

Coach of the Week

Women's basketball coach, Tasha Diesselhorst named NCAA D2 coach of the week.
See Page 8



Band director

Eric Burger, band director at NWOSU, talks about his experience with U.S. Army Band.
See Page 6



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Why is there a Leap Year?

By KRISTEN KIRTLEY
Assistant Editor

You have most likely heard of Leap Year and know that they occur every four years, but do you know why?

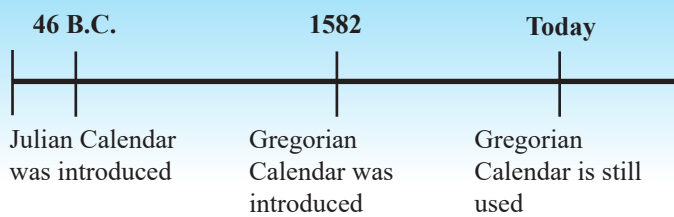
2024 is a Leap Year, so February will have 29 days rather than 28, and Leap Day is Feb. 29. A year is normally 365 days, but on Leap Years, a year is 366 days.

The reason a year is normally 365 days is because that is about how long it takes for the Earth to travel around the Sun.

One day, or 24 hours, is the time it takes the Earth to rotate one time.

The amount of time it takes the Earth to travel around the Sun and the amount of time it takes the Earth to rotate one time have

Leap Year timeline



nothing to do with each other, which is the reason a year is actually around 365.24 days long.

Although the extra quarter of day, which is six hours, may not seem like a lot, if we went by this and didn't have a Leap Year, it would cause the seasons to move

by one day each year.

Although that may not seem like a significant amount, if this was done, the days would be out of sync with the seasons in a few hundred years.

That would mean that Halloween would be in spring, and

Christmas would be in the middle of summer.

Although people were aware that a Leap Year was needed as far back as the days of ancient Egypt, Leap Years did not begin until the reign of Julius Caesar.

In 46 B.C., the Julian calendar was introduced. The calendar was made so that each year was 365 days and every 4th year was a Leap Year.

Eventually, though the calendar got out of whack because one trip around the sun isn't really 365 1/4 days as the Julian calendar thought. It's actually 11 minutes shorter than that. By 1582, it was 10 days out of sync with the seasons.

At that time, Pope Gregory the 13th introduced the Gregorian calendar that is still used to this day.

With the Gregorian calendar,

every year that can be divided by four is a leap year, like 1904, 1952 and 1976.

If a year can be divided by 4 AND 100, like the years 1700, 1800 and 1900, that year is not a Leap Year. If the year can also be evenly divided by 400, like 2000, then it is a Leap Year.

With the use of the Gregorian Calendar, the year will stay in sync with the seasons for 8,000 years. By then, humans may use an even more precise calendar.

An easy way to remember if it's a Leap Year is if it's an election year or if the Summer Olympic Games are taking place.

About 5 million people worldwide will be celebrating their actual Leap Year birthday this year. The other three years, someone born on a Leap Day celebrates on Feb. 28 or March 1 or both.

Commentary

Consolidating colleges could cause issues in Oklahoma

By ALLI SCHIEBER
Editor-in-Chief

Gov. Kevin Stitt wants to consolidate some of the universities in the state.

That was one of the suggestions he emphasized in the annual State of the State Address, which he delivered on Feb. 5.

Stitt talked about an array of different subjects including consolidating universities.

Stitt said he wants Oklahomas colleges and universities to be the best in the United States.

"To be the best, we need to shift our focus to outcome-based higher education models and stop subsidizing institutions with low enrollment and low graduation rates," Stitt said.

In the fall of 2022 Northwestern had a total of 1,647 under graduate students enrolled.

While enrollment numbers have been continuously rising, those numbers are still low compared to other four year universities.

In the same semester Southwestern Oklahoma State Univer-

sity had 3,942 students.

Though Northwestern is not the smallest university in Oklahoma, it is on the smaller side.

Stitt did not just say that the state needs to focus on outcome-based higher education; he also said each college and university should focus on the subjects that they are best at.

"I want to see legislation that incentivizes models that fulfill our state's workforce needs," Stitt said. "I also want our regents to focus on consolidating colleges and universities that aren't meeting this standard."

This statement shocked a lot of lawmakers in Oklahoma when he called for consolidation.

In an article by oklahomavoice.com, Stitts spokesperson Abigail Cave said the governor seeks to eliminate redundancies in higher education, encouraging smaller institutions to share some of their administrative costs and eliminate duplicative programs.

"There are smaller publicly funded colleges around the state that are near other similarly sized colleges, all offering similar sets of programs," Cave said.

She went on to say if two colleges that are 40 minutes apart then it makes sense for them to complement each other's programs and not offer all the same programs.

This does not just apply to smaller schools but could apply

**"I also want our regents to focus on consolidating colleges and universities that aren't meeting this standard."
— Kevin Stitt**

to schools like the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University.

Cave said that OSU should not offer a meteorology degree since OU has a nationally ranked one. Same with OU; they should let OSU take the reigns on the agriculture departments because that is what OSU really excels at.

Northwestern has one of the best nursing programs so it is

more than likely Alva would keep that. But what does that mean for everything else?

Before talking about universities consolidating, Stitt talked about a mother who was taking care of her three children after her husband died.

Her youngest daughter would come home crying every day because of how people treated her for standing up for her brother with autism. The mother went on to put her daughter in a private school where she is now thriving.

That being said not all schools are a good fit for everyone.

Some students do better at schools that are smaller like Northwestern or Southwestern and not a school with 21,000 students like OU.

Students may do better with smaller class sizes and having everyone within 40 miles go to the same place to get the degree they want may result in a lower graduation rate.

However, if the consolidating of universities is voluntary it may be better in the long run.

"Our schools, colleges and universities are teaching kids how

to think not what to think," Stitt said. "And students from all over the country are coming to Oklahoma to take part in the free flow

**"Our higher education institutions are always looking for ways to serve Oklahoma better and more efficiently."
— Allison Garrett**

of idea."

Northwestern is great at doing this. I have had several classes that encourage the students to think for themselves.

"Our higher education institutions are always looking for ways to serve Oklahoma better and more efficiently," said higher education Chancellor Allison Garret.

In response to Stitt's speech according to oklahomavoice.com.

Oklahoma has 25 public universities which would be a lot of universities to consolidate.

NEWS

Feb. 29th-
March 6th

WHAT'S UP?

29th

Thursday

- Free lunch at The Wesley House starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Lady Rangers basketball at 5:30 p.m. in Percefull Fieldhouse
- Ranger Basketball at 7 p.m. in Percefull Fieldhouse
- African Student Association Movie Night at 7 p.m. in the Science Amphitheater
- Bible Chair Round Up Night at 7 p.m.

1st

Friday

- First Friday Artwalk located at Graceful Arts at 6 p.m.

2nd

Saturday

- Senior Recital- Samuel Grinder at 2 p.m. in Herod Hall
 - This event is free to the public

4th

Monday

- NWOSU Art Show in the campus library from March 4 -29
- 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

5th

Tuesday

- Free Lunch at the Bible Chair starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Presidential Lecture Series at 1 p.m. in EC 109
- Wesley House Bible Study at 7 p.m
- NWOSU Art Show in the campus library from March 4 -29 .

6th

Wednesday

- BCM Free Lunch starting at 11:30 a.m.
- Bible Chair Bible Study at 7 p.m.
- BCM Bible Study at 8 p.m.
- NWOSU Art Show in the campus library from March 4 -29

Forge helps students 'thrive not just survive'

By MALLORY PARUSZEWSKI
Senior Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Forge is a group for college students to connect with mentors and other students within the Alva community. Forge provides a place for students to become followers of Christ and commit them into growing in the word of God. Forge is a place for Christian students to make a positive impact.

Jennifer Oswald, associate professor of education is the contact for Forge.

Northwestern Forge gained its name from Proverbs, 27:17 as iron sharpens iron. In other words, saying one person sharpens another. The group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. in the Education Center Room 100.

During meetings, they will provide dinner and have a brief talk over their theme. The theme for this semester is "Thriving Not Just Surviving."

This year the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Forge group sponsored an event for the community and college students who wanted to attend.

The campus Forge group hosted an event by IF:Local, which is part of IF Gathering Livestream put on by Jennie Allen, founder of IF, and her team.

IF has its own theme, which is "Because Of Jesus," and has a goal of spreading the word

throughout the world. It has gone live all over the country and has reached 176 countries.

Feb. 23-24 marked the group's 10-year anniversary. Its IF:Local group appeared in Fort Worth, Texas, for the celebration.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Forge group, community members and college students had the opportunity to experience the celebration through livestream last week.

IF's mission statement is "We exist to equip women with gospel-centered resources, events and community so they may learn more about who God is and disciple other women right where they are."

"We are providing a place for hopefully women of multiple generations to gather together," said Jen Oswald, who leads to the campus group.

Forge and IF are two groups that are available for anyone to join. Forge is in person on campus, and IF is a livestream.

They both have a goal of spreading the word of Jesus and teaching people about God. People can connect with other people and share their beliefs with one another. These groups are a non-judgmental environment and encourage everyone who is looking to connect with Christ to join them, Oswald said.

For more information about Northwestern Oklahoma State University Forge group contact Jen Oswald at jdoswald@nwsu.edu or nwsu.edu/forge.

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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 provide a cell phone number. 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.

OPINION

Parking problems persist

By **CHLOE GRUSING**
Editorial Editor

As a Northwestern student, I want the campus to improve everyday, one step at a time. My reason being I pay to attend school here and would like to know my money is going towards something important.

Throughout my time here, I have noticed a few things that could be looked at with greater detail. Other students and staff have mentioned how the parking at this university raises concerns.

I decided to write this week over the parking on campus and what we as students can expect in the parking lots. I feel it is important to remain educated and up to date with the "little things" to better campus life for everyone on campus.

Another reason I feel compelled to draw attention to parking on campus is due to the Church of Christ Bible Chair Church across the street from Carter Hall. A few weeks ago there was a sign that stated "no parking", and students were confused on where to park their car for class.



Photo by Chloe Grusing

NWOSU students and faculty park in front of the Church of Christ Bible Chair east of campus throughout the week.

I talked to Chief of Campus Police, Dennis Kilmer, regarding safety concerns due to parking available to students and staff. The biggest parking violation Chief Kilmer tickets is students and staff members parking in the Wellness Center parking lot. He mentions the parking lot is closed to the university from 6 a.m. through 5 p.m.

Other than that, the compact car parking near Carter Hall does not allow any non-compact vehicle to park in the lot. This has been an issue I have personally encountered so I knew this was an issue on campus.

**"IT'S DIFFICULT FOR
OLDER PEOPLE TO
GET IN AND OUT
OF THE CHURCH"**

— **BENTLEY TOMBERLIN**

The parking lot also does not hold many spaces, leaving students to park across the street on the Bible Chair property.

There has been one incident of a student parking illegally in the BC parking, where campus and Alva police were involved. Chief Kilmer says the issue was resolved quickly and is no longer a concern.

The Bible Chair Church has not directly contacted Kilmer or the NWOSU police ser-



Photo by Chloe Grusing

Many large vehicles try to park in the compact car parking spaces east of Vinson Hall.

vices but Chief Kilmer advises people to respect the Bible Chair and follow signs posted.

To gain full clarity on the Bible Chair parking situation, I interviewed the minister Steve Hamm. I asked him for comment on the parking sign situation where students thought the parking lot was closed to the public. Hamm clarified the sign was just for one spot, so

Students should make sure to check the places they park, and respect the number of spaces they are taking up.

Again, the church has no issue with students using their lot, just that respect is being practiced. When driving long trucks or trailers, park in an appropriate area.

If a no parking sign is posted, the church urges people to not park there. Members of the church love the community and college, they just ask for students to obey the rules of their lot.

This begs a bigger question, is there adequate parking on campus? Do the current parking areas suffice for the current student body?

Everyday students are affected by parking,

**"STUDENTS ARE
WELCOME TO USE
THE CHURCH
PARKING LOT"**

— **STEVE HAMM**

the plumber coming that day could easily access the water system. The parking debacle was nothing more than a misunderstanding. Hamm said,

"Students are welcome to use the church parking lot."

The issue that arises is when students are not following signs posted, taking up multiple places or causing attendees disruption.

Bentley Tomberlin, senior at Northwestern and Bible Church attendee, said students have caused disturbances in the Wednesday night church services.

"It's difficult for the older people to get in and out of the church."

Wednesday night classes and church occur at the same time, which causes more cars to be in the parking lot than a normal Sunday service. Students sometimes park in the spaces at the church, close to the door, where older churchgoers might need to park for accessibility.

This is an issue of just respecting each other's spaces and practicing consideration. I feel these issues could be avoided if people took consideration of their counterparts.

As a person that is able bodied, park a space or two down for the older folks that may have trouble moving around.

Beyond the concern for the elderly attendees, Tomberlin is worried there could be an accident in the parking lot. Students should be aware of their surroundings and make sure to park in the lines, as to not box anyone in.

Hamm and Tomberlin asked for students to be respectful of the signs posted in each lot. Hamm said students have blocked doors and areas that need to be accessed through the day.

and for commuting students, this is a big concern. If one day the Bible Chair needs their parking lot, where are students supposed to park? Should the campus add another lot?

I brought these concerns back to Chief Kilmer and he assured me the parking on campus is sufficient. He said that parking violations are down from last year and the biggest violation is parking in the Wellness Center. The parking available for the students and staff is doing the job it's supposed to do.

Chief Kilmer did not have any major concerns regarding the safety of students in the parking lots. There have been some fender benders this year, but it hasn't been anything out of the ordinary.

The greater message at hand is that students need to be respectful and practice safe driving. Students have been driving better this year compared to last, with a smaller amount of tickets written.

I can only urge the student body to be respectful of the Bible Chair's parking lot and to park appropriately. Make sure to practice caution when backing in and out of a space to prevent any more minor accidents from occurring.

It is important that we treat the campus and people helping the student body with gratitude. Saying please and thank you and respecting boundaries is the least us students can do. Practice parking safely and make sure to read all signs before parking in a space.

You can't have 1 without the other



Photo by Christian Franklin

Sterlin Broomfield, far right, lines up his distance squad to attack their workout in the mile repeats. That is going to be four vigorous laps, averaging a low 5-minute pace for one mile.

Coach Derrick Young Jr:

'Do you want to be great?'

The NWOSU track and field team underwent a remarkable transformation, transitioning from two-hour study hall sessions to breaking in the new track with boundless enthusiasm.

As the team traded textbooks for track spikes, there was palpable excitement surrounding the revival of the program. Athletes eagerly embraced the opportunity to train on the newly constructed track, fueling their de-

termination to excel in competitions.

The unveiling of the new facilities symbolized a fresh chapter for the team, igniting a sense of pride and anticipation for the upcoming season. With renewed focus and state-of-the-art resources at their disposal, the NWOSU track and field team embarks on a journey filled with promise and potential, poised to make their mark in outdoor collegiate athletics once again.

Photo essay by Christian Franklin



Photo by Christian Franklin

Coach Sterlin Broomfield, center, strategizes with, from left, Edward Robledo-Gonzalez, Ben Morfin, Alan Lares, Riley Herndon, Hunter Bellis and Aaron Medrano about running consecutive miles back-to-back.



Photo by Christian Franklin

All track and field athletes are required to attend study hall in the Academic Success Center and maintain good grades in order to compete. You can't do sports without academics.



Photo by Christian Franklin

Coach Nelda Jackson, left, times the distance runners as they reach the finish line.

CAMPUS LIFE



Photos by Derrick Galindo

The performance was a success, and the students take a bow to commemorate their efforts Thursday after the first night of "Blithe Spirit." Left to right, Jade Campbell, Gail Schroeder, Kylee Harzman, Alan Garcia, Jaden Matthews, Archer Bohlen and Maegan Holson.



After a night of drinking and contact from the beyond, Ruth and Charles Condomine discuss that night's events over breakfast.



Ruth Condomine (Kylee Harzman) witnesses the work of the apparition, Elvira (Jaden Matthews), while Charles Condomine (Alan Garcia) attempts to stop Elvira from scaring Ruth.

"Blithe Spirit" was directed by speech and theater major Lisa Turner for her capstone project. Turner said when she first read the play she knew she wanted it to be her capstone. The play, written by Noel Coward and first produced in the 1940s, is full of witty comedy that anyone can enjoy.

Blood drive



Photo by Gavin Mendoza

Chris Perez shows the T-shirt he got after giving blood last week. The Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors and the NWSU soccer team sponsored the two-day blood drive.

Get artsy



Photo by Chloe Grusing

Students paint on canvases at the Medical Science Club's art night last week.

Track dedication



Photo by Chloe Grusing

Verne Metcalf speaks at the dedication ceremony last week for the new track named in his family's honor.

FEATURE

Band director has Army roots

By **DERRICK GALINDO**
Student Reporter

One would never expect NWOSU's band director to have such a beefy backstory.

Eric Burger is the instructor of instrumental music and the Director of Bands at NWOSU. He was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and grew up in Davis, California. He said after getting through college, he planned on teaching music. However, California pink slipped many teachers to a large degree, he said. At that time, married with three kids, he found that opportunity "had a door slammed shut on it," he said.

Despite that choice being out of the cards for him at that moment, he found another route. After seeing an ad for the US Army Band, he found it the best course of action. After his audition for the Army Band, he joined at the age of 31.

He spent 21 years in the U.S. Army Band. During that time, he said, "the stories are too numerous to even get through."

He said during his 11 years spent in Europe, he performed for three presidents and numerous heads of state, played in St. Catharine's Palace in St. Petersburg, and at the Kremlin. Along with this feat in Europe, he spent a year in Iraq. During this time, he said he performed 175 times for soldiers of 33 different countries and for the people of Iraq.

During his time in the military, he also worked freelance performing with major bands in Europe. However, this time was exhausting for him.

"I'm working in the army and it's a 50 hour job," he said. "Three or four nights a week I'd be playing on the side. So, I'd have days where Monday night we'd play from 10 to 12, and then be back at work at 6 in the morning.

"Wednesday, we'd have a rehearsal from 4 to 7, and then we'd play from 8 to 1 and then I'm back at work at 6. Thursday we might have a gig in Berlin, which is five hours away."

Making memories

However, his time in the military wasn't always the best, but it was his job to make it a good memory.

"We were playing for the Marines," he said. "We always try to play for the Marines first, because they live the hardest life of any kind of military people. We were booked to do a three-hour show. We get



Photo by derrick Galindo

Band director Eric Burger shows off his arm tattoos that feature his last name: hamburgers.

there; the Sergeant Major says, 'I'm giving you an hour and twenty minutes.'

"We got work to do. He can't turn us away, because it's coming from a four star general, but he was only going to give us an hour and twenty minutes. It was an eighty-minute show, and we were used to playing a three hour show straight.

"We're playing for the marines, the show was going well, and I see the sergeant major standing on the side of the stage, looks white as a ghost. He gives me a little motion, and I walked over. He says, 'can you guys play as long as you can? We just had seven soldiers killed out on the front gate, and this is the last time these soldiers will have a good time for a very long time.'

"So, there's the two sides of that. Some of these people you're playing for, you're giving them maybe the last chance they have to have a good time before something bad happens to them."

Some U.S. Military Bands

- **The United States Army Band "Pershing's Own": created in 1922.**
- **U.S. Marine Band: created in 1798.**
- **U.S. Navy Band: created 1925**
- **U.S. Air Force Band: created 1941**
- **U.S. Coast Guard Band: created 1925**

5 fun things to know about our calendar

By **KATELYN FINDLEY**
Features Editor

1 Some other countries still use another calendar system.

All countries except a select group use the Gregorian calendar system today. This includes Ethiopia, Iran, Afghanistan, and more have chosen to remain on separate calendar systems.

2 The first of the year used to start in March.

Before the Julian calendar was implemented, the Roman calendar was the predominant system used. Julius Caesar calculated this system to be wrong. So he created the Julian calendar. This changed the first day of the year from March 1 to Jan. 1.

3 George Washington's birthday was not originally Feb. 22, 1732.

In 1752, when the British king, King George II, put the Gregorian calendar into effect in all the British colonies, former President George Washington's birthday had to be changed to match the timeline of the new calendar. His original birthday was recorded as Feb. 11, 1731.

4 Right now we are in year 5784 of the Hebrew calendar.

The year began on Sept. 15, 2023 and runs until Oct. 2, 2024.

The calendar is a lunar calendar with the month changing with the new moon. This requires adding an extra month every few years.

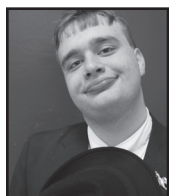
5 The Gregorian calendar will need to change again.

When calculating the Julian and Gregorian calendar, early astrologists did not account for the extra time not used. Twenty-six seconds are not accounted for in the Gregorian calendar. Because of this factor, the time will add together and put the dates off course from the timeline, leaving the world to figure out how to fix this problem again. But NOT for another 3200 years.

Why won't students talk to teachers?

For this week's article, I did an anonymous interview with six professors on why students were afraid of asking for help or meeting them in their office.

WORDS WITH MR. KAUMANS



KEVIN KAUMANS

One of the professors I interviewed said the main reason he thought his students were afraid to ask for help was because of social anxiety. He said because of the addiction of smartphones and social media, many young people are afraid of social interaction.

Two professors said they believed their students weren't seeing them in their office because they came off as "intimidating."

Not every professor is all smiles and rainbows. Some professors can come off as monotone and mean when

they don't mean to. Of course, every human perceives one another differently, so this makes sense.

Another two professors said many students think they can do the assignment on their own without any help and are too prideful to ask for help. There's nothing wrong with not understanding a subject. It doesn't make you any less smart or worthy of being in college.

The last professor I interviewed said a lot of her students that need help with their assignments don't ask for help simply because they're lazy. They don't care about the class and don't even show up half the time.

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:

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SPORTS

Men's Golf starts spring season play

On Feb.19 and 20 the Men's Golf team visited San Antonio, Texas, participating in the first tournament of the spring season.

The Rangers placed 10th overall in the tournament with a final total of 918 (313-297-308).

Results:
Mathieu Zerwin 226 (77-77- 72), 35th place.



Noah Carpenter 231 (77-74-80), 50th place



Cade Seymour 232 (81-73-78), 54th place



Caden Holmes 236 (78-74-84), 64th place



Davan Smith 236 (82-76-78), 64th place



Up next:
March 4 & 5
U. of Arkansas Fort Smith
@ Hardscrabble Country Club

Baseball wins 1 but loses 3

Northwestern Ranger baseball traveled last Friday to Arkadelphia for their first on the road game.

They closed out their visit to Henderson State 1-2, losing the series. This put the team at 21-5 for the season, 3-3 conference.

Friday games: vs Henderson State University

	NWOSU	HSU
Game 1	2	5
Game 2	10	5

Game 1:
Pitching: Garrett DeHaas
Batting:
2B: Jacob Wiltshire, 1
HR: Trevor Saire, 1
SH: Jacob Wiltshire, 1
Baserunning:
RUNS: Carson Wright, 1; Trevor Saire, 1
Fielding:
E: Carson Wright, 1; Zach Vetal, 1

Game 2:
Pitching: Cade Phelps
Batting:
2B: Porter Pittman, 1
HR: Trevor Saire, 1; Colby Grace, 1
SH: Dylan Bradford, 1
Baserunning:
RUNS: Carson Wright, 2; Hagen Barcello, 2; Trevor Saire, 2; Colby Grace, 1; Trevor Stiles, 1; Jacob Wiltshire, 1
CS: Dylan Bradford, 1; Carson Wright, 1
HBP: Carson Wright, 1; Trevor Stiles, 1; Jacob Wiltshire, 2
Fielding:
E: Dylan Bradford, 2; Colby Grace, 1

Saturday game:

	NWOSU	HSU
Game 3	3	4

Pitching: Jacob Fuller, Matthew Potts, Max McClain

Batting:
HR: Carson Wright, 1; Colby Grace, 1
RBI: Carson Wright, 1; Colby Grace, 1
Baserunning:
RUNS: Carson Wright, 1; Colby Grace, 1; Trevor Saire, 1
SB: Trevor Saire, 1

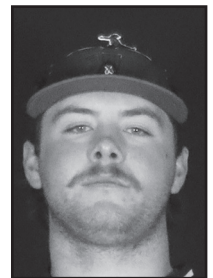
Tuesday game: vs Rogers State University

	NWOSU	RSU
Score	2	3

Pitching: Kyle Gscheidle
Batting:
2B: Dylan Bradford, 1
SH: Jacob Wiltshire, 1
RBI: Zach Vetal
Baserunning:
RUNS: Chad Green, 1; Bradey Bejarano, 1
CS: Trevor Saire, 1
HBP: Dylan Bradford, 1; Oscar Gallardo, 1

Playmakers

Colby Grace



Hitting
AB 12
R 3
H 3
RBI 6

Carson Wright



Hitting
AB 8
R 4
H 2
RBI 3

Next game:
March 1 & 2
@ Oklahoma Baptist

GAC opens for softball

By **KAROLINA JURESIUTE**
Student Reporter

Lady Rangers softball started their conference games on Friday and Saturday against Henderson State Reddies and won the series 2-1.

The Lady Rangers had their first game on Friday and lost by one run 5-4. The first three innings went pretty fast with nobody scoring any runs. Henderson had their first three runs in the fourth inning.

Northwestern Lady Rangers struck back with four runs at the sixth inning of the game after Tatum Winters hit a triple. In the final inning of the game, Lady Rangers could not stop the Reddies and they scored two runs to get back in the lead by one point.

The best performer for the lady Rangers was Tatum Winters with two hits while driving three RBI's.

Lady Rangers faced the Henderson State Reddies again the next afternoon to play a double

header. Northwestern won both games, which gave the Rangers series win, 2-1.

Northwestern had more runs in Saturday's first game than the game on Friday. Lady Rangers won by four runs, 10-6. Kathryn Jones was the winning pitcher of the game.

Henderson State started early with the first run in the first inning and then Northwestern had a big third inning.

After the Rangers filled all three bases, Tatum Winters forced a run with a walk. The walk then lead to back-to-back hits, first by Hannah Howell with an RBI single before Rachel Sherwood cleared the bases with a 3-RBI triple.

The Lady Rangers had six hits and took the lead 6-1 to start the fourth inning. Henderson State answered the Rangers with five runs to tie the game. Northwestern answered with two more runs.

The Henderson State Reddies remained scoreless for the rest of the game and Northwestern Lady

Rangers scored two more runs to ensure their first win of the double header, 10-6.

The second game of the day was a lot closer, but Lady Rangers won by one run 4-3.

This time Northwestern scored first in the first inning. Macy Spearman scored when Hannah Howell reached first base off an error. The second inning was scoreless for both teams.

In the third inning, Northwestern Rangers had two more runs and were in the lead by three 3-0. After Howell grounded out to short stop, Spearman advanced to the third base and Cameron Alexander scored. Then Sherwood had a triple RBI and Spearman scored.

Henderson scored their first two runs of the game in the fourth inning to cut the Rangers lead to 3-2. Lady Rangers scored their last run of the game in the fifth inning when Howell hit a homerun.

The Reddies only had one run in the seventh inning, and NWOSU won 4-3. Winning pitcher of

the game was Molly Dolan. The Lady Rangers advance to an 8-5 record.

The next conference series for the Lady Rangers is this Friday and Saturday against Oklahoma Baptist Bisons in Shawnee.

Results:

Friday game:

	NWOSU	HSU
Game 1	4	5

RUNS: Rosemary Rivera, 1; Gabrielle Sanchez, 1; Cameron Alexander, 1; Shyanna Stopp, 1

Saturday games:

	NWOSU	HSU
Game 2	10	6
Game 3	4	3

RUNS: Macy Spearman, 3; Tatum Winters, 2; Hannah Howell, 1; Rachel Sherwood, 1; Avery Clark, 1; Devynn Raile, 1; Beth Denney, 1

RUNS: Macy Spearman, 2; Hannah Howell, 1; Cameron Alexander, 1

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SPORTS

Basketball coach and player named best of the week

By LUCIA BARRANTES VEGA
Sports Editor

On Tuesday, Tasha Diesselhorst and Faith Simpson from the Lady Ranger Basketball team were named coach and player of the week respectively.

The page WHoopDirt.com named Diesselhorst the NCAA D2 coach of the week.

After last week's games, Diesselhorst's team surprised Harding that are the #3 NCAA D2 team in the country. This victory is, for the Lady Rangers, their first over a top-five team since entering Division II history. With a record of 102 wins at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Leading the scoring in both games last week, Faith Simpson has earned her sixth conference player of the week of the season.

She had an averaging 17.5 points and 10 rebounds between the games. Also adding three steals per game and one block.

In his senior season she has scored 609 points in total, Simpson ranks first in the team. These are her statistics this season.

FGM 245
FTM 119
REB 233
MIN 688



Coach Tasha Diesselhorst.



Photos by Northwestern Athletics

Senior Faith Simpson #30.

Women win 2 at home

By MALCOM SMITH
Student Reporter

The Northwestern Lady Rangers upset No. 3-ranked Harding Lady Bisons Thursday, 61-56, and beat Arkansas Tech, 67-64, on Saturday.

Following the weekend of games, NWOSU (15-5) now sits in third place behind Southern Nazarene (19-1) and Harding (17-3).

Faith Simpson popped off the game Thursday with a layup assisted by Carly Craig to get the lead early.

The Lady Rangers defense held strong throughout the opening quarter with the Bison scoreless through the first minutes of the game.

Then the game tied 4-4. Craig came back and hit a 3-point jump shot to put Northwestern up 7-4 in the first half.

In the second half of the game, the Lady Rangers began to heat up as Jones hit her second 3-pointer of the game.

Thomas made a 3-point shot to give the Lady Rangers a two-possession lead with one minute and a half to play in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Rangers ended up taking this one, 61-56.

Simpson was leading scorer with 20 points, and also had the double with a team high of 12 rebounds.

She is one of the four double figure scorers on Thursday. Craig had 14 point, Jones with 12 and Talayah Thomas with 11.

Saturday

In Saturday's game, Senior Night, the Lady Rangers won 67-64 against Arkansas Tech Golden Suns. The win, the 13th straight at home, puts the Lady Rangers to 23-5 on the season and a 15-5 conference record.

Simpson had the only double numbers with 15 points in total. However, six players had at least eight points.

Northwestern will play No. 1-ranked Southern Nazarene at 5:30 on Thursday in the final home game of the season. The travel to Southeastern Oklahoma State University on Saturday for the final regular season play.

The Lady Rangers have been assured a berth in the Great American Conference tournament that begins March 7 at the FireLake Arena in Shawnee.



Photo by Christian Franklin

Payton Jones (31) goes for a three-point shot against Harding.

Men split home games

By MALCOM SMITH
Student Reporter

The NWOSU Rangers beat the Harding Bisons, 80-67, Feb. 22 and then lost to Arkansas Tech, 70-63, Saturday.

Marquis Milton popped off the game Thursday with a 2-point jump shot to start the scoring.

Then Milton came back with a 3-point shot to give the Rangers their first five points.

The Bisons led the opening 10 minutes of the game as the two teams went back and forth for the opening minutes. Cameron McDowell was the night's leading scorer with 22 points on 70% shooting.

He led the Rangers as one of five double figure scorers: Larry White with 15, Brian Free with 13, Kennedy Milton and Marquise Milton each with 11.

Kicking off the second half, Northwestern came out hot as they ended up with a two-digit lead. With the score of 58-48 and 10 minutes to go.

The Rangers followed up with a 7-0-run kept off by a Free 3-pointer. This ended up being the largest lead of the night at that point.

The Rangers finished the game on top, 80-67.



Photos by Christian Franklin

Senior Kennedy Milton (1) goes airborne for a shot against Harding.

Saturday

Saturday's game was not so good for the Rangers, who fell to No. 2-ranked Arkansas Tech Wonder Boys.

The again was the lead scorer with 22 points. Followed by Chance Love who finished the game with three blocks and three steals.

The loss dropped the Rangers to 15-11 on the season with a 13-7 conference record. The Rangers will close their home games for the season this Thursday against No. 4-ranked Southern Nazarene at 7:30 p.m. in the Percefull Fieldhouse.

On Saturday they will travel to Durant to face No. 1 Southeastern Oklahoma State University (17-3) for the final season game.

The Ranger team ranks No. 3 in the GAC, behind Southeastern and Arkansas Tech.

The Rangers are guaranteed a berth in the GAC championship, March 7-9, which will be played in the FireLake Arena in Shawnee.

Playmakers last week:

- #3 Camron McDowell
PTS 44, FGM 13, 3FGM 6, FTM 12
- #1 Kennedy Milton
PTS 11, FGM 6, 3FGM 4, FTM 3

Women's Golf season opener at St. Mary's

On Monday and Tuesday the Women's Golf team participated in their first tournament of the spring season.

They visited St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas. The Rangers placed 11th overall in the tournament with a final total of 1003 (332-336-335).

Results:

First in Northwestern team:
43th place Romane Lacoste 240 (80-82- 78)



55th place Agathe Lacoste 253 (85-78-90)
58th Tess Linden 256 (84-86-86)
59th Addison Furtick 258 (84-90-84)
63rd Amanda Lane 266 (84-95-87)

Next up:
March 4 & 5
Southern Nazarene University
@ Kickingbird Golf Club