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POWER WALK

Community members and Rangers walked around Alva on Saturday to raise awareness for multiple sclerosis. PAGE 6



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SPORTS: DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Emphasis on education

Athletic officials aim to help student-athletes stop drug abuse issues; not all athletes drug-free

By CADE KENNEDY and
OVELL PATTERSON
Senior Reporters

Two out of 10 student-athletes in the United States have used drugs, according to the National Collegiate Athletic Administration.

As substance abuse by student-athletes stabilizes across the United States, both Northwestern and the NCAA are maintaining their efforts to crack down on student-athletes using drugs.

The problem of student-athletes using drugs is nothing new. The NCAA has continuously surveyed athletes since 1985 to study the effects of drug use on student-athletes — not just in the game but in the classroom as well.

In a 2013 study by the NCAA, the last year for which data was readily available, research showed a link between marijuana

See DRUG TESTING, Page 2



This file photo shows members of the Northwestern football team during a game Oct. 1. The university maintains a drug testing program for its student-athletes in all sports as required by the NCAA.

File photo

Drug-testing programs vary among universities

By GAVIN MENDOZA, CONNOR
GRAY and ELY NOBLE
Senior Reporters

A positive drug test is one of the worst outcomes for a student-athlete to have. But not all universities handle such situations the same way.

The NCAA has tested for drugs since 1986, and it has changed its testing policy through the years.

Unlike some leagues and anti-doping organizations, the NCAA does not reveal the number of tests it conducts. Players who test positive can be kicked out of championships and can lose a year or more of eligibility.

The NCAA has rules in place that outline permissible and impermissible drugs. Performance-enhancing drugs and marijuana are two of the main prohibited drugs the organization tests for, and the substanc-

es are under scrutiny for different reasons.

On the collegiate level, the NCAA administers year-round drug tests. But most of the time, universities conduct the tests themselves, though some will say they do it to avoid scrutiny from the NCAA.

Gavin Lang, the associate athletic director for communications at Oklahoma State University, said results from test conducted by the university are not sent to the NCAA unless they are required. Tests can be ordered for a variety of reasons.

“The number of times a student-athlete is drug tested varies, but generally speaking, drug testing can happen as part of a pre-participation exam, by random selection, at NCAA championship events and more,” Lang said.

Lang said punishments vary based on the type of substance for which an athlete tests positive.

“Punishments for testing positive can vary based on the circumstance and are de-

termined by the athletic director and head coach,” Lang said.

“Reconsidering the NCAA approach to cannabis testing ... is consistent with feedback from membership”
— Dr. Brian Hainline,
NCAA chief medical officer

While these are the policies for OSU, athletic administrators at every university can decide how they choose to conduct testing and punish offending athletes. Clemson University, for example, suspended three players four years ago for taking Ostarine, a performance-enhancing drug.

Dexter Lawrence, a star defensive tackle, had to miss the playoff games as a result of his positive test.

OFFICIALS CHANGE STANCE ON MARIJUANA USAGE

For many years, marijuana was treated by the NCAA as one of the worst offenses. But as of last year, this has changed. The NCAA increased the amount to trigger a positive test, and punishments for using marijuana are less severe.

Testing positive once will have student-athletes follow a school’s “management plan and education” protocol. A second positive would not cause the removal of the student’s athletic eligibility but will force the athlete to sit out 25% of the season. A third positive test also will not affect eligibility but could force the athlete

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DRUG TESTING: Student-athletes say some use drugs

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and grades, as student-athletes who smoked marijuana in the previous 30 days were three times as likely to have failing grades in a class than students who did not smoke. The study also revealed that student-athletes who have never used marijuana had a higher rate of A's.

The study also showed a steady trend in marijuana use. The percentage of student-athletes who claimed to smoke marijuana was 21.9%. In the 2009 version of the study, the amount was at 22.6%, while the 2005 study had the lowest percentage of the three, with only 21.2% of the student-athletes smoking.

The NCAA has its own policy about drug testing. Nine different classes of drugs appear on the list of banned substances. Some of the drugs may sound familiar, such as narcotics, alcohol, stimulants and cannabinoids. However, names like anabolic agents, masking agents and peptide hormones may confuse some readers. For those wanting to know the common names in these drug classes, the NCAA lists examples for all nine classes.

NORTHWESTERN SEES LOW POSITIVE TEST RATE

Northwestern has its own drug policy as well. Brad Franz, the athletic director at Northwestern, said the policies of the NCAA and Northwestern are quite different.

"The NCAA is going to come in and test for banned substances as well as performance-enhancing drugs," Franz said. "They will probably come in twice a year, and maybe a third time, but usually once a semester, and pick 50 to 60 athletes from multiple different teams and do the drug test through Keith Wear, our trainer, who handles all of our drug testing. After the test, they'll run it through the screen."

Franz said the number of positive drug tests has been low, and that the education provided by the athletic department has helped the number stay low.

"We've had very few occurrences of that, as we do a lot of drug education, be it recreational drugs or performance enhancing drugs," Franz said. "Keith does that in the fall, and we just have not seen a lot of that. I think that kids are a lot more educated. ... With the world we are in, there is so much in professional sports about performance-enhancing drugs that they know about."

DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION IS KEY PART OF POLICY

Drug education is a major part of the Northwestern drug policy. Substance abuse education is mentioned before drug testing in the section of the student-athlete handbook involving Northwestern's drug policy. The education segment details Northwestern's plan to provide seminars for all Northwestern student-athletes about drug abuse problems and how substance abuse affects an

athlete.

For drug testing, the handbook lists three different ways testing can occur. The first type of testing is random testing, which is a sporadic type of testing that pops up periodically and involves an unspecified number of student-athletes.

The second type is team testing, which happens when the head coach of a team specifically requests, with the approval of the athletic director, that the entire team be tested at the same time.

The final type of testing is reasonable suspicion, which occurs because of the head coach or the athletic director questioning a student-athlete's fitness to perform.

In addition to the three types of testing, the handbook mentions other signs that coaches need to look out for. Two of the three signs are similar to the types of testing, as they involve reasonable suspicion and the athlete's performance being in question. However, the final sign said the test will be used anytime the athlete's behavior is antisocial.

"I would describe antisocial as adrift of their teammates," Franz said. "If someone finds themselves drifting away from their teammates, we will find them and say, 'You're not hanging around your teammates. You're not hanging around your things. Is everything OK?'"

The university has a three-tiered "strike" policy regarding drug testing. After three positive drug tests, a student can be permanently terminated from the university and athletic teams. But before a student reaches that point, several steps of intervention are in place to help the student, according to the drug testing policy.

GETTING HELP FOR STRUGGLING ATHLETES

These tests and signs are not the only factors coaches look out for when it comes to testing. Coaches are likely aware of

the signs and symptoms of drug abuse by students.

"The coach would probably know right away," said Jon Bingsesser, the head coach of the Northwestern volleyball team. "Especially if it was a situation that got out of hand, like marijuana, for example, you could probably tell by smelling it or by seeing that their eyes are bloodshot."

'SAFE HARBOR' CAN HELP

Looking for signs is not the only job coaches have when it comes to drugs. They can also help student-athletes get the aid they need through the procedure called "safe harbor."

The procedure involves an athlete informing his or her coach about a drug problem the athlete has. It gives the student-athlete a 30-day period where the athlete will not be included in drug testing, but the athlete will not be able to practice or compete.

The athlete will also have to go to counseling during this period and will be reinserted into the pool of drug test applicants after the 30-day period. Student-athletes can only use safe harbor one time while at Northwestern.

"If somebody comes to us and says, 'I have a drug problem,' whatever it might be with all the different things in society today, we are going to be supportive and get them the help that they would request," Franz said.

SOME STUDENTS HAVEN'T BEEN TESTED

Despite the attempts to inform the student-athletes about drug use and the consequences it can create, some students at Northwestern said they have noticed athletes using drugs. These students chose to remain anonymous not only to protect their identity, but also to protect student-athletes.

Despite this student being at Northwestern for four years, as well as playing on an athlet-

ic team for four years, the athlete has never been selected for a drug test. The Northwestern student-athlete handbook states that the drug testing for athletes is random, as a computer picks who will be tested. However, the student shared a different opinion about the randomized drug testing.

"I feel like they have a feeling who should be tested," the student said. "I do not know if it is randomly picked or if they go based on who they know does what outside of practice and games."

The student said they have smoked marijuana often but did not believe that it enhances their skills during a game.

"I believe that is it for recovery and post-workout or post-games," the student said.

Another student, who also chose to remain anonymous, said they believe the drug tests occurred irregularly.

"I feel like it's kind of random at times," the student said. "I am not sure if they single anyone out. I think I have taken one drug test in my time here at NWOSU."

This student was not sure about the official policy set in place by Northwestern, but the student said the student-athletes are usually told about what they are testing for in the drug test, whether it be marijuana or sports-enhancing drugs.

If an athlete fails a drug test and is under 21 years of age, Northwestern will contact the student's parents or legal guardian to inform them of what the student tested positive for, the athlete said. If a student fails a drug test conducted by the NCAA, the student will be suspended from the sport and workouts for a calendar year.

Both students said they know

other players on the university's athletic teams who smoke marijuana, but they were unaware of other drug abuse by other students.

"I do smoke marijuana here and there," one student, who chose to remain anonymous, said. "I do not think that I would be able to play my sport under the influence of a drug, but I do know some of my teammates say that it helps them stay focused during the competition."

While marijuana is one of the major focuses of drug tests, another student-athlete said they do not know how long that will last.

"Marijuana is becoming more normalized and legal around the world," one of the students, who chose to remain anonymous, said. "I think that policies and tests related to marijuana use will start to become less strict and tested for less over the years to come."

A third anonymous student-athlete said they did not personally use drugs, but they knew other athletes on campus who did.


OFFICIALS WORKING TO KEEP COMPLIANCE

While some students are taking advantage of the infrequent drug tests, Jeremy Jones, the assistant director of athletics for compliance and student services, said he is doing everything he can to keep Northwestern aligned with the rules of the NCAA.

Despite only being at Northwestern for 10 months, he is making it a priority to keep the drug policies enforced.

"We take the drug policy very seriously here at NWOSU," Jones said. "We follow precisely what is stated in our policy and do not change our policy for anyone who fails a drug test."


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NCAA: Some athletes want lesser punishments for drug use

Continued from Page 1

to miss up to half of the games.

“Reconsidering the NCAA approach to cannabis testing and management is consistent with feedback from membership on how to better support and educate student-athletes in a society with rapidly evolving public health and cultural views regarding cannabis use,” NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brian Hainline said in a statement in 2022.

While he does not believe marijuana is a performance-enhancing drug, schools should help student-athletes with substance prevention and support them, Hainline said.

The most severe punishment an athlete could get is a ban for tampering with a drug test.

Former LSU cornerback Kristian Fulton was banned for 730 days for tampering with a test. He attempted to use another player’s urine to pass, but he got caught.

He later had another drug test with his own urine, but it came back clean, which sparked some controversy over his suspension. Though an appeal was made, the NCAA stood by its decision to ban Fulton.

HANDLING TESTING LOCALLY

In addition to NCAA testing, universities have operated their own institutional testing programs independent of the NCAA’s. Universities are required to hand out an annual list of banned drug classes to all student-athletes, including student-athletes who transfer mid-year.

The NCAA encourages schools to do testing on their own time to make sure athletes are clean.

Purdue University follows testing the

NCAA has set dates for, and like OSU, Purdue conducts its own random tests throughout the school year to make sure their athletes are not using banned substances.

The NCAA does have medical exceptions for athletes who need a specific drug for documented medical reasons. If that is the case, the NCAA’s designated drug-testing agency will assist with the medical exception process.

Testing done for performance-enhancing drugs and illegal substances is administered at every level of the NCAA.

Jon Thoren – a former collegiate athlete who used to play baseball for Occidental University, a Division III school in Los Angeles, California – said he believes testing is good. However, he was never tested during his playing days.

“My stance is that it should happen and that it’s good, but my school doesn’t really drug test at all,” Thoren said. “They only drug test if you make the conference tourney at end of the year.”

Not all schools test athletes regularly, and the amount of testing differs with each level of competition; 90% of Division I, 65% of Division II and 21% of Division III schools conduct their own drug testing programs.

For Thoren and other Division III athletes, having fewer drug tests is normal compared to higher levels of competition.

Thoren said his school does try to educate athletes, although he said he believes the school only does so because it is required to.

“They cover drugs that are illegal, but only do so at the beginning of the year for protocol reasons,” Thoren said. “They are vague about it and do not keep us updated

with specific drugs that are illegal or legal to use.”

SOME SAY PUNISHMENTS ARE TOO HARSH

When an athlete is punished for using drugs, administrators often face push back. Some people say the punishment is too harsh, especially if the student has never gotten in trouble with drugs before.

“Punishment is good, but not to the level of taking one year. That’s too tough,” Thoren said. “I think the punishment of missing a game or week is better or even just requiring a class to go to or program instead of missing time.”

A baseball player at Adams State University in Colorado, a Division II school, agreed that some punishments are too strict. The athlete spoke on condition of anonymity.

“When we look at the punishment these athletes are receiving, obviously the need for punishment is essential, but there should be a way to maybe earn that trust back and regain a year of eligibility because, while maybe they were in the wrong in the moment, that doesn’t mean people can’t change, especially when their career and passion is on the line,” he said.

He said bans on some performance enhancers should be reevaluated.

“Maybe they could lighten up on the use of performance enhancers, especially at the college football level because, while maybe it enhances your level of play, more often than not, athletes are consuming these drugs to stay on the field longer and all season,” he said.

Similar to Thoren, the athlete at Adams State said he has not been tested and has

not seen or heard of many tests.

“I have been here for two semesters and have only seen one drug test at the beginning of the year and have no clue when the next one could be,” he said. “I feel as if the NCAA makes it pretty clear what drugs are prohibited to use as a student-athlete.”

ATHLETIC DIRECTORS SAY POSITIVE TESTS ARE FEW

To give a better understating of how colleges in Oklahoma approach drug testing for student-athletes, several athletic directors gave insight into their drug-testing programs. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

One athletic director from a Division II school said the school’s drug testing is “very thorough” and is “randomly administered throughout the year.”

The school tests for a wide range of drugs, including performance-enhancing drugs and recreational drugs such as marijuana.

When asked about how often their athletes test positive, the athletic director said that “the vast majority of our student-athletes test negative.”

Another athletic director from a Division II school in the same conference said the school’s drug testing program is “less frequent” than at a Division I school. The director said the university only tests student-athletes once or twice a year, usually before or during the season.

When asked about the effectiveness of their program, the athletic director said the school has had “a handful of positive tests” during the past few years, but officials were able to address the issues with the individual student-athletes.

UNIVERSITY NEWS BRIEFS

Earth Day event, Fields of Faith worship time scheduled for Rangers

EARTH DAY EVENT SEEKS TO EDUCATE ON THURSDAY

ENID – Members of the Conserving our Ranger Environment student club, better known as CORE, are hosting an Earth Day event Thursday.

Rangers will be making seed balls in partnership with the Fowler Early Childhood Center in Enid. The seed balls are made of native pollinating seeds, organic compost and red clay. It will be an opportunity for Rangers to teach children about nature. The project is sponsored by Park Avenue Thrift and Johnston Seed Co, CORE members said in a news release.

“CORE members will spend the morning making seed balls with Fowler students,” CORE member Ashley Hromas Roach and sponsor Dr. Steven Mackie said in a news release. “Members will also be teaching Fowler students about pollination, the importance of pollinator gardens, and butterfly migration. Good environmental stewardship starts with young children. CORE hopes that through this project, students will be inspired to practice good environmental stewardship throughout their lives.”

CORE is a student organization focused on community engagement and environmental sustainability. For more information

about the club and how to join, contact Mackie by calling (580) 213-3121 or emailing swmackie@nwosu.edu.

WORSHIP EVENT SEEKS TO CHANGE LIVES MONDAY NIGHT

Northwestern students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to a night of live music and worship at Ranger Field on Monday.

Northwestern’s FORGE Bible study group and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes will host the Fields of Faith event beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The event will take place in conjunction with the Fire-OK group, which seeks to promote prayer across Oklahoma.

Dr. Jennifer Oswald, chair of the university’s division of education, is the sponsor for the event. Oswald said it will provide an opportunity for “students, community, and leaders to passionately worship, pray, and repent.”

“April is that time of year that things are steamrolling, and we tend to lose focus, struggle, and feel anxious and overwhelmed,” Oswald said. “A night of worship with music and prayer renews, refreshes and strengthens the body, mind, and soul. I think we all could use a little of that.”

Oswald said she hopes to see transformation take place in peo-

ple’s lives. “Fire-OK believes for revival in our city, state, and nation,” Oswald said. “We hope that people leave feeling lighter and hopeful. We hope we have students who have never experienced a worship event attend and lives are changed.

“We hope students connect with any of our many campus ministries and continue to grow in their faith.”

This is the first Fire-OK event to take place on campus. The Fields of Faith event hasn’t taken place in several years, Oswald said. The guest speaker at the event will be Cody Anderson, senior pastor at Faith Center Fellowship, which has a church in Alva at 324 College Ave.

Oswald said she hopes to see strong participation and for the event to take place regularly.

“While this is an event planned with students as the focus, we invite any and all students, NWO-SU faculty and staff, as well as community members to join us as well,” Oswald said. “If you are feeling even a little nudge to attend, I challenge you to come. Just give it a try. Bring a friend, bring just yourself, bring your entire tribe or team.”

For more information, contact Oswald by emailing jdoswald@nwosu.edu or calling (580) 327-8451.

— From staff reports



Northwestern CORE member Ashley Hromas Roach poses for a portrait with seed balls, which the club will be making Thursday to celebrate Earth Day. The event will take place in Enid.

Photo provided

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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

SOMETHING TO THINK ON

Learn to control your mind before it begins to control you.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mixing drugs increases health risks

By **CHLOE KUNNEMANN**
Guest Columnist

This week's mental health column focuses on preventing opioid abuse and the dangers of mixing drugs.

An overdose can occur because of different drugs, but primarily, it is caused by mixing drugs. Opioid overdoses are when the individual is unresponsive to stimulation and/or their breathing is inadequate.

The use of high amounts of opioids or a combination of opioids can lead to an overdose. Opioids cause such a response because of the receptors the drugs

affect that control breathing. This creates a lack of oxygen levels in the blood and can make lips and fingers appear blue. The lack of oxygen then affects organs like the heart, followed by the brain, causing unconsciousness, coma and then death.

Mixing stimulants can have extremely serious consequences, such as brain injury, liver damage, heart attack and stroke. Stimulants used by themselves can increase the individual's heart rate and blood pressure to dangerous levels.

The signs of an overdose include fast breathing, increased body temperature, nausea, chest pain, seizures and tremors.

Mixing stimulants with depressants can cause masking of the actual effects of the drugs. This may lead to the individual not feeling the effects, making it easier to overdose.

If you or someone you know needs to talk to someone, dial 988, a helpline for immediate crisis and non-emergency assistance for mental health and substance use issues. For serious medical problems or any imminent, life-threatening situation, dial 911.

Northwestern student Chloe Kunnemann wrote this column on behalf of the Northwestern Counseling & Career Services Office.

Oklahomans in need of mental health help can call the state mental health hotline, 988, in an immediate crisis situation or a non-emergency situation. In case of an emergency, dial 911

WILLIE SPEARS SERIES: 'NOW HIRING'

Why young people don't go to church

By **WILLIE SPEARS**
Guest Columnist

Easter Sunday was two weeks ago. I saw several posts on social media celebrating the Resurrection. If you scrolled through my timeline, you would think everyone went to church on Easter and most Sundays.

When I was a little boy, I don't know if I knew anyone who did not go to church. I was born and raised in the South, where attending church was a weekly tradition.

For the past 25 years, I have served in ministry and noticed many young people are not attending church. This observation is backed up by research from the Barna Group.

Here are five reasons young people have stopped or never started going to church regularly.

1. My way or the highway

Church people seem to have no time for any viewpoint that doesn't align with theirs. They can be closed-minded as they look down on anyone who doubts their theology or asks questions.

In their manual, the Bible says, "As iron sharpens iron and one man sharpens another." If iron strikes, iron sparks could fly. Jesus listened to doubters and welcomed them.

One of Jesus' disciples, Thomas, was a holy man who doubted. Truth be told, all the disciples doubted, but Thomas got stuck with the name "Doubting Thomas."

2. Unclear messages

Church visitors revealed they did not understand the message from the church communicator or preacher. Messages were over their head, and they needed the Biblical foundation to follow the message.

3. Not finding community

You would think the local church would be the one place you could find community. Unfortunately, most churches only want a comfortable community. If you don't look like them, worship like them and share the same hidden rules of the church's society, they don't want you.

You can visit, but experiencing a genuine community is rare for young people with multiple piercings, tattoos, untraditional hairstyles and dress.

4. The church is full of hypocrites

This is a true statement but is not a good reason not to attend church.

Walmart is full of hypocrites, and we continue to go there. Young people see the lack of moral integrity in church leadership and use this as a reason not to attend church.

The problem is we only hold churches to this unrealistic standard. Our doctor, professor, dentist and hair stylist are exempt from perfection.

I agree church leaders should be beyond reproach; however, their missing the standard should not justify us missing the church service.



Photo provided

Willie Spears is a motivational speaker and a Northwestern alumnus.

5. The absence of God

Is God attending our church services? If God is not attending, why should young people attend? Does church start on time, and is the service done with excellence? Are there activities for young adults? Can we feel the presence of God?

My pastor once told me I would ruin a perfect church if I walked inside because I'm not perfect.

The church is full of people

who are forgiven, not perfect. Join us.

Easter is a good Sunday to go to church, and so is next Sunday.

"Now Hiring" is a weekly article written by author and public speaker Willie Spears, a Northwestern alumnus.

He has written 13 books and travels around the country, adding value to the lives of others through his books and dynamic presentations. Learn more at www.williespears.com.

GOT NEWS?

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

OPINION

A GOOD WORD

“It takes considerable knowledge just to realize the extent of your own ignorance.”

— Thomas Sowell

Looking to volunteer? Museum has opportunities

By **JOSHUA HINTON** and **GAVIN MENDOZA**
Ranger Communication Agency

Need to complete volunteer hours for a class? Why not try a place rich in local history and that may even be haunted? One place in Alva aligns with these criteria, and it is the Cherokee Strip Museum, located at 911 14th St.

Volunteers normally help clean different areas of the museum as needed and may help in other ways, such as exhibitions and events, depending on the demand.

The building the Cherokee Strip Museum calls home was once the Alva General Hospital, which opened in 1932 and closed its doors 40 years later.

In 1976, the museum took over the building and now houses more than 40 different rooms with varied themes. One of the

most frequently visited sections is dedicated to Alva’s World War II prisoner of war camp. It includes art, clothing and flags left by prisoners or donated to the museum.

History is not all that may be found on a visit to the Cherokee Strip Museum.

The building is also known for being a hot spot for paranormal activity. This mix of history and mystery attracts specific groups to the space.

The museum has had many different paranormal investigations throughout the years. The investigations explore the different rooms looking for any paranormal events.

The process of volunteering is simple and quick. The interested person just needs to go into the museum and talk to curator Beth Smith.

Volunteers are appreciated, and the museum looks forward to help from the Northwestern

Oklahoma State University student body.

“Walk in, and we will throw you a dust rag, and you can get to work,” Business Manager Elaine Graybill said.

“Volunteers are appreciated, and the museum looks forward to help.”

— **Joshua Hinton and Gavin Mendoza**

Learn more about the Cherokee Strip Museum of Alva on the website www.csmalva.org or call 580-237-2030.

Joshua Hinton and Gavin Mendoza are account representatives for Ranger Communication,



Photo provided

Alva’s Cherokee Strip Museum is pictured. The local museum is seeking volunteers, and opportunities are open for Northwestern students.

the Northwestern mass communication program’s student-led public relations agency. This column is a promotional piece for the local museum. The Northwestern News was not paid to publish it. Hinton and Mendoza have previously worked for the News.

If you really love someone, ask if they’re going to Heaven

JORDAN GREEN SAYS



JORDAN GREEN

Sometimes, I really hate reality. I hate that good people get sick and die, that some crooks get away with their crimes and that not every kid has a loving mother and father. These are some of the hard facts of life for many people.

But for all its flaws, reality is even more amazing. Because while there are a lot of terrible things happening in this world today – that’s the reality of the situation – we aren’t forever stuck here. As tough as death sounds to the living, it’s a blessing to those who are dying – if they know that Heaven awaits them.

One of my best buddies had a heart attack last week, and after a tumultuous several days, he got some bad news about the condition of his heart.

We’re both hopeful that he can regain function and live a more healthy life, but like tomorrow, nothing is promised. When we talked about the prognosis on Monday, reality began to set in: Who knows how much time any one of us has left on God’s green earth?

None of us has any idea whether we’ll wake up tomorrow or not. That’s a scary thing to be unsure of, isn’t it? It makes me think about how much we really are unsure of in this life.

No matter how hard we try, our health, finances, relationships, careers and so much more can change in an instant, without warning.

Sadly, our world is filled with more uncertainty than surety, more questions than answers and more fear than confidence. But in those heavy moments while my buddy and I talked on the phone about the bad outlook, another aspect of reality set in – one that is filled with hope, peace, confidence and eternal joy.

Though this life will end, every one

of us can have absolute certainty that we will not be squelched out, that we will not rot or burn forever or be permanently blipped out into the cosmos. My friend, Heaven and Hell are real, and Jesus is the key to everlasting life. With Him, we can truly live forever!

You may not yet believe it, but this fact – this gleaming promise, this blessed assurance and this awe-inspiring truth – is as much reality as the bad news my friend got.

There is truly life after death, and by God’s grace, we can spend eternity in a place more glorious than anything we’ve ever known on this earth.

Heaven awaits for those who seek, ask and walk toward it, saved totally by the sacrifice we celebrated this Easter. This is tremendously good news! But what good is news if there’s no one to hear it?

It’s reality that Heaven is available to us all, but it’s also reality that not all will go. Some may never hear the news of Jesus or lay down their pride and sin to accept and follow Him. Even in our hometown, some will never grasp the promise of Heaven.

Now consider this: Do you know today where your friends and loved ones will go when this life is over? Do you know today where your elderly grandmother or lifelong best friend would be if they died tomorrow?

If not, today is the day to saddle up and ask them a question. It seems so simple, yet it can be so hard to ask. The question is short, but its impact will last longer than any other. It’s this: “Do you know Jesus?”

Sometimes, the person you’re talking to will give a delightful “Yes!” Other times, you may get some babbling words or even outright rejection. We don’t know who will ponder the question and ask for more information, but it’s our duty to ask it and see where God leads the conversation.

I was afraid at first to ask my friend whether he was saved. It’s highly per-

sonal, yes, and I was afraid of the chance that perhaps he wasn’t.

What would happen if the whole situation went wrong? Fear and worry could have stopped me, but God sobered me and brought me to this realization: How can you truly love someone if you never even bother to ask where they might spend eternity?

Do we love our friends and family so little that we’re afraid to ask one life-saving question, potentially letting them be cast into Hell forever because we were afraid of being bold and brash?

Praise God, my friend is saved. That means neither of us has to worry

about the end of his life on this earth. We know a better one will begin on the other side. And as beautiful as that reality is, the harsh reality is that we have a question to ask if we can’t say the same for the rest of our loved ones.

Reality is a double-edged sword. Death is on one blade, yet everlasting life is on the other. Fortunately, all of the people we love can get a handle on the whole thing by accepting Jesus as their Lord and Savior. It all begins with a question, and today is the day to ask it. And we can do it by God’s grace.

Sometimes, don’t you just love reality?

WE’RE HIRING!

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WALKING FOR A CAUSE



Men and women participating in the Walk MS: Your Way event on Saturday are shown near the Homestead, an assisted living center in Alva where Jones resides. The walk began there and moved around town.



Walkers make their way south of Northwestern's Alva campus on Davis Street Saturday morning as part of the Walk MS: Your Way event.

ABOVE: Alva community members and Northwestern Rangers joined together Saturday to walk around Alva as part of the Walk MS: Your Way event, which sought to raise awareness of multiple sclerosis. Event organizer Elda Jones, shown above at right, is a Northwestern alumna who has the disease. About 20 people walked, and about \$5,000 were raised for research to find a cure for the disease, Jones said. RIGHT: Some of the group members pose for a photo.



Photos by Cade Kennedy

News wins 28 awards at conference

FROM STAFF REPORTS
Northwestern News

The Northwestern News won 28 awards, including 14 first-place awards, during the annual Oklahoma Collegiate Media Association conference on April 13.

The News garnered more awards than any other collegiate newspaper in the Diamond Division, which includes other small universities in Oklahoma. Editor-in-Chief Jordan Green was named the Diamond Division Journalist of the Year for the second year in a row.

The conference took place at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. Collegiate journalists from across the Sooner State heard from guest speakers, discussed their newspapers' work and accepted awards for work done in the 2022 calendar year.

"The News team is honored and humbled by the kind recognition we've received for our student journalism here at Northwestern," Green said. "We work hard to produce a newspaper that serves our Ranger community, and we've remained dedicated to our mission. Although we do not write stories, take pictures and sell advertisements with the goal of winning awards, we are grateful that people appreciate what we do."

The News won first place in front page design and interior page design. Its enterprise and investigative reporting team won first place

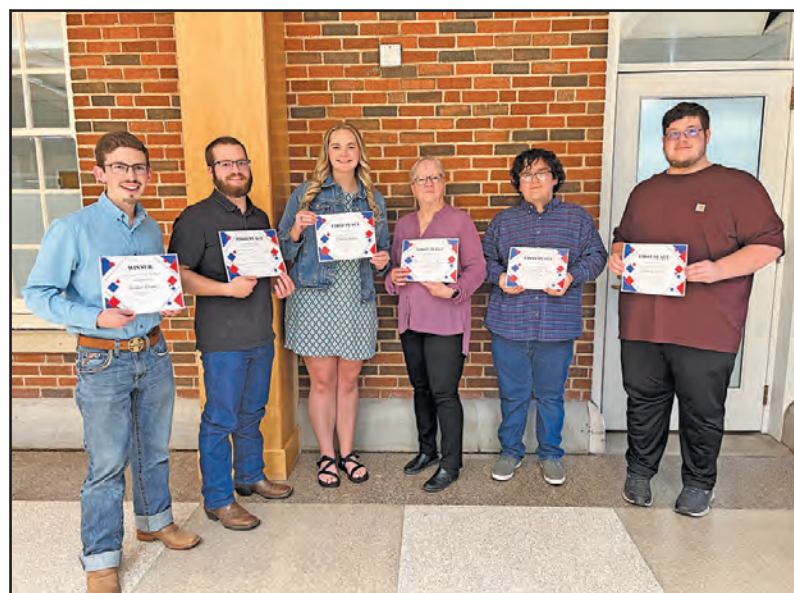


Photo provided

Northwestern News staff members pose for a photo during the Oklahoma Collegiate Media Association Conference in Stillwater on April 13. Shown from left to right are: Editor-in-Chief Jordan Green, Senior Reporter Benjamin Kliewer, Features Editor Caitlin Hofen, Adviser Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, Advertising Manager Derrick Galindo and Sports Editor Cade Kennedy.

for reporting on the university's scholarship system, including its scholarship cap. The reporting was published in the spring 2022 semester.

The investigative team includes Caitlin Hofen, a senior mass communication major from Alva who serves as the News' feature and entertainment editor; Dylan Whitely, a December 2022 mass communication graduate from Pond Creek; Benjamin Kliewer, a senior mass communication major from Mountain View; Austin Morton, a 2022 mass

communication graduate; and Jara Reeder, a mass communication senior from Elk City.

Eleven students won first, second or third place awards for their work at the News. Those students and the awards they won are listed here.

FIRST PLACE:

- Colby Dalton, the News' former photo editor: news photography, photography portfolio and feature photography
- J.D. Eddy, a graduate student from Tuttle who serves as the News' editorial editor: editorial writing

and sports photography

- Jordan Green, a senior mass communication major from Blackwell: Diamond Division 2023 Journalist of the Year, reporting portfolio, general news and reporting, enterprise/investigative reporting individual and column writing
- Caitlin Hofen: feature writing

- Cade Kennedy, a junior mass communication major from Alva who serves as the News' sports editor: sports reporting

SECOND PLACE:

- Colby Dalton: feature photography
- Derrick Galindo, a mass communication major from Alva who serves as the News' advertising manager: advertising

- Caitlin Hofen: feature writing, reporting portfolio, column writing and enterprise/investigative reporting individual
- Jordan Green: news photography

THIRD PLACE:

- J.D. Eddy: sports photography
- Derrick Galindo: advertising
- Caitlin Hofen: reviews and feature writing
- Cade Kennedy: sports reporting and column writing

Green's award factored in his reporting and leadership of the Northwestern News, which has earned numerous statewide honors in collegiate newspaper competitions. His application for the award included a selection of stories he has

written and an essay about the role a newspaper should play in serving its community.

Green congratulated the News team members for their dedication to and passion for journalism.

"The people on the News team are some of my best friends, and I have been blessed to get to work alongside them to provide our campus with high-quality journalism," Green said. "They have told stories that have made positive differences on our campus and connected our campus through words, photos, advertisements, you name it. I can't express how awesome this team is. They're some of the most talented, caring people I have ever known."

Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, the Northwestern News adviser, said: "I have been fortunate to work with an extremely dedicated staff of students, who have been tireless in their efforts to provide the campus with the best news product possible. These awards validate that work. I am so proud of all of them."

The News is published on Thursdays throughout the school year and is hiring new staff members for next year. Northwestern students do not have to be mass communication majors to work for the paper.

To read the latest news, visit <https://northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com/>. To learn more about the Northwestern mass communication program, visit <https://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/communication/mass-communication>.

To The Ranger Family,

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Thursday

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FEATURE

Hansen known for kindness, big heart

By **TARA OWEN**
Senior Reporter

Sadie Bier was sitting at her home not feeling well one day when she heard someone deliver something to her front doorstep. To her surprise, her friend Kaylyn Hansen had dropped off some hot tea to make her feel better. Hansen said she left the gift as a special surprise because she knew her friend was not feeling well.

"This is just the kind of person she is," Bier said.

A small-town girl from the Oklahoma Panhandle with a big heart, Hansen is known for doing acts of kindness without being asked by her loved ones.

"When I had a surgery, she surprised my whole family with a home-cooked dinner," Bier said. "She did not even hesitate and did it without being asked."

Hansen is not only a great friend, but she has also been a dedicated coworker with other staff members on the Northwestern campus for many years.

"She is always willing to help out," Bier said. "Whether it is in our friendship or at work, she's just a great person."

FRIENDLY ADVENTURES

Bier and Hansen attended Northwestern and first met in 2005 during Greek recruitment as young college students. They then became great friends in 2015 when they were working on Northwestern's Alva campus.

Since then, their friendship has bloomed, and now they have been friends for years while still working at Northwestern.

Hansen, a first generation college student, has also received four degrees from Northwestern.

Another one of Hansen's friends and coworkers, Dr. Jen-

nifer Oswald, chair of the Division of Education at Northwestern Oklahoma, said her favorite memory with Hansen has to be attending the Halloween scare maze.

"The scare maze is kind of our thing. We love it and always just have so much fun together," Oswald said.

"Our friendship has grown so much."

— **Dr. Jennifer Oswald**

Oswald and Hansen met through an elementary booster club. Oswald then invited Hansen to come to a Bible study group she was hosting.

"She said 'yes' as she normally does, and since then' our friendship has grown so much," Oswald said.

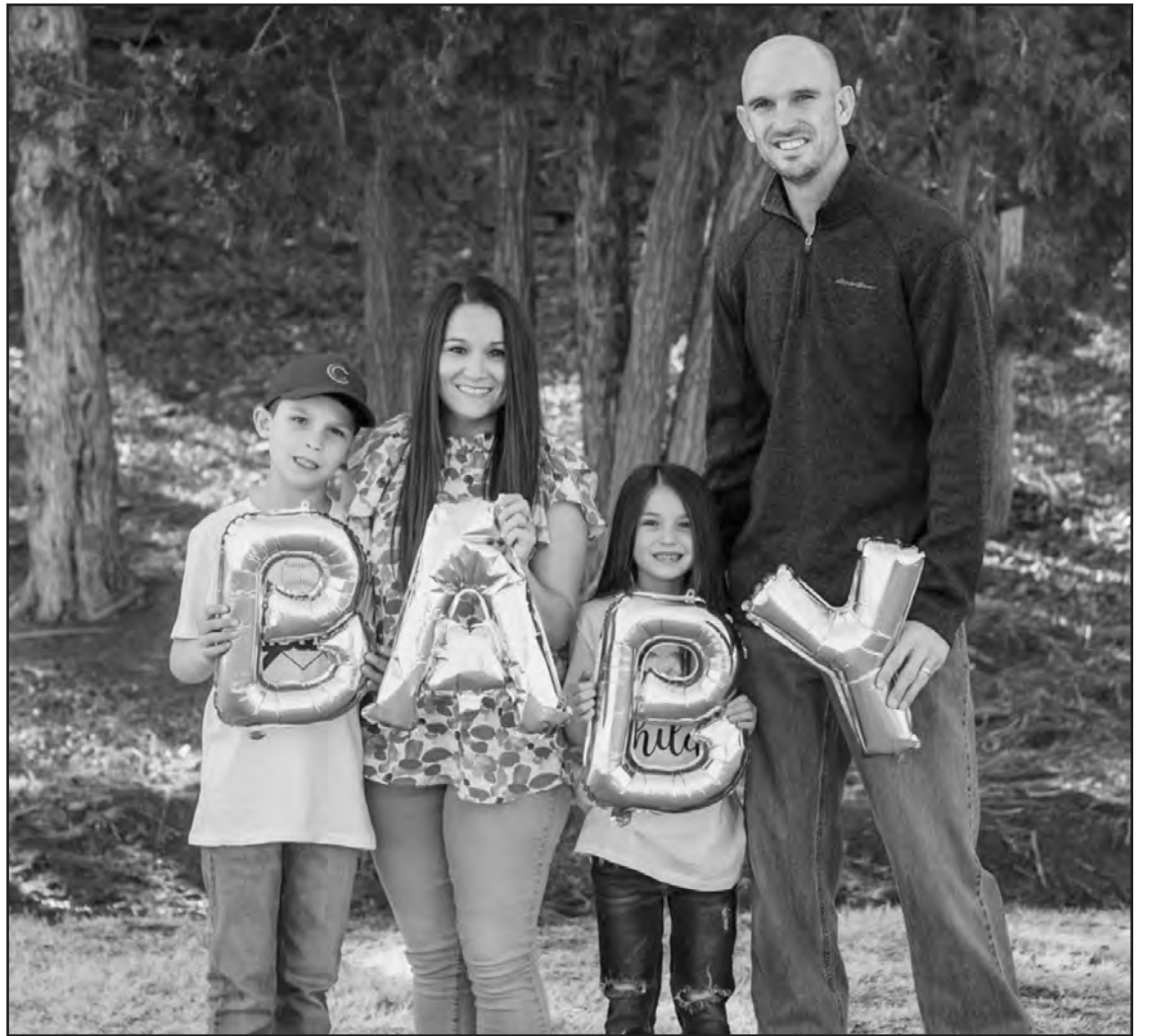
One work trip Oswald and Hansen went on sent them to Chicago, Illinois. Oswald remembers finding the world's largest Starbucks, and they both knew it was a sight they had to see. Hansen and Oswald went inside the Starbucks to get the full experience.

YEARS OF SERVICE

Along with her approachable personality, Hansen is also the go-to person for a lot of different things, and she manages all her duties well, Oswald said.

"She will be the last person to ask for something, but will always be the first to give," Oswald said.

Hansen has been working on the Northwestern campus for 16 years. Throughout her time on staff, she has held numerous job



Photos provided

Kaylyn Hansen, second from left, poses for a photo last year in Hatfield Park to announce her pregnancy. She is pictured with her son, Ryne; daughter, Sutton; and husband, Shane.

titles, such as Fryer Hall head resident, director of housing and director of counseling. Now, she is the director of assessment and institutional effectiveness and is the academic support senior woman administrator.

HEART FOR HELPING

Throughout her many staff titles during her years at Northwestern, Hansen has had the opportunity to work with many different faculty members.

Not only is Hansen giving to those around her, but she also has

a heart for serving others. Her husband, Shane Hansen, is an instructor at Northwestern who serves as the chair of the Health and Sports Science Department. Her heart is what he admires most about her, he said.

"Her personality is one of serving. She likes to be in the background more than she likes to be out in front," Hansen said.

FAMILY LIFE

The Hansens just celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. They now have three children: son Ryne, daughter Sutton and the newest member, daughter Stella, was born in November.

"My biggest fear is making sure that I am able to raise children that are God-fearing, loving individuals that are kind to oth-

ers," Hansen said.

However, anyone that has seen her with her children knows how wonderful of a mother she really is, Shane Hansen said.

"She's an unbelievable mom to our children and an unbelievable wife," Shane Hansen said.

With their oldest two children playing sports, the sports-loving Hansens spend most of their free time supporting their children in all of their events.

One of Hansen's hobbies is physical fitness. She said she enjoys working out and running in her free time. About three years ago, she decided to spend some time bettering her health through physical activity.

The Hansens continue to support Northwestern in various ways, including athletics, because both were student-athletes here.



Hansen and her family pose for a photo after the birth of her daughter Stella in November 2022.

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CAMPUS

Choirs, band will perform in spring concerts

By **ALIYAH BIDWELL**
Senior Reporter

The university Chorale and Singers will be performing in the annual Soundscapes concert Saturday at 7 p.m.

The concert will be at the Alva Public School bus barn, 230 Choctaw St. Doors will open to the public at 6:30 p.m.

The choirs have been preparing for this concert for a month and a half.

Dr. Karsten Longhurst, the university choir director, said the longest song will be around eight minutes long. There will be solos.

"I am excited to have a program with various songs and genres to highlight the uniqueness of the bus barn and its acoustics," Longhurst said. "I try to have works that are unique and that most people would never hear by choice unless they are choral music aficionados, but I also have

songs that are very familiar so they can hear things that can take them by surprise, and hopefully by pleasant surprise.

"We chose to do it at the bus barn because most of the places in town don't have good acoustics, and the bus barn does with a nice, reverberant sound. It can be a little uncomfortable because the seats are hardwood, and it is a little dusty. During the concert, you may hear pigeons squabbling. We bring in lighting to help it not be so dark, but even with the lights, it can be a bit dark. I hope the community, faculty and staff will come out and support us.

"This is usually our most well-attended concert. We hope to create a unique experience that is memorable and enjoyable, and it celebrates the hard work of our students here."

BAND CONCERT SET

The university band will have

a concert Sunday at 2 p.m., with doors opening to the public at 1:30 p.m.

The concert will take place in the Herod Hall Auditorium.

The concert will feature the university concert band, which is a combination of students and community members.

It will also feature the Chamberwinds, an audition group that is mostly comprised of music majors.

Anyone is welcome to attend.

"In several of the pieces, there is a handful of flute solos, a French horn solo and a piano solo as well," said Dr. Michael Black, the university's band director.

He said the longest song the bands will perform is going to be a little longer than 10 minutes.

Band members have been preparing for the concert since the beginning of March.

"I am excited for the audience to hear the progress the students have made, particularly with the



File photo

Two band members play during a previous Northwestern band concert.

Chamberwinds because they are playing some pretty difficult music," Black said.

"The concert band will be

playing a song that will address mental health and trying open up conversations about mental health and mental health stigmas."

Bahama Breakaway to offer new activities, cash prizes

By **DAX BENWAY**
Senior Reporter

With summer right around the corner, the Northwestern Student Government Association and Student Athlete Council are putting on the annual Bahama Breakaway from 5 to 8:30 p.m. April 27.

The event will take place on the university's intramural field instead of at the downtown square as in previous years.

This makes life a lot easier for the people running the event, organizers said. Students don't have to go through as much getting things set up, like bringing sand downtown for the volleyball court and ordering porta-potties to provide bathrooms.

"Having the event on campus this year has saved us a lot of hassle," said Olivia Yandel, sponsor of Student Government Association. "Normally, I'm having to

deal with a lot trying to get everything set up at the town square and have to jump through a lot of hoops. So, it's been nice not having to do so many steps this year."

With there being a new venue, there will still be the same events that Bahama Breakaway has always had as well as new ones.

There will be a six vs. six co-ed sand volleyball tournament, cup pong, a cornhole tournament open to everyone, tug-of-war, yard games, a watermelon eating contest, ax-throwing, free food and snow cones provided by Ignite Physical Therapy.

Students can sign up for all the events and tournaments at the wellness center. Sign-up sheets are at the front desk, and all winners will be given cash prizes.

Bahama Breakaway is a long-standing tradition. At the end of every year, SGA hosts the event to bring students together and do something fun before going home

for the summer.

"One of my favorite parts about Bahama Breakaway is getting to see the students get together and interact," Yandel said. "There are not many big events like this, and to put on an event that brings a good time and smiles really makes me happy."

Student government leaders have said they want Bahama Breakaway to continue growing. In the future, they hope it can include a concert for the students.

Yandel said she has been wanting to do this for a while now to make the event more popular.

"This is something I've always wanted to put on," Yandel said. "We've just never had enough resources to do so. In the next couple years, I hope we are in a position to be able to put on an in-person concert. We just want to do something fun for the students after everything is all said and done."

Delta Zeta to host Enchanted Dance

By **CAITLIN HOFEN**
Features Editor

Delta Zeta will host its annual spring dance Thursday in the Student Center ballroom from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Called the Enchanted Dance, the theme is "Into the Woods." All proceeds go to The Painted Turtle, Delta Zeta's national service project.

The Painted Turtle supports children's medical needs, inspires them to reach beyond their illnesses, and provides care, education and respite for their families.

The attire is semi-formal. Tickets purchased before the dance cost \$6 per person and \$10 per couple. At the door, tickets will cost \$8 per person and \$12 per couple.

"The proceeds we made from last year's dance were able to build a cabin at one of The Painted Turtle camps," said Allison Schieber, president of the Northwestern chapter.

The first hour of the dance is

dedicated to the Alva community and any Northwestern personnel who want to bring their families to dance. Kid-friendly music will be played to let parents enjoy a night out with their families. After 8 p.m., the music will cater to the college-age demographic.

"We want to be involved with not only the campus, but also the community," Schieber, a photographer for the Northwestern News, said. "We thought it would give parents an opportunity to dress up and do something fun with their family."

The Delta Zeta sorority is the only Greek life group on Northwestern's campus.

The Northwestern chapter hosts two fundraising events during the school year: its annual rose sale for Valentine's Day and the spring dance.

Recruitment efforts will take place in the fall 2023 semester, where potential members can ask questions and get to know current Delta Zeta members.

Dad Joke of the Week:

My wife said she didn't care what I got her for her birthday as long as it had diamonds.

A deck of playing cards was apparently not the right option.

ALVA VISION CLINIC

Since 1972, there has been something special about Alva. Here I am, 40-plus years later, with a plethora of memories flooding my mind that include Troy and his love for you, the Alva and Northwest Oklahoma Community. The past three weeks have been devastating to say the least, but I cannot express my gratitude of the incredible outpouring of love, kindness, and support. A simple "thank you" seems to not give my gratitude justice. My family is deeply grateful and completely humbled. From our family to you; our friends, patients, our staff Jennifer and Kristi, the OAO, volunteer doctors, and the entire community of Alva,

THANK YOU!

We continue to host volunteer doctors to provide care to Dr. Smith's patients at this time. At the same time, we are currently seeking an Optometrist who would be an amazing fit for this community and above all you, the patients, to provide the ultimate care that you deserve.

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SPORTS

SPRING GAME ALMOST HERE

The spring football game will be Saturday at Ranger Field at 2 p.m.

BASEBALL

Rangers swept by Boll Weevils

By CADE KENNEDY
Sports Editor

The Northwestern baseball team lost all three games in its series against Arkansas-Monticello.

After making the trip to Monticello, Arkansas, the Rangers walked into a buzzsaw in game one of the series Friday. The Boll Weevils scored in the bottom of the first to take a 1-0 lead and never looked back, as they scored in every inning of the game.

Arkansas-Monticello scored two runs in the bottom of the second and unloaded with a seven-run third inning to put the Rangers in a 10-0 hole.

The defensive woes continued for the Rangers in the fourth, as the Boll Weevils tacked on three more runs to extend the lead to 13-0. The Rangers responded in the fifth with a solo home run from Trevor Saire, but the Rangers still trailed 13-1 going to the bottom of the inning. Both teams traded runs throughout the final three innings. The Boll Weevils beat the Rangers, 17-2.

Game two of the series took place right after game one, and the Rangers kept the game competitive. The Rangers got off to a quick start, as Brandon Holdren hit a sacrifice fly to left field to give the Rangers their first lead of the series. Hayden Priest followed up with a single to centerfield to

give the Rangers a 2-0 lead going to the bottom of the first.

The Boll Weevils had no answer in the first but scored four runs in the second inning to take a 4-2 lead. The Rangers clawed back with runs the third and fifth to tie the game at 4-4, but the Boll Weevils drove in two runs in the bottom of the fifth to retake the lead at 6-4. The Rangers tried to rally but only scored one run, giving the Rangers a 6-5 loss.

In the final game of the series Saturday, the Rangers and Boll Weevils engaged in a defensive battle. Neither side scored until the fourth inning, when Hagen Barcello homered to give the Rangers a 1-0 lead. The lead did not last long, as Arkansas-Monticello scored a combined four runs in the fifth and sixth innings to take a 4-1 lead. The Boll Weevil defense tightened up, and the Rangers struggled again in a 4-1 defeat.

The Rangers returned home Tuesday to take on the Riverhawks of Northeastern State, and the offense returned. The Rangers found themselves down 4-0 going into the bottom of the third, but the Rangers scored a pair of runs to cut the deficit in half to 4-2. The Rangers were not done yet, as Northwestern unleashed a 10-run fourth inning to put the Riverhawks away. Northeastern State did not score again, and the Rangers rolled to a 20-4 victory.



Photo by J.D. Eddy

A member of the Northwestern baseball team hits the ball during the game against Southeastern on April 1 at Glass Family Field at Myers Stadium. The Rangers currently have a record of 18-25.

SOFTBALL

Lady Rangers lose two of three against UAM



Photo by J.D. Eddy

Hannah Howell pitches the ball during Northwestern's game against Arkansas-Monticello Saturday at the Alva Recreation Complex. The Lady Rangers lost two of the three games in the series.

By CONNOR GRAY
Senior Reporter

The Northwestern softball team had a weekend series with Arkansas-Monticello but only won one of the three games.

The Lady Rangers' softball record is now 11-33 and 8-19 in conference play after the series with Arkansas-Monticello.

The first game Friday was a low-scoring affair. The first three innings were scoreless.

Hannah Howell was on the mound for Northwestern and kept Arkansas-Monticello scoreless for the majority of the game.

The Lady Rangers struck first in the fourth inning with a solo home run from Abby DeTar into left center field.

Arkansas-Monticello eventually struck back and got two runs to take the lead in the top of the sixth inning. But the Lady Rangers got a run of their own in the bottom of the inning from a single by Mackenzie Adams.

Arkansas-Monticello got another run in the seventh, and that

was the final run of the game. The Blossoms get the win, 3-2.

The second game was tough for Northwestern. The Lady Rangers lost 11-1, as the Blossoms were able to hit the ball wherever they wanted.

In game three on Saturday, the Lady Rangers needed to take one game to avoid a sweep.

Howell took the mound again for game three. She kept Monticello at bay and contributed at the plate.

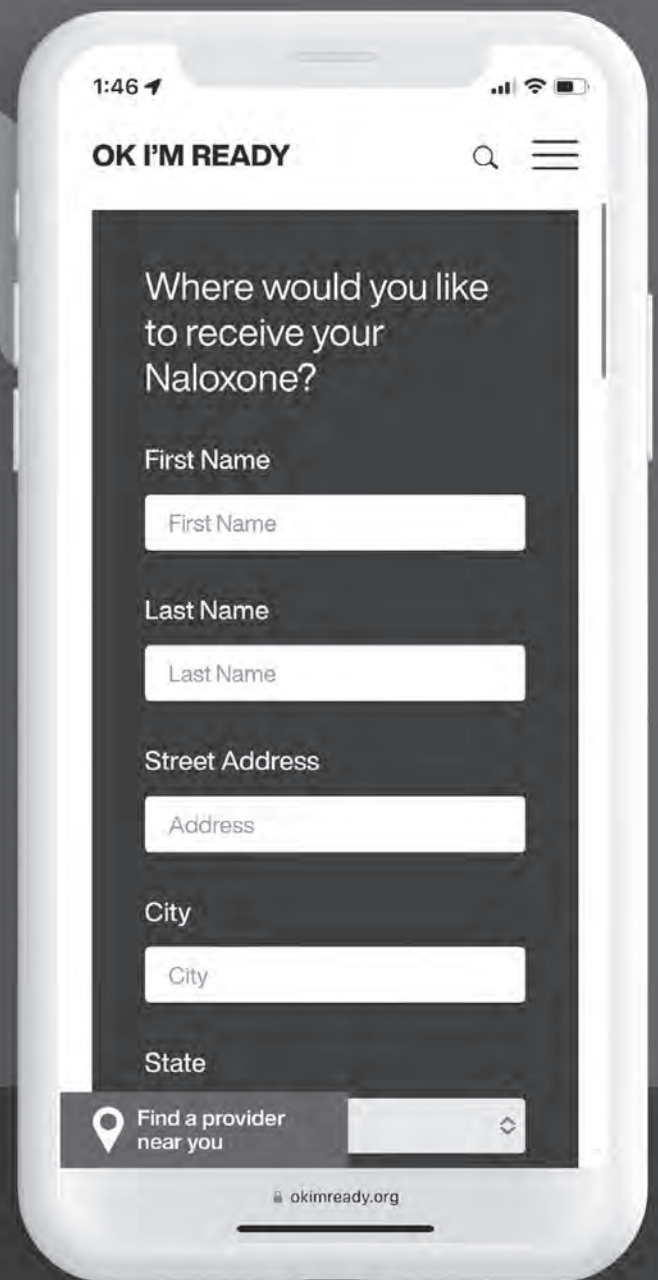
Howell got the Lady Rangers the first run of the game off an RBI double into center.

In the third, Howell got another RBI for the team on a single to make it 2-0.

Macey Spearman expanded the lead after getting an RBI single in the following inning.

In the sixth inning, Monticello managed to get two runs to come within one, but the Lady Ranger squashed that by getting three runs of their own to make it 6-2 and go onto win the game. Those three runs came from a two-RBI single from Spearman and an RBI from Howell.

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Rangers ride higher in rodeo rankings

By **JARA REEDER**
Senior Reporter

February kicked off the spring rodeo season for Northwestern, and both the men's and women's teams are climbing in the ranks.

The women's team placed seventh, and the men's team did not place during the Feb. 16 - 18 rodeo at Kansas State.

However, Ben Jackson and Denton Oestmann placed in the top eight in tie-down roping, with Jackson in fourth and Oestmann in seventh.

Grady Asaby and Cameron Fox placed fifth and sixth in steer wrestling. Jaden Trimble took first place in team roping header, while no one placed in team roping heeler.

Julianna Sprague placed fifth in barrel racing, and Jentri Hurlburt placed seventh in breakaway roping. Lacey Geiger and Morgan Poust placed in the top 10 for goat tying.

After the season opener, the next stop was Fort Scott Community College March 10 - 12. In that rodeo, the Rangers placed in the top seven in: men's team overall, women's team overall, men's all-around, tie down roping, steer wrestling, team roping header, team rope heeler, barrel racing and breakaway roping.

Kaden Greenfield won first in steer wrestling, while Lacey Gei-

ger finished first in breakaway roping.

The next rodeo was March 31 to April 2 in Garden City, Kansas. The Rangers placed in the top 10 in men's team overall, women's team overall, tie down roping, steer wrestling, team roping header, barrel racing and breakaway roping.

From Thursday to Saturday, the Rangers traveled to Weatherford for the Southwestern rodeo. The Rangers placed in women's team overall, men's all-around, tie down roping, steer wrestling, team roping header and barrel racing.

Oestmann placed second in tie down roping. Kade Chace placed seventh, and Kerry Duvell placed 15th.

Nearly half of the contestants for steer wrestling at Southwestern were Rangers. Greenfield, Emmett Edler, Trisyn Kalawai'a, Quade Potter, Cameron Fox, Tyler Scheevel and Wyatt Fields all placed in the top 15.

Camden Hoelting, Ben Jackson, Jaden Trimble and Jacob Haren finished in the top 15 for team roping header.

Austin Lampe placed fourth in team roping heeler. Samantha Chambers is fourth in barrel racing.

Lacey Geiger and Jentri Hurlburt placed in the top 15 in breakaway roping, with Geiger in fifth and Hurlburt in seventh.

SOCCKER

Getting on the ball



Photo by J.D. Eddy

A member of the Northwestern soccer team tries to get around a defender during the scrimmage against Oklahoma Wesleyan on Saturday at the Alva Recreational Complex.

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