

Super Bowl

Everything you need to know about Super Bowl LVIII
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Anyone But You

Check out a review for the new movie.
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NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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New vending machine saves lives

By **MALLORY PARUSZEWSKI**
Senior Reporter

Harm Reduction Vending Machine has now been installed in the Northwestern Student Center.

The vending machines allow free Naloxone and Fentanyl test strips.

Northwestern Oklahoma State is the fourth university in Oklahoma to install one of these vending machines on its campus.

With the help of Ozge Yavuz, Kocaeli, junior majoring in psychology; Rosalee Hamill, prevention programs field representative at Oklahoma Department of mental health and substance abuse prevention services; Jady Chancey, freshman majoring in psychology who will be in charge of restocking the vending; and Taylor Wilson, licensed professional counselor and Director of Counseling and career services at Northwestern, the machine is installed and ready to be used.

The machine will hopefully help the continuing fight against opioid addiction, and other drug use at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Taylor Wilson has made it a mission of hers to get these vend-



Photo by Karolina Juresiute

Kreshmen Caydence Devine elementary education, from Waynoka scans the QR code for the new vending machine on the Alva campus.

ing machines on campus from the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Wilson and Northwestern want these available to the campus community and the public to

help save lives. Anyone can use the vending machines for free.

All they have to do is tap the touch screen provided on the machine, pick which product they want dispensed and enter a zip

code, and then they should receive the free item.

A little more information about the strips coming from the vending machine. Naloxone is an over-the-counter opioid overdose reversal medication that has been used to save lives involving opioid drug abuse.

An affected person cannot use Naloxone on themselves, but a bystander or friend can use the medication to save a person's life. The type of Naloxone in the vending machine is the intranasal spray, Narcan.

Fentanyl test strips are small strips of paper that detect fentanyl in all different kinds of drugs, including pills powder and injectables.

Fentanyl is a pain reliever that is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It's one of the main factors in fatal and non-fatal overdoses in the United States.

Along with the vending machine on campus, Wilson

has mentioned other products that are available to the campus community and the public like medication, lockboxes and deteriorate drug deactivation pouches.

A disposable system, to avoid the medication getting into the wrong hands, they are locked up and stored out of sight and can only be accessed with the help of authority figures.

The vending machines are here to help anyone afraid to speak up or get help with any drug problems they have.



Katelynn Willmon, left and Caydence Devine, right discuss the new vending machine.

Fentanyl deaths increasing in United States

By **KRISTEN KIRTLEY**
Assistant Editor

Fentanyl is now the top drug that has contributed to overdose deaths in the state of Oregon.

Fentanyl is an opioid that is supposed to be used to treat a person's pain. It's often prescribed to patients who have cancer or patients who have just had a surgery.

When prescribed by a health-care provider, fentanyl is legal. The problem is it is often stolen, inappropriately distributed or even made illegally.

Illegally manufactured fentanyl is not only more addictive, but is more dangerous to the person consuming it overall.

According to oregon.gov, seized fentanyl went from 690 dosage units to over 2 million in just four years. Illicitly manu-

factured fentanyl, also referred to as IMF, is stronger than both morphine and heroin.

Unlike legal pharmaceutical fentanyl, the strength of IMF is constantly changing, so the consumer of the drug never knows the exact strength.

If the consumer mixes alcohol or other drugs with IMF, the chances of them fatally overdosing increases.

IMF can be distributed in powder or pill form. In many cases, fentanyl is also mixed with other drugs such as methamphetamine, heroin and cocaine.

Because fentanyl is tasteless, odorless and cannot be seen, a consumer has a potential risk of being unaware the drug they are taking is laced with fentanyl.

When IMF is in pill form, it can often resemble other common medicines such as Adderall and Xanax.

These pills can contain deadly amounts

of fentanyl, and can also be sold to people on social media.

According to The Oregon Health Authority, it is estimated that 5 Oregon residents die from opioid overdose each week.

A statistic from doj.state.or.us states that in 2020, 462 Oregon residents died from an accidental opioid overdose.

That number increased by almost 100 when 548 Oregon residents died in 2021 from accidental opioid overdose.

In 2020, Oregon became the first state in the nation to pass a law that decriminalizes the possession of drugs. Although the passing of the law increased the amount of money that goes into treatment and recovery for drug users, the drug issue in Oregon has only gotten worse.

Lawmakers and voters in Oregon are now working to reverse the law that was passed just 4 years ago.

Fentanyl has not just effected Oregon but has been an issue all over the United States.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the overdose death rate has topped 112,000 for the first time in the span of a year in the U.S.

In 2019 Oklahoma had 50 deaths from Fentanyl and in 2022 609 Oklahomans had died from Fentanyl.

National Fentanyl awareness day is May 7 and National Fentanyl prevention and awareness day is August 21.

According to nationalfentanylawarenessday.org Fentanyl is involved in more American youth drug deaths than heroin, meth, cocaine, benzos and Rx durgs combined.

Fentanyl is also involved in more deaths of Americans under 50 than any other cause of death.

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NEWS

Feb. 8th- Feb. 14th

WHAT'S UP?

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

8th Thursday

- Free lunch at The Wesley House starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Chemistry Club Movie Night at 5 :30 p.m. in the Science Amphitheater
- Forge Bible Study at 6 p.m. located at 324 College Ave. Free dinner will be provided
- Free Bowling Night with SGA at 6 p.m.
 - Sign up at the Wellness Center
- Bible Chair Round Up Night at 7 p.m.

9th Friday

- Ranger Baseball at 1 p.m. at Glass Family Field

10th Saturday

- Cookie Crawl at local shops from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
- Ranger Baseball at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. at Glass Family Field

11th Sunday

- Ranger Baseball at 1 p.m. at Glass Family Field

12th Monday

- Bible Chair Round Up at 7 p.m.
- BCM Women's Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.
- Wesley House Women's Bible Study at 8 p.m.
- BCM Men's Bible study at 10 p.m. in Coronado Hall 4th floor

13th Tuesday

- Free Lunch at the Bible Chair starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Writer's Roundtable Meeting
- Wesley House Bible Study at 7 p.m.

14th Wednesday

- BCM Free Lunch starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Delta Zeta Galantine's Event at 7 p.m. JD 107
- Bible Chair Bible Study at 7 p.m.
- BCM Bible Study at 8 p.m.

Oklahoma country artist died after battling cancer

At the age of 62, Oklahoma country singer Toby Keith died. He was diagnosed with stomach cancer in 2021. However, he did not announce until June of 2022 that he had been battling cancer. Along with receiving chemotherapy, radiation and surgery.



kandeejohnson 5h

Oh my heart sending prayers for God to wrap extra comfort love, straight from heaven, around Tricia and all his kids, family and everyone who's heart is grieving his absence in this world



randyhouser 15h

God Bless you and Family. Hard to imagine an America without Toby Keith in it.

lukebryan Just arriving at American idol and seeing the sad news in our country community. An iconic artist and a great man. Your songs turn every room into a good time

carrieunderwood Saddle up the horses, Jesus, 'cause a true blue COWBOY just made his ride up to heaven!!! Introduce him to all the Okies and sign that boy up for the choir! We're gonna miss you, Toby, but my heart has no doubt that you are standing in the presence of our King right now!!! See you again someday, friend.

okcthunder Whether he was enjoying a game or narrating the 2013 NBA TV documentary "Heart of the City" about the Thunder's response to the devastating tornado in his hometown of Moore, Toby Keith was a Thunder fan and special Oklahoman. We join the world in mourning his loss and celebrating his talent, spirit, and heart.

uofoklahoma Remembering Toby Keith. Forever a part of the #OUFamily.

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OPINION

New senate bill causes stir

By **CHLOE GRUSING**
Editorial Editor

Next week is Valentine's Day and most
couples, and single people too, will be spend-
ing the day celebrating with their partner or
friends.

The day is meant to be for romance and en-
joying the love between each other.

There are many ways to embrace the hol-
iday, most involve an intimate night or day
with another person. Not all couples celebrat-
ing are married, and here in Oklahoma, there
may be a new set of rules with how citizens
can enjoy the day.

The Oklahoma Senate is hearing a bill
proposed by Dusty Deever, a newly elected
senator ready to make his splash in the legal
waters. Oklahoma Senate Bill 1976, accord-
ing to Business Insider, will work to make
pornographic images illegal in the state, pun-
ishable by jail time or hefty fines.

The basis of the bill is to enforce laws re-
garding child pornography, making punish-
ments harsh and laying out what qualifies as
such material. There is a section of the bill that
pertains to something else though, sending
nudes between unmarried couples.

Section 1024.2 states that child pornog-
raphy shall be illegal to possess, along with
obtaining nude images from another person,
excluding spouses from sending images from
one another.

"It shall be unlawful for any person to buy,
procure, view or possess child pornography or
obscene materials or to distribute any unlaw-
ful pornography..."

While I do support the need to take down
child porn images and punish the people in-
volved in supporting those materials, the bill
doesn't just plan to get rid of those images.

Deevers is a Baptist preacher that openly
supports far right ideals, and is using his plat-
form to push his beliefs on others.

I feel Deevers is using his platform to push
an agenda that supports blurring the line be-
tween church and state, using his religion as
a ploy to do so. This is a violation of the first
amendment, as not everyone is obligated to
follow a belief.

If the bill was pertaining to another religious
belief, for example not eating pork, there
would be uproar because Baptist religion
doesn't follow such doctrine.

He creates the bill focusing on child porn,
but subtly sneaks in religious propaganda by
making sending and creating porn illegal for
unmarried people.

Deevers does this on purpose, as almost
every person alive supports the banning and
punishment of child pornography. By putting
the distribution of pornographic material be-
tween unmarried adults in a section that opens
with distributing child porn, there seems to be
a different agenda at play.

Doing more research into Deevers, I have
found when he won his election he posted on

X (formally known as Twitter),

"Here in Oklahoma, it's time to abolish
abortion, abolish pornography, abolish the
state income tax and give power and equal
representation back to the people!"

The new senator perfectly aligns with the
far right, and is already adding pork belly sec-
tions to his 1976 Bill going through the senate
right now.

He has the power to enforce his personal
agenda onto the people of Oklahoma, as he
wants to appeal to right wing front runners
like Trump and Mike Johnson, who is Speak-
er of the House.

It is important for us students to be aware
of the laws coming into place, as I am positive
most college students have sent nude photos
to someone before. If this bill passes it could
affect you and your peers. Deevers is going to
use his time in government to pass as many re-
strictive bills as possible, and he is proud of it.

His campaign promises include banning
abortion and porn, plus he does not support
the LGBTQ+ community. I can almost guar-
antee Deevers will cause much more harm
than good, as he uses his platform for his own
gain, not for the betterment of Oklahoma res-
idents. Oklahoma is a state in need of strong
and impartial laws, this senator will not pro-
vide that.

If you are able to go out and vote I strongly
encourage you to do so. Please register to vote
by the deadline in your counties. The future of
Oklahoma could be affected by your vote.

Preparing for Super Bowl

By **ALLI SCHIEBER**
Editor-in-Chief

Ahead of Super Bowl LVIII,
which will take place Sunday,
things can be controversial while
discussing the possible outcomes
of it with friends and family.

Who will win, who will Usher
bring out for halftime, how will
he open the halftime show, what
celebrities will be in commercials
and of course one of the biggest
questions this year will Taylor
Swift make it from Tokyo in
time?

This year the teams competing
in the Super Bowl are the Kansas
City Chiefs, who won last year,
and the San Francisco 49ers.
The Chiefs have not had their best
season offensively but as always,
they came alive in the playoffs.

The Chiefs had been in the
spotlight this season with their
star tight end, Travis Kelce dating
popstar, Taylor Swift.

Swift has made it to 12 games
this season and the Super Bowl
will be her 13th if she makes it

back from Tokyo. She is perform-
ing a show for the Eras tour there.

People have loved her out-
fits this year and her presence at
the games, but also her develop-
ing friendship with the Chiefs
quarterback's wife, Brittany Ma-
homes.

Mahomes and Swift wore
matching jackets in the first round
of the playoffs against the Miami
Dolphins.

These jackets went viral and
ended up with the designer Kris-
ten Juszcyk signing a deal with
the NFL saying she can use team
logos in her designs.

Juszcyk will also be making
an appearance at the Super Bowl
as her husband Kyle Juszcyk is a
fullback for the 49ers.

The 49ers were last in the Su-
per Bowl back in 2020 where they
lost to the Chiefs 31-20. They
have Brock Purdy, also known
as Mr. Irrelevant as their quar-
terback. Purdy has proven that he is
not Mr. Irrelevant but he got that
title from being the last pick in his
draft class as that is whoever he
is picked last is known as.

This is his first Super Bowl. It

is also the first Super Bowl with a
Mr. Irrelevant as quarterback and
Purdy is only the third Mr. Irrele-
vant in any position to make it to
the Super Bowl.

The Super Bowl is also known
for its commercials. This year
with pop stars, athletes and influ-
encers dating football stars more
females have been tuning in each
week.

This is important because e.l.f.
Cosmetics and NYX Profession-
al Makeup are set to air their first
ever Super Bowl commercials
this year. Dove will also be re-
turning to the Super Bowl for the
first time since 2006.

With more people tuning in
that are younger and female other
brands are buying ads for the first
time as well including Ferrara
Candy Co. and Nerd's.

Of course, there will still be
the usual ads like beer brands,
PepsiCo. and Doritos.

The Big Three car brands
Ford, General Motors and Stel-
lantis are sitting out of their first
Super Bowl since 2021.

This is due to the United Auto
Workers' strike. However, Toy-

ota, Kia, BMW and Volkswagen
are still set to advertise during the
game. This will be Volkswagen
first Super Bowl ad in over a de-
cade.

Another big part of the appeal
of the Super Bowl is the halftime
show this year Usher will be per-
forming at halftime.

As usual people are curious
who, if anybody, will he bring out
to perform with him.

Some fans are hoping he
brings out Justin Bieber as Usher
helped Bieber early in his career.
Bieber also just performed for the
first time in a year and a half, last
weekend during the NHL All-Star
weekend.

Which leads fans to believe if
asked that he would perform at
halftime with Usher.

Some people, like my family,
go all out with Super Bowl par-
ties with tons of snacks and dec-
orations.

No matter what you are watch-
ing the Super Bowl for rather its
Taylor Swift, football, commer-
cials, the halftime show or the
snacks it is sure to be one you do
not want to miss.

**I look forward to the commercials and the
half-time show.**

-Derrick Galindo, sophomore, advertising manager

**I'm excited for Usher's performance and
making snacks for my friends.**

-Tara Owen, junior, news editor

**I like watching the halftime show, comme-
rcials, and I'm rooting Taylor Swift's boy-
friends team.**

-Jaylee Ross, freshman, online manager

Is this the new hangout spot?



NWOSU has a hidden gem

There is a spot in front of the NWOSU campus that many students may not be aware of. It has various memorials as well as scenery and seating areas. This would be a great place to bring friends to study, read a book or maybe have a picnic.

A scenic overview of the greenspace.



Top, a view of the survivor tree.

Right, memorial of the survivor tree in remembrance of past sexual assault survivors and honoring lives of domestic violence.



Left, memorial of Oklahoma Hall that is now the "greenspace".

Bottom left, a 9/11 memorial from the class of 2006.

Bottom right, a scenic walkway and seating area in the greenspace



Happy Valentine's Day

To: Bethany From: Jessica
 Thank you for being the greatest Big ever!

To: Libbie, Emma, Emily and Alaina From: Norah
 Happy valentine's Day to the best Suitemates ever!

To: Northwestern News From: Alli
 Thank you for being a great staff

To: Jamie From: Jessica
 Thank you for being the best friend I've met in college!

To: Emily From: Derrick
 Thank you for being my Mass Comm partner in crime. Whenever there was dread in my day you helped me through it, as i did for you. May we continue helping each other!

To: Brook From: Alli
 Thank you for reading the paper and supporting me!

To: Ethan Sacket From: Northwestern News
 Thank You for always reading our paper!

To: Dr. Armstrong From: Northwestern News
 Thank You for being a great adviser!

To: Alli From: Jessica
 Thank you for being the best sister!

To: Chancie From: Derrick
 Thank you for being the bestest best friend I could have. Despite barely meeting one another due to our lucrative schedules, anytime I do get to see you or witness your accomplishments is more than enough. From high school to college, to hopefully even further beyond!

To: Carmen From: Ash
 You are the most amazing best friend!

FEATURE

Self published books can be a good read if you give it a chance

When you think of self-published books, you usually think of them in a negative way. This is usually due to the fact that they're infamous for having bad grammar, cringy cover designs, and one-dimensional characters. This is usually because self-published authors

WORDS WITH MR. KAUMANS



KEVIN KAUMANS

are first-timers, who have little to no experience with writing.

Because of all these factors, most writers are often ashamed to self-publish due to the stigma behind it.

What makes this even more tragic is that I'm sure there are young writers out in the world with genuine talent that can't get any literary agent to even look at their work due to their lack of experience.

This isn't helped by the fact many people don't consider self-published books "real books", which only helps further the negative stereotypes of works that aren't published traditionally.

Now to be fair, there're a lot of works that have ugly covers, boring characters, and sentences that need to be spell checked self-published by writers that couldn't be bothered to go over their own book at least once.

How do I know all this? Well, I myself am an author who published his first book through Kindle Direct Publishing on Amazon, and like all beginners, the grammar and cover wasn't as good as I wanted it to be.

Now, I'm trying to publish my book through an actual publishing company in the hopes I can not only sell more copies but also have an editor help me with some of my mistakes. If you read the first article I wrote for Northwestern News, then you already know about the example I gave of my very first drift and how horrendous the writing was.

But despite all this, I recommend anyone reading this essay to give self-published books a chance. I've come across a few that weren't horribly written. Just because a book wasn't published by Scholastics or Harper Collins doesn't mean they aren't the next J.R.R. Tolkien or Agatha Christie.

My name is Kevin A. Kaumans, thank you for tuning into this week's column.

Make sure to pick up a new newspaper from Northwestern News every week, and until next time friends:

Stay Educated

Review:

A new movie that has everyone talking

By **KRISTEN KIRTLEY**
Assistant Editor

A few weeks ago, I went to the movie theater for the first time in months to watch the film, *Anyone But You*.

Anyone But You was released on December 22, 2023 and is a romantic comedy. Like many other people nowadays, I don't go to the movies as much anymore. The multiple streaming services that are available make it easy to watch a film from the comfort of your living room.

That being said, I couldn't make myself wait to watch this film due to the constant marketing of it that seemed to be everywhere. It seemed like anytime I was online I would see something about the movie that made me

want to watch it even more.

Before watching the movie, I was concerned that I'd end up being disappointed. I was afraid that it would be too cheesy or fail to have quality humor, that, in my opinion, makes or breaks a romantic comedy, hence the word comedy.

The film ended up exceeding my expectations. I laughed multiple times throughout the film, and was caught by surprise by the plot a few times as well, and it made me want to keep watching.

The film was also heartwarming, and the two main characters had an on-screen chemistry that made it seem like they could be together in real life. The film is one hour and forty-three minutes, which, in my opinion, is not too long and not too short.

Without giving too much

away, the film begins with two people who stop speaking abruptly after having a memorable first date. Both individuals think they will never see each other again, but a series of events proves them both wrong.

Sydney Sweeney, who plays the female lead, is an American actress who has acted in several things such as the series, *Everything Sucks!*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Sharp Objects*, *Euphoria* and more.

Glen Powell, the male lead, is an American actor who has played in *Top Gun: Maverick*, *Devotion*, *Set It Up*, *Hidden Figures* and more.

As earlier mentioned, the on-screen chemistry of Sweeney and Powell was something predicted by the public before the film even came out. The chemistry was seen



in interviews about the movie and broke the internet, which in turn helped the publicity of the movie. I would rate *Anyone But You* five stars, and would watch it again in a heartbeat.

Last concert of the season showcases violinist and pianist



Photos by: Derrick Galindo

The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series, Jasper Wood and David Riley performed at Herod Hall.

The Northwest concert series came to an end on Tuesday night. As violinist, Jasper Wood and pianist David Riley performed in Herod Hall.

For more information on Wood visit <https://jasper.wood.net/index.html>

For more information on Riley visit <https://davidrileypiano.com/>



Jasper Wood played the violin in Herod Hall on Tuesday night.

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SPORTS

Season opens for softball this weekend

By LUCIA BARRANTES VEGA
Sports Editor

As the softball season approaches, the Northwestern Lady Rangers are getting ready with a new roster and a renewed sense of purpose.

Head coach Casady Webb discussed the team goals and expectations.

The first goal is “to make the conference tournament,” she said. “We are not talking about the national championship or anything. We are just talking about conference championship and the ‘take it step by step’ kind of thing.

“We built a foundation last year and I told them that we are going to build a house this year. Expectations are obviously high; we want to build on what we did last year and just get better and better.”

With some familiar faces and fresh talent, the team is poised for an exciting journey ahead.

Webb talked about the 2024 roster: “We have about 19 that are transfer students, not counting the ones that have been here. We have four freshmen but not any sophomores. It is pretty much a senior/junior team.”

Fifth year Hannah Howell is the only one who has been here since she was a freshman.

The season opens with participation in the Midwestern State Tournament this Friday and Saturday. The tournament lineup includes matchups against Northwest Missouri State University, Fort Hays State University, Midwestern State University Texas (tournament venue), and Cameron University.

Webb said they have been preparing for the season opener.

“We have been outside, gaining speed and getting things ready,” she said. “Lots of long practices, lots of scrimmages against each other.”

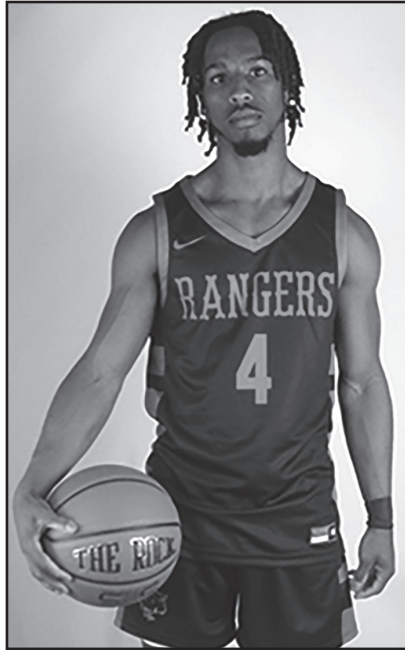
The team will have 52 games, including 29 on the road and 23 at home. The first 10 games will be non-conference. The conference games start Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. against Henderson State University on the Ranger Field at the Alva Rec Center.

The team is ranked 10th in the 2024 Great American Conference Softball Preseason Polls. The conference leader was Oklahoma Baptist followed by Southern Arkansas and Harding.

Webb said she has made changes this year.

“I have been trying to do lots more of team building with them so they can get to know us,” she said. “I’m a believer that if you feel that the coach genuinely cares about you and invests in you then they are going to invest and vice versa.”

3 named GAC player



Athletic Communications

No. 4 Brian Free, a 5-foot-8 guard from Greensboro, North Carolina, and a graduate student at NWOSU, was named GAC Player of the Week for men’s basketball. This was the first player honor for the team this year. He scored 29 points in one game last week and 23 in the other.



Photo by Kayleigh Rauch

For the fifth time this season and the second week in a row, Faith Simpson, a 6-foot-2 senior from Palisade, Nebraska, took GAC Player of the Week for women’s basketball. She was the top scorer in both games for the Lady Rangers last week, putting up 27 in the first game and 30 in the second.



Athletic Communications

Carson Wright, #31, a 6-foot-1 outfielder from Bellevue, Nebraska, batted .500 in the season-opening series last weekend, hit three home runs, drove in three runs and scored five runs. His performance earned him the first GAC Player of the Week for the Ranger baseball team.

Basketball

Men, women win at home

By MALCOLM SMITH
Student Reporter

Both the men’s and women’s teams won two games at home last week.

Men’s basketball

NWOSU men’s basketball beat Southern Arkansas University, 77-72, on Feb. 1, and University of Arkansas at Monticello, 81-63, on Saturday.

The Rangers are now 11-9 for the season and 9-5 in the GAC, sitting in third place behind Arkansas Tech and Southeastern Oklahoma who each are 11-3.

Guard Brian Free led both games in scoring, with 29 on Feb. 1 and 23 on Saturday.

The battle Feb. 1 was a hard one for the Rangers, with the score tied five times and the lead changing four times. Sophomore forward Kabeya Tshibangu started off the first half strong with a

slam dunk. He went on to earn 5 points for the Rangers.

Four Rangers ended the night in double digits: Free with 29, redshirt freshman guard Justin Norris and graduate student forward Chance Love with 13 each and redshirt senior forward Larry White at 10.

Saturday, Free, with 23 points, and White, 11 points, were joined in the double digits by redshirt sophomore guard Camron McDowell, 19 points, and redshirt junior DaRaun Clark, 11 points.

The Rangers led the game from the outset and never relinquished the lead.

Women’s basketball

The Lady Rangers defeated Southern Arkansas University, 57-53, on Feb. 1 and trounced University of Arkansas-Monticello, 75-58, on Saturday.

NWOSU is now 19-3 for the season, 11-3 in the GAC, putting them in third behind Southern

Nazarene (14-0) and Harding (13-1).

In the Feb. 1 game, senior forward Faith Simpson started the scoring with a 2-point layup and ended up accounting for 27 points with 12 rebounds for her fifth double-double of the season.

Junior Camille Thomas accounted for 17 points and junior guard Carly Craig 10 points.

It was a tough night from the three-point line for the entire Lady Rangers team with Craig’s two 3-pointers as the only ones of 12 attempts to be successful.

In the Saturday game, Simpson again led the team in points, 30 total with 10 of them from free throws. The only other player in double digits was junior Payton Jones with 13 points. She also sank 7 for 7 on free throws.

Free throws were key for the Rangers, making 32 of 39 (82.1%) throughout the game., including all 12 in the third quarter.

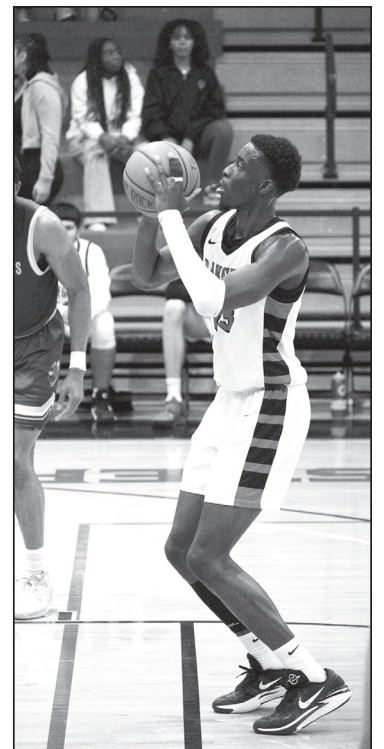


Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

Forward Kabeya Tshibangu sets up for free throw against Southern Arkansas on Feb. 1.

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SPORTS

2 wins, 1 loss in season opener

By **KEN IRVING**
Student Reporter

The Rangers won season opener series 2-1 against Metropolitan State last weekend.

If you weren't excited about this year's Ranger baseball season, then maybe Trevor Stiles' and Paul Sachen's walk off singles in the season openers will change your mind.

The Rangers had six home runs in the first of the three-game series Friday. Junior Carson Wright homered three times, Juniors Paul Sachen, Trevor Saire and Hagen Barcello each homered once. Barcello and Wright each had four hits.

With the bases loaded in the ninth inning, junior pitcher Jacob Shaw got out of the bases-loaded jam and secured the win.

Game 1 against Metropolitan State was action packed from the beginning as Metropolitan State hit a leadoff double. This led to a two-run homer to start the game off.

The lead wouldn't last long as both Wright and Barcello hit back-to-back homeruns to tie the game at 2-2.

Metropolitan State scored 2



Photo by Jabari Smith

Junior Matthew Potts, prepares to fire off a pitch in the first game of a double header Saturday afternoon.

runs after a couple of Ranger errors but the Rangers responded with a homerun by Wright.

In the fourth inning, junior Dylan Bradford hit a sacrifice fly, and the Rangers drove in a run to tie the game.

The seventh inning rally started with Sachen's two-run homer. The Rangers batter fed off this energy as Saire smashed a ball into the parking lot, cutting the deficit to 1 run.

The Rangers were down by

one to start the ninth, but they didn't look nervous at all. Wright certainly wasn't as he hit his third homerun to tie it at 8 a piece.

With a 3-2 count and bases loaded, Stiles delivered the game winning RBI single.

The Rangers took Game 1 of 3 by a score of 9-8

The Rangers split Saturday's doubleheader.

They took Game 2, 6-5, and lost Game 3, 9-3, on Saturday.

Pitcher Matthew Potts shut out Metropolitan State through four innings Saturday until the Roadrunners hit a single home run off for the first score of the game. Metropolitan scored three more runs to go 4-0 in the sixth.

Then the Rangers got their first points of the day off a Paul Sachen RBI single in the sixth.

In the eighth inning, the Rangers added on to their single point off a Metropolitan error and a sacrifice bunt by Bradford.

Once again, the Rangers faced a ninth inning deficit but didn't back down and scored on a balk. Junior Dylan Bradford tied the game on an RBI single. Sachen knocked in a walk off single and completed the comeback.

The Rangers failed to complete the series sweep as they lost Game 3, 9-3.

Tuesday win 9-8

A five-run eighth inning [ush]ed the Rangers to a comeback win over the Newman Jets, 9-8, on Tuesday. It was the third come-from-behind win this season.

Track, field face travel almost every weekend

By **LUCIA BARRANTES VEGA**
Sports Editor

NWOSU track athletes face an interesting challenge this semester: students will be missing some classes almost every week throughout the semester due to competitions.

Two athletes talked about the problems they face and how they cope with it all.

Riley Herndon, a freshman who competes in the 1 mile and 3,000-meter races, said demands of competing definitely affects class attendance. This makes it quite stressful for him. To deal with this his strategy is to stay organized, planning the days to keep everything in order.

When it comes to missing class, he says, "I tell teachers about a week in advance and I remind them the day before I leave."

Hannah Appleton, a junior who throws shot put, discus, hammer and weight, also finds the competition schedule demanding.

"It is definitely stressful," she said, "especially since I am in an education major and our classes

have required a 90% attendance rate."

"Our coaches gave us a calendar at the beginning of the semester, and I share it with my professors," Appleton said. "When it is time to miss class, I talk to them in person or send them an email."

Both athletes stress the importance of getting ahead academically.

Herndon said, "I have every day planned, classes, practices." Appleton added, "I keep a planner and I look to my syllabus, plan everything out and work ahead of it."

"We have this study routine every day at 7 p.m., helping us academically," Herndon explained.

Appleton suggests keeping open communication with professors. "When you communicate and stay on top of things or work ahead, they would be more likely to help you out," she said.

Coach Derrick Young said the coaches use the indoor meets as training to improve for the outdoor season. While the team will have GAC outdoor track championship races, there will be no indoor championship competition in Oklahoma, until next year, Young said.

Rangers take 2 first-place honors at meet

Two members of the NWO-SU track team took first place in a meet at Pittsburg State last weekend.

Jayden Geathers won the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 8.62.

Brandon Adolphus placed first in the 1,000-meter run with a time of 2:36.81.

Men's Top 10

5000-meter run:

8th Edward Robledo-Gonzalez, 16:27.40

200m dash:

3rd Trevor Montayne, 22.96

8th Wesley Hall, 23.47.

400m dash:

3rd Karlo Bogdan, 52.56

7th Ethan Barnes, 53.53

9th Wesley Hall, 54.07.

800-meter run:

10th Jakai Coker, 2:04.99.

1000-meter run:

5th Hunter Bellis, 2:53.52.

1 mile run:

2nd Brandon Adolphus, 4:26.88

8th Hunter Bellis, 4:38.27

9th Riley Herndon, 4:39.96

3000-meter run:

5th Robledo-Gonzalez, 9:33.83

6th, Riley Herndon, 9:37.13

9th Muneer Suied, 9:42.25

4x400-meter relay:

3rd Crispus Atukwatse, Hunter

Bellis, Alan Lares and Benjamin

Morfin, 3:34.54

4th Michael Byers, Derek Cocheran, Jace Dunn and Terrence Marfo, 3:35.40.

Women's Top 10

60-meter dash:

4th Brianna Brantley, 7.91

8th Diamond Hilton, 8.13.

200-meter dash:

4th Diamond Hilton, 26.95

5th Brianna Brantley, 26.97

400-meter dash:

2nd Deja Lacy, 1:00.26

5th Renaja Engermann, 1:01.84

9th Shakira Lane, 1:02.77.

60-meter hurdles:

7th Machala Hengen, 9.39.

Long Jump:

6th Darianne Thompson, 5.06M



Photo by Aaron Medrano

Jayden Geathers, center, competes and wins the 60 meters hurdles at the Pittsburg State meet last week.