

## TWO HEARTS, ONE PAGEANT

A Northwestern student competed in the Miss Oklahoma pageant with help from a sidekick. PAGE 8



## A FAIR TIME

The Woods County Free Fair brought crafts, critters, kids and more to the fairgrounds. PAGE 7



# NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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# LET THE GAMES BEGIN

## University spends \$65K on arcade-style gaming systems for dormitories

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

What can a university do with \$65,000? Students in Northwestern's residence halls are about to find out.

Northwestern officials have purchased a number of arcade-style video games for the university's dormitory buildings, and the first of the games have already arrived. They'll be assembled and put into operation throughout the semester.

That means one thing, officials say: For boring days in the dorms, it's game over.

"We want to create an atmosphere in our lobbies that has more fun, more entertainment, more options for students to come down and bond together," said Matt Adair,

*"We want to create an atmosphere in our lobbies that has more fun."*  
— **Matt Adair**,  
*university housing director*

the university's housing director. "We real-

ly felt it's important that we provide opportunities for our students to reconnect with each other."

So far, the university has purchased two Mario Kart consoles, one of which will be placed in Coronado Hall, and another that will be placed in South Hall. The consoles are two-player setups, allowing players to race with each other.

Adair picked those games up in

See **GAMES**, Page 3

# Happy little painters



Photo by Jordan Green

Freshman biology major Jordyn Tucker, left, and freshman nursing major Jaydon Mills, right, paint pictures during the Student Government Association's Bob Ross Night painting event on the tennis courts on Sept. 9. For more photos, see Page 6 in this edition.

## Car show cruises into Alva Friday

Pedal meets the metal for three days in downtown

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

One of Oklahoma's largest car shows will roll into Alva on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Big Cruise and Car Show will feature drag races, live music, food, axe-throwing and, of course, a number of classic cars.

The show, which takes place in downtown Alva, was canceled in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic. Restored automobiles and rag-tag "rat-rod" cars are expected to line Flynn, Barnes and Government streets during the event.

The idea for the show came about in 1999, when local restaurant manager Jim Clemons hosted a car show at the Woods County Fairgrounds, event organizers say.

The show has grown to include several other offerings since then, according to the organization's website.

See **CAR SHOW**, Page 12

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# NEWS

## REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

# ‘Horror you couldn’t pull away from’

## Northwestern faculty, staff recall their memories of Sept. 11

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

*Editor’s Note: The following is the second of two stories retelling the experiences Northwestern faculty and staff had on Sept. 11, 2001. The first stories were published in the Sept. 9 edition and are available online at the newspaper’s website.*

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

The Northwestern News talked to Northwestern faculty and staff about their personal experiences during 9/11. Here’s what they had to say.

### NORTHWESTERN PRESIDENT DR. JANET CUNNINGHAM

#### Q: What do you remember about Sept. 11?

A: I was the business officer at that time, in Dr. [David] Pecha’s chair. We came to work at 8.

Cellphones were not the instant new device that they are now, but I heard something. Somebody said, “Gosh, there’s something going on.” As I recall, Dr. [Steve] Lohmann had a television in his office. I went down there, and we turned it on. And it just kind of made you sick, actually. And then I went home at lunch. And for the longest period of time, it was hard to pull yourself away from the television set.

It was like this horror that you just couldn’t pull away from.

At that point in time, everything kind of shut down. I had a trip scheduled in November. I can’t remember what the trip was,



Cunningham

but it involved a flight. And by then, it was kind of back up. But I remember flying into Atlanta, and there were National Guardsmen with their AR-15s guarding the airport.

I just remember thinking, “Oh my gosh. ... Are we going to be in all-out war?” I worked at a place where there are Armed Services-aged people, and also had sons and a daughter that were – I think, in 2001, our son Brad, our oldest, was graduating from high school. So, you know, that thought kind of goes through my mind, “Oh my goodness.” He’s planning for college and all of that, but you didn’t know.

There was some comfort of being in the Heartland. We’d gone through the 1995 Murrah bombing, and the Heartland wasn’t particularly safe at that particular point on domestic terrorism. But I think, there was the thought that this is going to happen, if it does, more on the coasts instead of inside the country.

### VALARIE CASE, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS SPECIALIST

#### Q: What do you remember about Sept. 11?

A: I was sitting on the edge of my bed in Alva finishing getting ready to head into work at NWOSU. I was watching the Today show when they broke in to talk about what was happening live. Could not believe it. Headed in to work where we were all gathered around the television watching the horrible events unfold. We took a few photos in the Student Center of students watching the events happening. I can’t remember if it were the day of or the days after



Case

as we all continued to watch was happening.

### DR. KAY DECKER, SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR

#### Q: What do you remember about Sept. 11?

A: I was taking roll in my Intro to Sociology class on third floor Jesse Dunn when Dr. Tatro stuck her head in my classroom door and motioned for me to come out into the hall. She said something had happened in NYC, and we needed to go to a TV in the Student Center. I got my class, and we jogged over to the Student Center just in time to see the second plane hit tower two. I dismissed my class and told everyone to go home and turn on their televisions and radios. After that, all of us faculty stayed glued to the TV in the Student Center to find out what had happened. It was horrific – just unbelievable. About noon, I recall deciding to get on home to start calling family and friends, and I wanted to be home with my kids.



Decker

### DR. MINDI CLARK, ASSOCIATE AGRICULTURE PROFESSOR

#### Q: What do you remember about Sept. 11?

A: I was a freshman in college and a state FFA officer. The officer team was at the Northeast District (now area) Chapter Officer Leadership Training conference at Tulsa Community College and had just



Clark

finished setting up for the arrival of a few hundred FFA members. We decided to get a snack in the convenience store on campus, and the clerk told us to look up at the television. We watched the horrific footage of what was taking place. The first tower had been hit.

We were all frightened by what had happened, and it was difficult to transition back into an upbeat, positive mood as we still had to present our leadership workshop, which probably was a bright spot in that day. The ride back to Stillwater was quiet as we listened to the news of 9/11 on the radio. Every gas station along the way was backed up with lines of cars into the streets waiting to get fuel, regardless of the gouging prices.

I couldn’t stop thinking about my sister, who was in the military at the time, and how this event would affect her. When we got back to Stillwater, I went back to my dorm room and watched TV. The news was on every channel, even cable channels that wouldn’t typically cover news. I really just wanted to go home and be with my family.

*Editor’s Note: To view the rest of the personal narratives in this series, visit <https://northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com/tell-people-that-we-love-them-northwestern-faculty-staff-recall>*

### ABOUT THIS STORY:

Newspapers don’t just report news. One of their most important functions is to preserve history by telling how tragedy affects people’s lives — forever.

This story is an endeavor to do just that. The Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks permanently changed our world. Future generations need to be able to understand this.

With that goal in mind, Northwestern News reporters spoke to Northwestern faculty and staff who were alive when terror gripped our nation on that fateful day. They have written their stories, edited for length and clarity, here.

History is more than facts and dates. It’s the practice of keeping alive personal narratives like these. It is our hope that these emotional accounts help you better understand how our world was forever altered on Sept. 11.

— Jordan Green,  
Editor-in-Chief

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### RAGLAND TO PERFORM ON CAMPUS THURSDAY

The Oklahoma-based band “Ragland” will take the stage at Northwestern on Sept. 16.

At the invitation of the Student Government Association, the Ragland band will host a concert on the university’s intramural field that evening from 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Autumn Ragland performed at the Woods County Fair in 2019, and she says she’s excited to come back to northwest Oklahoma with her musical crew in tow.

“I love all the crowds I see, big or small,” Ragland told the Northwestern News in an interview in the Sept. 9 edition. “I love when people come up and ask about my writing or take the time to buy merch. I can’t wait to meet everyone in Alva and catch up with friends.”

**FAMILY DAY SET FOR  
SEPT. 24 AND 25**

Rangers are encouraged to bring their families to the university for the annual Family Day weekend Sept. 24 and 25.

A variety of events will be offered on campus that weekend.

“Families are invited to visit Alva merchants to ‘shop for tuition’ to register for a \$500, \$300 or \$200 tuition giveaway for the spring semester on Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon,” university officials said. “Families can register as many times as they’d like, and the winning individuals will be presented with their awards on the field at the game.”

For more information, visit <https://www.nwosu.edu/family-day>.

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# NEWS



Photo by Devyn Lansden

The Dallas-Forth Worth Brass band performed in Herod Hall on Tuesday night as part of the Northwest Oklahoma

Concert Series. The series is sponsored in part by North-western. Students, faculty and community members attend-

ed the performance. Three other performances will take place as part of the series during the school year.

## GAMES: Money left over from WiFi project used to purchase game consoles

**Continued from Page 1**

Oklahoma City on Monday and said he expects them to be operational by the start of next week.

The university is waiting on other gaming consoles to arrive, including NBA Jam/NFL Blitz bundles and Golden Tee, Adair said. Manufacturing backlogs brought on by the coronavirus pandemic have delayed production of gaming consoles, but Adair said he expects the games to arrive this semester.

“There’ll be, I believe, four different arcade-style consoles that come in with those, and there’ll be one put in each of the four dorms,” Adair said. “As of right now, that’s what we’ve got ordered, but we are hoping to be able to introduce more in the very near future.”

Arcade games aren’t the only

ones coming to campus. The university also plans to delve into high-end gaming PCs this semester, Adair said. Those systems, featuring advanced graphics cards, would be placed in dormitory hall lobbies as well.

“It should be really fun,” Adair said. “I’m excited about it.”

The university purchased the arcade-style gaming consoles from Amini’s Galleria in Oklahoma City, Adair said. So far, the university has spent \$65,284.89 on gaming systems, according to financial documents.

To purchase the consoles, the university used leftover funds from a 2020 project that upgraded WiFi infrastructure in residence halls, Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham said.

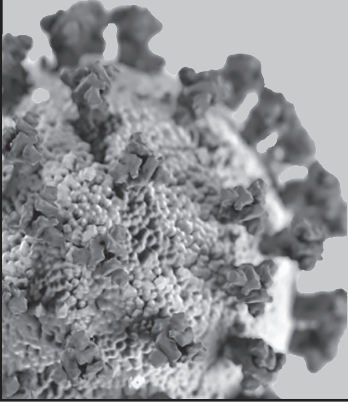
## Students host blood drive



Photo by Jordan Green

Autumn Arencibia, a freshman elementary education major, smiles as she donates blood during a blood drive in the Student Center Ballroom on Tuesday afternoon. Arencibia was one of several Northwestern students

who donated blood during the event, which was hosted by the university’s President’s Leadership Class. The Oklahoma Blood Institute staffed the event with nurses. The drive began Tuesday and ended Wednesday.



### CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: CASE NUMBERS ON CAMPUS AND AROUND THE AREA

STUDENT CASES:	EMPLOYEE CASES:	IN ALVA:	IN OKLAHOMA:
2	0	56	27,332
active as of Sept. 10. This number includes cases at Northwestern’s Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.	active as of Sept. 10. This number includes cases at Northwestern’s Alva, Enid and Woodward campuses.	active as of Sept. 12. Alva has had a total of 1,244 cases.	active as of Sept. 12. Oklahoma has had a total of 568,874 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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OPINION



Photo by Devyn Lansden

The picture above is of Devyn and her dad, Brent, in Las Vegas in July. This was the last trip before the school year started for the both of them.

Expect nothing, appreciate everything

By DEVYN LANSDEN  
Editorial Editor

Over the weekend, I take the  
free time I have very seriously.

Two weeks ago, I finally got  
to go to my house in Beaver and  
see my family for the first time  
in more than a month.

Going home when I have not  
in such a long time is my favor-  
ite thing to do.

Since I have my own house  
in Alva, I cook every meal for  
myself.

Whenever I go home, that is  
something I thankfully do not  
have to worry about. Growing  
up, going out to eat was some-  
thing we did all the time.

We rarely ate at home, so  
now that I am kind of on my  
own, I unfortunately, do not get  
the luxury of going out to eat a  
lot of the time.

Whenever I was in Beaver,  
we went to the casino in Guy-  
mon and did not come out on  
top, sadly. We also went to Lib-  
eral, Kansas, the next day, and  
I stocked up on groceries, of  
course.

Groceries are another thing I  
was not warned about whenever  
I started living on my own.

I despise grocery shopping. I  
used to be so good about plan-  
ning out my meals throughout  
the week, but now I am tired  
of the food I used to eat all the  
time. I run out of ideas quickly.

Paper towels and toilet pa-  
per are what I always make

sure to stock up on when I go to  
Walmart with my parents. You  
can never have enough.

In Beaver, I enjoyed every  
moment with my parents and,  
of course, my dogs. My dad is  
working on his teacher certifi-  
cation so he always has me help  
him with making his Power-  
Points look presentable.

My favorite thing to do when  
I am home is going on a walk  
with my dad and our dog, Otis.

Otis is still a puppy, so he  
needs to exert his energy or he  
will not sleep. So, we walk to  
the track and let him run wild.

Going on those walks makes  
me the happiest. Even though  
Otis is still a puppy, he has got-  
ten so big, and he still thinks he  
is a lap dog.

We have two little dogs, and  
he sees they are lap dogs, too.

A lot of my friends went to  
Beaver, too, so I got to catch up  
with all of them. I am so thank-  
ful I still see all of my close  
friends.

Every time we get together, it  
makes me so happy. Whenever  
I don't see my family or friends  
for a while, it makes me appre-  
ciate them even more.

Reality hits me every day be-  
cause I will graduate soon. Ev-  
ery day, I am so thankful for my  
parents and all they do for me.

I hope everyone knows how  
lucky they are if they have a  
great support system, whether  
that is your friends or family or  
both.

When the people you love

have your back, you can do any-  
thing.

My weekend was full of  
laughs, puppy kisses and food.  
It was nice to have a change of  
scenery, and now I feel even  
more motivated for the upcom-  
ing weeks.

Usually, before the weekend  
starts, I like to get all my home-  
work I have due over the week-  
end done.

Even if that means I stay up  
later on Friday night, it is worth  
every second. I get to relax Sat-  
urday morning and not have to  
worry about getting my Sunday  
homework done.

I am really good at looking  
ahead and planning out when to  
do homework so I am not stuck  
doing it at the last second. I rec-  
ommend that to anyone who is a  
procrastinator. It is worth it.

I have started enjoying the  
little things that make me happy,  
and that is getting my homework  
and having Saturday morning to  
relax.

I enjoy Saturdays because  
my roommates are home, and  
we all get to have fun together  
for the whole day.

One of my roommates has  
had plans every weekend since  
school started, and this past  
weekend, she finally got to stay  
in Alva.

It was such a fun time with  
all of my friends. It makes me  
appreciate these times because  
we will never get them back.

Something I have learned the  
older I get is to expect nothing

and appreciate everything.

If you stop expecting things  
to happen and start appreciating  
everything you have, you will  
be much happier.

I am grateful for everything  
that is thrown my way. I take  
everything as a lesson and learn  
from it.

Eventually, I will have to  
support myself, so I need to do  
and learn as much as I can be-  
fore I graduate and am thrown  
out into the "real world."

Not being able to go home  
as much has made me appreciate  
things even more.

I am working on living life in  
the "now" moment. I am always  
so fixated on the future that,  
sometimes, I do not stop and en-  
joy the moment I am in.

That is something I am aware  
of and will try to fix. I have re-  
alized it and remind myself to  
enjoy every moment.

I will continue to work on it,  
and I encourage other people,  
too. I know I am experiencing a  
lot of "lasts."

That is why I am embracing  
everything college has for me in  
these lasts months.

I hope everyone can have  
a chance to see their family as  
much as I do.

There is no one else who will  
support you like family. I appre-  
ciate everything in my life, all  
the good and bad.

All of the stress and craziness  
thrown my way, I appreciate.

The sooner we all do, the  
happier we will be.



# OPINION

## REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11



Photo by Jordan Green

In 2020, the Alva Fire Department raised an American flag on the boom of a ladder truck in front of the fire station in downtown Alva in memory of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

# Let's not forget Sept. 12, either

JORDAN GREEN SAYS



JORDAN GREEN

One of my high school history teachers had a profound impact on the lives of his students.

He distilled words of wisdom in class. His most prophetic points weren't about historic facts, figures and feats. Instead, they were those precepts represented by the phrase written on the brown chalkboard that covered the front wall of the classroom: "Be nice."

Simple, but meaningful. Especially today.

I was only a year-and-a-half old when terror shook our world on Sept. 11, 2001.

I don't remember anything about the planes crashing, the towers collapsing or the people dying.

But I have been reared in a generation that was changed forever by this single day.

That's why I need to understand and remember what happened that day – and all the days after.

In the previous edition of this newspaper, you read the stories of people who were alive that day, and they can't forget what happened.

They couldn't do so even if they wanted to. The sights they saw can never be unseen; the sounds they heard can never be unheard.

By that same token, perhaps the lessons they learned can't be unlearned. Or can they?

One of those lessons is that some people – some evil, vile, sick creatures – hate our great country and all it has to offer.

They despise the virtues of freedom,

peace and pursuit of happiness so much that they'll kill in an attempt to snuff them out.

Another lesson? We can unite against an enemy and find victory. But lest we forget.

We've faced many enemies in the last 100 years. In 1941, the Axis powers. In 2001, terrorists. Now, we face a new enemy.

The divide between people in this country is shocking, and I'm afraid it will only continue to grow.

I will refrain from mentioning any specific political affiliations, viewpoints or other hot-button issues over which our nation has formed chasms; this is because people of all backgrounds and beliefs are complacent in the exacerbation of this issue.

Even the people who implore our nation to become unified have fanned the flames of division themselves.

Why is this an issue today? On Sept. 12, 2001, it wasn't.

Again, let me restate that I was an infant then.

But I've heard the stories time and time again of how our country was covered in red, white and blue for weeks after those attacks.

People hugged and cried together on street corners, gathered together at rallies and church services, and seemed to treat each other more lovingly than they had in ages.

Many people tell me that the America of Sept. 12 was a glorious time, one where backgrounds and beliefs, creeds and capi-

tal, didn't affect how we treated one another.

We all cared for one another.

Where is that America today? Can we return to it?

In penning this piece, I'm joining legions of other Americans with the same questions.

I'm among the ranks of folks who belabor and lament the topic without much success.

Writing opinion columns about the problem seems moot. Most of us agree the problem exists, yet we know little about how to solve it.

Or we give it only lip service, pledging to bear the fruits a united nation can offer, yet falling short of this goal in our day-to-day lives and interactions with others.

One possible solution that might go a long way toward helping solve the problem:

"Be nice."

It seems to have worked before.

We're told never to forget 9/11, and we haven't forgotten that day.

But perhaps the most important day for us to remember is 9/12. We seem to have forgotten that one.

Now, more than ever, Sept. 12 is the day we should never forget. That day, people were nice.

My generation has been characterized by the terror that shook our world that fateful day, Sept. 11.

But I'd much rather it be defined by the love that embraced our world the next day.





# Brush it off

## Students try their hands at painting



Northwestern students gathered on the university tennis courts on Sept. 9 during Bob Ross Night, an event sponsored by the Student Government Association. Students painted their own artwork and perhaps made what Ross would call “happy little accidents.” TOP: Ezekiel Gibbs, a sopho-

Photos by Jordan Green

more mortuary arts and science major, paints. ABOVE: Students paint sunrises, sunsets and other artwork. ABOVE RIGHT: Senior psychology major Deb Olalere paints a butterfly. AT RIGHT: Ranger Chris Ortiz pours paint onto a makeshift palette before painting.

# A fair of the heart

Woods County Fair brings arts, animals and activities to Alva

Countless people attended the Woods County Free Fair on Thursday, Friday and Saturday — and several Rangers were there, too. AT RIGHT: Members of the University Singers performed for fair-goers Friday night. BELOW: Youth participants in the livestock show walk their horses in the arena on Friday. ON THE FRONT PAGE: Breaker Bratt holds a chicken at the fair.

Photos by Jordan Green



LEFT: Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham won a first-place award for her needlepoint artwork. BOTTOM RIGHT: Northwestern alumna Bailey Rankin gives some of her homemade chili to a fair-goer during the chili competition Friday night.



# FEATURE

## Alva duo shines at Miss OK pageant

By CAITLIN HOFEN  
Features Editor

A Northwestern student and the university president’s granddaughter represented Northwestern at the Miss Oklahoma pageant this summer.

Junior business administration major Liberty Bird competed in the Miss Oklahoma pageant as Miss Northwestern from June 6 to June 12 at the River Spirit Casino Resort in Tulsa. Bird’s attendant was Brooklyn Zimmerman, Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham’s granddaughter.

“I didn’t place at Miss Oklahoma,” Bird said. “But I will say that I am very happy with what I put out there.”

Bird was crowned Miss Northwestern in fall of 2019 and has kept the title for two years because the coronavirus pandemic caused the 2020 pageant to be canceled.

“I’ve had a long reign,” Bird said. “As Miss Northwestern, you have to uphold that title and represent Northwestern well. For me, I had to represent my community well, because I’m the first Miss Northwestern from Alva in a very long time.”

The 2020 Miss Oklahoma pageant was initially postponed, leaving Bird and the other contestants in limbo.

“We didn’t find out we weren’t going to compete until less than a month before,” Bird said. “I was already prepared and ready for the pageant. First, it was pushed back to July. Then, it was decided to wait an entire year.”

Bird said she took the extra year as an opportunity to prepare herself more for Miss Oklahoma.

“I am very invested in physical fitness and work out every day,” Bird said. “Especially before Miss Northwestern and Miss Oklahoma, I worked my butt off in the gym. Another big part was my social impact. For me, my social impact was ‘Feel Good, Give Blood.’ So, I helped with a lot of blood drives and flash calls encouraging people to donate. The extra year gave me more community service time.”

A week-long event, the Miss Oklahoma contest started with rehearsals for the contestants.

“The first few days were definitely rough,” Bird said. “We had rehearsal after rehearsal, all day long. So, the first three days were definitely tiring. It was interesting because we didn’t have the spring meeting, where you get to see everyone’s talents. I didn’t really know anyone beforehand.”

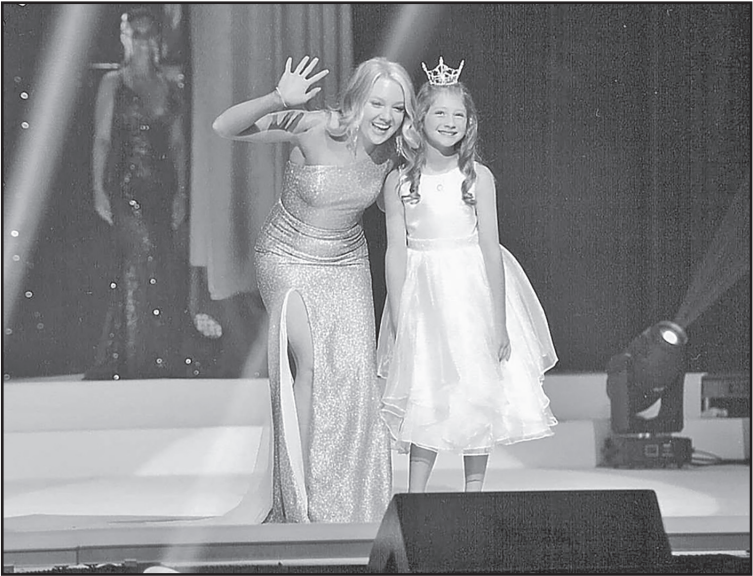
Bird was interviewed by the judges. She also promoted her social impact statement, performed her talent and showcased her evening gown.

“My interview was Tuesday morning, and I think it went really well,” Bird said. “The judges



Photos provided

ABOVE: Liberty Bird, second from left, poses for a portrait with other Miss Oklahoma contestants in June at the River Spirit Casino Resort. BELOW: Bird, left, and Brooklyn Zimmerson, right, pose for a photo on stage at the Miss Oklahoma pageant at the River Spirit Casino Resort.



were super nice, but I think they know what they’re looking for when someone walks in the room. Tuesday night was my social impact statement, which consisted of a 30-second social impact pitch, then an on-stage interview. I would much rather sing on-stage than talk, so that was what I was most nervous about.

“Wednesday night was evening gown, and that one was a breeze. I just had to walk on stage and look pretty. Thursday night was talent, and once again, I felt pretty good about it. I was happy with what I did because I

was losing my voice throughout the week. By Saturday, I kind of knew I wasn’t going to make Top 10 because there were so many great girls competing, too.”

Bird said she enjoyed competing in the Miss Oklahoma pageant, but she doesn’t plan to do it again.

“It was a good experience, but I don’t think it was for me,” Bird said. “It takes so much to prepare for it. It’s a great organization, and I met a lot of great girls. For me, it was a one-time experience that I was honored to do.”

Zimmerman accompanied

Bird on-stage as the Northwestern Star during the evening gown portion of the competition.

“My favorite part about Miss Oklahoma was getting all dressed up in my dress and watching the talents,” Zimmerman said.

A fourth-grader, Zimmerman said she was nervous before going on-stage.

“It was exciting, but I was so nervous at the same time,” Zimmerman said. “It was a really big stage with a packed audience.”

Cunningham and her husband, Rick, accompanied Zimmerman

to Tulsa and watched their granddaughter on the Miss Oklahoma stage.

“It was so neat to watch her on stage,” Janet Cunningham said. “She said she was nervous, but she didn’t look it. She looked very poised. I could picture her in a few years maybe competing. At that moment, I wasn’t the president of Northwestern. I was Brooklyn Zimmerman’s proud grandma.”

The 2022 Miss Northwestern pageant will be Oct.31 at 4 p.m. in Herod Hall.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Singers perform for Regents



Photos by Jordan Green

The University Singers performed for the Regional University System of Oklahoma’s Board of Regents in the Ranger Room on Sept. 9. The board met that evening for a dinner. Singers performed “Alleluia” by Jake Runestad and “Way Over in Beulah Lan” by Stacey Gibbs.



## ‘A Tuna Christmas’ premieres Sept. 30

By JASMINE BOWEN  
Student Reporter

Northwestern’s Fine Arts Department soon will host the first theater production of the fall semester, “A Tuna Christmas.”

The performance is set for Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 2 at 2 p.m. in the Herod Hall auditorium. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the start of the show.

Kimberly Weast, a professor of theater arts, said the play is a sequel to the April play “Greater Tuna.”

“A Tuna Christmas’ circles around a Christmas decorating competition, and there is some conflict amongst the competitors to win the rights to this outstanding Christmas display,” Weast said. “Some characters from the first play will re-appear, and then there are new personalities brought into the story.”

The play is written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard. “A Tuna Christmas” is in a sequence of comedic performances, each set within the fictional city of Tuna, Texas, the “1/3-smallest” city within the country. The play is part of a four-play series, but the theater production will be stopping with this one.

The production of “A Tuna Christmas” has 20 cast members, 17 of whom are students.

Sydney Endsley, a senior from Ringwood, said the production is a satire. She recommends audiences come ready to laugh.

“I was a part of the first one, and I figured it would be fun to play somebody new and something different than the second one,” she said. “I have been in every production that this school has put on for the last three years.



From left to right: Dr. Dena Walker, acting as Thurston Wheelis, and Erin Lehr, playing the part of Arles Struvie, are shown in rehearsal for the Northwestern theater production of “Greater Tuna” in April.

The most fun part for me was the fact that I could put my creative self out there.”

Sam Grinder, a sophomore from Sayre, plays the part of a twin brother named Stanley Bummer.

“I wanted to be a part of the production because I love theater,” Grinder said. “I love acting, and I love music even more, but this is helping me find some of the things I like to do.”

Endsley said being involved has been a rewarding experience.

“I have designed the lights, I have designed costumes, make-up,” Endsley said. “I’ve done basically all of the above, and it’s fun for me to show my art in a different way than a painting or a drawing.”

“I think the most fun part about being in theater is the social interaction and the ability to become someone else,” Grinder said. “To dive into someone else’s thoughts, to step into their shoes and see how they would be in your perspective on things as they would see it.”

Weast said the production is a wonderfully written satire involving lots of jokes.

“When [audiences] walk out, they will have an understanding that humanity is so similar,” Weast said. “We all think we are so unique and different, but the similarities between us are valid.”

“The fun thing about this is there are tons of jokes that will be re-established in this, and you don’t have to know the first one to enjoy and understand this one. This play is poking holes into some of the attitudes and the way that we treat people.”

Grinder said he hopes people will come out and support the show.

“It’s going to be a good time,” Grinder said. “Be open to interpretation, and I would say go do some research on some of the things you’re going to hear in this production. Because some things don’t make sense to certain people, and I feel if they do some research about it, it’ll make more sense than it will to others.”

General admission costs \$10,



From left: Temberlenn Hall, acting as the character Didi Snavelly, and Erin Lehr, playing the part of Pearl, act out a scene in the Northwestern theater production “Greater Tuna.” “A Tuna Christmas” opens Sept 30.

but Northwestern faculty and staff can get in for \$5. Students can get in for \$3 with a student ID.

Weast said she hopes Northwestern students, faculty and staff go to the play.

“Nothing is better than sitting in a live situation, laughing with other people,” Weast said. “You can watch TV and laugh, but when you’ve got other people

laughing and responding, there’s this magic in live theater that you don’t get anywhere else.”

To reserve tickets, contact Weast via phone by calling 580-327-8458 or via email at [kkweast@nwsu.edu](mailto:kkweast@nwsu.edu). Attendees can also contact Mickey Jordan via phone by calling 940-642-8158 or via email at [mojordan@nwsu.edu](mailto:mojordan@nwsu.edu).

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# SPORTS



Northwestern football players line up for a play against the Southern Arkansas Muleriders on Sept. 2 at Ranger Field. Photos of the Sept. 11 game against the Reddies were not available. File photo

## Rangers fall to Reddies 55-7

By **CADE KENNEDY**  
*Sports Editor*

The Northwestern football team lost against Henderson State 55-7 on Sept. 11 at Carpenter-Haywood Stadium in Arkansas, Arkansas.

The Rangers’ defense had several problems against the Reddies, with the biggest mistake being the number of missed tackles.

“We have got to improve on our tackling,” said Matt Walter, the head coach of the Rangers.

Missing tackles was not the only problem the Rangers had, as penalties were once again a problem. The Rangers committed seven penalties throughout the game for a total of 65 yards.

The offense would be another problem for the Rangers, as Tanner Clarkson threw 12 com-

pletions on 24 attempts for 133 yards, one interception and one touchdown. That touchdown occurred on the third possession of the game, when Clarkson threw a 38-yard pass to Gavin Garner. That tied the game at 7-7 in the first quarter.

Clarkson’s interception came on the first drive of the second half for the Rangers, and it would prove to be costly. The Reddies would score on the following drive to make the score 24-7.

The Reddies would continue to score against the Rangers, as 38 of Henderson State’s 55 points came in the second half.

The Rangers also had problems stopping the Henderson State running backs, as the Reddies ran for 318 yards on 43 attempts. This gave the Reddies an average of 7.4 yards per rush.

The Rangers had issues with

stopping the Reddies’ passing attack, as Adam Morse, the quarterback for Henderson State, threw for 305 yards and two touchdowns on 19 completions out of 32 attempts.

*“We have got to improve on our tackling.”*  
— *Matt Walter*

Turnovers would be another problem for the Rangers, as three different players threw an interception. The Rangers also fumbled the ball three times, but only one was recovered by the Reddies.

There were some positives

for the Rangers, as the Rangers’ offensive line only allowed three sacks against the Reddies. The Rangers gave up eight sacks in the season opener against Southern Arkansas.

“I thought the offensive line played better,” Walter said. “I also thought that were able to run the ball better.”

The Rangers were able to run the ball better, as they ran for 94 yards against the Reddies.

The Rangers will play Saturday against the Oklahoma Baptist University Bison at 6 p.m. in Shawnee.

The Rangers have maintained a 2-3 record against the Bison since 2015.

Oklahoma Baptist has a 1-1 record on the season, with a 45-20 victory over Arkansas-Monticello and a 38-31 loss to Ouachita Baptist.

Coming Up:

**FAMILY DAY  
FOOTBALL  
GAME**

**Sept. 25  
6 p.m.**

**Ranger  
Field**



Commentary by Cade Kennedy, Northwestern News sports editor

### KNSU: Your source for sports commentary and insight

**MONDAY:**  
**The Ranger Room**  
**College Football**  
**Recap**  
**5-7 p.m.**

**TUESDAY:**  
**The Guys Who**  
**Stare at Stats**  
**NFL Recap**  
**5-7 p.m.**

**THURSDAY:**  
**The Guys Who**  
**Stare at Stats**  
**Football Preview**  
**5-7 p.m.**

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# SPORTS

## VOLLEYBALL

# Rangers rebound after rocky start

By CONNOR GRAY  
Assistant Editor

The Northwestern volleyball team has gotten off to a 1-9 start, but team members say they're not letting their record get to them.

Northwestern has participated in two tournaments, and each one had tough opponents, such as No. 1-ranked Angelo State University. The Rangers also played a non-conference game against Friends University.

Northwestern was competitive throughout most of its games, with the only teams blowing them out being Angelo State and University of Sioux Falls.

"It's been a rough start," head coach Fred Aubuchon said. "We have played against some great competition. I expected this from the competition. We have yet to play a weak team."

He also said he felt relieved, in a joking manner, that the team can still win, as the team is capable of doing so.

Northwestern's first win came against Truman State University,

winning the match 3-0 getting the sweep. Kaydee Honeycutt and Addison Wimmer each had 13 kills, combining for 26 points.

Though Aubuchon said he wished they did not have to play Sioux Falls to end the weekend, the team got a chance to play a good volleyball team to end the tournament.

"The competition we've played has been outstanding," Aubuchon said. "It has pushed us to get better."

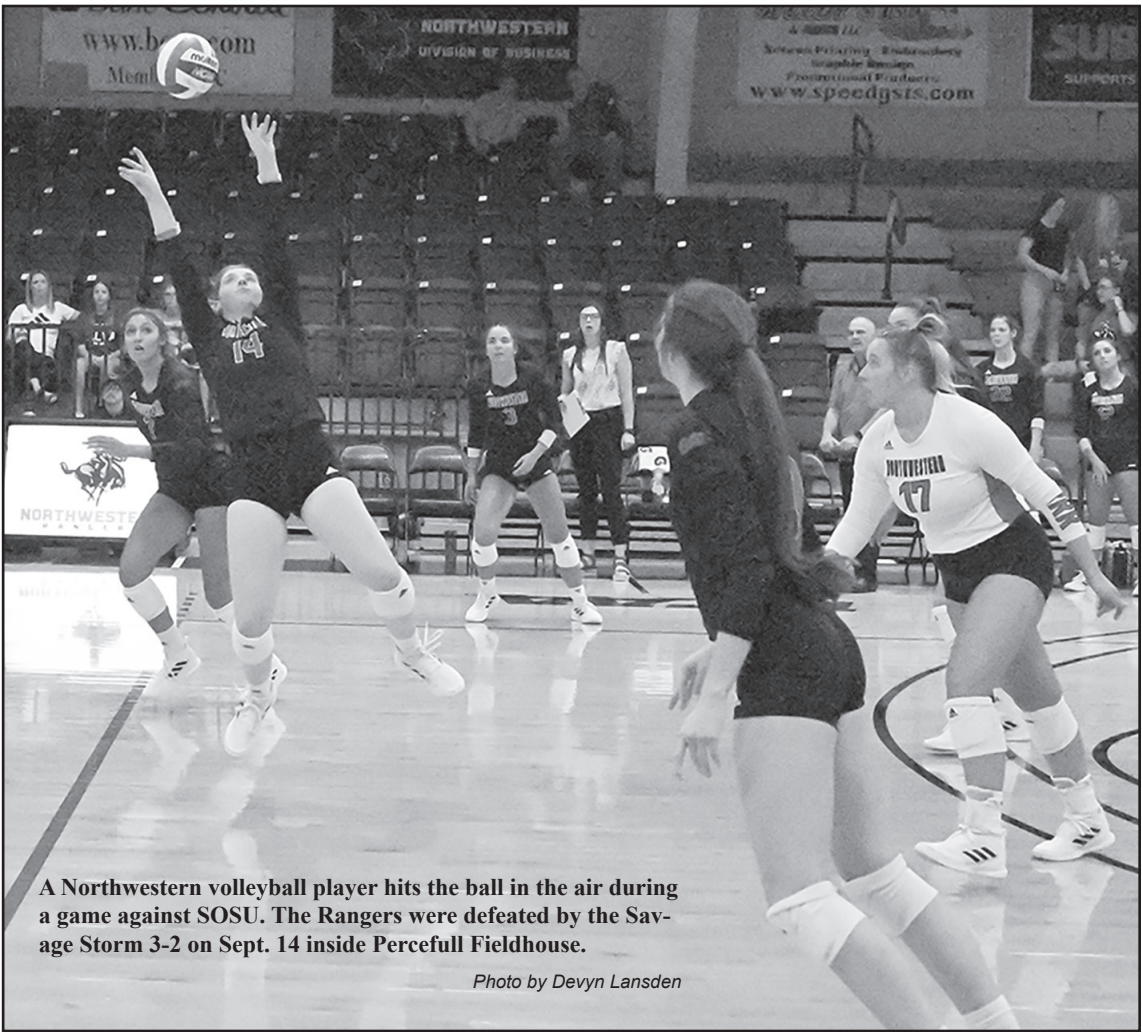
The Rangers went through several different line-ups at the beginning of the season to see who were the starters and the reserves.

The team is one of the youngest in the conference and of the last two tournaments, according to Aubuchon.

Aubuchon said he loves the team.

"They don't give me headaches" Aubuchon said. "They are a great group of girls. They give us their best every day."

The Rangers play again on the road Sept. 19 against Fort Hays State University.



A Northwestern volleyball player hits the ball in the air during a game against SOSU. The Rangers were defeated by the Savage Storm 3-2 on Sept. 14 inside Percefull Fieldhouse.

Photo by Devyn Lansden

# Breaking down a wild week of football

## CADE'S CALLS



CADE KENNEDY

After another wild week of games, the college football landscape has experienced another drastic change.

Starting with the games in Oklahoma, Oklahoma State defeated Tulsa, but it was not easy for the Cowboys. Oklahoma State won 28-23 in a game that was, once again, much closer than it should have been for the Cowboys.

Tulsa had several mistakes that prevented it from winning the game, from allowing a kick-off return for a touchdown to recovering a fumble while out of bounds. If they'd prevented either one of these plays from going in Oklahoma State's favor, Tulsa might have won this game.

Oklahoma had a dominant win against Western Carolina, with the Sooners scoring the most points on an opponent since the Sooners scored 79 points against North Texas in 2007. The Sooners did exactly what they needed to do this week, as they were able to give many of the backups playing time throughout the second half.

On the national stage, one of the biggest games of the week in college football involved an upset, as Oregon defeated Ohio State 35-28 in one of the bigger

surprises of the season. Oregon looked absolutely outstanding in this game, especially when considering that Oregon was without arguably its two best defensive players.

The main problem for Ohio State is that the defense is not as good as it has been in the past few years. Oregon had several drives during the game where it felt as if they were just walking down the field with no pushback.

The other big game of the week involved Iowa beating Iowa State 27-17 behind an amazing performance by the Iowa defense. Iowa was able to force four turnovers against Iowa State and showed that they are a national title contender this year.

There were also several close calls for teams in the Top 25, as Notre Dame and Texas A&M both narrowly won over their opponents.

Notre Dame barely escaped against Toledo, as they had to come back in the final minute of the game to win what should have been an easy game.

On the other hand, Texas A&M barely defeated Colorado 10-7 because of Texas A&M losing their starting quarterback early in the game, but still looked horrible on the offensive side of the ball.

Texas looked terrible during their 40-21 loss at Arkansas. The offensive line looked bad nearly all night for Texas, as the offense

could never seem to get any consistency going.

USC was also upset, as they lost to Stanford 42-28 in a game that was dominated by Stanford. Tanner McKee was named as Stanford's starting quarterback for the game, and he did not disappoint in his debut.

USC fired Clay Helton, the head coach, only a few days after the game because of the growing pressure from the fan base to fire Helton because USC kept losing games like they did to Stanford. I personally think that they should have fired him last year if they were going to fire him, as USC is now in an awkward situation for the rest of the season as they must deal with adjusting to a new coach so early in the season.

The final upset involving ranked teams was BYU defeating Utah 26-17 in a surprisingly defensive game. BYU looked great on defense, which is odd considering that they are a team known for putting points on the board.

The greatest upset of the day occurred when Jacksonville State, an FCS team, defeated Florida State on a 59-yard touchdown pass as time expired to win 20-17. Florida State suffered their worst loss in program history, as they had never lost to an FCS team before this game.

College football was not the only sport on during the weekend, as the NFL had its' first week.

There were three fantastic

NFL games on the opening weekend, with one of the games being the first game of the year.

In that game, Tampa Bay defeated Dallas 31-29 as both Dak Prescott and Tom Brady had good performances. Tampa Bay turned the ball over four times though, showing that even the defending champions still have room for improvement.

Another great game from the first week was Kansas City rallying to defeat Cleveland 33-29 in a rematch from last year's playoffs. Cleveland had several chances to put the game away, but a fumble by Jamie Gillan, the punter, ended up being the nail in the coffin for them. Cleveland had a chance to win the game at the end, but all momentum was with Kansas City at that point.

The final great game in week one of the NFL was Las Vegas

defeating Baltimore 33-27. This was one of two games to go to overtime this week, as both teams kept trading scores in the fourth quarter, but both teams turned the ball over on their first drive of overtime. Las Vegas was able to pull off a great win.

There are several good college football games on this weekend, with Alabama at Florida and Auburn at Penn State being my personal picks for games to watch. If you want to watch a game that most people are not going to be paying attention to, then Tulane at Ole Miss is my pick for the underrated game of the week.

For the NFL, the games I am looking forward to the most this weekend are Buffalo at Miami, Kansas City at Baltimore, Las Vegas at Pittsburgh and Tennessee at Seattle.

Enjoy a great week of football.

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File photo  
From left, Northwestern students Brenner Clark, Daxton Alcorn and Diane Todd admire a modified vintage car during the Big Cruise and Car Show in downtown Alva in this 2019 file photo. The show starts Friday.

# CAR SHOW: Weekend of events includes cruises, races, live music and food

**Continued from Page 1**

The events start Friday, with registration and a cookout at 5:45 p.m. Patrons can throw axes from 5:45 to 8 p.m., and a tattoo contest kicks off at 7 p.m.

The event will shift into high-gear that evening. Cars will cruise around the downtown square from 8 to 8:30 p.m., and they'll parade down Oklahoma Boulevard from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

On Saturday, events rev up with a car show from 10 a.m. to 4:40 p.m.

Show-goers can watch the Little Miss Cruise & Car Show from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and they can watch Pinewood Derby car races from 1 to 3 p.m.

A burnout competition starts at 7:30 p.m., and drivers will cruise again starting at 9 p.m.

On Sunday morning, a chapel service starts at 9 a.m., and the car show runs until noon.

For more information, visit <https://bigcruiseandcarshow.com>.

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