

BYE BYE, NWOSU

Graduating senior Leah Darnell asks the question: What lies ahead after saying goodbye to college? PAGE 4



THE GAME OF LOVE

Two newly engaged Ranger athletes are winning in sports and love. PAGE 10



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SPECIAL REPORT: MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Oklahoma has dirt as red as its politics. But in 2018, voters gave the green light to medical marijuana. The people who peddle the plant have become big economic players in small towns across the state — including Alva.



Photo by Laney Cook

Canna-BIZness is booming

By KAYLEA BROWN, LANEY COOK AND DEVYN LANDSEN
Northwestern News

Campus officials, dispensary owners talk about the regulations on living the high life

Flashback to Sept. 4, 2019. On the lawn of the Woods County Courthouse in Alva, protesters rallied against a city ordinance that created restrictions on medical marijuana establishments. Residents from across the state traveled in buses to transport Alva residents with their medical marijuana

cards to another town to get the medicine they needed. Now, almost two years later, four dispensaries and 13 growing facilities have made their home in Alva. The worries people had about medical marijuana are no longer as extreme as they once were. People can have their medical cards for various reasons. But it is still an issue Northwestern students face if they live on campus and want

to have and use medicinal marijuana. Students can face a variety of consequences if they are caught on campus with marijuana, but the punishment is not as severe as if they were caught without the medical license. Northwestern Oklahoma State University Chief of Alva Campus Police Kyle Hair explained what would happen to students if they got caught with marijuana on campus. See MARIJUANA, Page 2

A marijuana plant at the Green Med Cannabis Co. in Alva is shown in this picture taken March 31. Two years have passed since Oklahoma legalized medical marijuana.

News

MARIJUANA: Medical marijuana still not allowed on Northwestern campus

Continued from Page 1

“If they have a medical card, it’s usually just going to be an administrative fine [from the housing department] ... and it can go further,” Hair said.

NWOSU is one of many universities in Oklahoma that receives funding from the federal government. This means that, as long as marijuana remains federally illegal in all forms, it will not be allowed on college campuses.

UNIVERSITY AND CITY POLICIES

The university has not seen a major increase in the use of marijuana since legalization, officials said. Hair said the only way to catch students with the drug is by detecting the smell of it being smoked, and by hearing complaints from roommates or resident assistants in dormitory halls.

Students without medical cards are more easily caught in instances of smoking. In such cases, the students may receive an administrative fine, but criminal charges are also possible.

Possession of marijuana without a medical card is still considered a misdemeanor in Oklahoma, leading to the possibility of a fine. It is only taken this far if it becomes a recurring problem in the dorms and/or on campus.

Hair said that, unless a complete legalization of marijuana across the board occurs, it will not be allowed anywhere on campus.

From the housing department’s point of view, the legalization of medical marijuana has changed possession of marijuana into a campus conduct matter rather than a law enforcement matter.

“There haven’t been problems, but there have been very few isolated incidents,” said Matt Adair, assistant dean of students and director of housing at NWOSU. “Since I’ve been in the job, [there’s been] a fairly good run of kids who have chosen not to break the rules or bring illegal substances to campus.”

Changing this to a conduct matter means that students get into more trouble with the school, but not as much trouble with the city in terms of tickets.

Adair said the federal government classifies marijuana as a Schedule One narcotic. This means that marijuana is considered a drug that has no known medical use that is accepted and has a high potential of abuse, according to narcotics.com.

Since the legalization of marijuana, the campus has had few incidents, and the same can be said for the city.

“Since I’ve been in the job, [there’s been] a fairly good run of kids who have chosen not to break the rules or bring illegal substances to campus.”

— Matt Adair

Woods County Sheriff Rudy Briggs Jr. said he has had no trouble with the dispensaries in town and is unaware of any increase in problems since medical marijuana was legalized. Dr. Bo Hannaford, an Alva city councilman holding the Ward 3, Seat 1 office, said the legalization has impacted some businesses around town.

“I think that [it’s] hurt some of our businesses because they can’t get people



File photo

People protesting an Alva city ordinance restricting medical marijuana dispensaries gathered in the Downtown Square on Sept. 4, 2019.

Medical marijuana’s beginnings in Alva stifled by city ordinance

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Northwestern News

Oklahoma voters passed State Question 788 in 2018, legalizing the use of medical marijuana statewide. But in Alva, a city ordinance kept medical marijuana business owners at bay for several months.

On Aug. 20, 2018, the Alva City Council passed an ordinance to regulate medical marijuana in the city limits. Ordinance 2018-004 set up parameters on how the City of Alva would handle the use, growth and legal distribution of medical marijuana.

The ordinance required medical marijuana dispensaries and related businesses to be 1,000 feet away from parks, playgrounds, schools, libraries, museums, churches, day care centers, other medical marijuana establishments and residential areas.

These restrictions essentially barred any dispensaries from opening in the city limits of Alva and re-

stricted licensed patients’ ability to medicate, opponents said.

On Sept. 14, 2019, dozens of people gathered in downtown Alva to protest the ordinance.

Supporters handed out fliers, talked about their experiences using medical marijuana and walked around local businesses while carrying homemade signs.

A day after the protest, the Alva City Council’s Ordinance Review Committee called an emergency meeting. The committee recommended that the 1,000-foot distance requirement be reduced to 300 feet, among several other changes.

At the Sept. 16 meeting, the Alva City Council unanimously voted to accept the recommendations of the Ordinance Review Committee without any discussion.

One week later, Joint Pains – the first dispensary in the city – was getting ready for business.

Shane Corbitt, the owner of the dispensary, told the Northwestern News: “We’re going to grow big time.”

Another requirement is proof of residency in the town in which the business will operate. Owners have to prove they’ve been residents of the town for two years.

Medical marijuana businesses cannot be within 1,000 feet of a public or private school. This does not include daycares or child care facilities. The owner has to have a background check, fill out a disclosure form and meet other requirements.

Julie Melton, the owner of the dispensary Alvatraz Cannabis Company on The Square, said the city has been supportive of her business. Melton said she sells to about 300 different people, and her most popular products are female cannabis plants, which are called “flower.”

Flower is the most popular form because it is the most versatile product and can be smoked in a bong or pipe. It can also be rolled in a joint or blunt, she said.

Melton said the strain she has sold the most of is named “Golden Goat,” which

helps patients with depression, she said. She said she has more of that strain than any other.

“What you can sell is just dictated by what you have access to,” Melton said. “You only have available to you what the growers have grown.”

“I knew eventually there would be more dispensaries in the future, so I decided to put a store here as quickly as possible.”
— Chris Penoyer

Iggy’s Green Rush, south of town on Highway 281, is owned by Chris Penoyer. He opened one of the first dispensaries in Cherokee in 2018. After the first dispensary opened in Alva, Joint Pains, Penoyer decided to open a store in Alva because a majority of his customers drove from this area to his Cherokee location. He said he knew his store in Cherokee would not survive with the new dispensary in Alva.

“I knew eventually there would be more dispensaries in the future, so I decided to put a store here as quickly as possible,” Penoyer said.

Penoyer said someone attempted to break into his store in Alva, but the person didn’t steal anything. The perpetrator was not caught on camera.

On a monthly basis, he’ll make about 300 sales, he said. Flower and THC vapes are his store’s most popular items. The cheapest item sold at Iggy’s is a gram of flower, which is sold for \$14. The next cheapest is a gram of concentrate, which is sold for \$40. Concentrate is a substance that comes from the hairs of a flower called trichome glands.

Shannon Corbitt owns Joint Pains, which is on the corner of Oklahoma Boulevard and Noble Street in Alva. The store has another location at 1521 Main St. in Waynoka.

Corbitt was the first to open a dispensary in Alva. He said it took a while to build the town’s trust. He said he has a lot of problems with rumors and hearsay in Alva. But in Waynoka, he said “no one cares” and that the town is “laid back.”

See DISPENSARIES, Page 3

News

DISPENSARIES: Prices vary depending on location, owners say

Continued from Page 2

Corbitt said about 50 to 75 people come through the door each day. He sells several pre-rolls, which are the cheapest products he sells, for about \$5. The most expensive item is one gram of concentrate, sold for about \$50.

Dispensaries have a limit on how much they can sell to a customer at a time, and the requirements are listed on the back of a person's medical marijuana card. The limit is 3 ounces of flower, an ounce of concentrate and 72 ounces of edibles. Users are allowed to buy all of it at once, but they can only have 3 ounces on their person at a time.

GROWING FACILITIES

In the two years since Oklahoma legalized medical marijuana, 7,283 growing facilities have popped up in the state. Nineteen are in Woods County, and 13 are right outside Alva's city limits, according to the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority.

Under Oklahoma law, at least 75% of a growing-facility operation must be owned by people who have been Oklahoma residents for two to five years. Growers are allowed to sell products to dispensaries, other growers and processors.

Each growing facility must pay a \$2,500 fee per license type to become a licensed grower. The renewal fee each year is also \$2,500.

Devin Hamlin, owner of Green Med Cannabis Co., said he started a growing facility as soon as medical marijuana was legalized. He started from scratch and built a new building north of Alva.

Hamlin said the process of becoming a licensed grower was confusing at first.

"They (state officials) passed all these laws and everything, and they really didn't have a set rulebook," Hamlin said. "Everybody was just doing everything, and people were getting in trouble because [of] the way the state wrote the laws. It wasn't anybody's fault except the state's."

The regulations are now clearer, and the



Devin Hamlin, owner of the Green Med Cannabis Co. in Alva, holds a marijuana plant on March 31. Two years have passed since Oklahoma legalized medical marijuana.

Photo by Laney Cook

system is less chaotic, Hamlin said.

In September 2020, the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority partnered with Metrc, a seed-to-sale track-and-trace regulatory system. This system tracks marijuana plants from the time they're seeds to the point at which they're purchased by consumers at dispensaries. All plants have to have barcodes as soon as they are planted, and these barcodes track the plant's entire life cycle.

"I think it's more them [the state] trying to keep it away from people just growing it and then selling it on the street illegally," Hamlin said.

A plant needs about nine months to grow from a seed into a flower. However, the practice of cloning only takes about three to four months.

The cloning process involves cutting a branch off a live marijuana plant. That branch will then grow into its own plant.

Because clones take a shorter amount of time to grow, the process helps facilities start up their businesses. It also helps during times when the demand for products is higher.

Hamlin said the new Metrc system that goes into effect April 30 is expensive. It costs 45 cents per barcode, and he said he'll need about 2,000 barcodes for all of his plants. The cost to have a license is now about \$10,000 with all the extra costs, he said.

Hamlin said only 10 growing facilities operate in Arkansas because it costs \$100,000 a year to have a growing license there. Because Oklahoma has more growing facilities, the competition is harder in places such as Oklahoma City. This means products are sold cheaper.

Typically, dispensaries buy flower by either quarters or pounds from growers. Hamlin said he sold 30 pounds of his

strain, "Citral Glue," to just one dispensary on one of his deliveries in March.

Hamlin has a high percentage of THC in his Citral Glue strain: 39% THC. He said he can sell this strain for a maximum of \$3,500 per pound. Usually, though, he sells it at a rate between \$2,200 and \$2,400 per pound.

This price drops in Oklahoma City, where the average sale price ranges from \$1,600 to \$1,800 per pound. But sometimes, it drops even lower.

"Some people will do anything to sell it and even go as cheap as \$200 to \$300 per pound," he said.

CARD HOLDER'S VIEWPOINT

As of March 5, Oklahoma has more than 381,000 patients or caregivers with medical marijuana cards, meaning 9.5% of the state's population is able to buy marijuana.

To get a medical marijuana card, a person must be an Oklahoma resident and show proof of residency. The OMMA application fee is \$100, but if the patient qualifies for Medicaid or Medicare, the fee is reduced to \$20.

The Northwestern News spoke to one cardholder who chose to remain anonymous for medical reasons. The person said obtaining a medical marijuana card is not difficult.

"I got my card because I have sciatica and it flares up sometimes," the person said. "But really, I just like it because it helps me sleep at night."

The person said the pain management marijuana offers is top-tier.

As a cardholder, a person is allowed to have up to 8 ounces of marijuana in their residence at a time. The cardholder said some good regulations exist, but the fact that one person can have that much marijuana is excessive.

"I feel like no one is ever going to need that much [marijuana] on them, and if they do, then they're probably selling it on the side illegally," the person said.

Rangers Got Talent contestants wow peers in Herod Hall

By CONNOR GRAY
Student Reporter

Three Northwestern students took home top prizes during the Student Government Association's second annual Rangers Got Talent show Tuesday night in Herod Hall.

Micaela Stevenson was named the show's Crowd Favorite, Sean Doherty was named Best Entertainer and Emily Smith was giv-

en the Best Overall Performance award.

Stevenson and Doherty received \$50 prizes, and Smith received a \$100 prize.

Stevenson performed a hip-hop dance routine to a remix of "Look at Me Now" and was met with praise from the audience. Doherty played the tune "Right Side of the Ground," written by Shane Smith, on the guitar. Smith played "The Dance," a popular Garth Brooks song, on the piano.

Other talents shown include dancing and comedy. Additional students who performed include Bea Penafior, Timothy Jacobson, Angie Aguilera and Brianna Berryman.

Smith's award-winning act wasn't her only performance. She also performed a comedy duo with Berryman called "Helping Hands."

Berryman spoke while Smith used her arms and hands to illustrate the act, which received a lot

of laughs from the audience.

The show closed out with the University Singers performing a Michael Jackson melody.

Paige Fischer, Luis Mendoza and Myra Davison judged the competition.

Smith said she was excited to win the big prize.

"I think it's pretty cool," she said. "I think this is a good opportunity, and it was really fun for all of us."

Even though she won the top

place, Smith said her favorite act of the night was Stevenson's dance. She also said the other contestants gave strong performances.

"I thought it would be fun to get involved," she said. "Though it was last minute, it was super cool that the campus was putting this on."

For photos of the event's winning contestants, turn to Page 12 in this edition of the Northwestern News.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: CASE NUMBERS ON CAMPUS AND AROUND THE AREA

STUDENT CASES:

1

active as of April 16. This number includes cases at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

EMPLOYEE CASES:

0

active as of April 16. This number includes cases at Northwestern's Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.

IN ALVA:

8

active as of April 20. Alva has had a total of 1,006 cases.

IN OKLAHOMA:

10,030

active as of April 20. Oklahoma has had a total of 443,756 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>.

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

All letters represent the views of the author.

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Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

Editorial

My first full spring semester

By ALIYAH BIDWELL
Student Reporter

This is my first full spring semester. I was just a freshman when the coronavirus came and stopped us from having school in-person.

This semester is different. We are in-person, and most of the normal things are back open, like the Ranger Mart and the café.

I am so excited to finally finish my spring in-person and not at home.

Now, don't get me wrong. I love my family, but five months trapped in a small town with nothing to do isn't fun.

I am also not the greatest with technology, so switching to online learning wasn't easy for me. But at least I passed my classes.

I also have a big family with constant distraction for me and for my classes.

My sisters' schools didn't continue. They just finished in March, so they had plenty of time

to be annoying.

I have done so much better this semester because about the only time I have to use my computer is when I am writing a paper or taking notes.

If I could change anything that I did before we went virtual last spring semester, I would have gone on a game-shopping spree. I don't really have much to say. If I could change anything, COVID-19 wouldn't exist, and the people that I lost would still be alive.

Back to the positive. COVID-19 has taught me to appreciate people while they are still here because one day they won't be here.

I am doing many things differently this semester. I can't have a friend in my dorm if my roommate is in the dorm.

I would like to hang out with all my friends, not just some of them. I have to wear a mask everywhere I go.

In the café, I miss being able to serve myself and have the portion

size control in my hands.

I decided to get the vaccine because I am high risk.

I miss SGA having events every other weekend where you would show up and just have some fun.

I also miss having parties and not having to worry about how to serve food COVID-style.

I miss being able to work out without a mask on. I know that wearing a mask is important. I just don't like them because I can't breathe good in them. I have gotten used to them a little bit, though, as long as I am not moving too much.

Most adults say we got a five-month vacation, but that isn't true because we still had schoolwork and due dates.

We still only had a two-and-a-half-month vacation. Honestly, it didn't even feel like a vacation because there was nowhere to go.

My family did end up going to the family reunion in July, which was awesome, and it was awesome to see family.

Editor's rant of the week

By MICHELLE WILLSON
Features Editor

I think we all need to take a minute and appreciate where we're at. There's three weeks 'til the end of the semester, and we've gone through a lot this year. We need to take a step back and smell the roses.

Think about the journey it took you to get where you are right now. Think about the lessons you have learned and the knowledge you have gained.

I feel like, recently, I have noticed a lot of people not appreciating the small-town atmosphere.

I've spent four years in Alva, and I don't think I've ever fully grasped the concept of how much this community has shaped me. Northwestern is where I began to discover who I really am.

This university provided me with a spot where I felt safe enough to be my true self, and I don't think I would have gotten that at a lot of other campuses.

I may not technically be graduating, but with only one class left, I will have to say goodbye to many of the experiences that I've had over the past four years.

Even though COVID-19 put a little stop to my plans and canceled some events that I was hoping to go to, I'm not mad with the time I did get to spend here.

From behind the camera here, I've captured some amazing moments. And though this is not my official "goodbye" article, I do wish that everyone would just take a second and appreciate where they're at before it is too late. I may not know what my next step is, but I do know that I can always come back to Northwestern and be greeted with open arms by the Ranger family.

To any undergraduates reading this: I know it sounds mushy, and I know that you're sitting there not appreciating everything around you, but there will come a time for you to say goodbye. And just like high school, it'll be hard to do.

So soak up the memories, the friendships and the experiences you can now, because eventually, they'll be over.

Soon you'll have to step out into the real world. That's something I'm not ready for.

I definitely don't feel ready to say "goodbye" to this school yet.

Hey hey-ey goodbye

Spears, a Northwestern alumnus, talks about what sports teams do so they can win at home

By WILLIE SPEARS
Guest Columnist

From 1910 to 1990, Comiskey Park was the home to the Chicago White Sox of the American League in Major League Baseball.

Like all sports teams, the White Sox wanted to win at home.

Starting in 1977, if you were a member of the losing team at Comiskey Park, you could hear 40,000 fans singing the classic song "Na Na Na Na Hey Hey-ey Goodbye." On December 6, 1969 this classic song by Steam, originally titled, "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye," was No. 1 on the Billboard charts.

Steam was never really a group, only lasting one year and recording one album.

Gary DeCarlo, Dale Frashuer and Paul Leka worked together as writers, producers and vocalists to form the Steam.

DeCarlo added the catchy chorus used across the world of sports, particularly in relation to player ejections and post-victory celebrations. The song is about getting a woman to forget her former boyfriend and kissing him goodbye. How did this song become a sports anthem?

In 1977, Nancy Faust, the organist for the Chicago White Sox, began playing the song to taunt the visiting team. Seven years after she was hired in 1970, she heard the popular song while riding in her car.

**"Steam's one-hit-wonder would be an eternal sports classic."
— Willie Spears**

She thought this would be a good song because the crowd could clap to it as she played it.

She later realized the song was not just for clapping, but that she could use it throughout the game.

She would play the song when the opposing coach would take their pitcher out of the game, or when the opponent would strike out, or when the White Sox would hit a home run. This song was useful and had great potential.

In the summer of 1977, the White Sox were five games ahead of Kansas City in the standings.

In the last week of July, they were in the middle of a four-game series led by the White Sox.

The third game of the series took place July 23, 1977.

On this night, Steam's one-hit-wonder would become an eternal sports classic.

In the sixth inning, White Sox outfielder No. 44 Chet Lemon hit a home run to tie the game.

As the game went into an extra inning, the Sox needed another homer from Lemon, and he delivered, hitting a two-run shot in the tenth to tie the ball game.

The White Sox went on to win at home.

The excitement and adulation from that moment caused the crowd, which normally clapped along with the song, to sing the chorus, with the organist playing "Na Na Na Na Hey Hey-ey Goodbye."

The song became the anthem for the team, earning Nancy Faust an honorary gold record as she helped revitalize the song nearly a decade after its original release.

The song not only became the anthem for the White Sox, but it has become a staple for all stadium DJs.

Comiskey Park was home to the White Sox for 80 years, and on Sept. 30, 1990, the White Sox played their final game at the Comiskey Park.

As they exited the stadium and waved goodbye to their fans, their anthem played over the stadium speakers: "Na, Na, Na, Na, He Hey-ey Goodbye."

Three ways to Win At Home:
1. Be on the same sheet of music, on one accord.

2. Sing silly songs together.

3. Come up with family traditions and celebrate them.

I don't know about you, but I want to Win At Home. I am praying for you and your family.
Willie Spears is a Northwestern alumnus. Now a motivational speaker, Spears maintains ties to his alma mater. To learn more about the author, visit <https://williespears.com>.

Editorial



Leah Darnell is pictured with her family on graduation day from Cowley College in 2019.



Photos provided

Leah Darnell and her parents are shown at her sister's graduation at Emporia State in 2017.

Are we ready for the real world?

Darnell shares her thoughts on graduation and job-searching in the future

By **LEAH DARNELL**
Student Reporter

Graduation can be one of the scariest times of our lives.

We walk across the stage, get our diploma, shake the hand of President Cunningham and see the rest of our fellow graduates receive their diplomas.

Once the day is over, the question remains: What is next?

I have heard it said in one of my classes recently that you are preparing for college the summer you graduate from high school; the moment you graduate college, the job search begins.

We go through some scary moments — like graduating or finding a job.

Through all of these moments, some students have an extensive support system behind them with every decision.

In contrast, others do not have the support at home, and they strive to find it at school.

For me, I am blessed beyond words to have two amazing parents, James and Becky; a sister, Sarah; and a brother-in-law, Ethan Winter. I had countless friends and other family supporters when I needed them most.

Still, my parents and sister have always been a huge support system when I needed them at the right moment.

Ever since I was a child, my parents have supported Sarah and me in everything we set our minds and hearts to do.

Sarah always had the dream to be a Kindergarten teacher and marry a doctor.

When we were growing up, I was always “forced” to play school, and Sarah would teach me.

I did not always want to play,

but I can say that I have helped Sarah become the fantastic Kindergarten teacher she is now.

Sarah graduated with her bachelor's of science degree in education from Emporia State University in the spring of 2017.

In 2017, I graduated from high school, and I was weighing the option of two community colleges in Kansas: Cowley College, and Butler College. Sarah and I had a heart-to-heart conversation one day.

I decided on going to Cowley College, which only was 45 minutes to an hour away from home.

I still remember that, from the moment I stepped on the campus and met new people, I felt at home and did not want to leave.

All great things must end. I graduated with my associate of arts degree in mass communication in the spring of 2019.

For me, 2019 was a rough year. My grandpa Dacus passed away, and I was deciding my next steps.

I knew I could not do anything with just an associate's degree; I started finding a university to transfer to that would take all of the credits from Cowley.

I felt God leading me towards Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva because the homepage came up on the screen unexpectedly.

I was finding everything I could about the communication program and more about the school.

I came on a campus tour and fell in love with the school and community. And all my credits transferred from Cowley.

I applied at Spring Showcase. Soon after, I was accepted, so I moved two hours away from home and was nervous about meeting people and being the odd

one since I was the transfer student.

I got involved quickly at the Baptist Collegiate Ministries and met new people, who would then become great friends.

I quickly got involved with classes, activities and jobs while meeting new people from different backgrounds along the way.

I have made connections and amazing friends, so I am not ready to graduate, if I am being honest.

I am prepared and excited for the next chapter in my life and seeing what God will do in my life from this moment on.

While I was settling in at my new school, Sarah was working on her master's degree in curriculum and instruction with a focus in leadership.

Then, 2020 came knocking. If 2020 wasn't already crazy enough, she taught her Kindergarteners online, planned her dream wedding and worked on her classes for her master's degree.

Despite all of the craziness of 2020 — trying to do classes online and uncertain days ahead — everything is coming together piece-by-piece in 2021. Now, graduation is right around the corner. In 16 short days, including weekends and finals week, I will graduate with my bachelor of science degree in mass communication. In 23 short days, Ethan will graduate with a doctorate in physical therapy from Wichita State University.

Then in August, Sarah will be done with her master's degree from Emporia State University. Soon enough, myself, Sarah and Ethan will have every academic degree represented in three different areas: communication, teaching and physical therapy.



Leah Darnell and her family are shown at her sister's wedding in August.

Through all of the hours of classes, homework, clinicals and crying sessions, we all had fantastic support from our parents, friends, and other family members. Most importantly, we would not have made it without God, because He was and will be with us through it all.

I want to thank the fantastic people from First Baptist Church of Alva; the students and the Baptist Collegiate Ministries directors, Ronnie and Marian Payne; my former and current student coaches; and the project advisers and students I served with and for during my senior year in Student Support Services. In addition, I want to thank the students and

professors in the mass communication program for the last two years.

Lastly, I want to thank my suitemates: Gracie Scarbrough, Adria Lujan, and Caitlyn and Emily Pray.

For my fellow graduates, we are close to the light at the end of the tunnel. Keep going. Believe in yourself. Next year, for the upcoming seniors, make the most of the time you have left at Northwestern; your senior year goes by quickly.

Enjoy the moments you have left.

If you have not been told lately, I am proud of you and everything you will accomplish.

Reeves finds fulfillment in watching his students grow

By KAYLEA BROWN
Student Reporter

Danny Bret Reeves likes to tell his all of his classes the story of how he wrecked his 1976 Camaro.

It all happened in June 1984, the summer between his junior and senior year of college. Reeves and his friend had spent the night in Oklahoma City watching the band Alabama in concert. After a night full of listening to musicians they love, the two headed home.

On the late-night drive home after the concert, Reeves fell asleep at the wheel. Without his direction, the car ran off the road. After rolling 2 ½ times, the car landed on its top, crushing in on him and his friend.

Every time Reeves tell this story, he ends it with his belief about life.

"Everything has its purpose, so I wouldn't go back and change it," he tells his students. "If you change anything, if you change a time-frame, if you change a sequence of events ... things don't happen the same. It's the ripple effect."

Reeves never set out to be where he is today. He did not set out to be a teacher in a small-town high school. Nor did he set out to be the teacher that encourages students on their journey to a higher education. But that is where he is now.

A 2020 graduate of Cleveland High School, Kaylin Blatchford said Reeves is the reason that she is at Northwestern, which is also Reeves' alma mater.

"He took out his time and went out of his way to support me when other people didn't," Blatchford said. "He helped me find several scholarships and Northwestern itself."

Reeves' decision about where to attend college came down to two schools: Northwestern Oklahoma State University and Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Both schools were roughly the same distance from Sharon Mutual High School where he graduated from in 1981. Ultimately, he decided to choose NWOSU because of the friends he had at the school.

Reeves' decision to attend the university led to the "ripple effect" of him meeting his wife of 27 years.

"We met through mutual friends," said Holly Reeves, his wife. "We were just kind of incidentally together a lot."

Dan Reeves said he remembers seeing Holly White in line paying a bill the day before classes started, but he did not formally meet her until later in the week. His cousin happened to have a mutual friend with her.

Throughout the years at NWOSU, it was always their different friend couples and then Dan and Holly, Dan Reeves said. Although the pair were constantly together, they did not become a couple officially until years after they graduated from college.

"We were just good friends throughout college," Holly Reeves said. "When we graduated, we kind of went our separate ways. We kept



Left: Jessica Reeves poses for a photo with her father, Dan Reeves, and her mother, Holly Reeves, after one of Jessica's color guard performances.

Above: From left to right in the back row are Eric, Jessica and Derek. Dan and Holly are in the front row.

Below: Dan Reeves poses for a photo in front of his 1976 Camaro. He tells his students about how he wrecked the car in 1984 while going home after a concert.



Reeves poses for a photo with a catch from one of his fishing trips. Fishing is one of Reeves' many passions.

in touch and got back together years later."

Before Dan Reeves reconnected with Holly, he married his first wife, Leslie Taylor, and had two children—Tiffany and Geoff. Geoff died at the age of 27. Years after divorcing Taylor and after moving around for work, Dan Reeves found himself back in Oklahoma.

After reconnecting with Hol-

"If it is important to you, you'll find a way. If not, you'll find an excuse."
— Danny Reeves

ly White at his sister's wedding in 1990, the two started talking seriously and their relationship began, Dan Reeves said.

After roughly a three-year relationship, the two married on May 29, 1993, in Peckham. They had three children together—Derek, Eric and Jessica—all nine months apart in age.

They also have four grandchildren ranging from the ages of 5 to 15.

When it comes to his family, Reeves has an unconditional love for his children, and he can meet them where they are, Holly Reeves

said. He will not categorize you, but rather he will be fully accepting of who a person is, she said.

After he graduated from NWOSU, Dan Reeves worked several different jobs.

"When the oilfield died, my dad [George Reeves] sold his business," Reeves said. "To reinvest, he purchased a shoe store and then bought a video store. ... We ran both of those out of the same business, and we did that for a while."

Reeves moved to Houston after finalizing his divorce and started working at Foot Locker. Reeves spent four years traveling around Houston before it brought him back to Oklahoma. He then went on to work different jobs in the Tulsa area before moving to Lake Texoma.

After a bit of time spent at the lake mowing, Reeves decided to move back to Cleveland, where he worked for a tree trimming service and sold insurance.

Although Reeves worked in several different fields, there was one career that he never saw himself going into.

"He never saw himself being a teacher, and that didn't happen until after we got married," Holly Reeves said. "He was a part of my daily life and watched what I was doing [in my classroom]."

Dan Reeves said a degree in business management is not the typical route for a teacher, but this is his 25th year teaching at Cleveland. Spending a large amount of time with students and seeing how



they grow up gives a sense of fulfillment, he said.

A past student and current co-worker of his at Cleveland High School, Zacharia Lehnus, said Reeves is a teacher who has high expectations. He also said Reeves is one of those teachers every student should have.

Lehnus had Reeves as a teacher his sophomore year of high school for a business ethics class. Lehnus said Reeves is one of the few teachers with an emergency certification who is more knowledgeable about teaching and education than people who went to school to be a teacher.

"He didn't take the path that most teachers take," Lehnus said. "He came in with a business degree, but he's very passionate about teaching kids the skills they need to be a successful adult."

Reeves became involved in the town of Cleveland during his nine years on the City Council as the Ward 1 councilman. Always a person to find the fun and the meaning in things, he found his time in office a "nine-year educational course in how a city runs."

Reeves said he enjoyed attending meetings, but one of his favorite memories is digging up a time capsule located under a monument at the old swimming pool.

Reeves explained that the City Council had the monument pulled

ed-learning academy and is a friend and mowing partner of Reeves'. He said some of his most memorable moments with Reeves involved one of them getting their mower stuck.

"He helped me start my moving business," Brimmer said. "And as I grow older, I realize that he's a friend for life. At the drop of a hat in the middle of the night, he would be there for me."

Brimmer said that, of all the things Reeves does in his free time, fishing is what he is most passionate about.

When asked about his passion, Reeves said: "I love to catch fish, but that's not the priority. It's the being in nature. It's the relaxation."

While on Lake Texoma, he also enjoys taking photos, especially of the State Highway 70 bridge just south of Bridgeview where he grew up.

Of all the things Reeves is passionate about, one major passion is his faith. Reeves said that, when it comes to other people, he does not care about what denomination a person is. It is more about the fact that the person has a relationship with God in general.

Reeves said he believes the ultimate goal in life is to make it to heaven one day, but he does not think his time is anytime soon because he still has much to do.

"As far as the sequence of my life, where I've been and what I've done, I really wouldn't change a thing," he said. "It all truly leads up to this moment."

Fast Facts about Reeves:

- Born in Beaver, Oklahoma, on Jan. 29, 1963
- Married Holly Reeves on May 29, 1993
- Attends Western Heights Baptist Church in Cleveland
- Graduated from Sharon Mutual High School 1981
- Attended Northwestern from 1981 to 1985
- Obtained a business management degree with minors in economics and accounting
- Has taught at Cleveland High School for 25 years
- Teaches: financial literacy, Oklahoma history, economics, and Native American history
- Used to teach photography
- Favorite football team: Dallas Cowboys
- Has five children and four grandchildren

Feature

During coronavirus pandemic, popularity of anime increases

Anime became a much-watched genre during quarantine period

By **DAVID THORNTON**
Photographer

Wind blowing at the most dramatic moment, lethal injuries that don't kill, unrealistic body standards and perverted male characters can only mean one thing: Anime.

The coronavirus pandemic has kept people in their houses, so the practice of streaming shows has become popular.

Binge-watching shows has been a popular trend in recent years, and the anime genre has grabbed the attention of a lot of people during the global pandemic.

Regardless of the language change, Chinese and Japanese shows have grown in popularity across the United States — and even in Alva.

There are many reasons why anime has become increasingly popular. Erika Salemme, a reporter from St. Petersburg College, said in an interview: "Anime is very diverse and stretches the boundaries of the logical world with unique characters and stories."

For Northwestern political science major Alexa Leyva, anime helped pass the time in quarantine.

When it comes to anime, the plot and character development is what attracts her.

When a show called "Naruto" put her to tears, that's when she knew she liked anime, she said.

"I remember I cried on an episode, and that's when I knew I was getting attached to these characters," Leyva said.

Leyva binge-watched "Naruto," "Hunter X Hunter" and "Death Note" while in quarantine.

She has a full list of anime shows she plans on watching in the future, she said.

In October, the anime show "Demon Slayer" released its first movie in Japan, and it had positive reviews in the worldwide box office, making it the second highest-grossing anime show of all time. It followed just behind first-place winner "Spirited Away," which was released in 2002.

In late 2021, "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba the Movie: Mugen Train" will be released and streamed in the U.S.

According to Crunchyroll, the U.S. has the highest demand for anime titles.



Illustration by Michelle Willson

Crunchyroll is the world's largest collection of anime, it's a streaming site that hosts every anime show and movie.

It streams new shows every week, and with a membership, you get access to the full collection of anime series and movies.

Daryl Harding is a news writer for Crunchyroll. He said, "Anime has become mainstream in the American culture."

The Crunchyroll website sells merchandise, publishes press

releases and allows users to play games on the website.

Since 2019, Crunchyroll has gained more than two million subscribers and 45 million registered users.

Other streaming sites for anime include Hulu, Funimation and Netflix, which have less varieties of anime shows, but still stream big shows like "Attack on Titan" every Sunday. They also show the full seasons of "Naruto" and "One Piece."

Anime is mostly aimed toward an older audience. The picture is animated and colorful like a cartoon, but its content is for teens or more mature audiences.

Northwestern mass communication major Eric Livingston said he used his time during the pandemic to bring back childhood memories.

He re-watched anime shows he saw as a kid and tuned in every week for the new shows.

Livingston finished seven different anime productions in the past year.

Anime decor is part of the trend as well.

Northwestern nursing major Jada Overly has posters in her apartment of her favorite show.

"I love my 'Attack on Titan' poster," she said. "It hangs in my living room."

Apparel, accessories and other decor from Crunchyroll feature anime themes.

"Recently, I bought a 'Naruto' hoodie off Crunchyroll," Livingston said.

Leyva said she loves anime merchandise and wants to get more into reading manga. Manga is a type of Japanese comic, and most anime shows originated from manga comics.

The artistic component is a huge part of the enjoyment of anime.

Funimation graphic designer Michele Sontag said, "Anime is also known for being far more aesthetically pleasing and eye-catching than American animation."

The five most popular animes are "Black Clover," "Attack on Titan," "One Piece," "Jujitsu Kisen" and "Naruto."

Livingston has seen all of these shows, and Leyva and Overly have only seen two of the five.

Anime reflects Japanese spirits and beliefs. It also reinforces the values of relationships and community. Fans of anime have a chance to get an intimate look into Japan's history, language and worldview, according to Crunchyroll.

The popularity for anime grows higher every week that an episode releases on Crunchyroll.

"All the shows are different, from horror to comedy or romance," Livingston said. "There is a show for everyone."

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Entertainment



Photo from Amazon Movies

A nostalgic dive into my favorite childhood movies

The Barbie movie franchise is just as good as I remember

By **MICHELLE WILLSON**
Features Editor

This week, I decided to relive my childhood and watch two of the Barbie movies.

First, I watched the “Barbie and the Princess and the Pauper,” an absolutely flawless movie. To be honest, the graphics are worse than I remember, but it just adds to the nostalgia.

Not to mention that the songs are amazing. I am a little upset that they ended up giving one of the best songs to one of the worst villains. Do I think it’s the best song because I am an alto and I can actually sing it? Maybe. But still.

If you haven’t watched it, the movie follows a princess and a seamstress who look exactly the same. The princesses country is about to go bankrupt, and her mom is going to marry her off to a neighboring prince to save them. But the queen’s adviser, Priminger, has some other ideas.

He struck gold in a mine, and he wants to be the one to save the country by forcing one of the women to marry him. He ends up

kidnapping the princess in hopes that it will cancel the wedding to the prince so he can step in and save the day.

The only thing that I don’t like about this movie is how creepy Priminger is. He is an old man who wants the young princess to marry him, and it’s written off as normal. Even as a child, this situation did not sit right with me. I do not think it’s a good message to put in a children’s movie because it makes it seem normal, and that could lead to some really bad real life situations.

I think what I liked so much about this movie growing up is that, through the princess’s help, it’s the pauper who ends up really stepping in and saving the day — and the cats.

Serafina and Wolfie are the princess’s and the pauper’s cats, who also have a love story in the movie, and they end up with lots of little kittens that are so cute.

The second Barbie movie I watched this week was “Barbie on Swan Lake.” This one I don’t remember watching as much as a child, but it still brought a sense of nostalgia.

The whole movie is basically Barbie telling a story to a camper at the camp she works at. It follows this girl who kind of lived a poor life. She sees a unicorn and follows it into a magical forest.

She ends up saving the unicorn, and the creatures of the

forest realize she’s the one in their prophecy. The land is being taken over by an evil wizard, and she’s the only one who can save them.

The wizard has been turning people into animals, and eventually, she gets turned into a swan. The only way for her to get changed back into a human and stay that way is if she has someone confess their true love to her.

But the evil wizard tries to stop that from happening by transforming his daughter to look exactly like the human form of the girl.

Both of these movies are really well laid out. Some of the Barbie movies have taken stories from others and use them as their own, which I don’t mind. It’s not like I’m expecting a surprise ending.

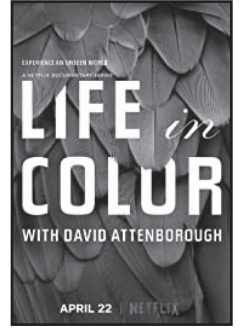
I give both these movies 5 out of 5 stars, mostly because they helped me relive my childhood. But I also love the old animation styles and the colors used.

I recommend these movies to anyone who has or hasn’t seen the Barbie movies. If you have seen them and like them, absolutely watch them again. It’s a whole new experience watching them when you’re older.

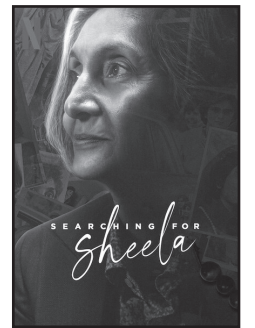
If you haven’t, I suggest starting with “Barbie and Princess and the Pauper,” mostly because that’s my favorite. And I honestly don’t think any other movie will top that.

New releases coming to Netflix this month:

“Life in Color: With David Attenborough”
- April 22



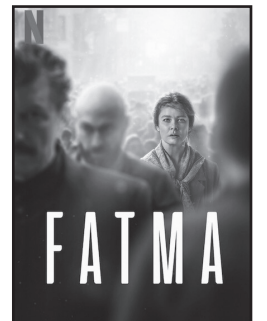
“Searching for Sheela”
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Sports

Northwestern student athletes to tie the knot

By **JACOB COMP**
Student Reporter

College is a time where student athletes can excel in their respective sports in hopes of eventually graduating and a time where one may find friendships or relationships.

For two Northwestern Oklahoma State University athletes, that is exactly what happened.

Kate Deterding, senior Health and Fitness Management major from Lindsborg, Kansas, just wrapped up her senior season as a member of Northwestern's volleyball team.

Jake White, graduate student from Frisco, Texas, is currently playing catcher for the Ranger baseball team.

The two met in the beginning of the 2020 spring semester, but as of December 2020 they are engaged.

"We were in several of the same classes, but never knew each other or spoke to each other," Deterding said. "One day we had a Kinesiology exam, and I was sitting in the commons of the Health and Sports Science Education building studying for the test and Jake came up to me and asked if I wanted to study with him."

Deterding said she and her fiancé grew a bond for each other through sports during their rela-



Photo provided

Jake White proposes to Kate Deterding in December 2020.

tionship.

"One time before we were engaged, we were playing catch with a football," Deterding said. "We were throwing it super far and at one point I caught the ball wrong and snapped my left ring finger. We hadn't even been dating for very long, so I was trying to play it cool, while crying on the inside. I ended up telling

my coach that my finger was broken from playing catch and he responded, 'hmm that's a weird way to ask someone to marry you.'"

White said the two have shared fun stories.

"For probably a month or two, Kate and I would just give each other this specific look and we both knew what that meant,"

White said. "It meant we were going to whip up a family-sized batch of puppy chow and eat just about all of it in one setting. We did this about once a week for a while until we decided this was an awful habit to move forward with."

The two make the most out of each and every opportunity together, White said. He said just going on a simple trip to Walmart is a great time.

White said the proposal was difficult because it was an ongoing plan for months that he had to keep secret from Deterding.

"I honestly think I blacked out," Deterding said about her engagement. "I was so excited and happy. I was seriously shaking and just couldn't believe it was happening."

Since their engagement, both White and Deterding have earned honors in their sports.

Deterding recently finished her collegiate volleyball career with Northwestern.

She finished the season with the second most kills on the team at 175 kills. She averaged 3.13 kills per set. Deterding scored 198 points for the Lady Rangers during the season, second most on the team.

She finished the season being one of two NWOSU volleyball players to be recognized by the conference. She earned a spot on

the All-Great American Conference Second Team on April 7.

White is currently playing his senior season for the Rangers. He has a .274 batting average on the year with four home runs, 13 runs scored, and 25 runs batted in.

White has allowed only one error behind the plate for the Rangers.

In week nine of the Ranger baseball team's season, White excelled and was named the Great American Conference offensive player of the week.

White earned that after Northwestern played in a series against Southern Nazarene University. He had a total of eight hits. White also drove in 13 runs including a grand slam and two three-run homeruns.

"It isn't always easy to do, but we just make time for what is important and have an understanding of each other's busy schedule," Deterding said.

After graduation the couple plans to move to The Colony, Texas where they will begin their careers.

The couple's wedding day is scheduled for October 30, 2021.

"I knew she was special the day I met her," White said. "Within the first two weeks of getting to know Kate and getting to spend time with her, I knew this was the woman I wanted to spend the rest of my life with."

Rodeo passes halfway mark through season

By **CADE KENNEDY**
Student Reporter

The Northwestern rodeo team has been on the road for six weeks competing in the Central Plains Region of the College National Finals Rodeo circuit.

On March 12, the rodeo teams made the trip up to Fort Scott Community College in Fort Scott, Kansas for their second rodeo of the season. The men's team finished in fourth place with 270 team points and the women's

team finished in eighth with 10 team points.

Western Oklahoma State College won on the men's side and Oklahoma State University won on the women's side of the rodeo.

Northwestern's Denton Mars won his first intercollegiate saddle bronc riding championship. Mars got 73 points in the first round, which put him in a tie for third place after the opening round. He got 76 points in the championship round, which gave him 155 total points and the championship win.

After that, the Rangers trav-

elled to Durant, Oklahoma to compete at Southeastern Oklahoma State University's rodeo on March 18. The men's team finished in eighth place with 145 team points and the women's team did not earn any team points.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University won the men's side of the rodeo. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College won the women's side of competition.

Riley Westhaver won the steer wrestling title in Durant by getting two runs at 3.9 seconds long. Northwestern's Bridger Anderson, Ricky "Bo" Yaussi, and Brent Woodward joined Westhaver in the top seven individuals who competed the steer wrestling event.

The team's next rodeo was held at Garden City Community College in Garden City, Kansas on March 26. The men's team finished in third place with 350 team points and the women's team finished in fourth with 115 team points.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University won the men's side. Oklahoma State University won

on the women's side of the rodeo.

Lindy Munsell won her first college title at Garden City by winning the breakaway roping championship with a total time of 5.7 seconds. Munsell was not the only one to win at Garden City, as Westhaver captured another steer wrestling title with a total time of 10 seconds.

The Rangers then travelled to Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma for their rodeo on April 1. The Rangers finished in seventh place with 170 points while the Lady Rangers did not win any points.

Oklahoma Panhandle State University won on the men's side of the rodeo. Southwestern Oklahoma State University won the women's side.

Denton Oestmann added to the team's championship titles as he captured a tie-down roping win in Stillwater with a total time of 18.8 seconds. Steer roping continued to be a strength for the Rangers, as Jace Rutledge and Yaussi finished in the top five.

Over halfway through the season, the team went to Weatherford, Oklahoma on April 8 to

compete at Southwestern Oklahoma State University's rodeo. The men's team finished in eighth place with 130 team points while the women's team did not score.

Oklahoma Panhandle State University won the men's side. Oklahoma State University won the women's side of the rodeo.

Kade Chace tied for first in the tie-down roping event. He recorded a time of 10.6 in the opening round, then followed with a time of 10.7 seconds in the short round.

The Rangers and Lady Rangers travelled to Hays, Kansas for a rodeo at Fort Hays State University on April 16. The men scored 10 team points finishing in ninth place while the women did not score any points as a team.

Brent Woodward won the steer wrestling event at Fort Hays' rodeo.

Northwestern's men's rodeo team is currently ranked sixth in the region with a total of 1,436.50 points. The women's team is currently ranked eighth in the region with a total of 196.50 points.

The team has two rodeos left in regional play.

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Sports

Track and field competes in the GAC championship meet

By **DACODA MCDOWELL-WAHPEKECHE**
Sports Editor

Northwestern's track and field team competed in the Great American Conference tournament in Magnolia, Arkansas on April 15 – 17.

The Lady Rangers placed fifth out of 10 teams. Harding University won the women's side of the conference track meet with 324.5 points.

The first event done at the Great American Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships was the heptathlon. Gina Wilson competed in the event and started her conference championship effort on April 15.

She competed in seven events through three days. After those concluded on April 17, she acquired two points for the team after individually earning 3,186 points throughout her seven-event schedule.

Alexa Leyva brought the greatest number of points in for the Lady Rangers. She finished the long jump event in third place after jumping a distance of 17 feet and 2 and three quarters of an inch. That jump put her in third place giving the Lady Rangers six points altogether.

Leyva was awarded a medal because of her third-place finish in the long jump.

"It felt unreal, honestly," Leyva said about placing third in the event. "It felt like I just did what I needed to do and stepped out in the best ability that I could.

Coach Lancaster prepared me for it. I felt mentally prepared and physically prepared."

Aaliyah Stovall also competed in the long jump. She, alongside Leyva, brought in points in the event. Her jump of 16 feet and 10 inches helped her finish in sixth place giving six more team points to the Lady Rangers.

Emily Smith brought in Northwestern's second greatest amount of points after finishing in sixth place in the 100-meter hurdles and seventh in the 400-meter hurdles. Altogether, Smith brought in five points for the Lady Rangers.

Northwestern had two relay teams on April 17 that scored points. The 4x100-meter relay consisted of Babette Brown, Aaliyah Stovall, (blank) and Leyva. They finished the race in 50.37 seconds edging out Ouachita Baptist University's relay team. The 4x100-meter relay team earned three points for the team.

Northwestern also had a 4x400-meter relay team that consisted of Briley Yunker, Harlie Whisenant, Leyva and Smith. The ladies finished the relay race in four minutes and 15.96 seconds. The team was given two points because of their time in the race.

Austyn Pine, a dual-sport athlete who just finished her season with Northwestern's volleyball, competed in the high jump event. In her second meet of the year, she beat the mark she set at last week's meet.

At Friends University, Pine jumped 1.49 meters, but she jumped 1.55 meters in Magnolia, Arkansas for the conference



Photo by Athletic Communications

Alexa Leyva jumps after sprinting toward the sand pit during the long-jump event at the Great American Conference championship meet in Magnolia, Arkansas on April 17. She took third place in the event.

championship. She acquired four points for the team.

Cayla Smither competed in the triple jump event during the meet. She jumped 35 feet with half an inch extra at the end giving her a point to give to the team's point total.

Krissie May's four team points were the last points Northwestern

saw. She threw 114 feet and 11 inches in the javelin event.

Northwestern's Leyva was not the only one to receive hardware. Emily Brown and Melissa Perez were both named Distinguished

Scholar-Athletes by the Great American Conference on April 17.

The Lady Rangers wrapped their season up and go into the offseason.

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BASEBALL

1. Southern Arkansas - 17 — 7
2. Oklahoma Baptist - 17 — 7
3. Arkansas Tech - 17 — 7
4. Northwestern Oklahoma - 15 — 9
5. Southwestern Oklahoma - 15 — 9
6. Henderson State - 13 — 11
7. Arkansas-Monticello - 13 — 11
8. Harding University - 12 — 12
9. Southeastern Oklahoma - 9 — 15
10. Ouachita Baptist - 8 — 16
11. Southern Nazarene - 4 — 20
12. East Central - 4 — 20

SOFTBALL

1. Southeastern Oklahoma - 20 — 4
2. Southern Arkansas - 16 — 5
3. Arkansas Tech - 17 — 7
4. Southern Nazarene - 17 — 10
5. Harding University - 15 — 9
6. Oklahoma Baptist - 14 — 13
7. East Central - 13 — 14
8. Ouachita Baptist - 13 — 14
9. Southwestern Oklahoma - 9 — 15
10. Arkansas-Monticello - 8 — 19
11. Henderson State - 8 — 19
12. Northwestern Oklahoma - 3 — 24

EDITOR'S NOTE: All standings are accurate as of press time. To view the standings visit the Great American Conference's website, <https://greatamericanconference.com/>

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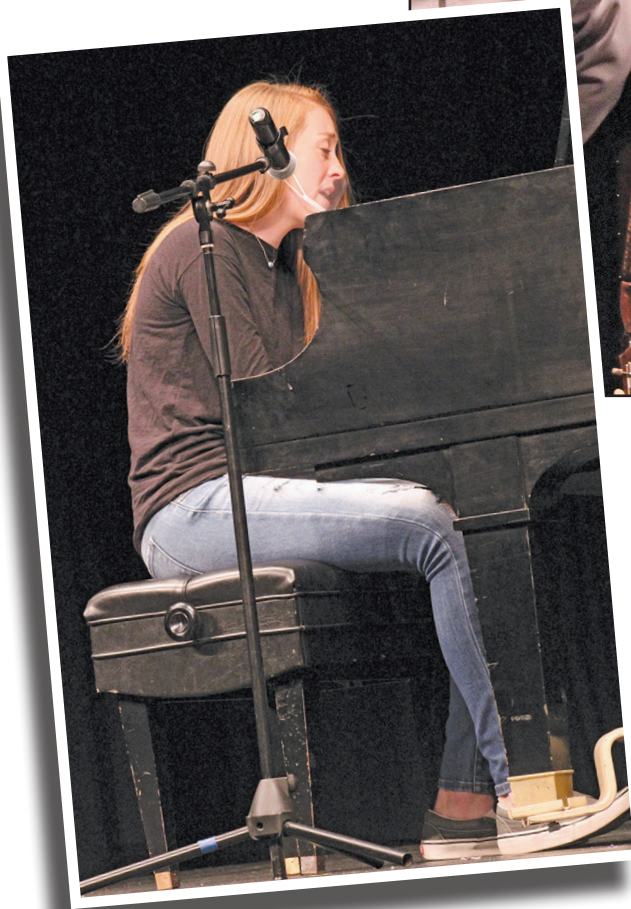
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RANGERS GOT TALENT

Right: Seven Rangers showcased their talents, ranging from singing to skits. Those performers are: Bea Penaflo, Sean Doherty, Angie Aguilera, Emily Smith, Brianna Berryman, Micaela Stevenson and Timothy Jacobson.

Below: Freshman Emily Smith played the song "The Dance." She was given the "Best Overall Performance" award and won a \$100 cash prize.

Photos by Leah Darnell



Above: Senior Sean Doherty performed the song "Right Side of the Ground." He was named "Best Entertainer" and won a \$50 cash prize.



Left: Freshman Micaela Stevenson performed a dance routine to the song "Look at Me Now." She was named "Crowd Favorite" and won a \$50 cash prize.