Michelle Willson
mdwillson99@rangers.nwosu.edu

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Sports

COVID'S IMPACT ON SPORTS

Take me out to the ball game

Northwestern opens its gates to fans for the first time in over a year

By DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPKECHE
Sports Editor

Great American Conference officials said the Council of Presidents voted unanimously on Jan. 29 to allow spectators to attend games effective Feb. 1.

Prior to the vote on Jan. 29, Great American Conference officials announced in Dec. 2020 that fans were not allowed to attend sporting events.

The Council of Presidents was scheduled to meet on Jan. 16 to reconsider the restrictions. That day, the council met and decided to continue the restrictions on fans attending the games.

Instead of watching events in-person, Northwestern fans have watched games through livestreams on the athletic department's YouTube channel. The university's volleyball, men's basketball and women's basketball teams all had fans in attendance during the week of Feb. 1.

Student-athletes and coaches are given three tickets each to give away to people who would like to attend their games, Great American Conference officials said in a Jan. 29 article about allowing fans to attend games. Visiting teams are not allowed spectators.

Four dozen students, parents and faculty attended the Feb. 3 volleyball game between Northwestern and the Drovers of University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Before the game against the Drovers, Northwestern's volleyball team played two games without fans in attendance.



Photo by Dacoda McDowell-Wahpeche

Fans wait for the Northwestern volleyball team to play the Drovers of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Percefull Fieldhouse Feb. 3.

Lauren Lagos, a Northwestern freshman from Burlington, said that she came to support Avery Osburg and Carmae Jones, players on the volleyball team.

"It was really exciting to get to support the team," Lagos said. "Obviously, we have not been able to do a bunch of stuff together, it feels like, but it was really cool to be able to come and be able to show them that we're all in this together."

Lagos said she had never been to a volleyball game before and that it was exciting to watch.

Jessica Thompson, a sophomore middle hitter for the volleyball team, was one of the players who saw the court during the win against the Drovers.

"It was fun," Thompson said. "It was nice to have a crowd again. Not just like, being in a gym by ourselves — to actually have people supporting us was nice."

Northwestern's men's and women's basketball teams have been playing without fans in attendance since New Year's Day.

Both teams played in front of

fans during their game against the Oklahoma Baptist University Bison on Feb. 3.

Angel Marshall, a Northwestern student-athlete, sat in the bleachers for most of the women's basketball game and watched the entire men's game.

"It was really exciting to be back in the gym," Marshall said. "After over a year, it was just exciting to feel the energy inside

Percefull."

The Rangers and the Lady Rangers lost their games against Oklahoma Baptist.

Northwestern's volleyball team will play Oklahoma Baptist inside Percefull Fieldhouse on Feb. 12.

The men's and women's basketball teams will play their next home game on Feb. 11.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR RANGER SPORTS:

BASKETBALL

Feb. 11

— MBB, NWOSU (2 - 6) vs. SOSU (5 - 7) in Alva
— WBB, NWOSU (4 - 9) vs. SOSU (8 - 5) in Alva

Feb. 13

— MBB, NWOSU (2 - 6) vs. ECU (6 - 6) in Ada
— WBB, NWOSU (4 - 9) vs. ECU (8 - 4) in Ada

VOLLEYBALL

Feb. 12

— VB, NWOSU (3 - 0) vs. OBU (1 - 0) in Alva

Feb. 16

— VB, NWOSU (3 - 0) vs. SNU (2 - 0) in Alva

Feb. 17

— VB, NWOSU (3 - 0) vs. OC (2 - 4) in Edmond

SOFTBALL

Feb. 17

— SB, NWOSU (0 - 0) vs. NU (2 - 4) in Wichita, KS
(Doubleheader)

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

Livestreams of NWOSU home games available here:



Photo by Dacoda McDowell-Wahpeche

Northwestern fans stand as the fight song plays inside the fieldhouse.

Sports

Baseball starts Feb. 19

By SHANNON NESSERALLA
Student Reporter

Northwestern's baseball team will play its first game of the season in Alva on Feb. 19. The team's season ended after the coronavirus pandemic began in 2020.

The baseball team will play 32 teams during the 2021 season. Last year, the Rangers played a shortened season, with 24 games.

The Rangers ended their season on a four-game winning streak.

For the Rangers, senior Daschal Johnson returns to play for head coach Ryan Bowen.

"I'm ready to step back onto the field for my final year of eligibility," Johnson said. "We have many returning seniors, and I feel like we seniors are ready to show up and show out on the field."

Johnson has played his four years of eligibility for the Rangers. All senior players gained another year of eligibility because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"He is always the guy that has produced for us," Bowen said of Johnson during a Great American Conference talk show released on Jan. 19. "He has been a consistent and steady player in my time here. He has been with me here in the program the whole time I have been here. He has just been a great team leader."

Scott Creedon, a right-handed pitcher for the baseball team, said



Photo by Nick Dill

A Northwestern baseball team member throws a pitch during a scrimmage at Glass Family Field on Jan. 29. The baseball team was set to start its season on Feb. 12, but the season start was delayed because of weather.

he is anxious for the season.

"With the season cut short last year, I'm ready to get on the field with my team and show everyone the hard work we've all put into this season," Creedon said.

Bowen said on the talk show that he is excited about his group

of pitchers in the program.

"Scott Creedon won some big games for us last year," Bowen said. "He's a work horse. He can go deep for us into the game."

Great American Conference officials said Northwestern's baseball team ranked eighth in

the preseason coach's poll article released on the conference's website. Northwestern finished above four other Great American Conference member institutions.

— Sports Editor *Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche* contributed to this report.

Softball season begins Feb. 17

By DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPKECHE
Sports Editor

Northwestern's softball team's season was delayed because of inclement weather. The team will start its season in Wichita, Kansas, on Feb. 17.

Last year, the team only played 19 games, starting from Valentine's Day up until spring break. Most of this season's players on the softball team are returners from last season.

The Lady Rangers will compete in 45 games this season.

Kalie Johnson is returning for her third season. She has a batting average of .351, the sixth highest career batting average in the program's history behind Dana Gandolfo, a Northwestern Hall of Fame athlete inducted last year.

"We were onto something," Johnson said about last season's abrupt ending. "I'm excited about this year. We're even better than last year. It's been almost a year since we have been on the field actually playing someone, so I am super excited."

Johnson said she expects herself to have a higher batting average than last year.

Head coach Jill DeVries said on a Great American Conference talk show that Johnson is a pivotal player.

"We expect a lot out of her," DeVries said. "She performed well as a freshman. ... She's kind of been the linchpin in our lineup."

Hannah Howell, a sophomore pitcher, said she was disappointed that the season was curtailed by the pandemic.

"We're not taking anything for granted," Howell said. "We're lucky we are being able to play. So, we are just showing up every day and going hard as possible."

Howell is returning for her second season. She was the starting pitcher for most of the 19 games played last year.

"I finally feel like we're not a young team anymore," DeVries said on a Great American Conference talk show on Jan. 13. "I am really excited about that."

The softball team planned to play five games this weekend, but because of inclement weather, those games were either postponed or canceled.

Soccer team opens season with new coach

By OVELL PATTERSON
Student Reporter

After a delay to the season because of the coronavirus, Northwestern's soccer team will start its season with a new coach on Feb. 16.

The Lady Rangers finished last season with a record of 7-10-1, making it the team's best season in the last five years.

The season usually starts during the fall semester, but because of the pandemic, it was delayed to the middle of February.

Coach Alex Piekarski took over the head coaching job in

April 2020. Before he started at Northwestern, he was the head coach at Hastings College in Nebraska. There, he led his team to a 17 - 5 season.

"COVID has had a tremendous impact on our program," Piekarski said. "Most notably, not allowing us to compete in our normal fall regular season. As a program, we are really looking forward to competing this spring. With four seniors and 12 freshman on the roster, we have a young and talented team that is looking to make an impact."

Caitlyn Bidart is one of the four returning seniors. She has been on Northwestern's soccer

team for three years.

"Practices are running smooth and going good since we have all adjusted to the new rules we have to follow for the virus," Bidart said. "We have to wear masks. And it's like having a plastic bag over your head, and you're trying to breathe, but you keep breathing the mask in, not air."

Payton Taylor, a sophomore returning for the Lady Rangers, said practices are going well despite the restrictions in place because of the pandemic.

"This year is a challenge with the changing of when we play, how many games we play, and having to wear a mask, but I am just happy to be playing the game I love," Taylor said.

Another returning player for the Lady Rangers' soccer team is Reyna Gonzales, the 2019 GAC Newcomer of the Year.

Great American Conference officials have set restrictions for indoor sports, including limits on the number of people who can attend games.

The organization has placed fewer restrictions on outdoor sports; team members on the sidelines of games must wear masks.

"Anyone and everyone is allowed at our games this season,"



Photo provided

Kaitlyn Morphy dribbles the ball against Ouachita Baptist in 2019.

Taylor said. "It is not limited to a certain number of fans."

Northwestern's soccer team will play seven games and will automatically qualify for the Great American Conference tournament this season because of the coronavirus pandemic. This season does not count for a year of a student athlete's eligibility.

Northwestern soccer has three home games scheduled for Feb. 20, March 6 and March 27.

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READY TO PLAY TODAY



Northwestern baseball team members met Parker Base, No. 35, with helmet taps after he hit a home run during an intersquad scrimmage on Jan. 29. The baseball team's spring season will begin on Feb. 19 against Southern Arkansas University.

Photo by Nick Dill