

## 2022 HOMECOMING

# Let the good times roll

### 2022 Homecoming packed with events for Ranger alumni

By **CONNOR GRAY**  
Senior Reporter

Northwestern's annual Homecoming celebration starts Thursday and will include numerous events through Saturday. This year's theme is "Together We Ride." Here is a list of events students, alumni and community members can check out this week.

#### THURSDAY:

- The Miss Cinderella Talent Show will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Herod Hall Auditorium. Tickets cost \$10 for the talent show and another \$10 for the pageant on Friday. Attendees with Homecoming buttons only need to pay \$10 one time for both nights.

#### FRIDAY

- Rally 'Round the Ranger is the official pep rally to kick off Homecoming weekend for the Rangers. Free pizza and drinks will be offered afterward. The event takes place at the Ranger statue on the northeast corner of campus at noon.

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File photos

**TOP LEFT:** Braylon Bradt and Jeff Cher-Aime usher animals through the 2021 Homecoming parade in downtown Alva. **TOP RIGHT:** The Ranger Marching Band walks around the downtown square in Alva during the 2021 Homecoming parade. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The Ranger football team claps and waves to crowd members during the 2021 Homecoming parade. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Parade-goers wait for candy and smile. For complete coverage of this year's Homecoming events, see pages 8, 9, 10 and 11 in this edition of the Northwestern News.

## HELP WANTED: STRUGGLES OF HIRING IN RURAL OKLAHOMA: PART 2

# With small staffs, newspapers learn to improvise

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

Ten years ago, rural newspapers couldn't get rid of reporters fast enough. Now some can't find enough reporters to cover even the most routine news stories.

In Wellington, Kansas, the Wellington Daily News — previously owned by Gatehouse Media — laid off staffers and cut the newspaper to a weekly publication starting in 2008, the beginning of a turbulent time in the industry.

As stories went uncovered, readers canceled their subscriptions in droves, and the lone editor's job became a revolving door

of staffers, said Jeremy Gulban, the CEO of the paper's new parent company, CherryRoad Media.

"We've had to do rebuilding," Gulban said. "We've had a hard time finding staff, especially editorial staff, and we've had to come up with some creative ideas."

Gulban's company isn't alone. Across the nation, rural newsrooms are struggling to attract and retain credentialed reporters to inform the public about city government, education, breaking news and other happenings, leaving newspapers thinner and remaining staffers stretched to their limits.

Newspapers didn't always face

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Photo by Jordan Green

Alva Review-Courier Editor and Publisher Marione Martin prints the Northwestern News Sept. 14. The Review-Courier serves Woods County.

### HELP WANTED

A Northwestern News series about the challenges of filling professional jobs in rural Oklahoma.

**Coming Up:**  
— Nov. 10: Hospitals struggle to recruit.

Visit [www.northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com](http://www.northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com) for more.

# NEWS

## NEWSPAPERS: Remaining staff fill in coverage gaps

Continued from Page 1  
the challenges they do today. They were the nation's leading source of news for decades — and they were among its most profitable businesses.

The story of their demise started when the industry was thriving.

### NEWSPAPERS FALL ON HARD TIMES

In 1990, newspapers across the nation had a combined daily circulation of more than 62 million, according to Forbes Magazine. In 2005, annual advertising revenue — the core source of funding for the industry — reached an all-time high of \$49.4 billion.

Then came the internet, allowing readers to obtain news for free from thousands of websites. Yet legacy newspaper leaders didn't see it as a threat. They published their stories online for free rather than charging readers.

"Newspapers tried to adapt to the internet, but it was always done in a way that first and foremost protected the print product," media analyst Brian Moritz wrote in a 2022 article for Nieman Labs, a news source about the news industry. "The internet was always seen as this extra, bonus thing that complemented the print edition instead of making it the focal point."

### ONLINE ADVERTISING DOMINATES MARKET; LAYOFFS ENSUE

Around 2008, companies began buying online advertising more than print advertising, and readers canceled their newspaper subscriptions in favor of free, online outlets. Newspapers across the nation have seen circulation declines in the double-digits or higher ever since. By 2019, print advertising revenue had fallen to \$12.45 billion annually — and it fell even more the next year.

"This wasn't something that happened to newspapers," Moritz wrote. "It was something that happened because of how newspapers acted."

As circulation and advertising dollars dwindled, newspapers laid off reporters and editors. The trend has continued for years, forcing some newspapers to shut down and leaving others as mere shadows of their former selves, according to Pew Research Center data.

The number of journalists working at U.S. newspapers fell by 57% between 2008 and 2020 — from more than 70,000 jobs to about 31,000, according to Pew data.

In spite of the financial downturns, about 7,000 U.S. newspapers remain open, with many in rural areas. But after years of layoffs and low pay, journalists don't seem to be eyeing jobs at smaller newspapers, creating a problem

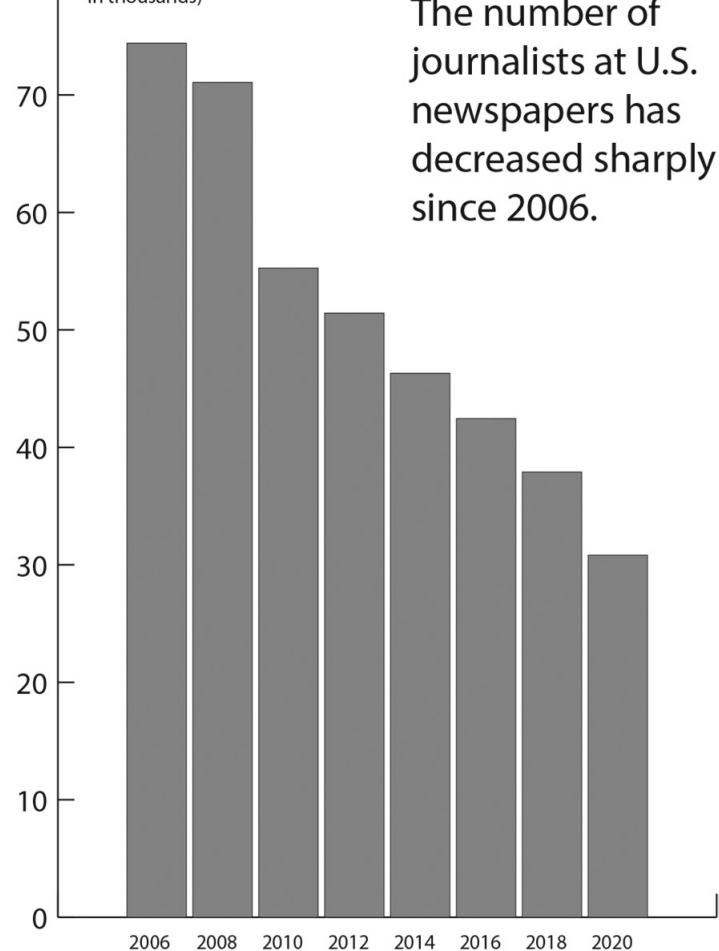


Travis Barnard, editor of the Fairview Republican and the Cherokee Messenger & Republican, works on stories and lays out newspaper pages at the Cherokee office Sept. 12. Barnard has overseen both newspapers since the Cherokee paper's editor left.

Photo by Jordan Green

## Stop the presses

(Number of journalists in thousands)



Source: Pew Research Center analysis, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data  
Graphic by Jordan Green

The number of journalists at U.S. newspapers has decreased sharply since 2006.

for the news industry: a lack of people to report the news.

### 'NOT A LOT OF CANDIDATES'

Travis Barnard, editor of the Fairview Republican in Major County in northwest Oklahoma, never intended to be the editor of two weekly newspapers at the same time. But since the editor resigned at the paper's sister publication — the Cherokee Messen-

ger & Republican — in October 2021, he's been filling in.

Between the two papers, he's covering the meetings of multiple school boards and town councils, along with the games of several junior high and high school sports teams. He works up to 13 hours per day to keep both papers running.

"We've been trying to find a full-time editor here, but there's just not a lot of candidates," Barnard said. "It's hard to say for

sure what the actual cause is."

The Cherokee and Fairview papers both serve small, rural communities. Cherokee's population is roughly 1,600, and Fairview's is about 2,600, according to the U.S. Census.

Attracting degree-holding journalists to the region can be challenging, Barnard said. He has talked to journalism professors at colleges across the state to see if any students would be interested in an editor's job, but no serious candidates have responded, Barnard said.

Marione Martin knows how it feels to post a job without getting applicants. As the owner of the Alva Review-Courier, a twice-weekly newspaper serving nearby Woods County, she's tried to hire part-time reporters and photographers in recent years with little success.

**"As far as finding reporters ... it's just a difficult market."  
— John Denny Montgomery**

Reporting for a smaller publication like the Review-Courier takes a different skill set than reporting for a larger publication does, Martin said. Here, reporters are expected to write stories, capture photos and even help out with back-office duties like compiling legal notices.

Smaller newspapers near larger metropolitan areas have had difficulty hiring news staffers, too.

John Denny Montgomery, co-publisher of the Purcell (Oklahoma) Register in McClain County, said being within an hour

of the state's largest city doesn't exempt his family's publication from hiring woes.

"As far as finding reporters and professionals like that, it's just a difficult market," Montgomery said. "It's difficult to find somebody who, for starters, wants to do print journalism in a small town — community journalism. It's just hard to locate those people. I feel like the colleges and universities really aren't training the students to even take that route. It seems like most of the training is focused all on the digital side."

### NEWSPAPERS WITHOUT NEWS

Thousands of U.S. newspapers have closed, but even at newspapers that are still in business, reduced staffing means newspapers aren't as well-rounded as they once were.

With fewer reporters, a given newspaper can't cover as many public meetings, report on as many breaking news events or tell as many stories of problems residents may face. As a result, newspapers have less news overall and less impact in their communities.

Researchers at the Hussman School of Journalism and Media at the University of North Carolina, led by media veteran and Professor Penny Abernathy, have coined a term for such publications: "ghost newspapers."

"Newspapers become 'ghosts' when their newsroom staffing is so dramatically pared back that the remaining journalists cannot adequately cover their communities," researchers wrote. "We estimate, based on news accounts and industry data, at least 1,000 of the 7,200 newspapers still

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# NEWS

## NEWSPAPERS: Small-town reporters 'make a difference'

Continued from Page 2

published in this country — and perhaps as many as 1,500 — have lost significantly more than half of their newsroom staffs since 2004. As a result, they have become ghosts, with drastically curtailed reach and journalistic missions.”

The effects of having a ghost newspaper spread throughout the communities they serve. Studies show that communities without a newspaper have lower levels of civic engagement and voter turnout during elections. In some communities, government expenses rise in communities without newspapers.

In 2018, researchers with the Brookings Institute found that municipal bonds increase in towns without a paper, meaning government costs rise — and few, if any, reliable sources investigate how, why or where the money is going.

“The authors speculate that closing local newspapers increase government borrowing costs because (1) less information is publicly available, and (2) local officials are no longer monitored as closely, reducing the quality of governance,” wrote researchers Vivian Lee and David Wessel.

The New York Times, one of the nation’s largest newspapers, has chronicled the plights of some communities where newspapers have shuttered. The publication has told stories that reporters at local outlets weren’t able to finish before they were laid off or their publications closed, elevating local concerns to the national level — and shining a light on what happens when government actions go unreported.

“When hometown papers shutter, the news they once covered — school board updates, city government scandals, high school

## News that hits home

Oklahoma has fewer newspapers today than it did two decades ago.

165

Newspapers in Oklahoma as of 2022

44

Newspapers closed from 2004 to 2019

1

County with no newspaper (Harmon Co.)

Sources: Oklahoma Press Association and “The Expanding News Desert” study, Hussman School of Journalism and Media, University of North Carolina. Graphic by Jordan Green

sports games — often gets lost in a void,” Times editor Lara Takemaga wrote in 2019. “Their role as a community connector also ceases to exist. With no hyperlocal news outlets to replace them, unconfirmed social media posts may be residents’ only source of information.”

### FILLING THE VOID

Amid the hardships rural newspapers face in recruiting reporters, some organizations are working to help bring journalists to small communities.

Report for America, a non-profit national service organization, aims to place journalists in newsrooms of all sizes across the United States. Participating journalists can apply to work at newsrooms that agree to “host” them for a period of two to three years, and the organization helps

**“In rural areas, there are so many news holes, and often there are news deserts. That’s where misinformation breeds. We are just trying to help local newsrooms cover critically important areas.”**

— Kim Kleman

fund the reporter’s salary.

“In all of the communities we work in — we’re in 205 or so newsrooms — we try to help local editors expand their coverage by helping to pay for fantastic local reporters,” said Kim Kleman,

the organization’s senior vice president. “In rural areas, there are so many news holes, and often there are news deserts. That’s where misinformation and disinformation breeds. We are just trying to help local newsrooms cover critically important areas.”

Report for America also hopes to teach local newsrooms how to garner new revenue through community fundraising and philanthropy.

By putting reporters in a community to do quality journalism for two to three years, and teaching editors how to gain support from local donors, the organization hopes its partner publications will have sustainable funding for the future.

“Local newsrooms still have to figure out and improve their business model,” Kleman said. “We at Report for America happen to think that local donations

from the community foundation or just from individual subscribers or other readers are a way that you need to make work.”

Other newsrooms are filling their pages by turning to their communities for help. When CherryRoad Media hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a paper it purchased in another Kansas town, a Wellington woman offered to help gather content for the Wellington paper. She also said she would help regain lost community support.

“It’s worked out really well,” Gulban said. “We basically reinvented that paper with her help. Now we’ve found a reporter who is able to cover stories.

“Ultimately, you need to find one person who is local and cares who will make this work.”

Gulban said he believes that helping smaller, rural newspapers make a splash into the digital world — by offering streaming and other digital information and entertainment services — is the key to sustaining community news outlets long-term.

### SEEKING OPPORTUNITY?

While pay at smaller weekly and daily newspapers may not draw reporters in, publishers like Montgomery hope reporters will view their outlets as places to develop their skills and learn new ones.

They also hope the allure of being a part of something special can draw reporters in, too.

“Small papers are gritty,” Montgomery said. “We’re determined to put out a good product. We are determined to produce great journalism. And it would be a really good landing spot for somebody who is a serious journalist and really would like to make a difference.”

## Professor offers online security tips

By CHANCE LOVE  
Student Reporter

Keeping information secure online is a big hassle, and college students are prime targets for identity theft.

Students can — and should — take several steps to safeguard their online identities, said Northwestern computer science instructor Evan Vaverka.

“Figure out a system that works for you so that you can have multiple passwords,” Vaverka said.

Having multiple passwords is not about making them strikingly different from one another, but trying to add different characters to the passwords that will make them more harder for hackers to break.

Amid an increase in cyberattacks across the globe, Vaverka said digital security problems can arise when students get involved in online banking or other financial matters. College students normally have a clean credit history, so it is easier for them to get loans in some instances, thus exposing their personal information.

“Students trying to tap into their credit history by accounts being opened in their name, or someone

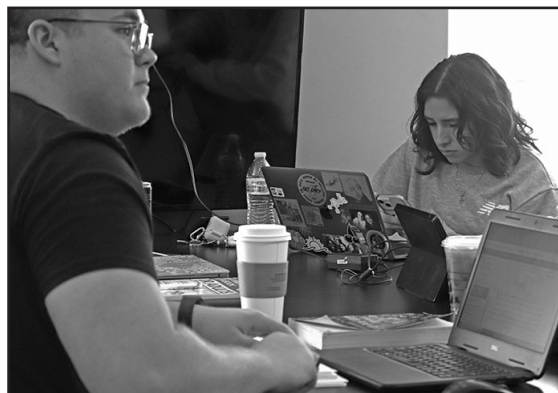


Photo by Colby Dalton


Students use computers in the Student Center Oct. 16.

using their information to request a small loan, plays a huge part in hackers getting information,” he said.

Phishing is a common problem for colleges and universities, including Northwestern. Hackers pose as a trusted entity and try to exploit students’ trust by tricking them into providing sensitive information such as passwords.

“The end goal isn’t to get on your Snapchat or Discord to cause problems,” Vaverka said. “It’s to try and get it to use somewhere else, such as banks.”

## Cookie's Bowl and Cafe



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# NEWS

## ELECTION 2022

# Lucas derides Democrats' ag policy

**Congressman says Republican control likely to return to U.S. House**

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

The future of American agricultural policy will depend heavily on which political party controls Congress next year, Oklahoma Rep. Frank Lucas said in a town hall meeting on campus Oct. 27.

"If [Democrats] are still the majority, I think you get a dramatic reroute of the farm bill with a keen focus on making sure that production agriculture is conducted in a certain way — somebody's definition of 'environmentally friendly' — and that resources will be driven to achieve social justice," Lucas said. "I'm always concerned."

Lucas, R-Cheyenne, made those remarks and more during the forum. Alva was one of several publicized stops the congressman has made across the expansive third congressional district ahead of the Tuesday midterm elections. His office will be on the ballot.

Lucas, heavily favored to win reelection, will face political newcomer Democrat Jeremiah Ross.

### DEMOCRATS FOCUS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE IN AG

A farmer and rancher in Roger Mills County in western Oklahoma, Lucas said Republicans and Democrats have diverging interests for agricultural policy heading into 2023. However, he expects Republicans to become the majority party following Tuesday's election.

Congress will discuss the farm bill, an assortment of legislation dealing with multiple facets of



Photo by Jordan Green

**Congressman Frank Lucas, R-Cheyenne, speaks during a town hall in the Student Center Ranger Room on campus Oct. 27. Lucas has toured his district in western Oklahoma ahead of the Nov. 8 midterm elections.**

agricultural production and trade, next year.

While Republicans aim to keep agricultural policy largely in line with that of the last decade, Democrats are pushing for increased financial assistance for minority farmers and additional regulations regarding climate change, Lucas said.

The debate surrounding agricultural policy comes as farmers and ranchers across the nation face extreme drought conditions and record-setting cost increases. Crop insurance, which allows producers to recover money invested in planting crops that become damaged, will be a chief topic in next year's farm bill if Republicans are leading the effort, Lucas said.

"Because of way crop insurance works now, you have so many bad years, and it begins to

affect the safety net, the value of the disaster," Lucas said. "So, we have to look at the farm bill about, 'If this is a one-year anomaly, OK. If this is another multi-year farm bill, how do you make sure crop insurance really still is a safety net? That takes money, and we'll work our way through that.'"

### 'DRAMATICALLY OFF COURSE'

If Democrats keep control of the House, however, representatives with little agricultural experience could shift policy discussions more toward hot-button issues, Lucas said.

David Scott, a Democrat from Atlanta, Georgia, would likely lead the House committee on agriculture and favor policies that forgive minority farmers' debt and impose further regulations on

emissions.

"Farm bills have been about resources following production to guarantee a steady, consistent, safe, affordable supply of food and fiber," Lucas said. "But if you use farm bills to determine who can farm, and what they can farm, that takes us dramatically off the course we've been on since 1933.

"On forgiving minority farmers' loans, I think I understand where they're coming from, but that's not fair. You can have just as hard a time starting out in farming and staying in farming if you were a non-minority."

Lucas also discussed the meat-packing industry, which has been a source of contention among producers who say the industry's monopolistic practices hurt producers and pass along unfair prices to Americans.

The U.S. Department of Jus-

tice is investigating the industry to look for potential criminal actions, but Congress hasn't been able to obtain much information about it, Lucas said.

He highlighted several other topics during the discussion, which a handful of university administrators and community members attended.

### STUDENT DEBT RELIEF ON HOLD

President Joe Biden's controversial executive order to reduce student debt is held up in the court system, Lucas said.

"It's a controversial program," Lucas said. "I worry that it is creating a break in society because I've had more than one person say, 'I went to work at 18 or 20. I work every day, trying to get my kids into CareerTech or community college or four-year comprehensive, and I'm supposed to pay for somebody else's education?'"

Several cases challenging Biden's order have been filed in courts across the country, though most have been dismissed. Despite the idea's unpopularity among conservatives, Lucas said he would encourage his eligible constituents to sign up for it if the program is upheld.

### TRUMP 2024?

As for the 2024 presidential election, Lucas said he doesn't believe President Joe Biden will be on the ballot again. He also doesn't see Vice President Kamala Harris "stepping into that role."

"Biden is showing a lot of wear and tear," Lucas said. "If he decides not to run, that shakes up the Democratic Party nomination."

As for former President Trump, who may or may not run again, Lucas said: "Trump is not the kind of guy who is going to lose twice in one lifetime."

## Numerous state, federal offices on ballot for Tuesday election

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

Oklahomans will head to the polls Tuesday to cast ballots in a number of local, state and federal races. Here's a breakdown of the offices and candidates on the ballot in Woods County.

The only local issue on the ballot is the race for Woods County Commissioner District No. 3. Republican John Smiley faces Democrat Mathew Smith.

### STATE OFFICES

In the governor's race, incumbent Republican Kevin Stitt will face Democrat

Joy Hofmeister, the state's superintendent of public instruction. Also on the ballot will be Independent candidate Ervin Yen and Libertarian candidate Natalie Bruno.

In the lieutenant governor's race, incumbent Republican Matt Pinnell will face Democrat Melinda Alizdeh-Fard and Libertarian Chris Powell.

In the attorney general's race, Republican Gentner Drummond will face Libertarian Lynda Steele.

In the state treasurer's race, Libertarian Gregory J. Sadler will face Republican Todd Russ and Democrat Charles de Coune.

In the superintendent of public instruction race, Republican Ryan Walters will face Democrat Jena Nelson.

In the commissioner of labor race, Libertarian Will Daugherty will face Republican Leslie Kathryn Osborn and Democrat Jack Henderson.

In the corporation commissioner's race, Republican Kim David will face Democrat Margaret Warigia Bowman and Independent Don Underwood.

Voters also will decide whether to retain four Oklahoma Supreme Court justices as well as five judges on the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals.

### FEDERAL OFFICES

Three congressional offices will be on the ballot for Kay County voters.

Libertarian Robert Murphy, Repub-

lican Congressman Markwayne Mullin, former Democratic Congresswoman Kendra Horn and Independent Ray Woods are vying for the remainder of U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe's term. Inhofe announced his retirement early this year.

Republican incumbent Sen. James Lankford will face Libertarian Kenneth Blevins, Democrat Madison Horn and Independent Michael Delaney in his bid to retain his seat.

Incumbent Republican Rep. Frank Lucas will face Democrat Jeremiah Ross in his bid to retain his seat.

For more information on how, when and where to vote in Woods County, see Page 6 in this edition of the Northwestern News.

# NEWS



Photo by Colby Dalton

A student walks into the Student Center building using the handicap door opener Sunday. Northwestern officials are making improvements around campus with the addition of handicap door openers.

## Handicap door openers added to three buildings

By GAVIN MENDOZA  
News Editor

Northwestern officials are making improvements around campus with the addition of handicap door openers in high-traffic buildings.

The J.W. Martin Library, the Student Center and the Science Building received new handicap door openers this fall. University officials made the installation plans during the summer. Dr. David Pecha, the university's execu-

tive vice president, said the buildings are older, so the university is trying to make them handicap-accessible.

"We have some very old buildings on campus, so it makes it so we are working from behind in that sense," Pecha said. "However, we are working hard to get everything improved."

Pecha said outside contractors came in to replace or rebuild the doors.

"Each door and building was different, but that was OK, and that was our goal we had in the

budget this year," Pecha said. "We try to make as much as we can handicap-accessible, and we have not really done anything with doors in a long time, so that was part of the decision."

The university will continue to install handicap-accessible equipment in the future.

"I hope someday we are able to make the whole campus handicap-accessible," Pecha said. "Each spring, our budget cycles, so I am sure that we will continue to look at handicap-accessible elements on campus."

## What's up?

### THURSDAY

The Miss Cinderella Talent Show will start at 7:30 p.m. The event will take place in the Herod Hall Auditorium, and admission is \$10.

The Fall Ball will occur in the small gym of the Health and Sports Science building from 9 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are \$5 for one and \$8 for two.

### FRIDAY

The Miss Cinderella Pageant for high school senior girls will occur at 8 p.m. The event will take place in the Herod Hall Auditorium, and admission is \$10.

The Rally 'Round the Ranger Homecoming pep rally will occur Friday from noon to 1 p.m. Pizza and drinks will be given out after the pep rally.

People or organizations planning to host an event for Northwestern's Kindness Day celebration on Nov. 18 should contact Valarie Case by Friday to inform her of their plans. Contact Case at 580-327-8486 or [vcase@nwosu.edu](mailto:vcase@nwosu.edu).

### FRIDAY, CONT.

Free movie night at the Rialto Theater will occur Friday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. The first 100 students with their student ID will get in for free.

### SATURDAY

The Ranger Run run will occur Saturday from 7:15 to 9 a.m. beginning in front of the Rialto in downtown Alva. The 5K Run and the 1-mile Fun Run will start at 8 a.m., with registration and check-in starting at 7:15.

The Homecoming alumni luncheon will start at 11 a.m. downtown across from the Rialto immediately after the parade.

The Homecoming concert will occur from 8 to 10:30 p.m. at the intramural field after the Northwestern football game. The concert will be a live Afrobeat/Hip Hop concert with performances from students.

The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association will host an alumni tent during the Northwestern football game. Ranger fans are encouraged to stop by.

*Alva High School Electric Gold Show Choir is selling pumpkin rolls!*

**Be a part of this tradition to help raise money for their annual trip and other choral items throughout the year!**



*\$15 each, comes with or without nuts*

**The pumpkin rolls will be made by the show choir and delivered on Nov. 13.**

**Contact any show choir member, or send an email to [ndsutter@alvaschools.net](mailto:ndsutter@alvaschools.net) to order.**

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**20% off one gift item with a \$25 purchase if you have a button for Northwestern's Homecoming!**

# NEWS

## Inmates return to campus under renewed program with correctional center

By **DYLAN WHITELY**  
Senior Reporter

Walking around Northwestern, students might notice a couple different workers wearing orange jumpsuits.

Northwestern and the Bill Johnson Correctional Center, a prison for men convicted of drug-related offenses, have a partnership that allows inmates nearing the end of their program to work on campus.

Two inmates from the prison, located east of Alva on Flynn Street, have been working around campus since the beginning of summer. Northwestern hasn't had inmates in a few years because of the pandemic, but the partnership started again this semester.

Northwestern was one of the first entities in Alva to get inmate workers when the program started back up.

Northwestern Executive Vice President Dr. David Pecha said the program has been successful.

"Once they get on campus, there is a list of items that they are approved to work on," Pecha said. "Most of ours, especially in the summer, are different yard tasks."

The inmates' duties include activities such as cleaning flower beds, mowing grass, edging and weed-eating. During the colder months, they have tasks indoors they can do.

Pecha said the university tries to keep the inmates away from faculty and students.

For-profit businesses are not eligible to host inmate workers. Places like Northwestern, the City of Alva, and nearby state

parks such as Little Sahara and the Great Salt Plains have had inmate workers before.

Rochelle Province, an employee at the prison, said there are a number of factors prison staff look into before letting an inmate outside the prison walls to work. Among those factors are the inmate's security level, the crime committed and how he has behaved around the facility.

While some are released to go outside the walls to work, those who are not fit to do so will work jobs around the facility, Province said.

All the inmates are monitored before they go out to work for different places. Inmates will have a job in the facility for at least 30 to 60 days before they can move on to a job outside the walls. Once they have met the criteria, then they are allowed to go out and work, Province said.

Northwestern has an employee trained by the Oklahoma Department of Corrections to oversee the inmates while they are on campus. The employee is in charge of checking the inmates out from prison, bringing them to campus in a van and taking them back to prison at the end of the day.

If something happens at the prison such as a lockdown, the university cannot check out inmates for the day.

"The corrections folks have the rules and the guidelines that we have to follow as a partner agency," Pecha said.

The university would take more workers, but it is only allowed to have a certain number of inmates per the agreement, Pecha said.



Photos by Jordan Green

## Concrete jungle

Contractors with Northwest Building Solutions pour concrete for a new decorative sidewalk between the Student Center and Ryerson Hall on Tuesday. The sidewalk is colored red and black using dye mixed in with the concrete. Work is expected to be completed before Homecoming begins. The work is the latest in an extensive project to renovate the university's mall area.



## ELECTION 2022

### What to know before voting Tuesday

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

Voters across the nation will head to the polls Tuesday to cast ballots in several local, state and federal races. Here's some basic information about when to vote, where to vote and what names will be on the ballot.

#### EARLY VOTING

Early voting is open Wednesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Early voting is conducted at the Woods County Election Board office, 427 Barnes Ave., Suite 2, in downtown Alva. The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Election Board officials can be reached at 580-327-1452 or by email at woodscounty@elections.ok.gov.

#### ELECTION DAY

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Lines are possible at peak voting times.

Wait times will likely be

shortest mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Anyone in line to vote at 7 p.m. will be allowed to cast a ballot.

#### CHECKING REGISTRATION

Those who need to look up their polling place or verify their registration can access the information on the Oklahoma State Election Board's website: <http://www.elections.ok.gov>.

Those who vote by mail can also check the status of their ballots using the online voter tool. Sample ballots are available at the county election board office and on the state website under the "voter tools" tab.

#### ID REQUIREMENTS

Oklahoma law requires every voter who votes in-person at the precinct polling place or during early voting at the county election board to show proof of identity before receiving a ballot.

There are three ways for voters to prove their identity under the law (only one form is required): a valid photo ID issued

by a federal, state, or tribal government; the free voter identification card issued to every voter by the county election board; or a signed affidavit. (If the information on the affidavit matches official voter registration records, the ballot will be counted after Election Day.)

To obtain a new voter ID card, call 580-327-1452.

#### DISABLED VOTERS

Polling places have accommodations for: physically disabled voters who cannot enter the polling place; those who need help marking their ballots; blind or visually disabled voters; and illiterate voters.

A person providing assistance to voters must swear or affirm that the voter's ballots will be marked in accordance with the voter's wishes. Alternatively, all blind, visually impaired, and physically disabled voters in Woods County may use the audio-tactile interface.

For more information about voting rules and regulations, see the full version of this story on the Northwestern News website.

## GOT NEWS?

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# NEWS

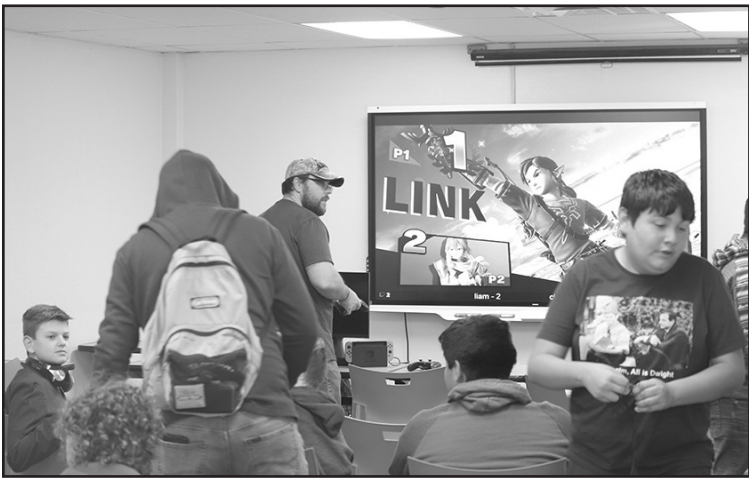
## Students move into renovated South Hall



*Photos by Colby Dalton*

**LEFT:** Students move their personal belongings into South Hall on Oct. 25. A months-long, \$5 million project to renovate the dormitory for female students wrapped up in October. Male and female students have lived in other dorms on campus in the meantime. Soon, South Hall will be renamed Cunningham Hall in honor of retired Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham.  
**ABOVE:** Parents help students move their belongings into the newly renovated South Hall.

## Esports hosts Super Smash Bros Tournament



*Photos by Colby Dalton*



**Middle and high school students from across Oklahoma competed in the Super Smash Bros Tournament hosted by the Northwestern Esports program in Shockley Hall on Oct. 27. The event brought hundreds of students from across the state to Northwestern's campus for the event.**

**ABOVE and FAR LEFT PHOTOS:** Students came to Northwestern for the Super Smash Bros Tournament in Shockley Hall on Oct. 27.

**LEFT:** Jason Welton, right, plays on a Nintendo Switch with his son, Cooper Welton, at the Super Smash Bros tournament.



# HOMECOMING



Photo provided

Nineteen area high school seniors will compete in the 70th annual Miss Cinderella pageant during Homecoming weekend at Northwestern this year. Shown are (back row, left to right) Brooke Whittet, Liz Marlatt, Skyler Range, Ryan Oliver, Nora Scarbrough, Kyanne Randolph, Presley Pruett, Lexie Robinson, Presley Brown; (front row, left to right) Jazzmin Binning, Emma Curry, Riley Hensley, Kaydence Bergdall, Zoe Walker, Ellery Woods, Jaxy Cloud, Celia Gibson and Jessica Sarabia. Not pictured is Jessica Goucher.

## Nineteen to compete in Miss Cinderella pageant

### FROM STAFF REPORTS Northwestern News

Nineteen area high school women will compete during the 70th annual Miss Cinderella pageant at Northwestern on Thursday and Friday nights.

Each contestant who participates in the Miss Cinderella Pageant will receive a \$2,000 tuition

scholarship to be used their freshman year at Northwestern-Alva.

The winner of Miss Cinderella will receive eight semesters of tuition and a one-year room waiver scholarship at Northwestern-Alva.

The first and second runners-up will receive six and four semesters of tuition, respectively.

Third and fourth runners-up will receive a one-year room waiver in addition to the tuition scholarship

each contestant receives.

All Miss Cinderella contestants also are a part of the annual homecoming parade that takes place Saturday at 10 a.m. downtown.

Admission to either the Miss Cinderella Talent Show on Nov. 3 or the Miss Cinderella Pageant on Nov. 4 is \$10 each night for adults, \$5 for students with a student ID or \$10 total with the purchase of a Homecoming button. Buttons will

be available at the door on Talent Show night. Both events will be held in Herod Hall Auditorium.

To purchase buttons, contact Karen Koehn, sales chair, at 580-327-7273 or kkoehn@nwtech.edu.

Anyone who wants to purchase buttons and is not contacted by one of the salespersons can buy them at the Northwestern Foundation office in the Student Center, 580-327-8593; or the Northwestern

business office in Herod Hall, 580-327-8536.

Buttons also will be available at the Alva Chamber of Commerce, 580-327-1647; Alva Vision Clinic, 580-327-2393; Holder Drug, 580-327-3332; La DEE Da's, 580-327-0382; Shepherd Oil Convenience Store, 580-327-8055; Sights and Sounds/Radio Shack, 580-327-0409; and Rialto Cinema, 580-327-0535.

## HOMECOMING: Weekend events end Saturday after football game

### Continued from Page 1

• The Miss Cinderella Pageant will take place at 8 p.m. in the Herod Hall Auditorium.

### SATURDAY

• The 5K Run and 1-Mile Fun Run begin at 8 a.m. in front of the Rialto Theater on the downtown square in Alva. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m., and official Homecoming T-shirts are given to each paid entrant. Pre-registration costs \$20 per person. Day-of registration costs \$25 per person.

• The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association will serve free coffee and doughnuts at 8 a.m. on the north side of the downtown square across from the Rialto. Alumni memberships are available for purchase along with T-shirts and Christmas ornaments.

• The Homecoming parade will take place in the downtown square at 10 a.m. The parade marshal will be Dr. Mike Knedler.

• Ranger Lunch on the Square, hosted by the foundation, will take place on the Woods County Courthouse lawn across from the Rialto following the parade. Lunch costs \$6 per person. A raffle for a king-size quilt will take place as well. Tickets cost \$5 each. For every \$20 in tickets, a person gets a free ticket. The winner does not have to be present

to win. Tickets can be purchased in-person at the event or by visiting the foundation office in the Student Center on Northwestern's campus.

• The alumni band will rehearse at 2 p.m. on the third floor of Ryerson Hall. This year's alumni band director will be Cara Bradd.

• The massed band performance starts at 3:30 p.m. at Ranger Field. The event includes performances by junior high and high school students with the Northwestern Marching Band.

• The Northwestern versus Arkansas Tech University football game is scheduled for 4 p.m. at Ranger Field.

• The Homecoming button drawing will be during the game. The winning will be for \$1,000 because there was no winner from last year's celebration.

### INCENTIVES

Several local businesses are offering discounts on purchases of goods and services for Homecoming attendees with buttons.

For more information about purchasing Homecoming buttons, taking advantage of business incentives or joining in Homecoming events and traditions, visit <https://www.nwosu.edu/homecoming>.



File photo

Rowdy Ranger smiles and waves to the crowd from the back of Ford Bronco during the 2021 Northwestern Homecoming parade in downtown Alva. This year's parade will be Saturday.

# HOMECOMING



1



2



3



4

1: The Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association staff and Northwestern students faculty, staff and alumni worked Saturday to repaint the crosswalks in downtown Alva using the university's colors.

2: Northwestern's financial aid employees hung pictures of faculty and ribbons on their Herod Hall office windows for the Homecoming decoration contest.

3: Clubs and organizations decorated boards to line the main walkway.

4: Dr. Steven Maier and Angelia Case decorated their office door for the contest.

5: The Northwestern Art Society decorated a sheet in the Homecoming theme.



## Painting the town red and black

Across campus, offices, doors, sheets and hallways were decorated in the spirit of Homecoming for contests to win Best in Show, the Ranger Award or 1st, 2nd or 3rd place during the annual Homecoming decorating contest.

### Contest Winners and Ranks:

#### Office/Window:

- 1. Library
- 2. Wellness Center
- 3. Financial Aid

#### Wall or Door:

- 1. Dean of Faculty
- 2. Student Support Services
- 3. Business Department

#### Spirit Board:

- Best in Show: Chemistry Club
- Ranger Award: Woodward
- Leadership Advisory

#### Spirit Sheet:

- Best in Show: NWOSU Art Society
- Ranger Award: Castle Players Club



# HOMECOMING/NEWS

## Rangers become royalty

### Homecoming honor finalists named during banquet

The finalists for Northwestern's Homecoming Royalty were named during a banquet Oct. 26 in the Student Center Ranger Room, and the university's Freshman Queen was named. This year's Freshman Queen is Maria Sosa, a student from Laverne. The Ranger King and Ranger Queen will be crowned during the halftime of Saturday's Homecoming football game.

Photos by Colby Dalton



Contestants for Freshman Queen are (back row, left to right) Kaylor Cheves, Kayli Stewart, Chloe Lehr, Alexandra Kepley and Mackayla Womack; (front row, left to right) Emily Glunt, Kenzi Cronkhite, Reagan Hiner, Jenna Swenson and Maria Sosa. Sosa was crowned Freshman Queen.



2021 Freshman Queen Sagelyn Budy crowns 2022 Freshman Queen Maria Sosa.



Contestants for Ranger King are (pictured left to right) Alex Baxter, Tyler Blankenship, Fernando Nunez and Rosco Setzer. Blankenship, Nunez and Setzer are the finalists for the position.



Contestants for Ranger Queen are (back row, pictured left to right) Shaylee Beck, Olumurewa Debbie Olalere, Paige Robinette and Carli Seabolt; (front row, left to right) Jaeden Coon, Jerika Coon, Abigail Gregory and Sadrie Overall. Coon, Coon and Seabolt are finalists for the title this year.

## TRIO program aims to help first-generation students

By TARA OWEN  
Student Reporter

A grant-funded campus program aims to help certain student groups achieve academic success.

The TRIO Student Support Services program at Northwestern gives first-generation college students, low-income students or students with disabilities a chance to gain attentional help and make connections.

Along with helping students achieve their goals, the program is a support system. Jerika Coon is one of the program's six student coaches, offering assistance to the students she is matched with.

"The people are what I like most about the program," Coon said. "We all get along so well because the student coaches represent a wide range of social and academic classes. TRIO has given me a sense of belonging."

Student coaches and staffers help their peers develop healthy academic habits, adjust to college life and find information about finances and social opportuni-

ties. The program has also hosted workshops regarding mental health, financial aid and job exploitation.

"We help these students be successful in college and be successful after college as well," said Tosh Miller, program director.

As each student's success is different, the program's main goal is to help students stay in good academic standing and graduate, Miller said.

The program is taking part in the nationwide Butterfly Project, which raises awareness about the Holocaust. This will be the first program in Oklahoma to participate in the project.

"Each butterfly will represent a child that was killed in the holocaust," Miller said.

During the month of November, painted butterflies will be on display in the J.W. Martin Library. Along with each butterfly will be a short biography of the child that it is representing.

To learn more about the program, contact Miller by emailing [tamiller@nwosu.edu](mailto:tamiller@nwosu.edu) or calling 580-327-8119.

## Students see intramural sports as good way to make friends

By ELY NOBLE  
Student Reporter

As the fall semester winds down, intramural sports are ramping up at Northwestern.

Students can participate in flag football, basketball and softball, as well as one-day tournaments in volleyball, tennis, pickle ball and more.

Between five and eight teams usually participate in each sport.

"NWOSU offers intramurals as a way for students to be involved with the school and to let the past high school athletes play the games they loved one more time," Intramural Sports Director Cooper Thornton said.

Diego Mendoza, a sophomore at Northwestern majoring in general psychology, said he is excited to compete in the upcoming flag football season.

"I joined intramural sports because it gives me a way to be active and still play the sports I played growing up," said Mendoza, a player and coach of an

intramural football team. "I also get to play with my friends and make more friends."

**"It gives me a way to be active and still play the sports I played."**  
— Diego Mendoza

Nathen Hunt, a sophomore majoring in health and sports science, is participating in intramurals. He said he is eager to get back on the field.

"My favorite memory from intramurals is realizing how fast I was connecting to people that I just met," Hunt said. "I am also ready for this year's intramurals to be able to compete with my friends again and even make new ones."

Northwestern intramurals are available to any student who is enrolled and does not play a collegiate or professional sport. Pa-

per sign-up sheets are available throughout the campus, and students can also sign up through the website <https://www.im-leagues.com/spa/portal/home>.

Flag football signups are no longer available. However, other sports being offered are still available.

The number of teams participating will determine the length of each season. Football will be played at the intramural field west of the J.R. Holder Wellness Center. Basketball will be played in Percefull Fieldhouse. Softball will be at the Alva Recreation Complex southwest of campus.

The one-day tournaments of volleyball will be played just outside the Coronado Café, while tennis and pickle ball will be played on the courts behind the wellness center.

The sports do not have predetermined schedules. Students who have questions about the dates and times of events can contact Thornton via email at [cdthornton03@rangers.nwosu.edu](mailto:cdthornton03@rangers.nwosu.edu).

# HOMECOMING

## Knedler to lead parade

By **CAITLIN HOFEN**  
Features Editor

Dr. Mike Knedler will serve as parade marshal in Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Homecoming parade this year.

Knedler was a Ranger for 32 years, from 1983 to 2015. He served as band director and later as dean of the Humanities and Social Sciences Department.

He also eventually led the School of Arts and Sciences.

Outside of the classroom, Knedler was the chair of the Homecoming committee for many years and general manager for the Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series.

"I was so excited when I learned I was named parade marshal this year," Knedler said. "In my mind, it's a really high honor to lead such a special event for Northwestern."

"After serving on the committee for so long, I know the kind of people they select. The parade marshal has always been a very significant person, so I carry the title with pride."

Knedler experienced many milestones during his time at Northwestern.

"One of my favorite memories was when we got to take the band to the 1999 championship [football]

game," Knedler said. "They came back after being down 20-0 at halftime. It was such a special moment to be a part of and experience."

Knedler said he can't pinpoint just one aspect of Homecoming as his favorite part of the annual celebration.

"I love watching the parade and getting to visit the alumni tent," Knedler said. "There's always a great lunch afterward. I got to direct the alumni band last year, and that was a lot of fun. It's just a great atmosphere at Northwestern football games. I always enjoy them."



**Knedler**

"I'm hoping the day this year will be great. I've seen the weather forecast calls for a chance of rain, so I'm hoping that holds off until after all the events. In my memory for the past 30 to 40 years, the parade has never been rained out."

As Ranger fans flock to Alva, Knedler — who lives in Edmond — said he can't wait to reconnect with alumni, students and friends.

"I'm looking forward to seeing people," Knedler said. "I come back to Alva periodically, and it always feels like I'm right at home again. ... I have lots of friends still there, so it's always great to come home to Alva and see people I know."



*Photos provided*

**ABOVE:** Dr. Mike Knedler and his wife Ragina ride in a parade during his time as chair of the Homecoming committee.

**BELOW:** Knedler and some of his former students pose for a photo at his retirement party. Knedler was formerly a university band director.



## Throwback Thursday: Homecoming edition



*Photos from the Ranger*

**ABOVE:** Members of the Ranger Marching Band perform in the downtown square during the 1992 Northwestern Homecoming celebration.

**RIGHT:** Skydiver Steve Tanio drops into Ranger Field bringing the American flag and the game football during the 1992 Homecoming celebration.

**LEFT:** The Rangers downed an opponent near the endzone during the 1978 Homecoming football game.

Countless photos of past Homecomings can be viewed in editions of the university's former yearbook, the Ranger. Copies are in the J.W. Martin Library on campus.



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## NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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# OPINION

## Participate in intramural sports

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

For ex-athletes like me, it feels like there is not a lot to do on campus. But there are things that can keep you entertained and active throughout the school year.

What I am referencing is intramural sports, which is for people who used to play a sport. There are flag football games that start late in the fall, basketball that starts in the spring, volleyball in the fall and, if we're lucky, softball in the spring as well.

Flag football sticks out for someone like me who used to play football; it is a fun way to get in some cardio without thinking of it as just running. Sign-ups for football are closed for this year. But for next year, when the email is sent, be sure to go and sign up.

Now, it may seem like a lot of fun. However, these games do tend to get a bit intense. I was a referee at these games last year, and it always made me think, "They're playing flag football. Why is everyone so aggressive?" However, I am just as competitive as everyone else. I am not to the point where I will fight someone. This is not to dissuade you from signing up, but to tell you that this is an intense activity on campus.

Intramural basketball is where students tend to have the most fun. It is competitive, but not to the point where there will be fights breaking out. Everyone has a good time even with refs like me, who had no idea what they were doing. I am not saying that



Photo by J.D. Eddy

Above is the powderpuff football game on Monday, the author believes people should engage in intramural sports to let them relieve some stress and engage with more activities on campus.

we were bad, but a lot of us had never played basketball before. If we had, we were young and did not remember most of the rules. This was the most fun I had ever seen the students have. In one game of basketball, the teams had more good sportsmanship than all of the football games put together.

Volleyball only had three teams last fall. No one else signed up, so we decided to do a few games for fun. There would still be refs, but no bracket, and may-

be a few rules. This turned out to be fun for the students who were involved. Even though there was never an actual winner, it was just something enjoyable for everyone to participate in.

I don't have much to say about softball, except for the game two years ago. The teams weren't necessarily playing to win, but to more or less have a good time. Players did a lot of trash-talking with friends who were on other teams.

I don't remember who won or

anything other than that it looked really good. It was a great stress reliever, and it was good to see these guys that were on the football team with me unwind. The only time I would see them is at practice or workouts.

Intramural sports may not be for everyone, but I would encourage you to check them out. The school does not have to put these events on, but they do it for us as students. You might as well leave the comfort of your dorm room and go outside for a little while.

## POLITICS

### Republican Congress will be good for U.S.

By **BRAEDEN COOK**  
Guest Columnist

What is going to happen if Republicans take control of Congress in the upcoming midterm election? I can guarantee one thing. It is not going to be a great threat to capital D Democracy (whatever that means) as so many in the media these days keep reiterating.

That would require, first, a united authoritarian Republican party, which does not exist, and it would require Republicans also holding the presidency, which they obviously do not. So, how are the Republicans a threat to democracy?

The majority of the accusation is tied up in the substantial portion of the Republican party that make shaky claims (at best) that the 2020 election was stolen outright.

It also relies on an improbable accusation by Democratic party leaders and the legacy

media (but I repeat myself) that the terrible event of Jan. 6, 2021, was an overt attempt by Republicans to overthrow the election results. That is simply not the case. The election was certified by Republicans at both the state and federal level, even in states where the Republican nominee, Donald Trump, lost. Many of these same Republicans are still in power and show little if any sign of changing their stance.

The Republican party is simply not an authoritarian political party. When Democrats and the media claim this, they almost always tie it to former President Trump and his ardent supporters. This portion of the Republican party is only about 35% of its members.

At least half of the members across the nation are more libertarian-minded and generally want a more limited government that spends less money and uses less power on the domestic front. The libertarian

faction and the other factions, including the more "Trumpy" faction, that are warmer to federal government intervention for different issues only agree on a few things: the handling of the economy, crime and border.

When it comes to social issues such as abortion, LGBT issues (especially with the wide spectrum of topics that includes) and gun rights, there is anything but unity within the Republican party. One exception maybe banning so-called gender transition therapy for minors. This issue in particular has united and grown the Republican party in purple states such as Virginia and is widely popular solid Republican states as well.

All this being said, a Republican Congress would hopefully be able to accomplish several things. First, it would be beneficial to reduce spending to slow down inflation.

Party leaders have said they

will repeal the Inflation Reduction Act (which does nothing of the sort) that will pour more than \$700 billion into the economy via environmental programs over the next couple of years.

Second, they will attempt deregulation oil and natural gas production in the United States. This would lower gas prices and allow for the United States to fill Europe's need for energy. It most certainly should be a high on the priority list.

Third, they will probably investigate the FBI and DOJ for multiple controversies that have recently plagued the Biden administration.

These concerns include Biden family corruption cover-ups, questionable FBI raids on pro-life protesters, the FBI raid on Donald Trump's home and potentially more.

— Braeden Cook is the president of the Northwestern College Republicans Club.

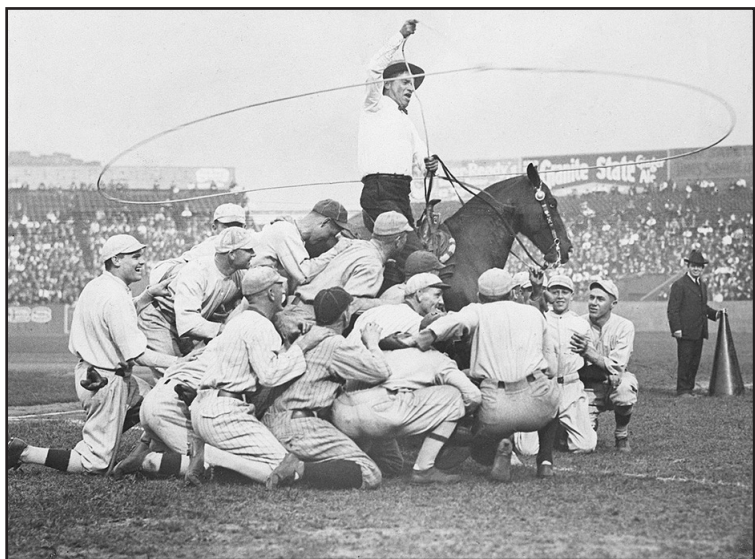
# FEATURE



Photos provided by Will Rogers Memorial Museum

Oklahoma native Will Rogers poses in front of an airplane. Rogers was born in an area between Claremore and Oologah. His full name was William Penn Adair Rogers.

## The life of Will Rogers



ABOVE: While riding a horse, Rogers ropes around an entire baseball team. BELOW: Rogers poses next to radio equipment. Rogers was well known as a radio personality.



By **KRISTEN KIRTLEY**  
*Student Reporter*

A man who never met someone he didn't like. An Oklahoma native and American entertainer. A person with a day named after him. That's Will Rogers.

How many people can say a day was created in honor of them? Rogers, known as Oklahoma's Favorite Son and America's Cowboy Philosopher, could. Will Rogers Day was created in honor of his birthday, Nov. 4, 1879.

He not only has a day named in his honor, but an airport as well. Will Rogers World Airport is located in Oklahoma City.

### EARLY LIFE

Rogers was born between Claremore and Oologah, Oklahoma, and was a quarter Cherokee Native American.

His full name was William Penn Adair Rogers.

He was the son of Clement Vann Rogers and Mary America Schrimsher Rogers.

Rogers' father helped write the Oklahoma Constitution and was a judge and senator for the state.

The Rogers' home was known as the "White House on the Verdigris River" and hosted several weddings, christenings, funerals, and parties. It also hosted meetings for commerce, community and government affairs.

He was the youngest of eight

children, but four of his siblings died before making it to adulthood. Rogers' mother also died when he was only 10 years old.

### PROFESSIONAL CAREER

He started out as a cowhand and was known for many things throughout his lifetime, namely public speaking. He was a famed newspaper columnist, radio personality, film actor, trick roper and more.

Rogers was featured in the Guinness Book of World Records because he was able to throw three lassos at once.

He traveled around the world three times.

What really jump-started his career was his success as a trick roper on the stage of vaudeville.

Vaudeville was a form of entertainment that included song, dance and burlesque comedy.

Rogers then became a part of the Florenz Ziegfeld's Midnight Frolic.

The Ziegfeld Follies was another type of entertainment that included musical skits, comedy, dance and a chorus line.

After his performances on both vaudeville and the Ziegfeld Follies, Rogers became a movie star.

He was known for using shoe polish so that his ropes could be seen well on his films.

He was able to successfully continue his movie career once films started having sound, which

wasn't a common accomplishment for movie stars during that time.

He made more than 70 films throughout his lifetime.

### WRITTEN CAREER

Rogers was also known for his radio persona and his writing.

He had his own radio show called "The Good Gulf Show." His trademark was using an alarm clock so that he wouldn't go over the half-hour time limit of his show.

He used a telegram to submit his daily and weekly newspaper columns and put two million words in print during his lifetime.

Rogers married Betty Blake, and they had four children together.

Their children's names were Will Rogers Jr., Mary Amelia, James Blake and Fred Stone.

Fred Stone, died of diphtheria at the age of two.

Rogers died Aug. 15, 1935. He was in a plane crash caused by engine failure that killed him and the pilot instantly.

He was 55 years old.

"Oklahoma's Favorite Son" and "America's Cowboy Philosopher" never met a man he didn't like and was also known for his humor and wit. His quotes on politics and life are immortalized in print and online.

Rogers once said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

# SPORTS

## RODEO



Photos by J.D. Eddy

A rodeo contestant attempts to rope a calf during the Northwestern rodeo at the Woods County Fairgrounds on Oct. 27. The Rangers finished in first place out of 10 teams, while the Lady Rangers finished in fourth place out of six teams. This was the final rodeo of the fall semester for both the Rangers and Lady Rangers.

# Rangers win NWOSU rodeo



A rodeo contestant attempts to rope a calf during the Northwestern rodeo at the Woods County Fairgrounds on Oct. 27.

By **DYLAN WHITELY**  
Senior Reporter

The Northwestern rodeo team had success in front of the hometown crowd this past weekend.

The Rangers finished up the fall section of their rodeo season with three performances in Alva.

The men's team won first place out of 10 teams, while the women's team finished in fourth place out of six teams.

### BREAKAWAY ROPING

For the women's team, Lindy Munsell finished eighth in the long round but came up short in the short round. Lacey Geiger ended up fourth in the long round and split 6/7 in the short round to be sixth in the average.

### BARREL RACING

Julianna Sprague was sixth in the long round and was eighth in the short round to be sixth in the average. Samantha Chambers split 11/12/13 in the long round but came back to be fourth in the short go and win fourth in the average.

### TIE-DOWN ROPING

Denton Oeastmann ended up

fourth in the long round and third in the short round to be second in the average.

Brandon Hittle was third in the long round and fifth in the short round to be fifth in the average. Tyler Scheevel was 11th in the long round and 11th in the short round for no average points.

### STEER WRESTLING

Cameron Fox was fifth in the long round but missed his steer in the short round for no average or short round points.

Tyler Scheevel was 12th in the long round and missed his steer for no points in the short or the average.

Emmett Edler was fourth in the long round but missed his steer for no points in the short or average.

Jeremy Plourde was sixth in the long round and came in fifth in the short round to place fifth in the average. Tevin Cowan was ninth in the long round to be third in the short round and third in the average.

Trisyn Kalawaia was seventh in the long round and second in the short round to be second in the average. Kaden Greenfield was third in the long round and won the short round to win the entire rodeo.

Northwestern steer wrestlers

were first, second and third overall.

For Greenfield, a junior from Lakeview, Oregon, the win caps off a successful first half of the season.

"I had a really good fall," Greenfield said. "I placed in all four rodeos and had a really good end."

Greenfield, a two-time qualifier for the College National Finals Rodeo, said he has his sights set on a hopefully successful spring season.

"It is going to be busy," Greenfield said "We have six rodeos in the spring, so we'll be having rodeos most weekends. But I am really hoping to make it back to the College Finals Rodeo again."

### TEAM ROPING

Northwestern's team of Camden Hoelting and Austin Lampe were sixth in the long round and second in the short to be second in the average.

Header Ben Jackson from Northwestern was sixth in the long round with his partner. They missed for no points in the short or average.

Northwestern Heeler Rhett Murray, roping with his partner from Southwestern, was 10th in the long round and missed for no points on the short or average.

# SPORTS

## FOOTBALL

# Bisons run over Northwestern, 28-7



Photo by Angelina Marlow

Ethan Everson prepares to throw the football during Northwestern's game against Harding Saturday at First Security Stadium in Searcy, Arkansas. The Rangers lost to the Bisons, 28-7.

By CADE KENNEDY  
Sports Editor

The Northwestern football team lost to the Harding Bisons, 28-7, Saturday afternoon at First Security Stadium in Searcy, Arkansas.

The 1-7 Rangers faced another tough test, as they had to take on a Harding squad ranked 21st in the AFCA coaches poll.

The Rangers also came into the game with a new quarterback, as Ethan Everson made his first start of his collegiate career.

The Bisons started the game with the ball, but they only had it for a minute.

On the fourth play of the drive, Dawson Marchant snatched the football out of the air to give the Rangers the ball at their own 45-yard line.

The Rangers had the same result on their first drive, as Everson threw an interception in the endzone with ten minutes to go in the first quarter.

These opening drives set the tone for the game, as both teams traded punts before Braden Jay busted a 67-yard run for a touchdown to give the Bisons the lead. By the end of the first quarter, Harding had a 7-0 lead.

With 14 minutes left in the second quarter, the Rangers had another opportunity to put points

on the board. However, the Bisons blocked a 35-yard field goal attempt by Connor O'Neal to keep Northwestern from scoring.

Neither side scored on their next drive, as both teams had long, grueling drives that lasted six minutes but ended short of the endzone.

With 42 seconds remaining in the second half, Jay raced into the endzone from 14 yards out to double the score and give the Bisons a 14-0 lead at the half.

In the third quarter, the Ranger offense had another rough drive, as the Rangers only went 16 yards before turning the ball over on downs at their own 41-yard line.

The Bisons turned defense into offense, as Jhalen Spicer plunged into the endzone to give Harding a 21-0 lead that lasted into the fourth quarter.

The Rangers finally found the endzone in the fourth, as Everson scored his first collegiate touchdown on a six-yard scamper to make 21-7 in favor of Harding.

The Bisons scored again midway through the fourth on a 73-yard run by Cole Keylon to give Harding a 28-7 win over the Rangers.

The next game for the Rangers is on Saturday, when Northwestern returns home for both Homecoming and Senior Day against Arkansas Tech at 4 p.m. at Ranger Field.

## VOLLEYBALL

# Lady Rangers clinch playoffs despite loss

By CADE KENNEDY  
Sports Editor

Despite losses to Oklahoma Baptist and Southwestern, the Northwestern volleyball team clinched a spot in the Great American Conference tournament.

On Friday night, the Lady Rangers played the Bison of Oklahoma Baptist with a shot at the GAC tournament on the line.

The Lady Rangers got off to a blazing start against the Bison by scoring the first three points of

the game, but the Bison rallied to tie the set at 8-8. After tying the set, the Bison went on a 5-0 run to take control of the first set. The Lady Rangers clawed back but lost the first set, 25-18.

The second set featured another big stretch for Oklahoma Baptist, as the Bison went on an 8-0 late in the set to go up 2-0. The Bison used another run to win the match, as a 6-0 run late in the third set gave the Bison a 3-0 win over Northwestern.

Despite the loss, the Lady Rangers still clinched a spot in

the tournament. Arkansas Tech defeated Southern Arkansas earlier in the week, which eliminated the Muleriders from the postseason and put the Lady Rangers in the postseason.

On Tuesday, the Lady Rangers played their final home game of the season against Southwestern.

The Bulldogs dominated Northwestern in the first set, as Southwestern jumped out to an 11-3 lead before rolling to a 25-15 win. The second set was the exact opposite, as the Lady Rangers used an 8-0 run to take the second set, 25-15.

The third set went back-and-forth between the two teams, but the Bulldogs pulled away late to win the third set, 25-20.

The Lady Rangers struggled in the fourth set, as the unrelenting Bulldogs kept racking up points to win the match, 3-1.

The Lady Rangers travel to Ada for the last game of the regular season to take on East Central Friday at 6 p.m.

The GAC tournament begins on Nov. 10, when the top eight teams in the conference play at FireLake Arena in Shawnee.

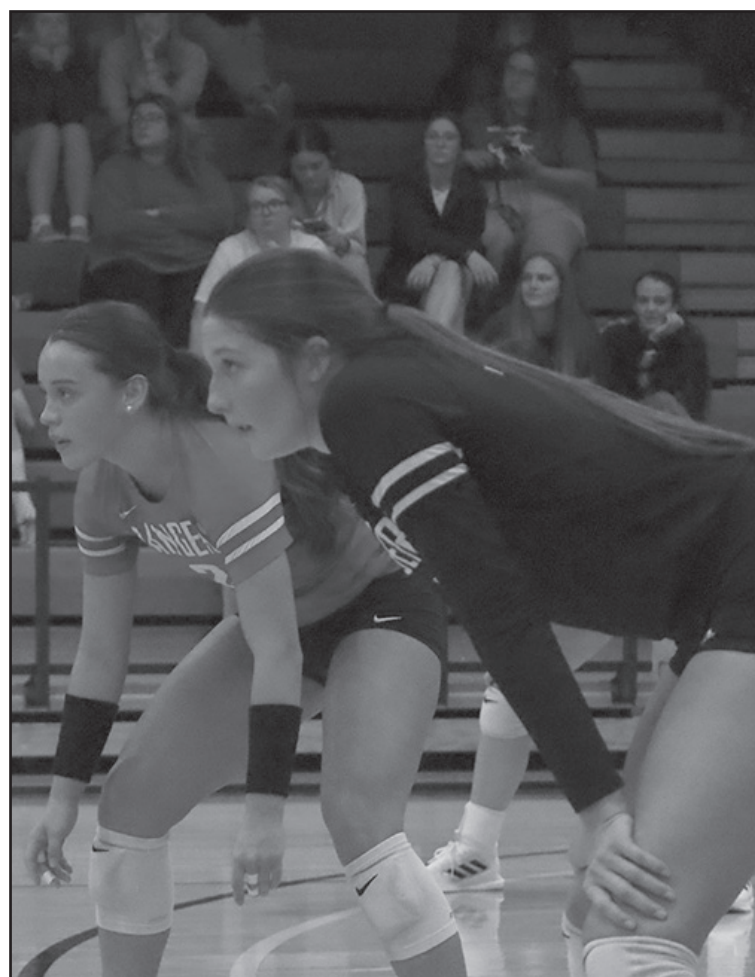


Photo by J.D. Eddy

Andrea Coady and Addison Wimmer get set for the next play in Northwestern's game against Southwestern Tuesday. The Bulldogs won, 3-1.

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**SOCCER**

# Lady Rangers ready for GAC postseason

*Photo by J.D. Eddy*

Jazlyn Norwood defends an Oklahoma Baptist player during Northwestern's game against the Bison on Oct. 27 at the Alva Recreation Complex. The Lady Rangers tied the Bison, 0-0, to clinch at spot in the GAC tourney.

By **CONNOR GRAY**  
*Senior Reporter*

The Lady Rangers' soccer season has ended, as they have finished their last two games.

The Lady Rangers played against Oklahoma Baptist Oct. 27 and Southern Nazarene on Saturday. Northwestern tied the Bison, giving the Lady Rangers a spot in Great American Conference play-off as the fourth seed. They followed that up with a win against the Crimson Storm.

The Lady Rangers took on Oklahoma Baptist, the defending conference champions. The last time they played, the Lady Rangers got a 1-0 victory over the Bison.

The Lady Ranger defense kept the Bison scoreless, getting another shutout for their seventh on the season.

In the first half, midfielder Callie Haneborg had three shots, Kailani Kealoha had two and Cynthia Armas had one. However, none of the shots found the back of the net.

In the second half, the Lady Rangers and Bison worked tirelessly against one another. The Lady Rangers were able to find five more shots while the Bison attempted eight. Goalkeeper Maggie Koster made 10 saves throughout the entire match to keep the Bison scoreless and get

her third shutout of the season.

For the next game, the Lady Rangers looked to finish the regular season on a high note.

The Lady Rangers and Crimson Storm went into halftime tied 0-0. In the first half, the Lady Rangers had 10 shots while the Crimson Storm had half the number of opportunities with only five shots. This did not stop the Lady Rangers from coming out strong in the second half.

The Lady Rangers were able to score at the 72:37 mark with their first goal of the match. Lily Anderson took a corner kick, and Callie Haneborg put it in the back of the net. This gave the Lady Rangers momentum as Gisselle Holguin took a shot on-goal that reflected off the Storm keeper. That allowed Holguin to follow up to send into the net at 80:09, giving the Lady Rangers their second and final goal of the night.

Rachel Brown had five saves in the win for her fourth shutout of the season. Northwestern now has three consecutive shutouts and the eighth on the season overall.

The Lady Rangers defeated the Crimson Storm, 2-0, to conclude the regular season. Northwestern enters the postseason with a record of 7-4-7.

The Lady Rangers will be back in action in Weatherford Thursday against Southwestern at 2:30 p.m.