



WE LET THE DOGS IN!

The results are in, and the Northwestern News has decided who has the Top Dogs on Campus! Turn to pages 6 and 7 in this edition of the News to see plenty of precious puppy pictures.



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ELECTIONS

Student voter registration encouraged

By **DYLAN WHITELY**
Senior Reporter

The time when voters make their voices heard is coming up, and local election board officials hope college students will get involved.

With the Nov. 8 general election a little more than a month away, the Woods County Election Board wants people to register to vote, including eligible Northwestern students.

People who have not registered to vote and would like to have several options, said Linda Beeler, the assistant secretary at the election board. They can come to the Woods County Election Board office, 427 Barnes Ave. in the Downtown Mall building, and get registered there.

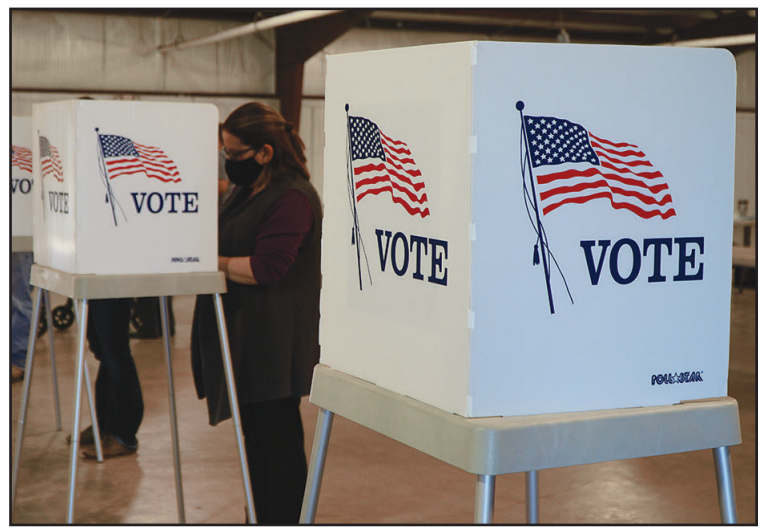
The office has informational material that gives future voters answers to questions they may have.

Future voters can also register from a cell phone or computer by logging onto the Oklahoma State Election Board's website, elections.ok.gov, and choosing options from the webpage menu. The website is a helpful tool for voters because they can get more information about elections and change their registration information, Beeler said.

College students who are at least 18 years old, are U.S. citizens residing in Oklahoma and have not been convicted of a felony can register to vote

Oct. 14 is the deadline to register for the Nov. 8 general election.

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File photo

Shawna Gilbert votes during the November 2020 general election. The Woods County Election board is encouraging students to register to vote.

CONSTITUTION DAY

Supreme Court rulings focus of discussion

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

The U.S. Supreme Court may not be as polarized as some Americans believe, according to a Northwestern political science professor.

Dr. Aaron Mason spoke about that concept and more during the university's Constitution Day forum Sept. 22.

He detailed recent Supreme Court rulings and their impact on federal agencies, states' rights and individual liberties. Several students attended the forum and asked questions.

As Mason reviewed the outcomes and impacts of rulings handed down in 2022, he said he was "heartened" to see that the nine-member court ruled unanimously — or nearly unanimously — on several issues.

"The court is not always as divided as we might think," Mason said.

Mason highlighted nine Supreme Court cases, including some quieter rulings that were overshadowed by the court's landmark decision to overturn

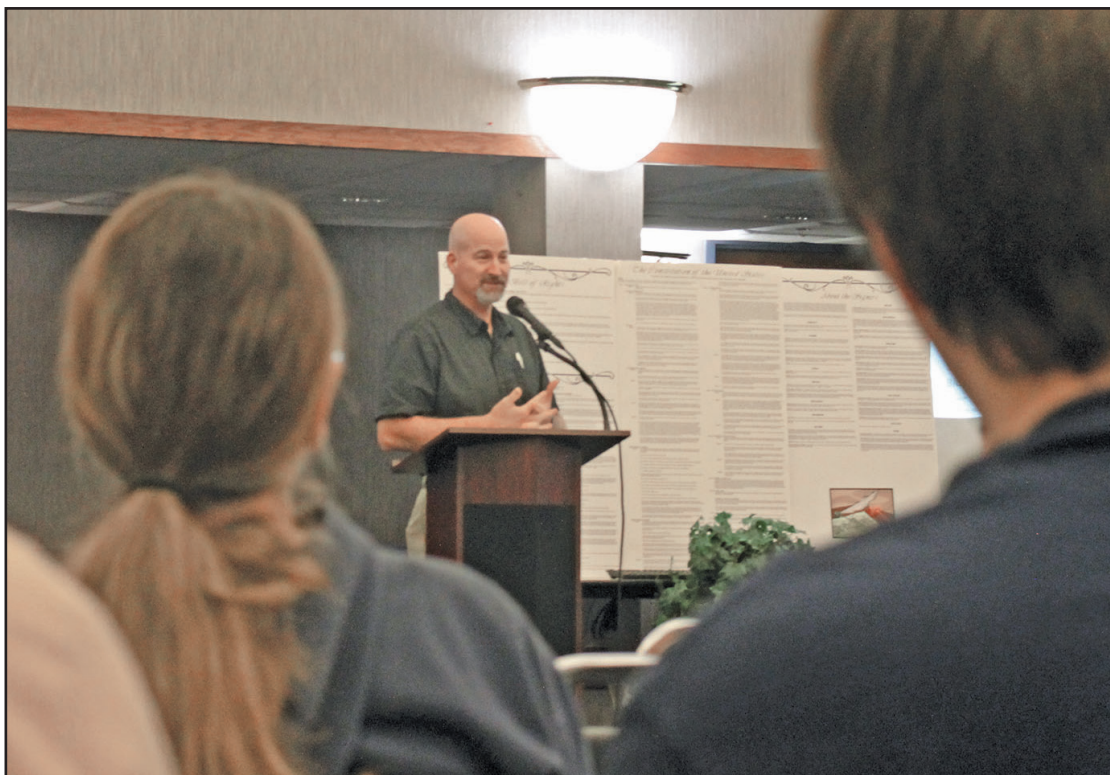


Photo by Caitlin Hofen

Dr. Aaron Mason, a Northwestern political science professor, speaks to a group of students gathered in the Vinson Hall Alabaster Room on Sept. 22 during the university's annual Constitution Day discussion forum.

Roe v. Wade.

The first ruling he discussed, issued in the case West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency, limited the regulatory agency's ability to impose new

restrictions on the energy sector.

Because the EPA is a federal agency, some pundits view the ruling as an attempt to reign in executive power and a sign that Congress should pass better

laws, Mason said. He called it a victory for people who believe that federal agencies have been given too much authority.

See FORUM, Page 2

THINGS TO DO

Fun squared: Square-dance lessons offered for students

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

Do you want to dance with somebody? Would you like to strut to a boot-scootin' boogie? Or do you think you've got the moves like Jagger?

Whether you think you've got two left feet or are ready to steal the show, members of the Alva Twisters Square Dance Club want to teach community members and Northwestern students how to square-dance, two-step and line-dance.

Starting Thursday, the club will offer weekly dancing lessons to the public for the first time since the pandemic began. Longtime members say they hope students and people of all ages will come and find out that square-dancing isn't for block-heads. It's for fun-loving folks.

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NEWS

ELECTIONS: Registration options readily available

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in Woods County, according to the state election board's guidelines.

Oklahoma students who are registered in their home county and cannot make it back to their local polls can change their registration information and vote in Alva if deadlines are met.

Once students return home or move somewhere else after college, they need to keep their information updated, Beeler said.

"It is very important that people keep their voting registration up-to-date," Beeler said.

When voters have name changes or move to different addresses, they should be sure to update their registration information, Beeler said.

The last day to register to vote in the upcoming election is Oct.

14. Early-voting days are Nov. 2 through Nov. 5.

The election board office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, contact the office by calling 580-327-1452.

Beeler said she is in the middle of one of the busiest times of the year for her office. She has spent this week getting ballots ready and shipped out.

She has mailed ballots to military service men and women overseas, and she is working on getting absentee ballots mailed to those who have requested them.

Absentee ballots will be sent around Alva and Woods County to towns such as Dacoma, Hopton, Freedom and Waynoka. The county will have around 70 absentee voters participating in this election, Beeler said.



Voters cast their ballots at the Woods County Fairgrounds during the 2020 general election. The Woods County Election board is encouraging students to vote.

File photo



Members of the Alva Twisters Club dance during a street festival in Zenda, Kansas, during Labor Day weekend. The club is offering square-dancing, line-dancing and two-step lessons starting Thursday night. Photo provided

DANCING: Being part of local club 'gives you a family,' member says

Continued from Page 1

"I don't know where I've had any more fun than when I started square-dancing," said 78-year-old Lovella Tolle.

Northwestern students might know Tolle from the Coronado Cafeteria. Tolle worked for years at the front entrance, swiping students' meal cards at lunch time. She says she'd like to see those students join her, their friends and others on the dance floor.

Lessons are free and will take place Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Lutheran Hall, 212 Maple St. The club has about 25 members and is seeking to grow, Club President Melvin Evans said.

"Once somebody gets started, it's a lot of fun," Evans said. "It's not a profession. We just have a blast doing it."

Club members host dances regularly and perform at area events like the Big Cruise and Car Show. They also attend the state's annual square-dancing convention in Oklahoma City.

Square-dancing is an enjoyable form of exercise, Evans said. Above all, club members say, it's

What you need to know:

- First session is Thursday, 7 p.m.
- Lessons take place at Lutheran Hall, 212 Maple St., across alley from Lutheran Church.
- No cost to attend.

a great way to make new friends.

"We care for each other," Tolle said. "We're a small group of people that enjoys dancing, and we enjoy visiting. If you want a group of friends that you don't get otherwise, this is the best way to get a group of friends to run around with."

"It's not just dancing. It's friends that you can hang with. ... When you don't have a family, it gives you a family."

For more information on lessons or dances, contact Evans by calling 580-829-3226.

FORUM: Rulings reign in power of executive branch

Continued from Page 1

"There's been this long-held question about how far can agencies do things on their own," Mason said. "The court was saying Congress has this authority. Congress has to be very careful how it delegates this authority to the bureaucracy so that the bureaucracy does not misuse that authority."

Mason also discussed the court's bipartisan rulings in politically charged cases. In one case, the court ruled against a vaccine-or-test policy heralded by President Joe Biden. In another, the court ruled that Biden could discontinue former President Donald Trump's so-called "wait-in-Mexico" immigration policy.

Though conservative people may agree with a ruling that liberals disdain, and vice-versa, the court applied the Constitution equally in both cases, Mason said.

"The only difference is the occupant of the White House," Mason said.

The court also ruled in favor of religious liberty in several cases. The Court ruled that the City of Boston violated the First Amendment by refusing to allow the Christian flag to fly above City Hall while allowing other religious and non-religious groups to fly their own flags.

In *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District*, the court said in a

6-3 decision that a school football coach had the right to kneel and pray at the 50-yard line during a game. At issue was the idea of separation of church and state.

"I'd pray at the endzone because that's where you're trying to get," Mason joked. "That's heaven."

The court also ruled in favor of states' rights and gun rights in some cases. Overall, the court's decisions tended to favor local government rather than federal government.

Mason described some of the rulings as "far-reaching," even though they didn't receive much media attention. However, even in some more controversial cases, the court ruled less along ideological lines than many Americans think.

"There's actually sometimes more consensus on the court than we give them credit for. And that's a good sign," Mason said. "It's a good sign in the sense that we don't always have to be afraid that the court is so divided."

The forum was open to students and the public. Paul Cole, a retired local pastor, said he appreciated the discussion.

"It was excellent," he said. "I think we've got a great Constitution, and I want to understand more about it. I think we need to study more about it."

GOT NEWS?

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

NEWS



Photo by Colby Dalton

ABOVE: Crew members construct the set Sept. 15 for the upcoming musical “Zombie Prom” in Herod Hall. BELOW: Sarah Acosta, right, teaches Lisa Turner, left, how to use an airbrush gun for makeup Sept. 15.

First musical of fall semester, ‘Zombie Prom,’ opens Oct. 6

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Northwestern News

Northwestern’s first musical of the semester, “Zombie Prom,” is set to premiere Oct. 6.

“Zombie Prom” tells the story of two high school students who fall in love, but because they are not allowed to see each other, they have to break up.

The break-up causes a whirlwind of surprises and cliffhangers for the audience.

The cast and crew’s work has been paying off as the production is coming along, directors said.

Dr. Karsten Longhurst, the university’s director of choral studies, and Mickey Jordan, director of technical theater, said they are excited to highlight their talented students after coming off an excellent production of “Mus-



sic Man.”

“All the students have been incredible to work with,” Jordan said.

The musical will be showing Oct. 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. in the Herod Hall auditorium.

Tickets are available at the door or online. Tickets cost \$12 for general admission. Tickets for employees cost \$10 and \$5 for students with an up-to-date ID.

To purchase tickets online, visit <https://nwosufinearts.ludus.com/index.php>.

Study abroad trip will take students to Europe

By GAVIN MENDOZA
News Editor

Northwestern’s Study Abroad Committee has its sights set on giving students, staff and the public a chance to learn overseas.

The committee has settled on taking a tour group to England, Ireland and Wales in the summer of 2023. The trip will last 11 days. Students will be able to receive college credit, and attendees will get opportunities to learn about different cultures and history, organizers said in a news release.

The trip looks to highlight the history of the British Isles, which are popular for the adventures and battles of the knights that lived there centuries ago.

The group will travel to the Ring of Kerry, a 112-mile coastal route with views of the Atlantic Ocean, and the mountain range around it called Magillicuddy’s Reeks. After this, the group will

go to Holyhead, Wales, via ferry. In London, the group will go on a guided tour and visit landmarks such as Big Ben and Stonehenge.

To learn more about the trip, people can attend six different meetings that begin at 5 p.m. in the Industrial Education Building

Room 131 on the Alva campus, Room 218 in Enid and Room 145 in Woodward. The meeting dates are Sept. 29, Oct. 6, Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Nov. 17 and Dec. 1. To learn more about the trip, pricing and payment plans, visit www.nwosu.edu/study-abroad.

What’s up?

THIS WEEK

Norwestern’s annual Family Day events started Sept. 27 with the shopping for tuition event, which lasts until Saturday. Students can shop around the community at local businesses and drop their name in the boxes provided. Events will continue Saturday with the Family Day breakfast occurring from 8 to 9 a.m. The shopping for tuition event will end at 11 a.m., and activities will continue leading up to the football game at 2 p.m.

THURSDAY

The Northwestern Medical Sciences Club will meet Thursday from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Science Amphitheater. The club is meant to provide Northwestern students who are interested in the medical field an opportunity to become better informed, promote activities related to the medical field and secure intellectual stimulation in the field.

There is a \$10 membership fee per student per year.

THURSDAY

Student Support Services will host a workshop for any students interested Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m. in the Student Center Rangler Room. The workshop will be to help students with the FAFSA process and provide information about documentation needed.

SATURDAY

Students may begin submitting their FAFSA for the following year. Use code 00316. Students with questions can contact the Financial Aid Office.

OCT. 6 — OCT. 8

The first theater production of the school year will start Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Herod Hall Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The musical is open to the community and all Northwestern students and staff.

Did you know we give vaccinations without appointments?

- Bivalent boosters (call or come in for details)
- DPT
- Shingles
- Flu vaccines (as available)

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Fall 2022 Staff

Editor-in-Chief
Jordan Green

News Editor
Gavin Mendoza

Editorial Editor
J.D. Eddy

Sports Editor
Cade Kennedy

Features Editor
Caitlin Hofen

Photographer
Colby Dalton

Advertising Manager
Derrick Galindo

Circulation Manager

Online Manager
Connor Gray

Adviser
Dr. Kaylene Armstrong

News office: Jesse Dunn Annex 232
Telephone: 327-8479; Fax: 327-8127
E-mail: nwnews@nwosu.edu
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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.

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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



Photo by J.D. Eddy

ABOVE: The downtown square in Alva is shown Tuesday. The author believes that if small towns don't adapt, they will not be around much longer. BELOW: A Pontiac Trans Am kicks up a cloud of smoke during the Big Cruise and Car Show burnout competition in Alva on Sept. 18.

Small towns must adapt

By J.D. EDDY
Editorial Editor

Are small towns dying?

For years, the youth of small towns across America have moved themselves to large cities across the country. Because of urbanization and the number of things to do, people believe these large cities hold more promise for them.

According to the University of Michigan's sustainable systems website, "It is estimated that 83% of the U.S. population lives in urban areas, up from 64% in 1950." That is more than 283 million people living in urban areas of the U.S. That leaves 47 million people living in rural areas of the U.S. and the small towns across the country.

Alva is not a terrible place to be, but it is true that the population has dipped from 1970 to now. In 1970, the town's population held steady at 7,440 people, according to the U.S. Census. As of 2020, Alva's population went down to 5,028 people.

Having things to keep the youth of this town around is important. Now more than ever, it is up to the leadership of these towns to keep people invested in the community. It's not terrible to allow outside businesses to build in town.

Use Alva as an example. We have a Walmart here. You go to other small towns in Oklahoma like Hydro, Hinton and even my hometown of Tuttle, and you have to drive 15 minutes to an



hour to get somewhere with activities your town does not have.

Things to do are hard to find in these small towns: fishing, hunting, ride an ATV or drive around (also known as backroading). Now, this does tend to get repetitive, so finding somewhere you can go on a consistent basis is key to having a good time.

Having attractions that bring tourists to the town will also generate revenue to support local businesses, like: motels, gas stations, computer stores, movie theatres, bowling alleys and little boutiques.

Something to add would be a small racetrack. Alva has the car show once a year, and all of the businesses in town have an influx of customers who stay at the motels or shop at some of the plac-

es downtown, bringing in more money for Alva.

"Things to do are hard to find in these small towns: fishing, hunting, ride an ATV or drive around (also known as backroading)"
— J.D. Eddy

As someone who is from a small town, location is everything. Alva is about 50 miles from any major city in Oklahoma and

about 100 miles from Wichita, Kansas.

That said, it is not fun to drive an hour to another city and an hour back to go to a store that isn't a Walmart or to find restaurants that Alva does not have.

Now, I've already said I like Alva. The people are amazing. What I am trying to say is that small towns in this day and age don't have the population needed to maintain the same concepts that worked in the past. You must expand a little in order to encourage people to move there. You must adapt to the times or the population will keep dropping and people will leave.

One thing I have seen on Facebook, which I mentioned already, is the racetrack.

Having this throughout the year would allow Alva during the weekends to see an increase in revenue at local businesses, help the town expand by bringing in new outside companies, turn the town into an even bigger tourist destination and attract more students to the high school and college.

I am not saying that Alva specifically has a problem with growth; most small towns across the U.S. are facing these same problems. It is not a bad thing to allow outside companies to put businesses in.

Overall, the rural population has decreased dramatically over the past 70 years by almost 30%.

They need to increase interest in having people move there or the town will not survive on its own.

OPINION



Photo by Jordan Green

The fall 2022 staff of the Northwestern News is pictured here. The author believes that a person's best friends show up and help out during the worst of times, no matter what.

You find out who your friends are

JORDAN GREEN SAYS



JORDAN GREEN

One of the best country music songs of our time is “You Find Out Who Your Friends Are” by Tracy Lawrence. If you’ve never heard it, you’re missing out on a powerful – and truthful – lesson.

The gist of the song is this: When you’re in a bad situation, your closest, best friends will be there to help.

I was reminded of this on the morning of Sept. 22, when my the Northwestern News experienced what we in the newspaper industry call a “problem.”

The campus newspaper is published Thursday mornings, so it is placed on racks around campus Wednesday nights for students, faculty and staff to pick up bright and early the next day. Every other week, editions are labeled and mailed to our subscribers.

For various reasons, the paper never made it to the racks Wednesday night, and no copies were labeled for mailing.

So, when I got up Thursday morning and learned that our paper hadn’t been distributed, I knew it was going to be a long day.

Thanks to a couple great friends, however, a bad situation turned into a fantastic lesson. When I realized what happened – or didn’t happen, rather – I called Caitlin Hofen, the News’ feature and entertainment editor, and Cade Kennedy, the News’ sports editor, to get some help getting the paper out.

The predicament meant all of our days had to start a little earlier than we planned, but Caitlin and Cade answered their phones and said they’d come to campus right away.

While they were heading to the campus

newsroom, I was driving downtown to the Alva Review-Courier to load boxes of newspapers into my truck.

“The times when we’re disappointed by some are the times when we can find encouragement and help from others”
— Jordan Green

As soon as I finished loading the newspapers up, about a minute before rain started falling, that classic Tracy Lawrence song came on the radio. I breathed a sigh of relief. Just like he sang in the song, I already had a couple great friends waiting to help me.

Once I got back to campus, Cade and Caitlin got the newspapers ready to be mailed out, and I took papers to campus buildings. We had the work done in short order.

Now, the fact that our newspaper wasn’t delivered on time may seem trivial to those of you who haven’t ever worked in this business. But in the newspaper world, failing to get the paper on the racks in time – and failing to meet postal service mailing deadlines – is like waiting too long to jump off the tracks as a train speeds toward you. It’ll ruin your whole day, to say the least.

Even if you’re not a newspaper person, compare the plight we had to a time when you had a big project at work to tackle, but someone let you down or something threw your plans

into complete disarray. Situations like that arise from time to time, and they can leave us feeling stressed out, worried, scared, angry, you name it.

In those times, our real friends shine. They’re willing to help out, no matter the cost and no matter the sacrifice, to help us get through.

That principle goes beyond occupational issues, too. I recently read a Winnie the Pooh story (you’re never too old for them) that talks about the value of friendship.

Pooh and Piglet went to check up on Eeyore, who was feeling sad. Pooh and Piglet sat quietly with Eeyore and told him they’d stick around until he was happier. They didn’t say much else, if anything. Their mere presence was all their friend Eeyore needed to find joy once again.

That’s another great example of what friends do. They show up. They don’t always need to talk, have the answers or try to fix everything. They just need to be there.

Of course, on Sept. 22, I did need physical help – and that’s exactly what my friends gave me. Cade and Caitlin are two of the awesome student journalists on this newspaper who put their hearts into putting out a good newspaper every week.

We enjoy spending time together and have fun working as a team. It’s one of the best groups of people I have ever been around.

Even though that morning didn’t start out well, the day ended more beautifully than I could have imagined. The times when we’re disappointed by some are the times when we can find encouragement and help in others. Bad times are the best times to learn good things about great people.

After all, in the tough times, we do find out who our friends are.

The votes are in, and as determined by Northwestern News staffers, these are the

TOP DOGS ON CAMPUS

Bow-wow! Here are some good-looking pups! On behalf of the Northwestern News, I'd like to thank everyone who participated in our first Top Dogs on Campus contest. This was the brainchild of Features Editor Caitlin Hofen, and we're delighted with how this turned out. We hope you enjoy looking at all 29 of these delightful dogs. Thanks for reading the News, and keep an eye out for our contest for cats in the spring.

— Jordan Green, editor-in-chief



Ellie, submitted by Kaitlyn Phillips



Winston, submitted by Morgan La Neve



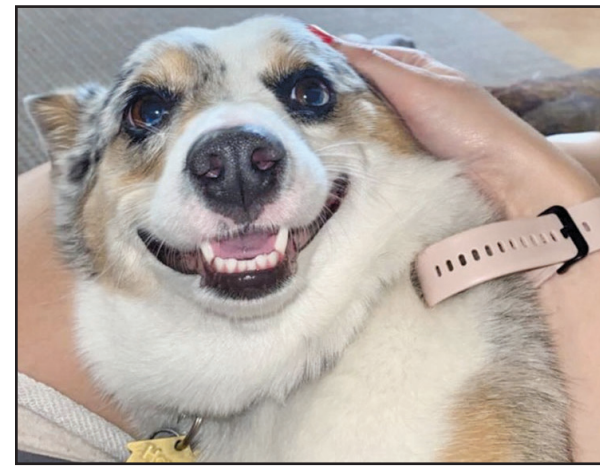
Duke, submitted by Cesar Ramos



Lilly, submitted by Ali Harzman



Moose, submitted by Sierra Schott



Dallie Joe, submitted by Jaydon Mills



Georgie, submitted by Dana Roark



Boog, submitted by Liberty Bird



Dallie Doo, submitted by Mallory Paruszewski



Rhemi Rae, submitted by Carlie Badley



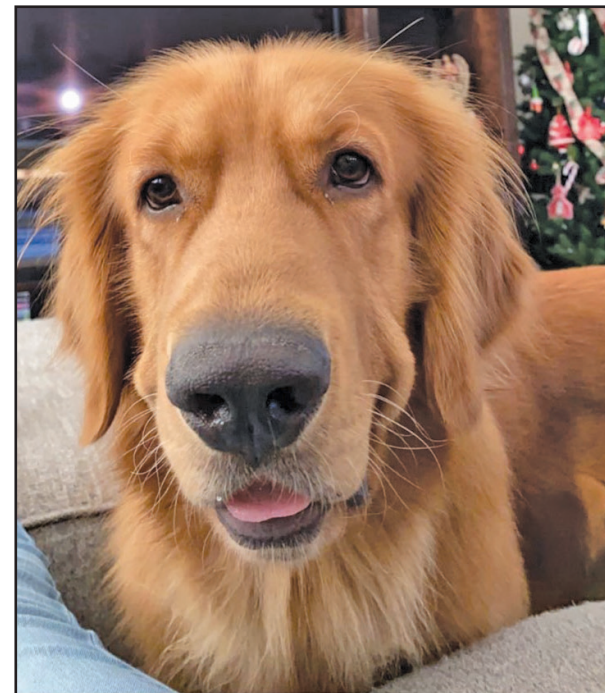
Molly, submitted by Natasha Stocks



Olive, submitted by Rebecca Wagner



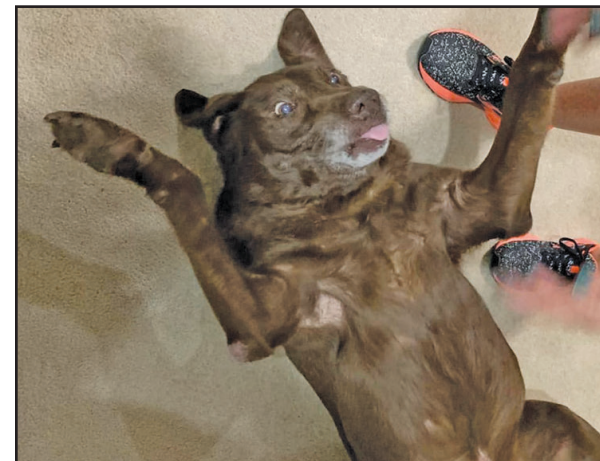
First place: Douglas, submitted by Abbi Hall



Second place: Arlo Enzo, submitted by Clarissa Olivares



Whiskey Jo, submitted by Dusty Seiger



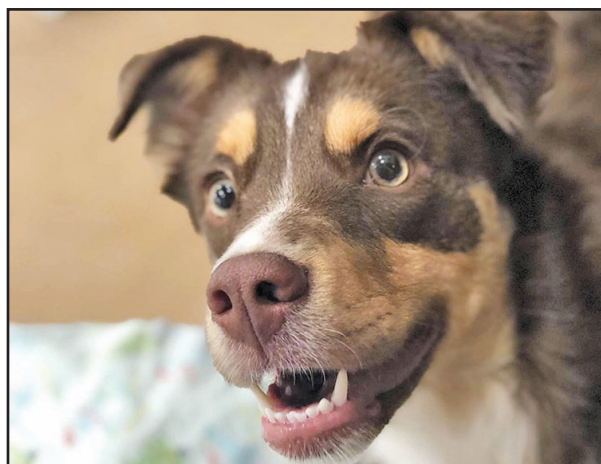
Charlie, submitted by Gracee Hill



Jack, submitted by Dr. Steven Mackie



Milo, submitted by Jara Reeder



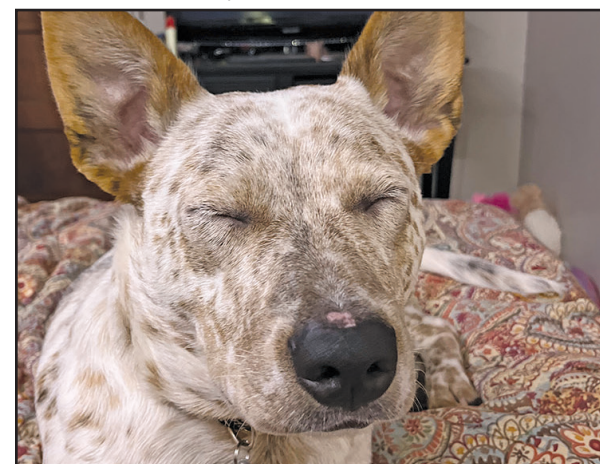
Third: Beans, submitted by Jayden Janney, Laura Blair



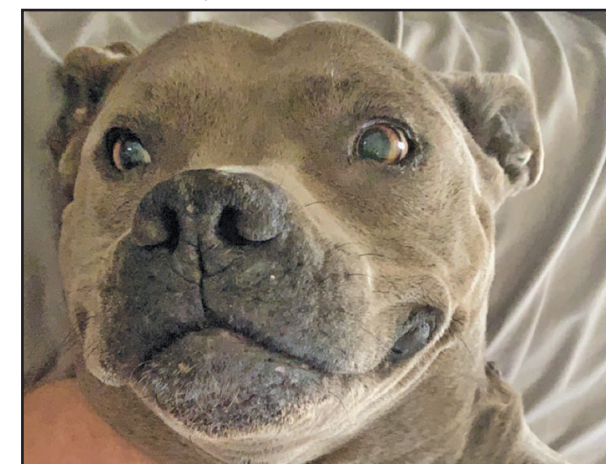
Honorable mention Duke, submitted by Brianna Duncan



Maple, submitted by Angie Harzman



Mowgli, submitted by Tori Watkins



Ashe, submitted by Greyson Loerger



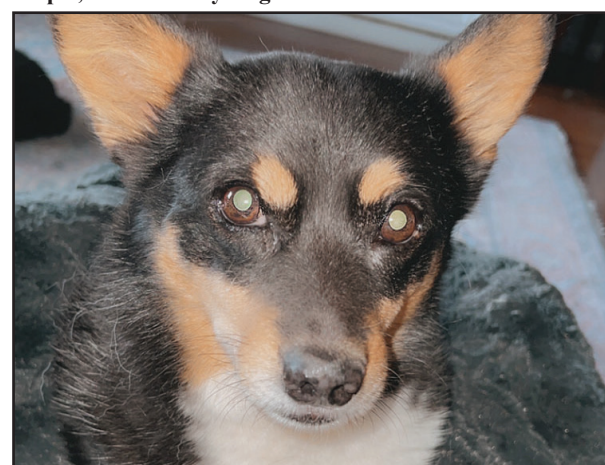
Beans, submitted by Addyson Noyes



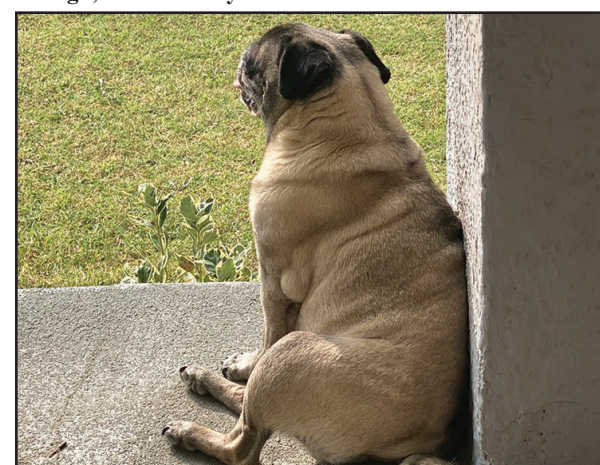
Honorable mention Kendall Lou, submitted by Sheri Laehr



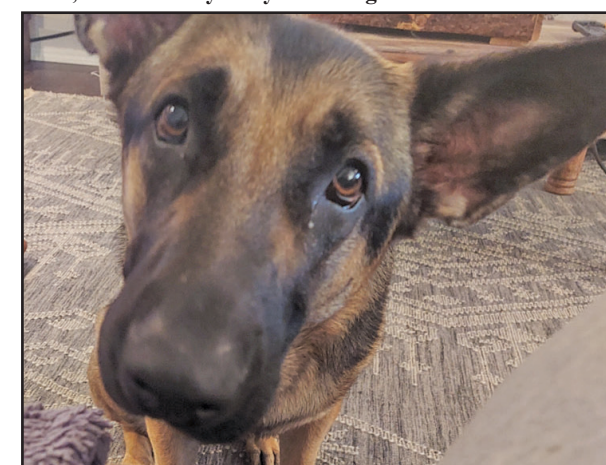
Bruno Jethro, submitted by Jady Budig



Bently, submitted by Ally Riley



Kobe, submitted by Nicholas Castillo



No name given, submitted by Cy Walters

Dog-gone cute puppies!

FEATURE



Miss Northwestern Carli Seabolt poses for a photo at the Daisy Village in downtown Alva. Seabolt competed in the Miss Oklahoma pageant in talent, interview, social impact and more.

Photo provided

Seabolt shines during Miss OK pageant

By **CAITLIN HOFEN**
Features Editor

A business major represented Northwestern at the Miss Oklahoma pageant this summer.

Perry native Carli Seabolt competed in the Miss Oklahoma pageant as Miss Northwestern from June 6 to June 11 at the River Spirit Casino Resort in Tulsa.

“It was definitely a marathon,” Seabolt said. “But it was so much fun.”

Seabolt was crowned Miss Northwestern in fall 2021, but this wasn’t her first time competing in the Miss America organization.

“I was also Miss Northwestern Outstanding Teen in 2018,” Seabolt said. “This was my first time competing for Miss Oklahoma, but I competed for Miss Oklahoma Outstanding Teen two times before.”

As a fourth-generation Ranger, Seabolt said she felt supported by the community.

“Alva and Northwestern do a great job of making their Miss Northwestern feel like a celebrity and famous,” Seabolt said. “They spoil their girl. It was so cool to see Alva and Northwestern in a different light with my title. I’ve

really enjoyed my year as Miss Northwestern.”

A week-long event, the Miss Oklahoma pageant started rehearsals for the contestants to prepare for the upcoming competition.

“Miss Oklahoma is a production, for sure,” Seabolt said. “We had opening number dances, and I am a singer — not a dancer at all — so it was a little bit of a struggle in the beginning. Our first couple of days were spent practicing on the stage. It was cool to perform on such a large stage, though it was a little intimidating at first. However, I had the best support system to hype me up.”

Seabolt was interviewed by a panel of judges, performed her talent, showcased her evening gown and pitched her social initiative, “Up In Smoke.”

“I chose my social initiative because my grandpa passed away from lung cancer because he smoked for so many years,” Seabolt said. “Vapes are also extremely common among young people, and I saw so many of my friends become addicted to them.”

Seabolt partnered with Truth Initiative, America’s largest non-profit public health organization that is dedicated to creating a

future where people say “no” to nicotine and tobacco. Seabolt organized a mascaraed ball fundraiser at Northwestern and raised \$1,000 for Truth Initiative.

STICKING WITH IT

While preparing for Miss Oklahoma, Seabolt ran into some challenges.

“My biggest struggle was being a full-time student, working two jobs and preparing for the competition,” Seabolt said. “Balancing my time was challenging at first. Once I got through finals week in May, I hit interview prep head-on. Many people at Northwestern volunteered their time to help me feel prepared. I drove to Tulsa every other week for voice lessons.

“I sang ‘Rolling in the Deep’ by Adele for my talent, but it was a little bit different rendition. Rolling in the deep means you stick with someone through the ups and downs. I found that really fitting whenever I paired it with my social impact.”

With so much work packed into a small time frame, Seabolt described her week at the Miss Oklahoma pageant as a blur.

“They have us get up super early and go through rehearsal

after rehearsal, but it’s so much fun with the other girls,” Seabolt said. “I built so many friendships in such a short time. There were so many little moments I loved.

“We took a spontaneous trip to Starbucks, and the barista gave all of us our drinks on the house. She said, ‘Good luck. One of you will be the next Miss Oklahoma.’ It was a sweet moment and one of my favorites.”

Seabolt offered advice for the contestants of the upcoming Miss Northwestern pageant.

“Be the most authentic version

of you,” Seabolt said. “When it comes down to it, the judges are going to look for someone who is comfortable in their skin and who they are.

“For the future Miss Northwestern, journal everything. That is something I wish I would’ve done throughout the year. The year as Miss Northwestern really flies by, and journaling will help you remember everything you experienced later.”

The 2023 Miss Northwestern pageant will be Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. in Herod Hall.

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ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIE REVIEW

‘Love and Thunder’ plays on emotions



Photo by Marvel Studios/Disney Picture Studios

By **JACOB ERVIN**
Student Reporter

We once again meet Thor, played by Chris Hemsworth, as he struggles to understand his place in the world. “Thor: Love and Thunder,” directed by Taika Waititi, is the latest movie in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Thor has seemingly recovered from the loss of his parents and brother in the previous films featuring him. He has regained his peak physical form fans are accustomed to seeing, but has become emotionally distant to those around him.

While Thor is still fighting evil across the cosmos with the Guardians of the Galaxy, he has largely become apathetic to the hero lifestyle and appears as if he is just going through the motions — until he learns of a new villain and a plan to attack his home New Asgard on Earth.

The primary antagonist of the film, Gorr the God Killer, is played by Christian Bale. Gorr

is a complex character who was once a devout follower to one of the many gods inside the Marvel Cinematic Universe. By coming face to face with the god he worshiped, Gorr becomes disillusioned to the holiness of this powerful being. After killing his false idol, Gorr sets out on a mission to destroy all of the gods in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, including Thor Odinson.

As Thor rushes to aid his people from Gorr, he meets a new hero wielding his former weapon, Mjolnir. It is none other than Jane Foster, his former girlfriend. Jane Foster, played by Natalie Portman, has taken on the identity of Mighty Thor and has become the de facto protector of New Asgard in Thor’s absence.

Together the two heroes fight Gorr, forcing him to retreat, but not without kidnapping the children of New Asgard first. The heroes have no choice but to go after the children and walk into what they themselves acknowledge to be an obvious trap.

Overall, it is a classic Taika

Waititi film, filled with comedy and visual brilliance, but also with suspense and complex emotion.

Through every scene, the humanness of the characters can be felt despite their inhuman-like abilities and appearances. While the movie is without a doubt hilarious at times, it never undermines the direness of the situation for both the children of New Asgard and our heroes. As what has become expected of movies made by Marvel Studios, the use of computer-generated imagery is so life-like you forget the movies are not based in reality.

While Gorr is the physical villain to the heroes, it is clear the real adversary of the film is loss and the lengths it will drive people to. Loss drives the motives of nearly every main character at some point in the movie, villains and heroes alike.

The movie uses the fantasy of hero-storytelling to ask audiences a very real question: How will you choose to respond to loss? With fear and hate, or with love?

BOOK REVIEW

Hoover’s ‘It Ends With Us’ surprises readers, discusses difficult topics

CAITLIN’S
CRITIQUES



CAITLIN
HOFEN

I really drug my feet on reading anything by Colleen Hoover, simply because I’ve seen so many mixed reviews on her writing.

A good friend recommended I read “It Ends with Us,” so I decided to try it.

Readers meet Lily Bloom, a girl who just moved to Boston and is ready to start her adult life after college.

Following her father’s funeral, Lily meets a neurosurgeon medical student named Ryle, who wants nothing to do with a serious relationship.

WHIRLWIND ROMANCE

Lily goes about her business and opens her dream floral shop before she reconnects with Ryle.

Their budding romance takes a turn when Lily encounters her first love, Atlas, while on a date with Ryle.

Convinced she is happy in her life, Lily attempts to forget about Atlas and ends up marrying Ryle for the life of luxury and comfort.

The rest of the book plays on readers’ emotions as Lily struggles to decide if she should stay

with Ryle and endure abuse or save herself and come to terms with her past.

“This isn’t my typical go-to read, but I want to say it was almost a pallet cleanser because it was so real and relatable.”
— Caitlin Hofen

The character of Lily is extremely relatable because she is trying to find where she belongs.

And the character of Ryle is very likable because of his occupation and the positive character development he goes through in the first half of the book.

I think he is the perfect example of how there are two sides to every story.

SHOCKING PLOT TWISTS

As I read the book, I could feel the emotions of Lily as her romance with Ryle started and later when she has to make one of the most difficult decisions of her life.

Many of her thoughts and feel-

ings were relatable as someone who is trying to find her place in the world.

Almost all the characters that were mentioned were round and well-thought-out.

At less than 400 pages, I read this book in less than a day.

But the plot twists and tough decisions made by characters made me want to read more and more.

It’s fast-paced enough to keep readers engaged without bombarding them with descriptions of characters or settings.

This isn’t my typical go-to read, but I want to say it was almost a pallet cleanser because it was so real and relatable, even as someone who hasn’t gone through everything Lily has.

On the surface, I thought this would be the typical love-triangle romance plot.

However, I was shocked from the middle of the story to the end like many other readers have expressed.

I think Colleen Hoover handled the topics discussed in this book well and with grace.

I don’t recommend this book to everyone because it does deal with domestic abuse and assault.

I can’t say that Colleen Hoover is my next favorite author, but I think she wrote this book beautifully, at a time when it is necessary for young women to read.

A Decade of Music: Top Songs from 10 Years Ago Today

Date: September 29, 2012

1. “Gangnam Style”
by Psy

2. “We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together”
by Taylor Swift

3. “One More Night”
by Maroon 5

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SPORTS

FOOTBALL



Photos by Angelina Marlow

Jacob Reed blocks a defender during Northwestern's game against East Central Saturday on Norris Field at Koi Ishto Stadium in Ada. The Tigers defeated the Rangers, 31-3. The loss puts the Rangers at an 0-4 record on the season, putting them in last place in the Great American Conference. The Rangers return home Saturday at 2 p.m. to take on Ouachita Baptist.

Tigers maul Rangers, 31-3



Torrence Stevens carries the ball during Northwestern's game against East Central. The Rangers lost, 31-3.

By CADE KENNEDY
Sports Editor

The Northwestern Rangers football team lost to the East Central Tigers, 31-3, Saturday night at Koi Ishto Stadium in Ada.

The Ranger offense struggled throughout the game, as the team only mustered 254 yards of offense. Northwestern did not find room to run the ball, as only 61 yards came on the ground.

After winning the coin toss, the Tigers wanted to receive to start the game.

This decision worked in East Central's favor, as the Tigers went on a lengthy drive that ate up the first seven minutes of the game.

The 13-play drive ended when Alexis Lopez drilled a 35-yard field goal to give East Central a 3-0 lead.

On the Rangers' first play, quarterback Tanner Clarkson connected with Darian Gill on a 57-yard pass that immediately put the Rangers in the redzone.

After back-to-back runs for no gain and an incomplete pass, the Rangers had to settle for a field goal.

The kick went up but fell to the ground after a Tiger swatted the ball into the turf. Both teams struggled after their opening drives, as the 3-0 Tigers lasted un-

til the final minute of the first half. With 48 seconds remaining in the second quarter, the Tigers got the first touchdown of the game after plowing into the endzone on a one-yard run. At halftime, East Central had a 10-0 lead.

The Rangers marched down the field in the second half with a combination of short passes and runs by Clarkson but did not score a touchdown. Connor O'Neal kicked a 32-yard field goal to cut the deficit down to seven early in the third quarter.

Both teams then traded turnovers, with the Tigers fumbling and Clarkson throwing an interception.

The Tigers capitalized on the pick, as Kenny Hrnrcir found Jayquan Lincoln in the endzone for a touchdown to make the score 17-3 in favor of East Central.

In the fourth quarter, the Tigers tacked on two more touchdowns, with both drives being 89 yards long.

When the clock reached zero, the Tigers defeated the Rangers, 31-3.

The next game for the Rangers is on Saturday, when Northwestern plays Ouachita Baptist at 2 p.m. at Ranger Field. The Rangers have not beaten the Tigers since joining the Great American Conference. Last season, the Tigers defeated the Rangers, 64-17.

SPORTS

OPINION

Sports scene looking up at NWOSU

By CONNOR GRAY
Senior Reporter

Throughout my time at Northwestern, I have always thought we could be better in sports. I want us to be successful, and when I see our programs, I want us to compete. But sometimes, it's hard to get excited when we struggle.

Fortunately, what I have seen from most of our athletic programs is that about every sport has improved from where it was four years ago.

When I got here in the fall of 2018, all I heard about was how our teams weren't good top to bottom.

At the time, I would've said that assertion was right, but as I watched some of our teams play and saw how competitive we were, I saw great progress.

The volleyball team had great success under former coach Fred Aubuchon, but I believe it is even better with new head coach Jon Bingesser bringing together a solid group of women who have started the year off with a bang.

Volleyball throughout my time has always been good and our strongest program.

In my opinion, the best turnaround for our athletics has been soccer.

Soccer struggled for a long



Photo by J.D. Eddy

Cameron Lobb, Tarra Parks and Ravyn Burns prepare to defend during Northwestern's game against East Central on Sept. 17 at Percefull Fieldhouse. The Lady Rangers defeated the Tigers, 3-1.

time as a program, and when I got here, it wasn't good, especially because the program went through three head coaches from 2017 to 2019.

In 2020, coach Alex Piekarski's arrival changed everything. After the COVID year, the team captured its first winning season

in a long time. The team this year looks just as good as last year in terms of talent, and I look forward to seeing them play again at home.

Baseball wasn't bad, but the team wasn't where it wanted to be. The talent was there, but the team needed some kinks ironed

out. In 2021, they team had its best season since 2012. The team finished as one of the best in the GAC, which I was happy with as a baseball fan.

Coach Ryan Bowen has been a great coach for this program and has made Northwestern a competitor in baseball, and I hope he

and his players continue to have success. I look forward to watching them again in the spring.

Basketball has been a good attraction here on campus, especially with the last season the men had and the women having their best season since coach Tasha Diesselhorst took over.

I was used to the men's team struggling in my first few years, but I'm glad the team has been moving in the right direction.

I'm looking forward to what first-year head coach Robbie Harman and his team can produce this year, as last year's men's team put up its best season since 2010. With a good amount of players returning this year, I know we can still be successful.

The women's team will be interesting. We'll see how the team will adjust without Bailey Brown or Scout Frame, who were huge contributors.

Under Diesselhorst, the team has improved its record and has a new assistant coach, Kinsey Neiderer, who played under Diesselhorst last season. So, it will be a season to keep an eye on for sure.

These programs have put in work over the course of the time I've been here, and each has improved.

It's great seeing that we are competing with the best of the conference.

Fall season begins for Northwestern softball

By CONNOR GRAY
Senior Reporter

Northwestern softball is busy this semester, as the team has a full schedule of scrimmages.

The Lady Rangers have a new coaching staff this year. Former head coach Ryan Wondrasek left to take a Division I offer, with new head coach Casey Webb replacing him.

Before coming to Northwestern, Webb started her coaching career at Seminole State as an assistant, helping the team reach fifth place in the junior college national tournament in 2021.

She then took the job at Seward County Community College for a year before coming to Northwestern.

"I love the atmosphere and the people," Webb said. "Everyone has been so helpful. I had it good where I was, but it's second to none here, honestly."

Being an Oklahoma native from Davis, she desired to be closer to home, and getting the offer from Northwestern helped.

"My dream is to be a Division II college coach, so that's

what I was striving to be," Webb said.

When asked about the team, Webb talked positively.

"Our whole goal is to make the conference tournament," Webb said. "Why does everyone else get to talk about it? Why not us?"

For this semester, the team has put together a schedule of five scrimmages against different junior colleges, with one of them being Northern Oklahoma-Enid, which came to Alva on Sept. 14.

"They were excited to get out there for the first scrimmage," Webb said. "There is so much potential. We have a lot of unforeseen potential."

The goal of these scrimmages is to see where the team is as a unit. The next four teams the Lady Rangers will play are Butler Community College, Cowley County Community College, Barton Community College and Northern Oklahoma-Tonkawa.

The team will get a test Friday at 2 p.m. against Butler, which made the Junior College World Series.

Football season in full swing

CADE'S CALLS



CADE KENNEDY

As the end of September creeps around the corner, football season continues to ramp up with more great games every week.

However, I'm not here to talk about the games occurring on Saturday. We are already one-third of the way through the season, so let's recap how we got to where we are.

To the surprise of no one, Georgia, Ohio State and Alabama are still the three teams to beat. Each team has shown weaknesses, as the Bulldogs struggled to put away a pesky Kent State squad, the Buckeyes looked sluggish against Notre Dame and the Crimson Tide collected one of the ugliest wins you could imagine against Texas.

Despite these flaws, I don't see many other teams being able to stop these three. There are some contenders that might be able to give those three some problems.

The main contender that stands out is Michigan, as the Wolverines absolutely demolished three

straight opponents before winning a one-possession game against Maryland. The Wolverines have all the pieces to win, but I want to see how they fare against some tougher competition. If Maryland gives them a tough game, I would hate to see what Ohio State would do to them.

Next up on the list is Clemson. The Tigers have relied on their offense to win games, which is a complete turnaround from last season. Wake Forest proved to be a worthy opponent for the Tigers, with Clemson defeating the Demon Deacons in double overtime, 51-45.

With a massive battle against

North Carolina State on the horizon, the Tigers need to win that game to cement themselves as a contender this year.

The rest of the contenders on my list have one major problem: They haven't played anyone of importance yet. Kentucky and Tennessee both have a win over Florida on their resume, but that win looks worse after every week. Oklahoma State and North Carolina State both have major tests Saturday, with the Cowboys travelling to Baylor and the Wolfpack playing Clemson.

If these teams can continue to win, they will have a case to be a contender.

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Photos by Colby Dalton

Not your grandma's bingo

ABOVE: Students keep track of their bingo cards during the annual Grocery Bingo event in the Student Center Ballroom on Sept. 22. The event, sponsored by the Student Government Association, gives students the chance to win food, toiletries and other household items.

BELOW: Some of the prizes students won are on display.



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