

CAMPUS, MEET CULTURE

Native American Student Association members at NWOSU host first powwow in campus history

PAGE 7

Photo by Devyn Lansden

PRSR.L STD.
Permit # 5
Alva, OK 73717
Address Service
Requested



NORTHWESTERN NEWS

WALKING FOR AWARENESS

By JORDAN GREEN
Editor-in-Chief

As Northwestern students and others walked on blacktop roads toward Share Medical Center on Saturday morning, rays of sunshine pierced through dark gray clouds.

Rain had fallen on Alva earlier that morning, threatening some outdoor events and slickening city streets. But wet weather wouldn't keep Northwestern students, staff and alumni from completing their mission: to walk more than a mile to and from the university to raise awareness for multiple sclerosis.

Former Northwestern physical educator Elda Jones helped coordinate Northwestern's first Walk MS: Your Way event, which aims to support medical research for the debilitating disease and raise awareness surrounding it.

About 100 people – including the Northwestern football team and some of Jones' family members – trekked from the J.R. Holder Wellness Center to the local hospital, a distance of several blocks, and back.

"I thought it was great," Jones said. "I was pleased."

Jones, who has multiple sclerosis, organized the walk with the help of Wellness Center Director Olivia Yandel.

Participants left the Wellness Center around 8 a.m. Wellness Center workers held signs to

With student support, former professor leads Northwestern's first Walk MS event



guide walkers along the route, and they gave participants refreshments once they reached the hospital. From there, participants walked back to campus.

STUDENT HELPS TEACHER

Jones, a former assistant professor of health and physical ed-

ucation, was diagnosed with MS in 1993. She obtained both her bachelor's and master's degrees at Northwestern, and she became the first female physical educator at Laverne Public Schools.

She retired from Northwestern in 1999 because of the disease, but her impact on students outlasted her career.

Among the walk's participants was Northwestern football coach Matt Walter, one of Jones' former students, who described her as a caring, passionate educator.

"She was a great teacher," Walter said. "Very knowledgeable, very patient with a lot of us. Just a lot of respect for her and what she's done for educa-

tion. Can't speak highly enough of her."

Walter has followed Jones' journey with the disease for years.

"Kind of when she was first diagnosed with it is when I had her, so I kind of got to see how that affected her," Walter said.

See WALK, Page 6

Members of the Northwestern football team walk south on Davis St. on Saturday as part of Northwestern's first Walk MS: Your Way event, led by former professor Elda Jones, who has multiple sclerosis. MS walks aim to raise awareness of the disease and fund research projects.

INSET: Elda Jones, left, looks at a dog named Willow, who is owned by Jones' caregiver, Allison Huffmaster. Jones resides at The Homestead in Alva, and Huffmaster is shown third from left.

Photos by Jordan Green

NEWS

Pages 2 & 3

OPINION

Pages 4 & 5

PHOTOS

Pages 6 & 7

FEATURE

Page 8

SPORTS

Pages 10 & 11

NEWS

MONEY TALKS: EXAMINING NORTHWESTERN SCHOLARSHIPS: PART 3

'We really just want to help students'

Foundation office works with alumni to help students pay for education

By **AUSTIN MORTON** and
JARA REEDER
Student Reporters

Without the Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association, students like Noah Voth aren't sure how they'd pay for their college education.

Voth, a sophomore education major, is a recipient of the Lavonn Meier-McKnight Memorial Scholarship, which is funded by the foundation.

"Having this scholarship has helped me be able to pay for school without worry," Voth said. "And it has helped to keep me motivated throughout my time here."

Voth is one of hundreds of Northwestern students who has received a scholarship from the foundation, which continues to provide financial support to students by working with community members and alumni to help Rangers obtain higher learning.

WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION?

The foundation works with university alumni, businesses and other organizations to establish and fund scholarships for Northwestern, often dedicating those scholarships to a specific degree program or type of student.

Skeeter Bird, the foundation's CEO, works with potential donors to establish relationships that will ultimately benefit students, he said.

Establishing those relationships can take time, he added.

"The process for the foundation can take anywhere up to 18 months," Bird said. "We want to make sure that the donors are passionate about the scholarships they help create."

Once the foundation has talked with a donor, the next step is to determine how much money will be donated. Then, the foundation and donors decide what kind of scholarship to create.

TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The foundation invests scholarship funds either in an endowment scholarship or a pass-through scholarship.

In an endowment scholarship, money is put into a savings account to accrue interest year-over-year. The amount of interest accumulated is then used to fund the scholarship. It's also possible to add donations to pre-existing scholarships to increase the



Photo by Jordan Green

The Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association's name is shown above the office's entryway in the Student Center on Tuesday. The foundation funds numerous scholarships for Northwestern students each year.

amount that can be given each year.

If an endowment scholarship is created with \$20,000, a few thousand dollars will be available in scholarships each year, Bird said.

The largest endowment the foundation has is the RISE Scholarship, which stands for Rangers Investing in Scholarships and Education. Bird created it in 2006 shortly after he started working for the foundation.

When donors don't have a particular interest in where their money goes, it's put into the RISE Scholarship, which has a balance of \$1.3 million.

"It's never enough," Bird said. "We want to be able to offer as many scholarships as possible, and even though I am thankful for what we have, there is always room for more."

A pass-through scholarship does not build up interest, but it tends to fund more scholarships. If a donor wants their money to be given to students immediately, it will be put in a pass-through scholarship program. To stretch out the lifetime of the donation, the foundation attempts to break up how the money is dispersed, Bird said.

The foundation does not put a cap on the amount of money a student can receive. As long as a student meets the qualifications for a scholarship and is chosen to receive it, the student will receive the full amount of money, Bird said.

Through the alumni association, the foundation is able to contact alumni and community members who may be interested in donating, Bird said.

"It is honestly kind of like dating," Bird said. "We actively seek out possible donations."

FOCUSING ON FUNDING

The foundation funds around 300 scholarships each year, helping students pay for their degrees while taking out fewer student loans. Roughly 52% of all Northwestern students graduate without debt, and more than 80% receive scholarships, Bird said.

The number of scholarships awarded annually fluctuates, Bird said.

Some older scholarships may lose funding, while new ones are created. Nearly all of the foundation's scholarships are named after community members, alumni, faculty and others who invested in Northwestern.

A \$3 million donation in 2020 from the estate of a community member was the largest the foundation has ever received, Bird said.

Foundation employees' salaries are based on how much the foundation receives in donations, incentivizing them to put students first, Bird said.

'MEANINGFUL BONDS'

Kennedy Mount, who serves as the relationship manager for the foundation, works with donors to show them the value of supporting the university.

"I work to create meaningful bonds with our donors," Mount said. "It's more than just money being thrown to us."

Mount also helps with community outreach projects such as the annual Thank-A-Thon, where

students write letters to the donors of the scholarships they receive. This is used to help show the donors that their investments are actually aiding the students on campus, she said.

"Ensuring that the donors feel positively and strongly about why they donate helps foster that growth that we need for the scholarships," Mount said. "We really just want to help students in the best way possible."

IMPACT ON STUDENTS

That work pays off and benefits students in the long-run, foundation leaders and students say. Britni Stewart, a senior agriculture education major, received the Wisdom Family Foundation Agriculture Education Scholarship. Stewart will graduate in May, and she attributes her doing so largely to the foundation.

"I am very appreciative of the foundation and what they do," Stewart said. "Without them, I would not be able to be where I am today. These scholarships have helped me fund my college education and allowed me to continue my education at NWOSU."

Getting students to the graduation stage is just the final step in the foundation's work. Some of its scholarships are the reason students say they became Rangers.

"Having the scholarships did make the decision easy, knowing I was going to receive scholarships to aid me throughout college," Voth said. "I think it's impressive what the foundation is able to do. It shows that the community around Alva does care about the students here."

BY THE NUMBERS:

Foundation scholarships as of 2022

Accounting	1
Agriculture	9
Alva High School	6
Art	2
Athletics	4
Band	1
Baseball	1
Basketball	2
Business	13
Computer Science	4
Education	29
English	4
Football	1
General	25
Gen. Non-Trad.	1
Geographical	28
History	1
Law Enforcement	3
Mass Comm.	6
Mathematics	3
Men's Basketball	2
Multiple depts.	13
Music	14
Natural Science	1
Nursing	12
Pass-through	2
Physical Education	7
Political Science	3
Psychology	4
Endowment	4
Science	18
SGA	1
Social Science	3
Social Work	1
Sociology	1
Spanish	1
Speech & Theater	4
Women's Basketball	1

Source: Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association

GRADUATION

Outstanding Seniors named

Twelve Northwestern Oklahoma State University graduates have been selected as the 2022 Outstanding Seniors.

This year's Outstanding Seniors are: Brady Bowles, Kaylea Brown, Carys Delaplane, Nicholas Dill, Yamila Galindo, Kaydee Honeycutt, Dawson Maxwell, Kinsey Neiderer, Tarra Parks, Melissa Perez, Britni Stewart and Edwin Yemoh.

This award is sponsored by the Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association and the Student Government Association to honor outstanding graduating seniors. Recipients must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5, have completed at least 60 credit hours at Northwestern, never been subject to academic or disciplinary action, be involved in campus and/or community activities and show promise of future achievement.

Graduation is set for May 7.

OUTSTANDING SENIORS

BRADY BOWLES, a native of Buffalo, will graduate magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Bowles plays baseball for the Rangers and has been named to the Great American Conference All-Academic Team. In 2021, he was recognized as Northwestern's Psychology Student of the Year as well as a GAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete.

Bowles was on the President's Honor Roll and Vice President's Honor Roll. While attending Northwestern, he was involved in multiple campus organizations, including President's Leadership Class, Red and Black Scroll Honor Society, Psi Chi National Honor Society and Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society.

KAYLEA BROWN, a native of Cleveland, will graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in mass communication. Brown was recognized on the President's Honor Roll various times and has amassed more than 100 hours of community service during her time at Northwestern.

Brown is a residence hall assistant, a student worker for the Office of Recruitment and the student assistant for the Department of Communication. Brown is a member of the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors, Northwestern News staff, Student Government Association, Red and Black Scroll Honor Society, Thank-A-Thon Leadership Team and NWTV-7 staff. She also served as a Ranger Connection Peer Leader.

CARYS DELAPLANE, a native of Enid, will graduate with a bachelor's degree in nursing. In 2018, Delaplane was a member of the President's Leadership Class. She served as the President of the Pre-Nursing Association and serves as the president of the Stu-

dent Nurses Association.

Delaplane is a residence hall assistant as well as student worker for the English, Foreign Language, and Humanities Department. She was named to the Red and Black Scroll Honor Society and the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. At Northwestern, she was active in Student Government Association, Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors and the BCM Student Leadership Team.

NICHOLAS DILL, a native of The Colony, Texas, graduated summa cum laude in December with a bachelor's degree in mass communication. Dill played football for the Rangers. He was named to the Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society as well as the President's Honor Roll.

As a student, Dill worked for the Office of Recruitment, Northwestern News and NWTV-7. He was selected to represent the Great American Conference on the National Student Athlete Advisory Committee. He was active as a member of the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors and Student Government Association.

YAMILA GALINDO, a native of Freedom, will graduate summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Galindo was a member of the 2018 President's Leadership Class and currently works full time for Northwestern as a payroll accountant.

Galindo was recognized numerous times on the President's and Vice President's Honor Roll. While at Northwestern, she has dedicated time for various community service activities, Ranger Business Club and worked as a natural science lab and learning assistant.

KAYDEE HONEYCUTT, a native of Marquez, Texas, graduated in May 2021 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and then graduated in December 2021 with a bachelor's degree in biology. Honeycutt set the school record for the most career kills - over 1,100 - in Northwestern volleyball history.

Honeycutt was a member of Northwestern's Student Athlete Advisory Committee and volunteered her time towards numerous community service activities. She was named to the President's Honor Roll and the Vice President's Honor Roll. Honeycutt is a member of the Chemistry Club, Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society and National College Athlete Honor Society. She earned the NCAA Division II Athletic Director's Association Academic Achievement Award and was recognized as GAC First Team All-Conference and GAC Honorable Mention.

DAWSON MAXWELL, a native of Perry, will graduate magna cum laude with a bache-

lor's degree in criminal justice. Maxwell was on the President's Honor Roll and Vice President's Honor Roll. He is a member of the Red and Black Scroll Honor Society, Psi Chi Honors Society and Pi Gamma Mu Honors Society.

Maxwell has served as secretary, vice president and president for Northwestern's Student Government Association. He was selected to the Leadership Northwestern class and has worked various jobs on campus, including head resident of Coronado Hall, student referee for intramurals, resident assistant of Coronado Hall and as a student worker for the J.R. Holder Wellness Center.

KINSEY NEIDERER, a native of Okarche, will graduate with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Neiderer played basketball for the Lady Rangers, worked as a student assistant for the vice president of administration and interned for Northwestern's Accounts Payable Department.

As a student, Neiderer recorded several hours of community service work. She served on the Division of Business Student Advisory Council and as captain of the Women's Basketball Team. Neiderer was recognized on the President's Honor Roll, as an NCAA Division II All-Academic Honoree and as an NJCAA Academic All-American.

TARRA PARKS, a native of Wichita, Kansas, graduated summa cum laude in December 2021 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Parks is pursuing a master's degree in general psychology at Northwestern. She was a member of the President's Leadership Class and played volleyball for the Rangers.

Parks was on the President's Honor Roll and earned the 2022 Northwestern Hall of Fame Scholarship. She is a member of the Chi Alpha Sigma National College Athlete Honor Society and earned the NCAA Division II Academic Award.

MELISSA PEREZ, a native of Ringwood, will graduate cum laude with a bachelor's degree in biology. Perez was on the President's Honor Roll and the Vice President's Honor Roll. She was recognized as a Great American Conference Distinguished Scholar Athlete while competing in Cross Country and Track for the Rangers.

While at Northwestern, Perez was active in the Chemistry Club and Spanish Club. She worked in the Office of Recruitment, Chemistry Lab and Northwestern Housing Office. Perez volunteered for several community service activities and was a member of the Red and Black Scroll Honor Society.

BRITNI STEWART, a native of Chandler, will graduate cum laude with a bachelor's

Spring graduation to take place May 7

Spring commencement exercises at Northwestern Oklahoma State University will take place at 10:30 a.m. May 7 at Ranger Field.

Dr. Cheryl Evans, a 1992 Northwestern graduate, will be speaking at the commencement. She is originally from Cherokee and is president emeritus of Northern Oklahoma College.

In case of inclement weather, the spring commencement exercises will take place in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Music will be provided by the Ranger symphonic band under the direction of Dr. Michael Black, director of bands and assistant professor of music.

A reception honoring the graduates will immediately follow the ceremony. It'll take place at the north end of Ranger Field. The reception is open to all graduates, families, friends and employees. In case of in-

clement weather, the reception will be moved to the Student Center Commons. The parking tiers on the south end of the football field will be available for people to park and watch the ceremony from their vehicle.

Seven candidates will receive Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees.

Twenty-nine candidates will receive master degrees, 13 will receive master of education degrees, nine will receive master of counseling psychology degrees, four will receive a master of science in general psychology degree and three will receive master of arts in American studies degrees.


A total of 233 candidates will receive bachelor's degrees, with 37 graduating with honors.

A live internet stream of the graduation can be found at: www.youtube.com/NWOSURangers.

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

First State Bank of Kiowa Branch
546 Main St.
Kiowa, Ks 67070
620-825-4147

Bank of Freedom Branch
1085 Main St.
Freedom, Ok 73842
580-621-3276

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

HOLDER DRUG

Hallmark 513 Barnes Alva, Ok 73717

580.327.3332 1.800.458.5349 Fax: 327.1848



A Fuzzy Blanket
and a Swig. Perfect
Study Buddies!

See SENIORS, Page 12

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 Review-Courier

The opinions and comments contained in the Northwestern News are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the policies or beliefs of the university administration, Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges or the editorial staff. The News gladly accepts submissions but does not promise they will 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 Amendments of 1972, sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, and other applicable federal laws and regulations, and to the extent required by law, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, genetic information, physical or mental disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services.

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

This publication, printed by Northwestern Oklahoma State University, is issued by the University as authorized by the Regional University System of Oklahoma. 1,600 copies have been prepared and distributed at a cost to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma 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. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

All letters represent the views of the author.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearly subscriptions to the News are \$20.

OPINION

Farewell, Northwestern - it's been a ride

By **DEVYN LANSDEN**
Photo Editor

I can't believe my time at Northwestern is coming to an end. In the past four years, I have made lifelong friends and learned a lot about myself.

I have learned not to listen to what other people think or say. Do what makes yourself happy. Let those people put others down if that is what they want to do. I am going to do what I know I will be good at, regardless of what people think.

Use the negative energy as motivation, because it will come your way whether you like it or not. The more you thrive and succeed, the more judgment you will receive. Don't let happy moments be ripped from you because other people don't think it's a good idea.

I got a job as an insurance agent. I have already begun working remotely, and I know this is something I am going to be good at. I enjoy connecting with people and being able to help them. Will I get people who will hang up? Yes. Will I get rejected? Yes. Do I care? No. It is a part of the job, and I knew this when I started. But I worked hard, spending

every moment of my free time studying to pass my test to get my license. Now I am getting the hang of my new job, so when I graduate, I am going to take off and be confident in myself.

Did I get a lot of negative comments about this? Yes. I used that negative energy to pass my test. I am going to continue to use the negative energy to be the best agent and make my way to the top.

I am so excited for this new journey to begin. I will be moving to Tulsa when I graduate and begin my new life there.

My life at Northwestern has been the best. I am forever grateful I came to Northwestern and met the teachers, classmates and friends I did. These are people I will keep in touch with for a long, long time.

I found myself here. I found what I am supposed to do and who I am supposed to be. I want to thank everyone I have crossed paths with here at Northwestern. You have impacted me more than you know.

One thing I want to be taken from my farewell column is: Do not listen to what others think. Do what you want to do. Find your calling and do not stop chasing it.

Ride, Rangers, Ride.



Review boards should respect student privacy

By **J.D. EDDY**
Editorial Editor

The Institutional Review Board is a peer-review body, responsible for ensuring that the research at the institute safeguards the rights of human research subjects.

Board members often have to talk about tough issues like suicidality, but they often go about it the wrong way.

Suicidality is a controversial topic in many research studies. The board's exact policy, as written on its website, is: "If a participant reports that he/she is considering suicide, the research team is then responsible for timely and appropriate follow-up to assure the safety of that participant."

Now, that may seem like it makes sense, but going to someone after saying that the survey is anonymous is a breach of trust.

Not only will you point out to others around this student that they are suicidal, you will also force the student into a corner. If you didn't know, that is not how you deal with someone thinking about suicide.

Students who are contemplating suicide need to come forward of their own free will, of their own volition.

There are things that shouldn't be said to someone who is suicidal, especially if you are a random individual that found out the person was at risk for suicidality.

Confronting someone you don't know and saying things like "You

have so much to live for," "I know how you feel" or even "I would be devastated if you were gone" are examples of things you shouldn't say.

If you don't know the person, the best thing to do is advise them where to find counseling services, helplines for suicide prevention, mental health services around their area or something simple like talking to their own family. Going to find them on campus or at their own home is not right.

"Board members often have to talk about tough issues like suicidality, but they often go about it the wrong way."

— **J.D. Eddy**

If I were suicidal, I would not want someone to come find me on campus. It would make me defensive.

I would immediately deny that I was having these thoughts. At the end of most research studies involving the Beck Depression Inventory, resources are always supposed to be given to the individuals taking the survey.

The Institutional Review Board will flag the research study if no resources are listed. They will review the survey or the IRB application that you submit.

Then the board will either approve

it or they will deny it. In that case, the applicant often has to rewrite it. In some cases at Northwestern, applications were flagged for the suicidality question on the Beck Depression Inventory.

The Beck Depression Inventory is a series of questions developed to measure the intensity, severity and depth of depression in patients with psychiatric diagnoses. It is a 21-question inventory with a 1-6 point Likert Scale. Each of these questions is designed to assess a specific symptom of depression.

By explaining all of this, I am trying to show there are other ways to talk to someone with suicidal tendencies. Giving background is showing why the board conducts itself in this way.

Being that 41.6% of college students suffer from depression, it would be fair to say you can encounter this factor of suicidality in a research study. How you handle this is what will make the difference to the student body, and to the student that you are contacting.

While there will be situations with students that you cannot control, you can try to help in different ways.

If you ever send out a study with sensitive material like this, please put resources at the end, or after someone answers that specific question, send them to a page through a hyperlink.

The Institutional Review Board needs to change the way it approaches students after finding out this information.

OPINION

Scholarship program is top-notch

By **DR. JANET CUNNINGHAM**

*Northwestern Oklahoma State University
President*

The Northwestern News has brought forward the question of scholarship caps. This is a question that the Northwestern Oklahoma State University administration has been grappling with for years. The main issue, as it is with many things, is dollars and cents. The disinvestment by the State of Oklahoma in higher education, and the subsequent rise in tuition, have made it difficult for all institutions of higher education in Oklahoma to keep pace with their scholarship programs.

The highest state appropriation for NWOSU and all of higher education was in 2008. Since then, years of decreased appropriations and state budget shortfalls have made it necessary for institutions to raise tuition. In 2008, 55.1% of Northwestern's budget was funded by the State of Oklahoma. In 2022, the percentage has decreased to 31.1%. In fiscal years 2016, 2017 and 2018 especially, budget reductions made many institutions vulnerable, which resulted in substantial layoffs and furloughs for employees. Fortunately, NWOSU was able to navigate this period with minimal impact on faculty and students, though many staff positions were eliminated. However, because the budgets for the institution were static for several years, tuition waivers were not able to be

increased, and scholarship caps remained the same.

The university implemented several policies to benefit students throughout these years. For example, the university collapsed several fee items into tuition costs. By doing so, the university ensured that awards such as Oklahoma's Promise and Regional Baccalaureate Scholars, which are calculated on tuition amounts, yield the greatest benefit to students. Additionally, even though Oklahoma's Promise is calculated on hours of tuition, Northwestern allows this cash award to pay for any university expense, including room, board and/or books. Several years ago, the university began moving all Foundation scholarship awards out of the cap, and any new Foundation scholarships from donors are also outside of the cap. As of last year, all Foundation scholarship awards are outside of the cap.

For 2021-22, a total of 39 students were impacted by a scholarship cap. While that is not a large number, each student who was impacted is important. Two groups seem to be impacted the most: first, those with two academic awards, such as continuing valedictorian or salutatorian and upper academic; and second, students in the Fine Arts Department who have several opportunities for participation. Discussions with the fine arts faculty began last spring to determine how best to use participation awards. With the addition of endowed funds earnings that will be avail-

able in the fall of 2022, plus additional university waivers, progress should be made on this group. One important thing to note is that scholarship caps are looked at each year to determine if they can be raised.

The Northwestern News article referenced students who were unaware of scholarship caps. The university's website lists very clear information on continuing student scholarships and uses the phrase "maximum monetary eligibility (cap)" and encourages students to contact the Financial Aid Office. The Financial Aid Office is the best source of information for scholarship questions. The contact information is tlhannaford@nwosu.edu, 580-327-8540.

Northwestern's scholarship program is excellent when compared with other institutions across the state.

- Most institutions have the majority of scholarship dollars in the freshman year. NWOSU is fortunate to have a great freshman year scholarship program because of the city of Alva incentive dollars. By agreement, those resources can only be used for freshman and/or transfer students for one year if they live in Alva. The Alva incentive funds free up scholarship dollars that can be used for continuing students after the freshman year.

- Donors to the Northwestern Foundation have been extremely generous in endowing scholarships. While these endowed funds benefit students across the campus, the Fine Arts Department has the most Foundation funds available for its

students. Even so, the unique Northwestern co-curricular experience that offers opportunities for a culturally rich student life through participation in multiple activities puts strains on these resources. The university continues to seek ways to maximize existing and new endowed funds to relieve this strain.

- Eighty percent of Northwestern students receive some type of scholarship award. The variety and availability of awards has been preserved through the university's commitment to retain a merit-based model for scholarship awards even as other schools have moved to need-based only scholarships.

The goal of Northwestern Oklahoma State University is to graduate the highest number of students with a high-quality education, while simultaneously maximizing the limited financial resources available. The ultimate proof of our success is that 53% of our students graduate with no student debt, while the national average of this measure is 35%. This means that almost one-third more of our students leave Northwestern debt-free than what occurs across the rest of the United States. Additionally, for those who acquire debt, Northwestern's average student debt load has remained, for many years, less than 50% of the national average. Our scholarship program is an integral part of allowing our students to graduate unencumbered by stifling student debt so they can positively change their part of our world.

College life is the best life

By **KAYLEA BROWN**

Senior Reporter

Senior year brought a lot of changes. The past two semesters were a roller coaster.

I didn't know where I was going, what I was doing or even who I really am. But thankfully, I met some pretty amazing people that helped me figure it out.

Serving others has always been a large part of who I am, and hopefully it always will be.

Taking every opportunity given to serve is something that remained constant in my senior year. Those opportunities, and being myself, is what helped me be awarded the title of a 2022 Outstanding Senior.

Truthfully, I took those opportunities without thinking about that award. I was thinking of where I wanted to go in life and what I wanted to be known for. Where I want to go in life is still questionable, but I know I'm taking a step toward my future by continuing my education at Northwestern as a graduate student.

What I want to be known for, however, stays the same.

I want to be known as a person people can trust and depend on. I want to be known as a person people can go to when they need a shoulder to cry on. I want to be known as someone that continued living to serve after my time in the FFA came to a close.

Serving others was a large part of my senior year, but another part was creating relationships with people that I hope will last forever.

I never imagined that I'd meet some



of the best friends I'd have in my life in my senior year of college, but I'm thankful that I had them with me for the roller-coaster ride that is senior year.

I've always heard college is the time of your life, and I believe it now. I've experienced some of the best and worst times of my life while here. Even in a small town in the middle of northwest Oklahoma, it can be the time of your life.

Even though this is my last article for the Northwestern News, this isn't the last the school will see of me. But I want to end my final article in the Northwestern News with a few reminders.

Stay humble, stay kind and take advantage of every opportunity college life throws at you, because they might surprise you.

And, of course, Ride, Rangers, Ride.

Procrastination can persist for some

By **AUSTIN MORTON**

Senior Reporter

Have you ever procrastinated? Of course you have. In my four years here at Northwestern, I do not think I have met a single person who has not.

This work you're reading right now should have been done days ago. You have an episode from one of my favorite childhood cartoons to thank for being able to read this.

"Procrastination," an older episode of "Spongebob Squarepants," just happened to be on while I was getting ready for bed.

For those who are unaware, the episode follows Spongebob as he does everything except write his paper.

Just like Spongebob in the episode, I realized I also had a paper to write.

Why did I wait so long to write this? I have known about it for a week. I have set aside multiple times throughout the week to get it done, yet I have not.

I can also recall multiple times I have done the same thing with multiple papers, yet I still do it.

Googling "procrastination" will show multiple articles about how to overcome the issue, and even why you do it.

I have read a few of these, and they all tend to address the same issues.

First, it is not about being lazy. Most of the time we end up procrastinating, it's more about our mood that we try to work in.

If you're feeling down or angry, then your willingness to write a five-page paper is going to be nonexistent.

When I'm feeling down, I try to go outside and get some sun or even grab my

favorite drink from Sonic.

Putting in the effort to focus on your mental health can help stop your procrastinating.

It can also improve your life in other ways, but that's for another story.

"Just like Spongebob in the episode, I realized I also had a paper to write. Why did I wait so long to write this? I have know about it for a week. I have set aside multiple times throughout the week to get it done."

— Austin Morton

The second reason that gets brought up relates to the environment that we work in.

Is the lighting in your workspace bright enough? Do you have any distractions? Do you have roommates who use the same workspace as you?

These are all factors that can play a part in how willing you are to work.

The library on campus is a great spot to get this work done. You get away from nearly all distractions, it's quiet and you'll have your own workspace.

It is obviously impossible to know exactly how each individual works well, but these are a few ideas to keep in mind the next time you have a deadline coming up.

Don't be like Spongebob. Write that paper.



Photos by Jordan Green

Northwestern football players walk out of a parking lot near Coronado Hall while on their way to Share Medical Center on Saturday as part of Northwestern's first Walk MS: Your Way event.

WALK: Football coach Walter says Jones is inspiring figure

Continued from Page 1
"Raising some awareness and being able to bring out an entire football team to show support for that was important to me."

ABOUT MS

Multiple sclerosis, a disease of the central nervous system, destroys myelin, a substance that protects nerve fibers. Symptoms can vary from person to person.

More than 2 million people around the world have MS, which often causes vision problems, paralysis and other health issues, according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

More than 350 projects to find a cure for the disease and help alleviate patients' symptoms are ongoing worldwide.

Supporting that research is the top priority for walking events, which collect donations from participants and encourage others to donate as well.

Jones' life and work send a message of strength and determination to people who deal with any kind of challenge, whether health-related or not, Walter said.

"Take football for example," Walter said. "You've got to be resilient in games and through injury. Injury is a big one. ... These guys being able to see her and how she's done with something so physically affecting, hopefully that'll motivate them to say, 'Hey, she's an inspiration to me.'"

MOVING FORWARD

Though Jones had to retire from teaching full-time, she didn't let

MS keep her from living life her way.

After retiring from Northwestern, she served as the coordinator of a recreational program for elementary school students at Christian Church of the Covenant in Enid. Using verbal instructions and her arms, she taught students how to dance, even though she remained in a wheelchair.

She's also served as a coordinator with numerous fundraising events across Oklahoma and raised more than \$50,000 for MS research through walks and bike rides in Enid, Norman and other cities.

'HAPPY TEARS'

Joining in the walk Saturday was one of Jones' caregivers at The Homestead, a local assisted living center. Allison Huffmaster, a Northwestern nursing major, brought her dog Willow, a border collie, to join in.

Jones was thrilled by all the participants, whether human or canine. "I'm just glad that my family's here, my caregivers are here and the dogs are here," she said. "I was very excited to have the football team here. Like Matt said, I had him in class, and he spoke to the team and told them about me. I was very pleased that they came to the walk."

After the walk was done, Jones was joined by her family and friends for a group photo. All wore T-shirts with her name blazoned across them.

With tears in her eyes, Jones said she was overjoyed by the turnout.

"I just hope there's awareness," Jones said. "These are happy tears."



ABOVE: Eida Jones, third from left, poses for a photo with members of her family, along with her caregiver and others, following the university's first Walk MS: Your Way event on Saturday.



LEFT: Eida Jones talks with Northwestern football coach Matt Walter near Share Medical Center on Saturday while Jones' granddaughter, Quinn, smiles and looks on.



Bringing culture to campus

Northwestern's first powwow is enlightening experience for Ranger students, faculty

By COLLIN ZINK
Senior Reporter

The Native American Student Association at Northwestern hosted the first powwow in university history on Saturday afternoon in Percefull Fieldhouse.

The powwow was originally set to take place outside on the intramural field, but because of inclement weather, it was moved inside. The event began after 2 p.m.

The inter-tribal event was filled with dancing and singing, and spectators could purchase merchandise from vendors. Among the items for sale were Native American jewelry and blankets. Spectators dined on Indian tacos.

Savannah Francis, the club president, said the group's goal was to bring "culture onto campus that a lot of people haven't seen before."

Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham, who also attended the event, said she enjoyed it. She said it was the first powwow she'd ever attended.

"I'm very excited," she said. "It's a new experience for me, but I'm very intrigued and so glad the students worked together to get it to happen here, and glad it happened on my watch."

Ethan Sacket, Northwestern's student success coordinator, said he appreciated the students' work to put on the event.

"I'm glad the Native American Student Association was able to put it on here on the Alva campus," Sacket said. "It's a totally new experience for me, just really soaking it all in."

"When I dance, everything just goes away."
— Daniel Roberts

Robyn Chanate, who was the head women's dancer at the powwow, said participants are eager to share knowledge with others.

"We all get together and have a good time," Chanate said. "It's just a good way for everybody to get together, all different tribes and people, and have a good time."

Daniel Roberts, who was the head gourd dancer at the powwow, said powwows are relaxing. "To me it's peace, clarity of mind," Roberts said. "When I dance, everything just goes away."



TOP, ABOVE AND LEFT: Participants in the Native American Student Association's powwow are shown in Percefull Fieldhouse on Saturday. The powwow was the first in Northwestern history.

Photos by Devyn Lansden

FEATURE

Mount processes endowments, contracts

By **CAITLIN HOFEN**
Features Editor

Kennedy Mount can be found walking through the Student Center, chatting in her office or supporting Ranger athletics.

While she isn't a new face to Northwestern, Mount has a different role on campus than she did four years ago.

A native of Biloxi, Mississippi, Mount came to Northwestern when she accepted a graduate assistant coaching position for the soccer team.

"I graduated from Belhaven University in 2019 with a degree in sports medicine and exercise science," Mount said.

"I started my master's degree at Northwestern after accepting the coaching position."

Mount graduated from Northwestern in December 2020 with a master's degree in education.

In August 2021, Mount accepted a position at the Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association as the relationship manager.

"My main role includes processing endowment and scholarship contracts while working to

increase donor to student liaison," Mount said.

"I also work on stewardship through the Foundation, so I work to increase community relations and foster healthy relationships with our donors."

**"I started my master's degree at Northwestern after accepting the coaching position."
— Kennedy Mount**

Mount has played soccer all her life, something she carried with her through college.

"I started playing soccer because I have an older sister who played soccer, and I grew up watching her from the sidelines," Mount said.

"Soccer was something we could bond over. One reason I chose to play soccer in college was my sister didn't have the opportunity to finish playing or finish school. That was something I

wanted to do in honor of her and my family as a first-generation college student."

**"I also work on stewardship through the Foundation, so I work to increase community relations and foster healthy relationships with our donors."
— Kennedy Mount**

Mount said her family still lives in Mississippi, but she plans to continue moving to different places.

"I always wanted to venture out," Mount said.

"I plan to move on further in a few years.

"I think moving and experiencing new places gives a sense of growth you can't experience staying home."



Photo provided

Kennedy Mount, a Northwestern graduate, works for the Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association as relationship manager.

Former student feels connection with history

By **JARA REEDER**
Senior Reporter

As Jenna sat on her father's lap, her small feet dangled back and forth while she listened to the soft sound of his voice reminiscing about his youth.

That was one memory Jenna Brooks, a December graduate from Northwestern, remembered about her father.

When she was young, she could often be found flipping through scratched-up history books and listening to the stories her dad told her as a girl.

She said she found it fascinating how technology had advanced and how the style of clothing had changed over the decades.

"My father was a huge part of my life, always wanting me to keep my mind open to learn more, and when he passed, I felt that learning history kept me connected to him," Brooks said.

"He lived through a lot of historical events, and it piqued my interest."

Brooks gained a support system from her teachers after the death of her father, and she believed that after that experience, she could do the same for others.

After graduating from Northwestern with a degree in social

science, she is now a teacher at Meade High School in Meade, Kansas.

She has completed her first semester at Meade and oversees the student council and the Key Club, which helps students serve their community.

**"My father was a huge part of my life, always wanting me to keep my mind open to learn more, and when he passed, I felt that learning history kept me connected with him."
— Jenna Brooks**

"I wanted to get involved with the new community and get to know some of the students," Brooks said. "When I was first hired, I was nervous to teach high school, but I soon realized that older students are great. They have a lot of humor, and they are so much fun.

"Teaching the subject I love and helping others is something I'm blessed to do."

Patel navigates new position

By **DAX BENWAY**
Student Reporter

A new face has been in charge of taking care of many things behind the scenes for Ranger athletics, and her name is Megan Patel.

Patel is from Channing, Texas, a small town in the Panhandle.

She lived there before going off to college. She went on to play women's basketball at West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, where she later coached and met her husband, Vinay.

Megan Patel used to be a coach at Oklahoma City University before coming to Northwestern Oklahoma State University. She and her son followed her husband after he was hired to be the new head men's basketball coach.

She is now the assistant athletic director for compliance and student services at Northwestern.

Patel is in charge of making sure every team is eligible for competition, and she is also responsible for communicating with every student athlete who has complications in their eligibility and their credits. She works to make sure they are staying ahead of the game in school.

She also plays a big role in the Student Services office at Northwestern. She meets with Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management, when dealing with Title IX issues.

Patel said she loves everything about her job and the university.

"I love being able to help out the student athletes in more ways than one," Patel said. "I want to work with every athlete to make sure they are eligible and graduating on time"

She also said she wants students to know she is always available, and her door is always open to anyone needing a person to talk to.

LESSONS LEARNED

One thing that Patel has had to battle with in her career is having to move and start over in a new town.

"Being in athletics, your whole life is difficult, especially when you and your husband are both coaches," Patel said. "Hav-

ing to pack up and move every time one of us gets a new job has been challenging, but it has always worked out for the better."

This has helped her grow socially by having to get out and meet new people at the places they've moved to, Patel said.

Going through sudden changes, like having to move and start over at a new place, has made her value her family, she said.

"My family is definitely my greatest achievement so far in my life, from my husband and I having the same love and passion for the game of basketball and always supporting each other to our three-year-old son, Jaxon, who I love more than anything in the world," Patel said. "Everything I do is for them."

**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 Jordan Green

Northwestern Singers performed in the Alva bus barn for their Soundscapes IV concert, an annual spring concert that marks the end of the semester for the choir program.

Choirs perform variety of music at ‘Soundscapes IV’



ABOVE: The small group of singers who performed in Little Rock, Arkansas, in the Southwest American Choral Directors Association Conference collegiate choir earlier this year performed the Haitian folk song “Wongol” for the audience during the Saturday

Soundscapes concert. BELOW: Northwestern Chorale and Singers members sang in a variety of formations to play off the building’s acoustics. The concert took place in the Alva Public Schools bus barn, which was formerly an armory.



From left: Draven Hidalgo, Jack Mahoney and Gabriel Bussinger performed in the bass section during Saturday’s concert.



ALVA VISION CLINIC

Large selection of Oakley, Ray Ban, Wylie X Silhouette ... Contacts w/multifocal and astigmatism



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

Pre- and post-OP Lasix
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!

ACCEPTED INSURANCE:
VSP, P.V.C.S., MEDICARE, VISION CARE DIRECT, SOONERCARE, BCBS, EYE MED AND HEALTHCHOICE

FOR AN APPOINTMENT CALL (580)-327-2393

"Complex contacts RX are our specialty"

AFTER HOURS CALL (580)-829-2026

Dr. Troy L. Smith
504 College Ave

SPORTS

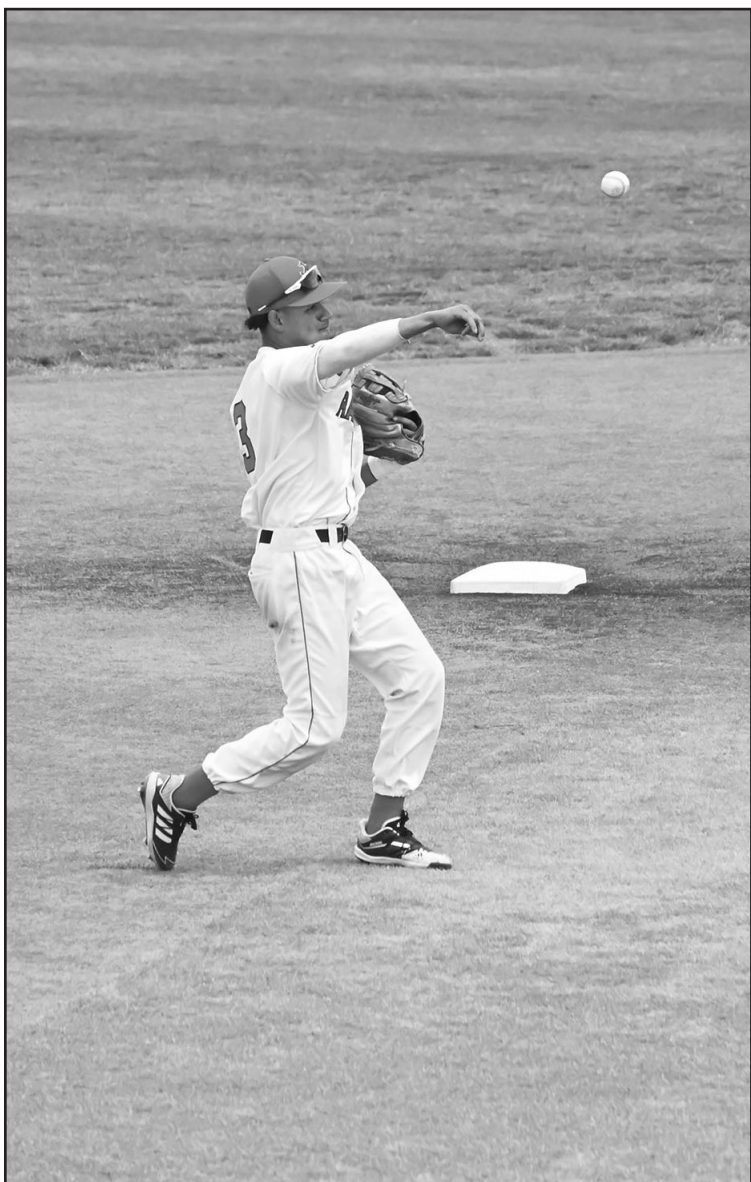
BASEBALL



Photos by Devyn Lansden

Emilio Lovato pitches the ball during Northwestern's game against Arkansas Tech on Saturday at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium. The Rangers won the series over the Wonder Boys, two games to one. The Rangers are currently in ninth place in the Great American Conference standings, and they need to finish in the top eight to make the conference tournament.

Rangers topple Wonder Boys



Bryan Guerrero throws the ball during Northwestern's game against Arkansas Tech on Saturday at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium.

By **CONNOR GRAY**
Assistant Editor

The Northwestern baseball team played a home series over the weekend against Arkansas Tech in an offensive heavy series, winning two of three against the Wonder Boys.

The series was a score fest for the Rangers in their first two games, as they outscored the Wonder Boys 37 — 11.

While the wind played a huge factor, the Rangers' pitching was big.

Dylan Collins got the win for the Rangers, making him 5-1 on the season.

He gave up eight runs on 10 hits but kept Arkansas Tech at bay. Cade Phelps also helped in relief, as he did not give up a run.

The Northwestern offense exploded throughout the game, as they recorded 23 hits in game one.

The Rangers nearly went through the whole lineup in the first inning and got four RBIs from Brett Erickson, Shaughn Kelly, Hayden Priest and Blake Hoffman, making it 4-2.

Arkansas Tech answered with three runs in the second inning to make it 5-4.

After the second inning, the Rangers got four runs by Bryan Guerrero. He knocked one in,

sending it down the right field line. Brandon Holdren got a three-run homer to make it 8-5.

Pitching continued to hold Arkansas Tech the following inning, as Collins continued to keep them at bay.

The Rangers had a huge inning in the fifth, as they scored six runs to make it 14-5.

Five RBIs would come from Priest, Joseph Frisby, Yugo Hamakawa, Chase Orrock and Hoffman, while one run came from a wild pitch.

Collins then gave up three more runs to make it 14-8, and Phelps took over and did not give up any more runs.

The Rangers finished with four more runs to win, 18-8.

"Our offense really took off against one of the better starters in the conference," head coach Ryan Bowen said. "We really battled and found ways to link hits together."

The second game involved a lengthy pitching performance from Emilio Lovato despite throwing into the wind.

Lavato threw a complete game, only giving up four hits and three runs through the entire game, as the hitting for Rangers took care of business.

"Emilio really pitched well for us," Bowen said. "One of the best pitching performances I've seen since I have been here at North-

western."

The Rangers started game two with a two-run home run and a solo shot that set the tone for the rest of the game.

The Rangers had an explosive third inning by scoring eight runs after giving up two in the second.

The Rangers put together several hits in a row and kept scoring to make it 11-3.

Over the course of the game, the Rangers got six more runs to win, 19-3.

The Rangers struggled in the final game of the series, as Eric Swanson and six other pitchers collectively gave up 16 hits and 21 runs on a windy afternoon.

The Ranger bats were only able to get five runs. They did not respond, as the final was 21-5.

On Tuesday, the Rangers played their final home game of the season against Rogers State.

The Hillcats got off to a hot start, as they scored five runs in the first three innings of the game.

In the sixth inning, the Hillcats struck again with a two-run home run to extend the lead to 7-0.

The Rangers answered with a run of their own in the bottom of the seventh, but lost, 8-1.

The next series for Northwestern will be an away series against Southwestern. The first game Friday is at 2 p.m., followed by a double header Saturday at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

SPORTS AND NEWS

SOFTBALL

Losing streak continues for Lady Rangers



Photo by Devyn Lansden

Hannah Howell pitches the ball during Northwestern's game against Oklahoma Baptist April 9 at the Alva Rec Center. The Lady Rangers lost all three games of their series to Arkansas Tech, which ends their playoff hopes.

By CONNOR GRAY
Assistant Editor

The Northwestern softball team went to Russellville, Arkansas, to play Arkansas Tech in a hard-fought series Friday and Saturday.

Arkansas Tech swept the Lady Rangers in a close series. The Lady Ranger pitching staff tried to keep the Golden Suns at bay, but the offense struggled to knock in runs.

Hannah Howell pitched the entire first time for the Lady Rangers, but she gave up three runs in the first two innings.

The Lady Rangers struck back in the third by scoring on a wild pitch, and Mackenzie Adams hit a sac fly to make it 3-2.

Howell blanked Arkansas Tech in next half of the inning but gave up a three-run home run in the fourth, making it 6-2.

The Lady Rangers responded by getting two pairs of runs. The RBIs came from Morgan La Ne and Jaci Oakley, with two each to make it 6-6.

"We battled back and forth,"

head coach Ryan Wondrasek said. "We got down early, made a comeback to tie it, but got snake bit in the bottom of sixth."

The Lady Rangers surrendered another three-run homer to lose, 9-6.

In the second game, Hannah Scoggin pitched the entire game, but it was not enough for the Lady Rangers.

Scoggin gave up four runs, as the Golden Suns no-hit the Lady Rangers in a shutout, 4-0.

The third game was similar, but the Lady Rangers were able to get some hits. They did not knock in any runs.

Howell took the mound again and did not get the help she needed. The Lady Rangers continued to struggle at the plate and did not knock in any runners. The Rangers lost five runs, including a solo and two-run home run.

The Rangers' next opponent will be against Southern Arkansas, ranked first in the conference.

The first two games of the home series will be a doubleheader on Friday at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The final game is Saturday at 11 a.m.

Student athletes honored during Northwespys event

By AUSTIN MORTON
Senior Reporter

A gathering of greatness in sports skills took place Wednesday at the Northwespys awards.

The Northwespys, an annual student athlete award ceremony, has been going on for 10 years. Some categories are broken up by year and gender, allowing multiple student athletes to receive recognition.

Other awards recognize outstanding coaching, scholarly students, the Ranger of the year, teamwork and even fans.

Winners are:

- Female Athlete of the Year: Bailey Brown (Women's Basketball)

- Male Athlete of the Year: Gavin Garner (Football)

- Female Freshman of the Year: Tiara Campbell (Soccer)

- Male Freshman of the Year: Dylan Collins (Baseball)

- Female Sophomore of the Year: Emily Smith (Track)

- Male Sophomore of the Year: Brian Free (Men's Basketball)

- Female Junior of the Year: Kaitlyn Morphy (Soccer)

- Male Junior of the Year: Brian Holiday (Football)

- Female Senior of the Year: Bailey Brown (Women's Basketball)

- Male Senior of the Year: Bubba Furlong (Men's Basketball)

- Female Scholar Athlete: Maggie Peterson (Volleyball)

- Male Scholar Athlete: Eric Hancik (Men's Basketball)

- Sportsmanship Award: Nick Dill (Football)

- Ranger Award: Reagan Allen (Soccer)

- Faculty Award: Shane Hansen

- Fan of the Year: Steve Barrows

- Coach of the Year: Head Coach Vinay Patel

- Make - A - Wish Award: Baseball

- Team of Excellence: Soccer

- Scholar Team of the Year: Women's Basketball

New volleyball coach already at work

By CADE KENNEDY
Sports Editor

When Jon Bingesser drove down the hill heading into the north side of Alva, he knew that this was where he wanted to be.

"When the NWOSU position opened up, I thought, this is the opportunity, this is the move, this is the right time, and I'm really excited to start this new journey," Bingesser said.

Bingesser is the new head coach for the Northwestern volleyball team, and while he has only been on campus for a short time, he was immediately thrown into a scrimmage against Southwestern and

Southern Nazarene.

"I'm so impressed with the amount of stuff we've been able to condense in just four days and turn around and apply it to our scrimmage on Saturday," Bingesser said.

Bingesser previously coached at Highland Community College in Highland, Kansas. In his seven years there, Bingesser composed a record of 165-59, as well as a conference record of 41-16.

Bingesser also has coaching experience on the high school level, as he coached at Salina South, Hoisington and Arma High School.

The home opener for volleyball is on Sept. 13, when the Lady Rangers take on of Southern Nazarene at 7 p.m. inside Percefull Fieldhouse.

AGRICULTURE: CROP-JUDGING

Crop-judging team competes in national contest

By KAYLEA BROWN
Senior Reporter

The Northwestern crop-judging team competed in the NACTA National Judging Contest on March 30 in North Platte, Nebraska.

NACTA is the North American Colleges and Teachers in Agriculture organization. In addition to competing in the contest, students also toured the Jeffrey Reservoir Unit of the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District.

This team is the first from Northwestern to be sent to this national contest.

The contest consisted of events in soil, agribusiness, ag commu-

nications, ag knowledge bowl, ag mechanics and computer applications.

There were also contests in the areas of dairy, equine, livestock, horticulture and precision agriculture.

Dr. Tracy Beedy, assistant professor of agriculture, said the national contest was one of two contests the team attended this year. The other was the southern regional meet at West Texas A&M. She said she hopes to attend more contests next year.

The crop judging team focuses on preparation in the fall so team members are ready to attend contests in the spring, Beedy said.

Nathan Lang, a sophomore agriculture education major from

Canton, said he joined the team to help him in the future. He plans to be a member of the team again next year.

"I saw it as a pretty good opportunity to further learn more about agronomy," Lang said. "I didn't get the chance in high school, so I figured this was a good chance to do it."

Kaitlyn Elder, a junior agriculture education major from Salina, Kansas, said she became a member of the team in order to benefit her students in the future because she might have to coach a crop-judging team.

She said this is something she recommends other agriculture education majors consider participating in for the same reason.

Top math, computer science students chosen by faculty



Photo provided

Northwestern's 2021-2022 Outstanding Math and Computer Science students have been named. Shown above from left to right are: Chris Chauncey, Math Student of the Year, and Jacob Bosworth and Kevin Felix, Computer Science Students of the Year.

Chauncey graduated from Northwestern in December with a major in math and minor in physics. He is from Cordell. Bosworth

will graduate in May with a major/minor in computer science. He is from Ponca City.

Felix will graduate in December with a major in computer science and a minor in math. He is originally from Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania.

Outstanding math and computer science students are selected by the faculty in the Math and Computer Science Department.

2022 OUTSTANDING SENIORS



TOP: Brady Bowles, Kaylea Brown, Carys Delaplaine, Nicholas Dill, MIDDLE: Yamila Galindo, Kaydee Honeycutt, Dawson Maxwell, Kinsey Neiderer, BOTTOM: Tarra Parks, Melissa Perez, Britni Stewart, Edwin Yemoh

Graphic provided

SENIORS: Biographies, continued

Continued from Page 3
degree in agriculture education. Stewart was a resident assistant in South Hall and worked in the Counseling & Career Services Office at Northwestern.

Stewart served as vice president of the Northwestern Aggie Club and worked numerous community service hours for the Woods County Livestock Show

and Northwest Area Livestock Show. She was active in the Student Government Association and the BCM Leadership Team.

EDWIN YEMOH, a native of Ghana, West Africa, will graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in computer science. Yemoh served as President of the NWO-SU Cultural Club and is active in Northwestern's Student Govern-

ment Association.

Yemoh works as a resident assistant for Coronado Hall, in the ITV Department and as a cook for Chartwells inside the Coronado Café. He's been recognized on the President's Honor Roll and as a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Yemoh also worked as an Upward Bound camp mentor in 2021.

GOT NEWS?

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

