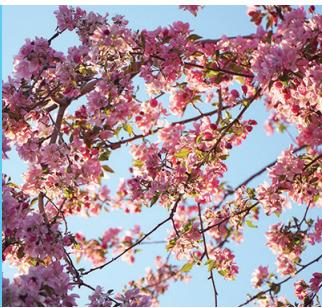


ENJOY YOUR  
SPRING BREAK

Spring break begins Monday and lasts through the week. The News wishes you a safe, fun time.



DAYLIGHT  
SAVING TIME

Set your clocks and watches forward by one hour before going to bed Saturday.



# NORTHWESTERN NEWS

PRSRT. STD.  
Permit # 5  
Alva, OK 73717

Address Service Requested

Volume No. 83, Issue 21

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, Oklahoma

March 10, 2022

Visit us online at [northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com](http://northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com) Follow us on:

## 2022 GAC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

# END OF THE RIDE



Photo by GAC Communications

Rangers' 2022 season closes with 72-63 loss to Southern Arkansas Muleriders

### CADE'S CALLS



CADE KENNEDY

After reaching the third seed in the Great American Conference, the Northwestern men's basketball team's season came to an end Friday afternoon in Shawnee.

The Rangers lost to the Muleriders of Southern Arkansas, 72-63, in a game where the Rangers did not stop the Muleriders from rebounding the ball.

"There was one major adjustment, and we just could never make it, and that was the offensive rebounding," said Jordan

Franz, the associate head coach of the Rangers. "We knew it going into the game, and it was something we stressed the entire time was offensive rebounding."

The Muleriders out-rebounded the Rangers by a margin of 32, as the Muleriders swallowed up 57 rebounds compared to 25 for the Rangers. The Rangers had no answer for Jalen Brooks, who finished with 24 points and 20 rebounds for the Muleriders.

See RANGERS, Page 6

ABOVE: Northwestern forwards Larry White, No. 2, and Bubba Furlong, No. 5, block Southern Arkansas guard forward Jalen Brooks, No. 5, during the 2022 GAC Tournament game on Friday in Shawnee.

### INSIDE:

The Northwestern Lady Rangers lost to the Harding Lady Bisons during the GAC Tournament in Shawnee on Friday, ending their season as well. Check out photos starting on Page 7 and the story on Page 10.

NEWS

Pages 2 & 3

OPINION

Pages 4 & 5

PHOTOS

Pages 6 & 7

FEATURE

Page 8

SPORTS

Pages 10 & 11



NEWS

Getting connected?

Students say Wi-Fi issues in dorms make completing work more difficult

By GAVIN MENDOZA  
Senior Reporter

Online assignments are becoming more common, but some students say occasional Wi-Fi problems in university residence halls make getting that work done difficult.

With the pandemic, online assignments have become a popular way of learning for students across the country. However, some Northwestern students have experienced issues getting their electronic devices to connect to Wi-Fi.

The Northwestern News made multiple attempts to ask Matt Adair, the university’s housing director, about the issue. None of those attempts were successful.

Zac McEachern, a freshman business major from Enid who lives in Coronado Hall, said he has experienced Wi-Fi problems. They have affected his homework and personal activities.

“With my TV or PlayStation, it only happens about once or twice a month when they do not connect, which is not a big deal,” McEachern said. “With my lap-

top, it is an every other day kind of thing, which makes me use my hotspot. It does not affect my school work too much anymore because I just use my hotspot now, but using that a lot uses a lot of data.”

Northwestern installed new Wi-Fi equipment in dormitories in 2020 after students returned to campus amid the coronavirus pandemic. The upgrades cost roughly \$450,000, according to previous reporting by the News.

Before the new systems were installed, students had to purchase their own routers for their dorm rooms. More infrastructure has been installed on campus since 2020, but students say they still struggle with internet issues.

Madeline Long, a freshman early childhood education major from Laverne who lives in Fryer Hall, said she has had problems with the Wi-Fi as well. Sometimes, she’s lost internet connectivity in the middle of an assignment, she said.

“There have been times where nothing will connect to my laptop,” Long said. “It has cut on me while I have been working on homework or typing a paper.”



Photo illustration by Devryn Lansden

Northwestern student and South Hall resident Angelina Marlow uses her laptop in South Hall on Monday. Students say that intermittent internet connectivity issues make completing online coursework more difficult.

Like McEachern, Long uses a hotspot for her laptop when she cannot connect. She also uses the campus buildings as resources..

“I prefer to do my homework in either the library or the Student Center because it is more reliable,” Long said.

Kansuke Okada, a junior business major from Osaka, Japan, lives in Coronado Hall and said he has experienced similar problems.

“When I am in Coronado, there were a lot of Wi-Fi problems, at least once of twice a week,” Okada said. Unlike McEachern and Long, Okada does not have a hotspot and has to wait for his laptop to reconnect. Otherwise, he’ll go to the library.

“I rarely go to the library and mostly just try and wait until the Wi-Fi lets me reconnect,” Okada said. “But it has happened to me while I have been doing homework and tests for class.”

Rafting, concerts, long trips and family time

Find out what Rangers are seeing and doing throughout spring break

By DAX BENWAY  
Student Reporter

Northwestern’s spring break is right around the corner, and the Northwestern News asked several Rangers how they’ll be spending their time.

Beau Foster, a junior health and sports science major from Dodge City, Kansas, said: “My family and I always go to Albuquerque, New Mexico, on a skiing trip and to visit family. It is one of my favorite weeks of the year because I get to see family that I do not get to see very often, and we always have a good time.”

Xavier Ford, a junior health and sports science major from Forney, Texas, majoring in health and sports science, said: “My family normally does not do much for spring break because of my parents’ work schedules. So this year, I’m really going to focus on not losing everything I just worked for so I can try to earn a start-

ing spot on the defensive line.”

Isaiah Haro, a junior health and sports science major from Garland, Texas, said: “I never really do much for spring break just because I have always been working or behind in school. But this year, my family and I have plans to go to Six Flags in Arlington, Texas, and white-water rafting. I’m excited to get to spend this extra time with my family. ... I do not get to see them very often. Living six hours away and not getting to go home a lot makes me appreciate these times a lot more.”

Mackenzie Adams, a junior general studies major from Houston, Texas, who plays softball, said: “I never really get to have your typical college girl spring break. While others are going to the beach or going on some big trip, I’ve always had softball games or tournaments during spring break, so that has always been my spring break ever since I started playing softball.”

Jacob Shonk, a freshman from Webb City, Missouri, majoring in health and sports science, said: “I’m pumped for this week to be here because I have not been back to my hometown since graduation. So, this has been on my mind for a long

time. I finally get to see my family and friends for the first time since last May, and I have missed them a lot. It is hard being at a new school and being away with what I’ve always known.”

Laynie Golden, a sophomore from Cherokee majoring in health and sports science, said: “My spring break event is happening right at the beginning of the break, but I am still very excited for it. Morgan Wallen is one of my favorite country singers, and I have not been to one of his concerts because I could never find the time. But I finally do have time and a week off from school, so my friends and I planned this trip.”

Grant McCook, a sophomore from Canadian, Texas, majoring in biology, said: “Me and the other quarterbacks are going to Destin, Florida, on Friday and staying for five days. I have never been to Florida or the beach, so I am very excited about this trip and getting to spend more time with some of my best friends from college.”

London Suhler, a junior from Haysville, Kansas, majoring in business, said: “Spring break is always an exciting time of year for me. Starting back in 2011, every year me, my dad, next door neighbor and two of my friends travel down to Altus, Oklahoma, for a horse-shoe tournament that my uncle hosts at his house every year.

“I have won this tournament in recent years, but I failed to do so last year, so I am looking forward to going down there and trying to earn my title back.”

Kynsey Dixon, a sophomore from Cad-do majoring in biology, said: “I’m mostly excited for ... being in Ireland on St. Patrick’s Day with my aunt and uncle. We will be there for 10 days, so I’m excited to see what it is like out of our country.”

Bubba Furlong, a senior from Waco, Texas, majoring in general studies, said: “Friday when I’m out of class, I am flying out to Miami, Florida, and spending the first weekend there with some of my friends.”



Ford



Foster



Adams



Haro



Golden



Shonk



McCook



Suhler



Dixon



Furlong







NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Official Newspaper  
Northwestern Oklahoma State  
University

709 Oklahoma Blvd.  
Alva, OK 73717

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

Spring 2022 Staff

Editor-in-Chief  
Jordan Green

Editorial Editor  
J.D. Eddy

Sports Editor  
Cade Kennedy

Features Editor  
Caitlin Hofen

Assistant Editor  
Connor Gray

Photo Editor  
Devyn Lansden

Advertising Manager  
Jayden Dillon

Circulation Manager  
Jack Shepherd

Online Manager  
Bailey Judd

Adviser  
Dr. Kaylene Armstrong

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

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

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION  
COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

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

Inquiries concerning the application  
of these programs should be made to Cal-  
leb Mosburg, Director of Student Affairs,  
Northwestern Oklahoma State University,  
709 Oklahoma Boulevard, Alva, OK 73717,  
(580) 327-8415.

This publication, printed by Northwes-  
tern Oklahoma State University, is issued by  
the University as authorized by the Regional  
University System of Oklahoma. 1,600 copies  
have been prepared and distributed at a cost  
to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma  
of \$368.00.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

All letters represent the views of the  
author.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

OPINION



File photo

ABOVE: Students attend a class in Carter Hall during the fall 2020 semester. BELOW: A photo of an attendance policy from a class syllabu is shown. The author of this column believes university class attendance policies should be more flexible, and students should be allowed to attend virtually.

Attendance policies need to be changed

By J.D. EDDY  
Editorial Editor

Attendance at Northwestern, like other universities, is an issue not just for the students, but also the faculty.

The policy at Northwestern is 75% attendance to receive credit in the course, according to the university website.

In an average spring semester at Northwestern, there are 41 days in a course that meets three times a week.

The 75% attendance is not too bad. That it is 11 days that you can miss before not receiving credit in the course.

Having an attendance policy like this requires students fresh out of high school to be responsible. Having this kind of weight on their shoulders now is stressful.

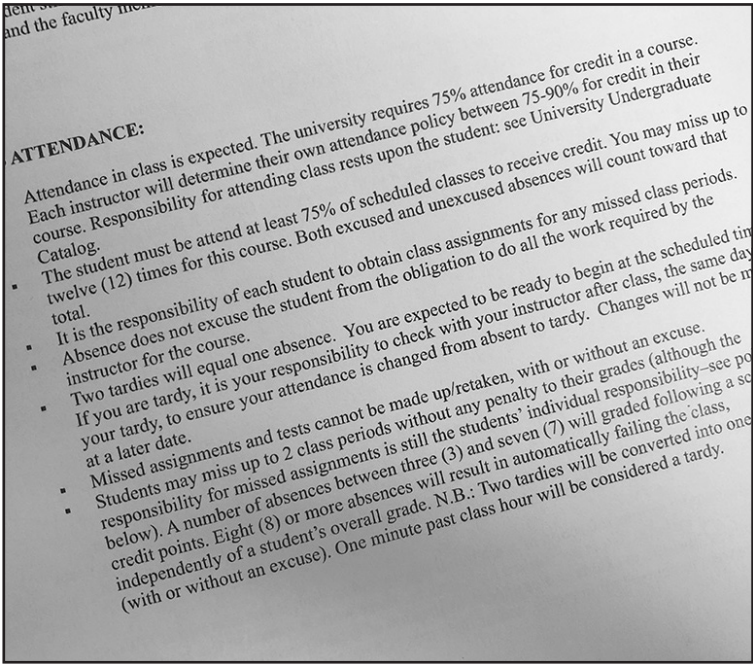
At least it was for me, which is why I bring it up. Most freshmen have had the luxury of their parents or guardians waking them up for school.

In high school, you have the same schedule every day. Most schools do not change what classes students have to take until the next semester has started.

Everyone at this school knows that is not how college works; you can have classes at 6 p.m. Then, the next day, you can have an 8 a.m.

Circumstances can arise that can prevent students from attending class.

If you're not an athlete, waking up for an 8 a.m. class is not enjoyable, especially if you have



this class three days a week. Some professors will allow students to accumulate only five absences; it is all up to whoever is teaching the class.

When I had a class at Southern Nazarene University three days a week, the professor said that if we missed the class more than five days, we would have to drop. At the same time, we could not get a refund on the class.

Stuff like this makes me dislike the school's attendance policy.

We pay to go to school here and learn at our own pace.

Now let's consider the faculty point of view. It is not hard to figure out that the professors want us to attend class.

The thought process is that we need to show up to class to pass. That being said, students will face

repercussions if they don't attend class.

Most professors have a policy that lowers grades for non-attendance.

Take this for example: One professor I had last semester said that, if we missed more than six days, then it would start to affect our grade, lowering it by five points for each absence after the sixth one.

While I think this does not make sense, I can see where my professor was coming from. Showing up to teach the class every day, he felt disrespected if we didn't show up.

Regardless of that, professors get paid whether or not we are there. The point I want to make is that the policy needs to be updated.

Students are paying to come

to class, so we should be able to determine how much we want to attend without sacrificing our grade.

Since the pandemic began, most schools have used virtual learning. Why not just ask students who can't attend in-person to watch the recorded lecture? There are ways to record the lectures on the school's cloud network.

*“Students are paying to come to class, so we should be able to determine how much we want to attend.”*

— J.D. Eddy

I am taking a class remotely that is conducted in-person, instead of saying that I cannot take the class. I have a special situation where two classes I need to graduate are at the same time on the same day.

The professor of the class I can't attend in-person is recording the lectures, sending them to me and allowing me to take all my tests later because of the nature of my situation.

This is how schools can handle some of the attendance issues: by allowing students to attend classes virtually, and giving them a way to watch the lectures if they miss class.



# OPINION

## Everyone can have a powerful prayer tool: the Rosary

By COLLIN ZINK  
*Senior Reporter*

We all have a biological mother whether we know it or not. Whether we have a good relationship with her is a whole other matter.

On the other hand, we have two mothers. Let me introduce you to Mother Mary and the weapon she gives us.

Mary, of course, is the Mother of God. But is she actually our mother? The answer is yes. In John 19:26-27, Jesus, from the cross, looks at his disciple, who is standing next to his mother. Jesus says, “Woman, behold your son; son, behold your mother.”

Just like any healthy life, we need a mother. The same goes for a healthy spiritual life, and Jesus provides for us his mother. It is important to know that we can never love Mary as much as Jesus did, but we can talk to her as much as we want. Jesus will not be offended.

He gave us Mary as a moth-

er for us to go to when we are struggling and need advice. Now, some of you might be thinking, “Well, why not just go to Jesus?” The answer is simple: We need a mother.

Our mother is so amazing that even demons are terrified of her. There is evidence of demons confessing about the power of Mary, saying “Mary is the terror of hell.”

Demons even yell in terror by even the name of Mary because she was start of their defeat when she gave her “yes” to God to give birth to his only son (Luke 1:38).

The demons also don’t like Mary because she was conceived without original sin. This was necessary in order to bring forth the savior into the world.

Weapons are used to defend us from bad things happening, like robberies, assault and other problems. What about defending against the supernatural evil?

Mother Mary gives us the Rosary. The Rosary is a weapon of prayer that, with devotion, gives grace. Demons hate the Rosary as well. This tool is so powerful that

Satan himself is harmed by it.

As a matter of fact, a Catholic priest exorcist by the name of Father Amorth recalled a story of an experience one of his colleagues had in an exorcism.

Amorth said his colleague heard the devil say “Every Hail Mary is like a blow to my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary is, it would be my end.”

Mary even gives 15 promises to those who pray the Rosary, one of them being that those who recite the Rosary shall obtain all that they ask of her.

The Rosary is so powerful that it has the power to win battles.

After the Battle of Lepanto in 1571, the Venetian Senators said this: “It was not courage, not arms, not leaders, but Mary of the Rosary that made us victors.” I encourage you all to go to Mary by reciting the Rosary.

*Zink is the president of Northwestern’s Sanctus Catholic Club.*

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Bible should not be taught in public schools

In a recent Northwestern News op-ed (“Public schools should teach about the Bible,” Feb. 24), a guest columnist took a stance on why he felt the Bible should be taught in public schools. As an early childhood and elementary education major, I could not disagree more.

While the teachings of the Bible are beneficial and relevant for some students, they do not represent students as a whole.

Forcing these religious teachings would be a disservice to those who do not consider themselves to be Christians.

One of the most important things taught to education majors is to differentiate our teachings to fit the diverse needs of all of our students.

Teaching the Bible without representing

the religious beliefs and cultures of each student goes directly against how we are taught to build connections and ensure student success within our classroom.

The teaching of the Bible in school also opens the door to forced participation in religious practices that go against a student’s own personal beliefs.

Children should not have to feel pressured into participating in prayer, religious discussions or other practices, nor should they feel like an outcast because they chose not to participate.

While the Bible is made up of inspirational stories and lessons on morality, it is also full of murder, sex, betrayal and countless other topics that are not appropriate for a public school setting.

Individuals trained in religious teachings are better fit to teach the Bible than a teacher trained in public education whose main focus is student connection and core subjects.

By adding Biblical teachings to our standards, educators would be creating an imminent division between their students. With that would come a tension within the classroom between those who believe in these teachings and those who do not.

Children already have many diversities to learn to overcome and adjust to without forced teachings of a single side of religion.

— Ashley Hromas Roach, early childhood and elementary education major, Enid campus

***“By adding Biblical teachings to our standards, educators would be creating an imminent division between their students. With that would could a tension within the classroom between those who believe in these teachings and those who do not.”***

**— Ashley Hromas Roach**





Photos by GAC Communications

# RANGERS: Foul trouble persistent during game

**Continued from Page 1**

Of those 20 rebounds, nine were offensive rebounds, which allowed Southern Arkansas to get multiple shots per possession.

Jalen Brooks was not the only one living in the paint against the Rangers, as Devante Brooks, Jalen's brother, had a strong performance. Devante Brooks finished with 17 points and 12 rebounds, and both brothers had double-doubles.

When Northwestern needed a big stop late in the game, the Rangers did not find an answer. The situation worsened as the final five minutes of the game rolled on. Coaches and fans could only watch as three starters fouled out for the Rangers.

Foul trouble was the other major concern for the Rangers, as Bubba Furlong only played 11 minutes before fouling out of the game. Brian Free led the Rangers in minutes with 28.

The foul trouble started right from the opening tip, as the Rangers committed seven fouls in the first six minutes of the game, while the Muleriders had none. After the first six minutes, both teams committed 23 fouls. The Rangers finished the game with 30 fouls, and the Muleriders had 23.

The Rangers had to rely on their bench in the first half to stay in the game, and the Rangers got what they needed. Chance Love came off the bench and led the Rangers in scoring with 11 points. Ravel Moody chipped in with 10, and Eric Hancik finished with nine.



The Rangers weathered the initial onslaught from the Muleriders and found themselves in a tied game at halftime, 36-36.

As the second half began, both teams upped the physicality, with both teams scrapping for every loose ball.

The momentum continued to shift between sides, with neither team establishing a clear advantage. With fewer than six minutes

to go, the game was tied at 59, but that was about to change.

With 5:25 left in the game, Aaron Lucas knocked down his only 3-pointer of the game to give Southern Arkansas a 62-59 lead. Northwestern struggled to score, as the Rangers only scored four points in the final five minutes. The Muleriders put pressure on the Rangers and rode the wave of momentum to a 72-63 victory.



Despite the season being over, the Rangers had several accomplishments throughout the year. The Rangers finished the year with a 20-9 record, which is a 17-win improvement from last year.

Three different Rangers received awards from the Great American Conference for their play this year. Furlong received the Defensive Player of the Year Award and finished on the Great American

**LEFT:** Northwestern forward Anthony Jones tries to pass the ball as Mulerider forward Devante Brooks attempts to steal the ball during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.

**BELOW:** Northwestern forward Chance Love, No. 24, makes a basket during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.

**CENTER:** Northwestern guard Malik Parsons shoots the ball over a Mulerider defender during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** Northwestern guard Eric Hancik tries to pass the ball during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.

## 2022 GAC BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Photos by GAC Communications

# Lady Rangers' season ends with 67-50 loss to Harding

See Story on Page 10

**TOP:** Northwestern point guard Kes Reeves drives inside while Harding players defend her during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday. The Lady Rangers lost to Harding, 67 - 50.

**RIGHT:** Northwestern forward Scout Frame looks

to pass the ball during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.

**BELOW:** Northwestern forward Bailey Brown drives inside during the 2022 GAC Tournament game in Shawnee on Friday.





# FEATURE

## Sorority hopes to grow after comeback

By DEVYN LANSDEN  
Photo Editor

The only sorority on campus is trying to expand its group with more members after the group took a break during the pandemic. Delta Zeta has seven members in its group. Shaylee Beck is the president of the sorority. She is a sophomore health and sports science major with a minor in biology from White Deer, Texas.

As the president, she helps everyone in the sorority out when they need it, she said. She also is the academic chair.

Beck said the group is recruiting new members all the time. “We try to hold sisterhoods [where] we all get together and invite people to come with us,” Beck said. “They can join if they would like to, or if someone on campus sees one of the members on campus and they ask us, we can give them a bid.”

Delta Zeta raised money for Valentine’s Day by selling roses and giving the money they made to the Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association.

The only scholarship available to the sorority is to the president. The members can decide who they want to be the president, and if there are multiple candidates, then they talk with the college



The current members of Delta Zeta pose for a photo during their initiation day on Nov. 20, 2021. The group is looking to expand member numbers.

chapter director. Then, the director decides who is eligible, and the members of the sorority take a vote on who they want to be president. There are plans to repaint the sorority room, Jesse Dunn Room

107, because the room is not painted in the sorority colors. Delta Zeta’s colors are pink and green with accents of purple and grey. Jean Dodds is a senior health and sports science major with a

minor in education from Enid and is the sisterhood’s chair. Her responsibility is to plan events for the members to be around each other and bond. Dodds said she tries to get the members excited about the events

she puts on. She said there is always food involved, and sometimes, they watch a movie. Dodds said the group is also trying to get the sorority room cleaned up and organized from the years prior.

## Black Student Union offers support, raises awareness

By SHANNON NESSERALLA  
Senior Reporter

Members of the Black Student Union say the new organization has become a place of camaraderie and insight for Northwestern students. The club was started to bring the campus community together, according to President Olumurewa Olalere and Vice President Shakira Lane. Other club officers include Alliyah Stovall, Deja Lacy, Brian Free, Hosea Marshal and Takia

Zachary. The goal of the group is to create a safe and positive atmosphere to celebrate Black students through events such as movie nights, debate panels and trivia games. “I believe that the creativity sparked this semester will be the start of great things for the NWO-SU BSU students and members,” Olalera said. The Black Student Union is an inclusive organization, members say. They say they hope to bring new perspectives and opportunities to Northwestern with support

of the community. “One of the main goals is to contribute to community service, such as volunteering at the nursing home or supporting collegiate teams in Alva,” Olalera said. “We hope to bring insight on issues such as physical [and] mental health in the Black community, while raising awareness to possible solutions that could help us all.” Lacy said it can be hard walking into the classroom knowing you’ll stand out among the rest of your peers. “It comes with being a minori-

ty and attending a primarily white institution,” Lacy said. “We naturally stand out in a room. It can be overwhelming, and in certain predicaments, stressful that not a lot of people can relate to you or are going to have you back.” The club plans to have more events in the upcoming months. Members say they would like to put on events specifically reflective of Black culture. These may include cookouts and 2000s-themed parties, as well as forums and informational meetings.

*“We hope to bring insight on issues, such as physical [and] mental health in the Black community, while raising awareness to possible solutions.”  
— Olumurewa Olalere, club president*

*“One of the main goals is to contribute to community service, such as volunteering at the nursing home or supporting collegiate teams in Alva.”  
— Olumurewa Olalere*

Olumurewa Olalere

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

**1-bedroom apartments available!**

**Within walking distance of campus**  
**School semester leases**  
**Laundromat on site**

**Sorry, no pets and no smoking in apartments.**



# ENTERTAINMENT



Photos by Caitlin Hofen

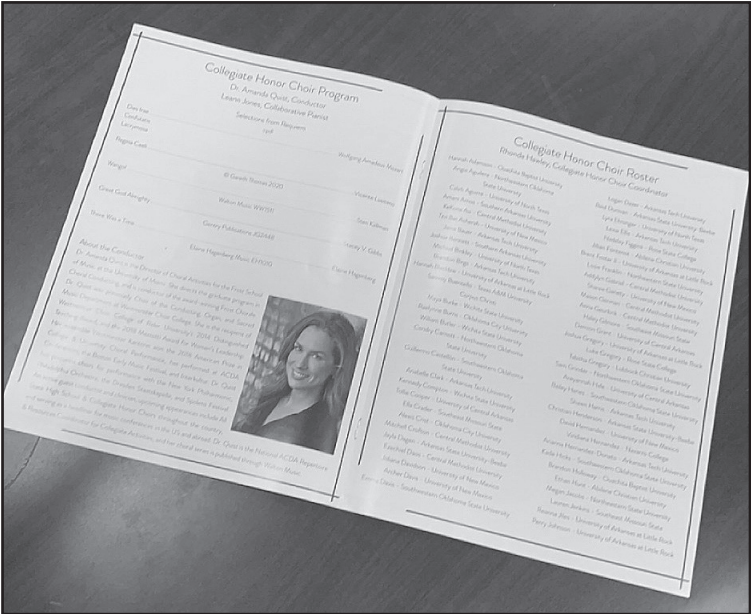
Shown above, from left, are Addyson Noyes, Emily Smith, Noah Voth, Condry Carnott, Jameson Hale, Sam Grinder, Cassidy Mullins and Gentry Mortensen. These Northwestern choir students were selected for the Southwest American Choral Directors Association Collegiate and posed for a photo on March 2 outside the Robinson Center Performance Hall in Little Rock, Arkansas. Eight students were selected for this honor choir and traveled to Little Rock for a three-day conference followed by a concert March 2. The conference last met in March 2020 a week before the start of the coronavirus pandemic. While singers and concert attendees were required to wear masks, the singers were able to perform this year.

## Singers participate in honor choir

### Eight Rangers selected for prestigious regional performance in Little Rock



The students were a part of a 143-member collegiate honor choir with other students from surrounding states in the southwest region. The students attended multiple rehearsals, breakout sessions and concerts. After three days of rehearsing, the students performed for a large audience in the Robinson Center Performance Hall in downtown Little Rock.



The singers performed a variety of music, ranging from Mozart to Haitian folk music, traditional spiritual songs and more. The choir was conducted by Dr. Amanda Quist, the director of choral activities for the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami in Florida. Part of the performance was accompanied by a variety of orchestral instruments from the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

### ALVA VISION CLINIC

Large selection of Oakley,  
Ray Ban, Wylie X  
Silhouette ... Contacts  
w/multifocal and  
astigmatism  
Pre- and post-OP Lasix



VISION SOURCE

Mastercard, Visa,  
Discover, American  
Express and Care Credit  
accepted

MON. & THURS. 8A.M.-5:30P.M.  
TUES. & WED: 7:30A.M.-5:30P.M.  
CLOSED FROM 12P.M.-1P.M.  
CLOSED FRIDAYS  
5:15PM APPT TIMES DAILY!

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL  
(580)-327-2393

AFTER HOURS CALL  
(580)-829-2026

ACCEPTED  
INSURANCE:

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

"Complex contacts RX are our specialty"

Dr. Troy L. Smith  
504 College Ave



# SPORTS

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Photos by GAC Communications

Northwestern forward Bailey Brown, No. 30, shoots the ball against Harding on Friday in the GAC Tournament in Shawnee. The Lady Rangers lost to the Lady Bisons, 67-50.

# Record-setting season



Kinsey Neiderer, No. 3, shoots the ball during the game against Harding. The Lady Rangers lost, 67-50.

By CADE KENNEDY  
*Sports Editor*

The Northwestern women's basketball team finished the season with a 15-14 record, making it the team's first winning season since the 1999-2000 season.

Despite the winning record, the Lady Rangers met a familiar fate, as they lost to the Lady Bisons of Harding, 67-50, Friday at the Great American Conference tournament in Shawnee.

The Lady Rangers entered the tournament with the sixth seed in the conference, which is the highest position they have had since the 2014-2015 season.

Harding set the tone for the game on its first possession, as Jordan Elder hit a 3-pointer to establish an early lead.

The Lady Bisons continued to build upon the lead, as the Lady Rangers found themselves in a seven-point hole with two minutes left in the first quarter. The Lady Rangers attempted to rally but still trailed at the end of the first quarter, 21-17.

The second quarter had a similar pace to the first, as both teams traded baskets to keep the Harding lead between three and six. The Lady Rangers slashed the deficit to three points at halftime, as Carly Craig quickly found

Kinsey Neiderer for a three that gave Northwestern a shot of momentum before the second half.

The Lady Rangers looked to ride the wave of momentum into the third quarter, but the Lady Bison defense had other plans.

Scoring was not an option for the Lady Rangers, as the Lady Bison outscored the Lady Rangers, 15-0. The Lady Rangers' deficit had piled up, as they trailed 53-35.

The scoring drought continued into the fourth quarter for Northwestern, but that changed when Bailey Brown made a layup with 9:03 left in the game to cut the lead to 16.

The rest of the quarter was similar to the first half, as both teams continued to trade scores. When the final buzzer sounded, the Lady Bisons walked off the court with a 67-50 win.

Despite the season being over, several members received awards for their performance. Brown earned first team all-conference, while Scout Frame is on the all-conference second team.

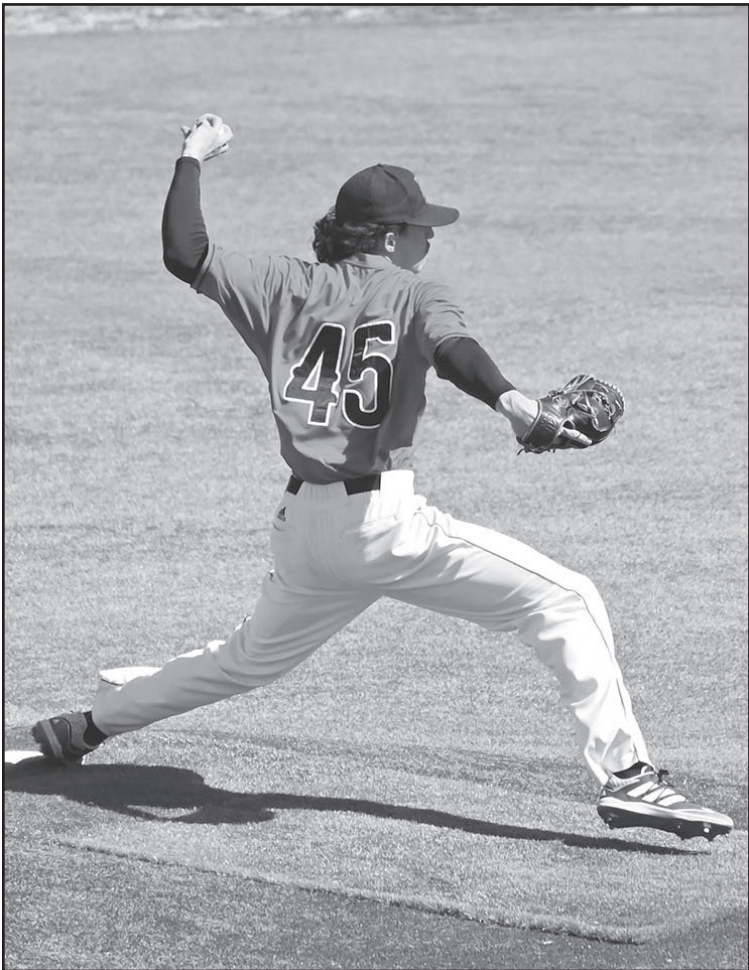
Brown averaged 18.6 points per game and put up 8.1 rebounds per game. She became the first Lady Ranger to reach 1,000 career rebounds. She finished her career with 1,911 points, making her the fourth-highest scorer in Lady Ranger history.



# SPORTS

## BASEBALL

# Offense carries Rangers to wins



Matthew Potts pitches the ball for Northwestern against East Central Saturday at Myers Stadium. The Rangers defeated the Tigers, 22-12.

By **KAYLEA BROWN**  
*Senior Reporter*

The Northwestern Ranger baseball team swept the East Central University Tigers in all three games of the weekend series.

Game One was played on Friday night, with the Rangers winning 19-9 in the seventh inning.

Shaughn Kelly cleared the loaded bases in the inning, clinching the win for the Rangers with the run rule.

Hayden Priest led the team Friday night with four hits, four runs scored and six RBIs.

Brayden Koenig also had four hits. Kelly had four RBIs, including the game-winning hit.

The Rangers got a 3-0 run in the first inning. East Central got one run in the third inning.

Northwestern responded in the bottom of the inning by scoring nine runs.

First baseman Blake Hoffman said this is one thing fans can look forward to this season.

“This year, we look forward to a lot of wins, a lot of hits and a lot of hard ball,” Hoffman said.

Game Two of the weekend series also resulted in a 22-12 win for the Rangers over East Central.

Yugo Hamakawa led the team in hitting, with four hits and five runs. Hamakawa, Kelly and Hoffman are tied with four RBIs.

Chase Orrock hit a home run in the bottom of the first inning, giving the Rangers the 6-3 lead.

The game went on a three-inning stretch without runs from either team after Hamakawa helped the Rangers cut the deficit to 9-8 in the second inning.

**“This year, we look forward to a lot of wins.”**  
**— Blake Hoffman**

Kelly hit a grand slam in the fifth inning, making the score 12-9, with the Rangers leading.

Hoffman ended the game with an RBI double that made the score 22-12 in the seventh inning.

Junior outfielder Brandon

Koenig said his goal going into the games was bringing the intensity that the team had against Arkansas-Monticello and rivaling what they did in those games.

The Rangers ended the weekend series with a 6-4 win.

Kelly finished Game Three with two RBIs. Hoffman led the team with three RBIs, and Hamakawa led with two hits.

East Central took a 4-0 lead in the second inning after scoring two runs in the first and two in the second.

The Rangers scored in the third inning, making the score 4-2. The game remained scoreless until Northwestern scored one in the sixth inning.

Hamakawa and Brandon Holdren got on base in the seventh inning.

Hoffman hit a three-run home run in the seventh inning, securing the win for the Rangers.

After Game One, Holdren said he was hoping the momentum would carry into the doubleheader on Saturday. The Rangers’ next game will be in Durant against Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

## Softball team working to rebound from losses

By **COLLIN ZINK**  
*Senior Reporter*

The Northwestern Rangers softball team has been struggling since Feb. 27, as the team has compiled a 2-6 record since the end of the month.

Coach Ryan Wondrasek said the team is improving but still struggling.

“We had a tough weekend down at Monticello,” Wondrasek said. “We played well. We had some opportunities where we could’ve changed the game if we played a little differently. Still have some work to do, but overall, I think we’re headed into the right direction.”

Wondrasek said the offense is solid and the defense needs improvements.

“Right now, the offense is playing pretty well,” Wondrasek said. “We are getting some run production pretty much every game, and we got threats throughout the lineup. Defense is where we still need to clean up a little bit and continue to progress and give ourselves a better opportunity.”

Wondrasek said the upperclassmen, especially Lindsey McElroy and Abby DeTar, are helping the team. He also said Hannah Howell has been good at pitching and on offense.

The Rangers opened up their conference play against Arkansas-Monticello, losing all three games by a score of 11-7, 8-0 and 5-4.

In the first game, the Rangers were down 4-0, but DeTar got the scoring started for Northwestern in the fourth inning. McElroy, Howell, and Jayden Solberg also scored in the fourth inning.

The Rangers only scored twice in the fifth inning by way of DeTar and McElroy, and that was the last time the Rangers scored in Game One against the Boll Weevils.

Mackenzie Adams got the scoring started for the Rangers in the second inning of the third game against the Weevils, which put Northwestern within one run of tying it.

Solberg brought Northwestern within one run of tying it in the fourth inning, and Adams tied it at three in the fourth.

The Rangers brought it within one once again, this time in the seventh, but it was not enough, as the Boll Weevils won.

The Rangers split games with Newman University and went 1-2 against East Central. The Rangers’ next home game will be a doubleheader March 9 against the Bulldogs of Southwestern, starting at 1 p.m.

## Spring soccer season underway

By **CONNOR GRAY**  
*Assistant Editor*

Northwestern soccer team members are looking to improve themselves this offseason as they scrimmage some competition.

The Lady Rangers are coming off their best season in a long time. Now the job will be to continue to build on that success with others stepping up.

The Rangers are in their spring season, which is part of the offseason to prepare for next fall. Head coach Alex Piekarski talked about some differences between the spring seasons versus the regular season.

“We have less practice time with our players,” Piekarski said. “We don’t play games, but we are allowed five dates for scrimmages.”

Piekarski also talked about how this part of the year focuses on individual improvement rather than the team as whole, as individual work will pay off when the fall starts coming around.

“It’s really about their growth and development,” Piekarski said. “It’s all about getting them out of their comfort zone.”

He also has moved players to different positions where they are not as familiar. Isabella McMillan, a freshman forward, can attest to this.

“It’s a hard transition to do,” McMillan said. “We have to work

on skills that we wouldn’t have to work on.”

McMillan is a left forward, which is a more offensive position. She was moved to left back to cover for an injured player.

She has to work on more defensive skills, which she would not have to worry much about.

**“It’s really about their growth and development.”**  
**— Alex Piekarski**

The team lost a fair number of players to graduation. When asked about the leadership on the team, Kaitlyn Morphy, a junior defensive back, had this to say:

“I think I’m going to enjoy being a leader for the team, but everyone has a leadership role on the team,” Morphy said. “Everyone always pitches in. Each of us has a role to play on this team.”

All of the teams the Rangers will have scrimmages with are quality opponents. The Rangers will face two schools from Division One, one Division Two opponent and one NAIA school.

The teams for Division One are Tulsa and Oral Roberts, which the team had exhibition games with before the last season started. On the Division Two side, the Rangers will play Emporia State, while their NAIA opponent is Oklahoma Wesleyan.

These scrimmages will help improve the team by playing teams up a division and playing quality teams in the NCAA and NAIA.

# Alva State Bank & Trust Company

Older than Oklahoma

Alva Main Office

518 College Ave.

Alva, OK 73717

580-327-3300

Burlington Branch

PO Box 80

Burlington, OK 73722

580-431-3300

Enid-Chisholm Branch

801 W. Broadway

Enid, OK 73701

580-234-4201

Bank of Freedom Branch

1085 Main St.

Freedom, OK 73842

580-621-3276

First State Bank of Kiowa Branch

546 Main St.

Kiowa, KS 67070

620-825-4147

ASB

IN ALVA SINCE 1901

MEMBER FDIC

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



# TOP OF THE WORLD



Renowned vocalist Helen Welch performed in Herod Hall on Tuesday night as part of the Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series. Welch performed music by the Carpenters, a brother/sister duo that rose to fame in the 1970s. Welch also had a career in TV, starting on the show “Romper Room.”

*Photos by Devyn Lansden*