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Megan Spray, Miss Northwestern, and her passion for raising awareness for childhood cancer.
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NWOSU
GOLD
NIGHT
GAME
AUGUST 12TH AT 6:00



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Photo by Katelyn Findley

Ranger Football gathers around in a huddle to discuss the practice plan last Tuesday.

The effect fans have in sports

By ALLI SCHIEBER
Editor-in-Chief

Motivation.

This is one of the main characteristics of an athlete but, what helps motivate athletes the most?

If you ask an athlete at any level, they will probably say the fans in some form, whether that be a family member or friend that always shows up to their game or a stranger that is inspired by them and supports them fans help athletes want to stay motivated and keep working hard to perform well for them.

Without fans everyone's favorite sports teams will likely not exist.

Showing up for a game no matter what level of support is important for fans to show their support. For professional sports it could be distracting to play in a stadium with thousands of fans cheering against you. However, even with the fans cheering against you players still love the energy they bring and how loud it gets.

The Athletic's beat writers did an anonymous poll where they asked 84 NFL players what the best stadium to play in is. The Kansas City Chiefs, Arrowhead Stadium had 17.9% of the vote which was the highest amount. This could be surprising to some as Arrowhead holds the record for being the loudest stadium. Which shows that the loud atmosphere effects both the home and away teams.

While it is important for fans to show up in person to support sports teams with social media today it is also important for fans to engage that way. Social media helps fans to be engaged in different ways, one way that fans seem to love is sports social media coordinators posting videos of the players asking fun, silly questions. This can be questions like what your favorite song by certain artist or it could be something like which coach would win a 40-yard dash.

This helps fans feel more connected to the team by seeing them answer questions that do not have anything to do with their sport.

Rangers fall to Boll Weevils

By ALLI SCHIEBER
Editor-in-Chief

The NWOSU football team lost their season opener last Thursday against Arkansas Monticello with a score of 34-7.

Last season the Rangers went 1-10 and Northwestern football fans have high hopes for the team this season as they have a new defensive coordinator, Jerry Glanville and the head coach, Ronnie Jones, has had the chance to recruit some new players this year. Northwestern signed 11 transfers and 39 freshmen to play this season.

The Rangers had a few players that stood out last Thursday Royal Kyle was the only Ranger that scored a touchdown.

Some other players that stood out are quarterback Beck Moss who had for 90 passing yards, defensive lineman Cody Tilman and defensive back Isaiah Kellum led

the team with six tackles each while linebacker Aiden Lewis had a sack and caught an interception.

The home opener is Thursday at 6 P.M. against Ouachita Baptist University.

Ouachita won their 17th straight season opener against SWOSU last Thursday, 42-3. In the nine years that Northwestern has played Ouachita they have never won.

The closest game they had was in 2017 when they lost by a field goal, the score was 31-28.

During the season openers last week Ouachita overall looked better against SWOSU than NWOSU did against Arkansas Monticello. Ouachita had a total of 128 rushing yards and three rushing touchdowns compared to Northwestern's 49 yards and zero rushing touchdowns.

Some statistics: However, are a little more comparable Northwestern had two sacks against

Arkansas Monticello while Ouachita had three sacks against SWOSU. Northwestern also caught two interceptions while Ouachita caught one.

Last season, when Northwestern played Ouachita, the Rangers lost 66-0. When the Tigers pounced early in the first quarter and led the rest of the game.

In the Great Americans Conference's preseason poll North-

western was ranked last while Ouachita was ranked second. All 12 teams in the GAC conference played last Thursday which means Northwestern was one of the six teams to lose.

The Rangers will play Southern Nazarene University in Bethany on Sept. 21, 2024, and will be back in Alva Sept. 28, 2024, to play Southeastern Oklahoma State University for Family Day.

Ranger Home Games

- Sept. 12 vs Ouachita Baptist
- Sept. 28 vs Southeastern Oklahoma State University
- Oct. 5 vs Arkansas Tech University
- Oct. 26 vs Oklahoma Baptist University
- Nov. 2 vs Henderson State University

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NEWS

County Fair



Photos by Ingrid Maldonado

Last weekend the Woods County fair took place at the fairgrounds in Alva. Above: Northwestern employees set up at the Woods County fair to promote the university. Right: A rooster places first at the Woods County Fair.



People converse about the baking competition at the Woods County Fair.

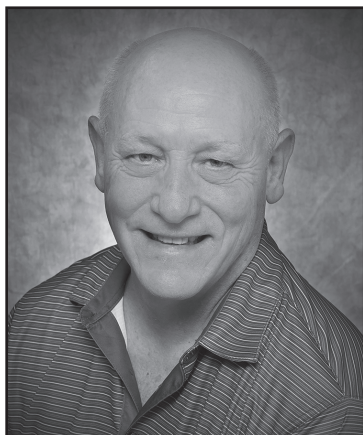


New Faculty

Education prof. wants to focus on teaching

By CHRISTIAN FRANKLIN
Student Reporter

Dr. Ryle Kiser, assistant professor of education, earned his undergraduate degree in education and master's degree in education administration, both from Eastern Washington University. His doctorate of education is from Central Michigan University. He was a school superintendent for 15 years and a principal for 19 years before that.



Dr. Ryle Kiser

Q: What is your favorite class to teach and why?

A: Since I've only taught three classes, I really don't have a favorite. I'm teaching two personnel classes and one finance class. So I have only been doing it for basically three weeks now.

Q: What is your "superpower"?

A: I'd say it's my memory. I have a really good memory. I basically remember all the stuff I read. I always tell people my mind is filled with tidbits of information. They are most times very helpful or they are just waiting to be helpful.

Q: What is something most people don't know about you?

A: Well since nobody in the university knows me at all, ha ha ha, I am married and have three kids and three grandchildren.

ing all graduate level classes in the education department.

Q: What is one of the first goals you hope to accomplish here?

A: That's a good question. I just want to work with a good program that's already been established and expand on it if I can.

Q: What sold you on coming to NWOSU?

A: I like the fact that they wanted somebody to come and only focus on teaching and working with their students rather than joining to do a bunch of research. I wanted to actually work with them, and that's what they emphasize here. So I will be teach-

WHAT'S UP SEPTEMBER 12-18

12

OBI blood drive at Ranger room 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

14

High School and Junior High Choir Workshop 9 A.M.- 2 P.M.

17

Writer's Round Table meeting 5 P.M.-6 P.M.

FREE LUNCHES 11:30 P.M.-1P.M.

Tuesdays Bible Chair
Wednesdays BCM
Thursday Wesley House

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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 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

Alva's best restaurant

By **LEONARDO ROBLES**
Opinion Editor

I think many of us agree that we do not like to eat the same thing over and over. Instead we like to try something new from the menu every once in a while, or maybe go to a different place to eat.

In Alva there are many local restaurants or diners where the residents can have supper, lunch, or breakfast.

Some of Alva's local food places for example are Chopsticks, 818 Diner, Cancun, Gambino's Pizza, and many more.

In my opinion, it is hard for these places to compete with each other on whether who is the people's favorite place to eat.

Since each one of these restaurants and diners have their own unique taste and their meal styles are completely different from each other, I interviewed some students and one citizen on which



is their own favorite restaurant or diner.

Their opinion is mainly based on food prices, food quality and the service provided.

The majority of the student's opinion agree that 818 Diner is, with no doubt, their favorite place to eat for the taste, the low prices, the options in the menu and the staff service provided at the place.

It is located a short walk from campus at 818 Oklahoma Blvd.

In my opinion, Cancun is Alva's main restaurant to try out with lovely meal options to offer, although 818 Café is mainly my favorite since I'm a coffee drinker and I'm obsessed with a delicious breakfast that includes eggs, bacon, hashbrowns and preferably waffles.

Alva has many places where everyone can eat, and our opinions are based on our own preferences so everyone should feel free to agree or disagree with our preferences.

Everyone should be open to try ordering food in places where they have not been before, preferably our local restaurants and diners.

Lawson Musk
Senior

wildlife management major

What is your favorite local restaurant? 818 Diner

Why? "It's pretty cheap and the taste is pretty good, I've been going there for a long time."

Nathan Hall

Junior, agriculture major

What is your favorite local restaurant? Pizza Hut

Why? "You can get everything that you see in one sitting. You actually get what you are paying for. Basically, serve yourself."

Yahir Nunes
local barber

What is your favorite local restaurant? Cancun.

Why? "The service is great and the food is even better."

Ivan Elias
Sophomore

criminal justice major

What is your favorite local restaurant? Cancun

Why? "The food is really good, is very authentic, and so is the service."

Brock Bishua

Junior, computer science major

What is your favorite local restaurant? "818 Cafe."

Why? "The service is really good, the food is pretty good, and it's cheap too."

Wyatt Kite
Sophomore

psychology major

What is your favorite local restaurant? 818 Diner

Why? "It's affordable, they get the food out pretty fast even when they are busy, and the breakfast is good. I love the breakfast."

Campus experience in Woodward

By **Gentry Wilcox**
Guest Columnist

I have been going to Northwestern for four years now and have enjoyed every second of it, no matter how hard some of the classes got.

I took two years of my classes in high school and even a little over the summer, which really helped me get a lot of my basics done.

No matter how many times I said I didn't want to take anymore classes, I'm really glad my brother Landry Wilcox, who also attends Northwestern in Woodward, told me to just stick it out, and I'm glad I did because it has saved me a lot of money and time in the long run.

I have only taken ITV classes in Woodward

and a few labs in Alva until this year where I am here most days but still live in Woodward.

However my professors have always been more than understanding that it may take me a little longer to drive down if I have a lab, or if I have any technical problems, they have always waited for me to catch up.

They have been very helpful this year by letting me Zoom in on the days I don't have to be at class in person, which makes it easier for me to still work full time and go to college.

Working in Woodward full time can be pretty tricky especially when it comes to managing time.

I always have to make sure ahead of time that I ask my professors any questions regarding class because I don't have the luxury of just going to their office during hours to ask one thing.

I have had some teachers in the past who were a little harder on me and not very understanding that I was at the Woodward campus.

They would do things such as not answer my emails in time or just not give me the details I need, but the good thing is that was only through my high school classes.

The staff at the Woodward campus has always been very helpful to me whenever I have some kind of problem whether it's with my schedule or I can't pull up a book. The people at the front desk always find some way to help me. Even the dean helps me with my schedule, which I always appreciate.

No matter how hard going to the Woodward campus may be, I wouldn't trade the people or the atmosphere for anything, and I'll be able to stick it out for another two years or so.

All happiness depends on a leisurely breakfast.

—John Gunther (1901-1970)

Football coach does it all for his wife

By KEN IRVING
Student Reporter

It was the fall of 1975 in Alva, Oklahoma.

Crimson and gold leaves fell to the ground as a young and ambitious Ronnie Jones guided his girlfriend, Karla, into the VIP Club restaurant. Jones' slick blonde hair and blue eyes glistened in the dim lights as he took Karla's hand and aided her to her seat.

In the middle of the meal, Jones' looked at Karla and smiled. He got on one knee and confessed his love for the girl he had known since first grade and proposed.

After dinner, Jones, Karla and their friends decided to attend a high school football game that was being played at the Northwestern Oklahoma State University football stadium. Jones and his friends were members of the NWOSU football team, so they were allowed to get into games for free.

Karla, on the other hand, was not a member of the team. Jones didn't have any more money at the time, so Karla climbed into the trunk of Jones' car and the bride-to-be hid from security until they reached the top tier of the stadium.

The high school sweethearts laughed at themselves as they spent their first moments after being engaged hiding from security. They watched the game in Jones' car, thinking about their future together.

Forty-nine years later, both of them will smile from ear to ear and say that day is still their favorite moment.

Any marriage comes with sacrifices. One of those sacrifices for the Joneses was children.

"We never had kids because we didn't think it was fair to raise a child whenever we moved so often," Jones explained.

"Sometimes I didn't even bother to unpack some of the boxes because I knew we might move soon," His wife said. "I think the longest we ever stayed somewhere was about four years."

Coaching career

Jones was a football coach in the National Football League for 21 years.

He was also a coach for Division



Coach Jones gives constructive criticism on the play. Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

1, 2 and high school level for 23 years. He was constantly moving to new schools and new states as he chased his dreams of being an NFL coach. His wife knows they moved often; but understands why.

She said sometimes she would be a little upset because she might have found a job she liked, but at the same time she was thankful for all the new friends she got to make around the US. She said the good most definitely outweighs the bad.

Jones also knows it was tough on his wife because they moved often, and he was occupied with football most of the time.

"It takes a special wife to be a coach's wife, with all the moving around that you do," Jones said. "I get a job and I up and leave. She's left selling a house a house, making all the arrangements. ... It does make me feel guilty sometimes, but she's understanding. She knows how important this is to me and the beauty that we share together. She's

my greatest supporter and probably gives me more good advice than anybody that I've ever been around. It's been a great ride, and we've never had a problem in our marriage."

They both agree that being from a small town has allowed them to enjoy every new city because it was all new to them.

Having a wife that is always there for you made it easier for Jones to concentrate on his NFL career, he said.

"Oh, Ronnie was one of the best strength and conditioning coaches in the league," former coach of the Atlanta Falcons and additional NFL teams, Jerry Glanville said.

"When I first met Ronnie, I knew him as a strength and conditioning coach," Glanville said. "He had made his name as a strength and conditioning coach with the [Philadelphia] Eagles before making his way to a defensive coaching position."

After being the strength and conditioning coach at Arizona State University, Jones was offered a job with the Philadelphia Eagles. During his time in the NFL, Jones worked for the Philadelphia Eagles, Los Angeles Rams, Los Angeles Raiders, Houston Oilers, Arizona Cardinals and Buffalo Bills.

"You know, Ronnie's been around a lot of legendary coaches," said Brad Franz the athletic director of NWOSU.

"What really develops you as a coach are the people that you get to learn from," Jones said. "I took something from every head coach that I worked with. John Cooper [Tulsa and Arizona State head coach], I learned that when things

aren't going well, go back to the basics. Buddy Ryan [Philadelphia Eagles head coach], I learned physicality and toughness. Al Davis [hall of fame owner for the Los Angeles/Oakland Raiders], I learned about evaluating personnel. Wade Phillips [Philadelphia Eagles and Buffalo Bills defensive coach], I learned about relationships with players. John Robinson [Los Angeles Rams], I learned about the value of the running game."

Jones' tenure in the NFL helped him grow as a football coach and a person.

He said you get out of everything what you put in.

He said you get what you deserve in football and if you work hard enough you will receive great things.

Champion

Although he has been coaching football for 45+ years, one of his favorite coaching memories has nothing to do with football.

Jones' first coaching gig was at Northeastern Oklahoma State where he was an assistant football and track coach.

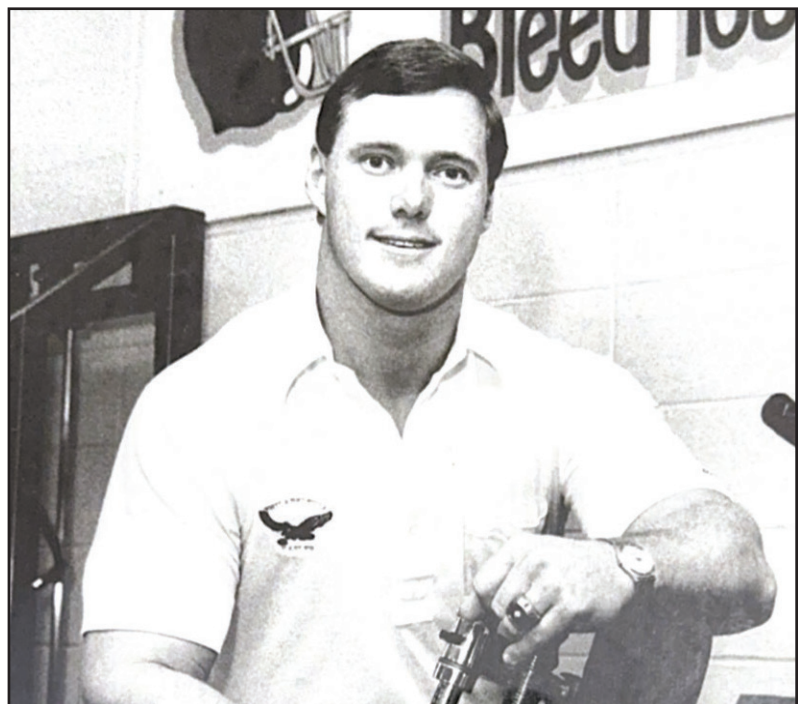
The first season was not a successful season for the track program.

Jones decided that if he took control of the program, he would do his best.

He said he recruited all over the states of Oklahoma and Texas as if they had scholarships.

They ended up winning the first conference championship in the history of the school.

"Nobody else probably cared except me and those track athletes, but I knew what I had accomplished from a coaching standpoint," Jones said. "Taking that track team in my second year of coaching and seeing



Ronnie Jones when he coached for the Philadelphia Eagles in 1987

what you can accomplish if you work hard at it and getting your student athletes to believe and give it everything they got is just unbelievable."

Jones has accomplished a lot of feats in his coaching career. He's won the Pac 10 championship in Division I football, won a few division titles in the NFL and played in some big ball games, but winning that track conference championship in his second year of coaching means the most to him.

Jones said it meant so much to him because he felt like it was just him and his team that year. He felt close with his athletes, and he said he was just so proud of them because he knew what it took to get there.

For the athletes

"One thing I really noticed about him [Jones], is that he loves the

kids," Glanville said. "It's all about the kids with him. He never quits or gives up on the kids."

Jones said he coaches because he wants to help and better the life of every athlete he coaches. He also doesn't know anything else except to be a football coach.

"Coaching isn't what you [Jones] do, it's who you are," His wife said to Jones one day.

"Everything I try to fix at my house, I end up breaking," Jones said jokingly. "But that's because all I know is football, and I love that. I'm passionate about that."

Jones' love for football stems from one of his high school football coaches, Jackie Needham, who was Jones' coach during high school. Needham was a former college football player that took an interest in Jones' and helped him during high school.

Jones liked Needham's coaching style and looked at Needham as a role model. Jones said that his love for coaching came from the moments that Needham had with him.

Growing up

Jones had siblings that were around him almost all the time, so he learned to adapt and teach them certain things growing up.

Jones grew up in Sunray, Texas. He was raised by both his parents. He had an older brother and sister and a younger brother. Growing up, Jones played whatever sport was in season.

His graduating class only had 35 students in it, so he was a member of every team that they had.

Jones was a standout football player in high school. This led to him being recruited by Northwestern Oklahoma State University. Jones committed to NWOSU and played here from 1974-1978.

He was inducted into the NWOSU hall of fame in 2001.

Back to NWOSU

Forty-six years later, Jones is back at his alma-mater as the head coach of the football program.

"There's nothing more than I



Ronnie, right feeds cake to his wife Karla Jones, left at their wedding 1976

would love to do than bring my alma mater back to its winning ways," Jones said. "I love the challenge. It's different than any other job because I have ties here. It's a chance to give back. ... When I finally walk away from this job, I promise the program will be in good shape. I'm not leaving till it is. This will be my last coaching job. ... When I walk away people are going to be proud of this program and the success that we're having."

The first thing Jones did when he got the job was pack a suitcase, hop into his truck and drive to Alva.

The next thing he did was call Coach Jason Medrano.

"I told my wife if he ever called me and offered me a job then I'd go with him," Medrano said. "When I got the call, I looked at my wife.

She said 'we're moving?' I said 'yes we are.'"

Medrano is the Offensive Coordinator for the NWOSU Rangers. He said he met Jones at West Texas A & M in 2002 when Jones offered Medrano his first coaching job.

"I have a lot of respect for him, just by the way he treats people," Medrano said. "At West Texas, he took all of his young coaches to eat one day. He told us that the biggest thing to remember as coaches is loyalty. From that day on I've looked for loyalty in every coach that I've hired because [Jones] was loyal to me."

Jones and Medrano coached together at West Texas for a few years before Jones went to coach high school football.

Consistent Intensity

Although Jones has no regrets about his coaching career, he does wish that he did enjoy his players a little bit more.

"I didn't realize it until I got older, but I was missing the most important part of coaching for many, many years, and that's enjoying the players that you're coaching," Jones said. "I was so driven with my own career, going from position coach to coordinator to head coach. I was so driven by furthering my career that I missed out on just enjoying the players and getting to know my players better. I'm at the point now that the most enjoyable part of my job is just being around my players."

In 1980 Jones hung a sign on his

mirror that read "Consistent Intensity" and looked at it every day.

He said as a young coach he strived to be consistent in everything he did.

Forty-four years later his players and coaches agree that he has been just that.

"I've always been driven by the fear of failure because I don't want to be just another guy," Jones said. "I want to be something special. You only get one shot in this life, and when it's all said and done, I hope I'm remembered as someone who accomplished great things. I don't want to let anyone down. More importantly, the one person I want to be proud of me, is my wife. We've been together forever, and she supports me so well and I never want to let her down."



Ronnie Jones in his NWOSU football jersey when he played in 1974. Photos provided

FEATURE

Suicide a real reality for so many lives

By **DEREK GALIDO**
Senior Reporter

The month of September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, a time to remember that even in our darkest hour, we are not alone.

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month was declared in 2002, which makes September serve as the month in which we acknowledge those affected, connect individuals with suicidal thoughts to treatment and raise awareness of the problem suicide causes.

According to the CDC, suicide was responsible for over 49,000 deaths in 2022. Along with this, an estimated 13.2 million adults thought of committing suicide, 3.8 million adults created a plan, and 1.6 million attempted to commit suicide.

If a student on campus has thoughts of suicide or harming others, there are resources available to help. Taylor Wilson, Director of Counseling and Career Services, is available to schedule 4-to-6 free appointments for students. If a student ever passes the free limit, she will help refer them to other licensed professionals in the area.

If Wilson is not available, people on campus can contact campus police in order to request access to the MyCare application on their iPad. This app will link them with a licensed professional and provide care.

If all else fails, call the suicide and crisis lifeline at 988, which provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or loved ones.

Ethiopia rings in the New Year

By **KATELYN FINDLEY**
Features editor

Sept. 11, 2024 Ethiopia begins the New Year of 2017.

Ethiopia is still running on the Gregorian calendar today. It consists of 13 months to a year.

More than 3,000 years ago it is said that King Solomon gave the Ethiopian queen of Sheba jewels during her visit. At the time of her return after the country had a dry summer season, yellow flowers bloomed in the surrounding areas of Addis Ababa.

The People of Ethiopia celebrate this day with an Enkutatash Festival. The festival includes a group of Ethiopian girls performing traditional songs, yellow flowers, chicken stew, and a glass of traditional honey-based wine and fresh Ethiopian Coffee.

Gold Night: A story of hope

By **MEGAN SPRAY**
Guest Columnist

Cancer.

The word no family wants to hear. My baby brother, Luke, was born with cancer. Although the fight was not easy for my family, Luke won the battle and is thriving today. My family's challenge has inspired me to advocate for children who are faced with no choice but to FIGHT this horrible disease.

The Miss America Organization gives each titleholder the opportunity to promote something they're passionate about with the use of a Community Service Initiative. My CSI is "Action & Awareness for Childhood Cancer: Fight Like a Kid!" My passion for advocating for children with this disease stems from my family's experience with childhood cancer.

Childhood cancer is a horrendous disease that is too common in our world today. Once past infancy, cancer is the leading cause of death in children. Although most of the world is familiar with cancer, childhood cancer seems to be overlooked in regards to financing and advances in treat-

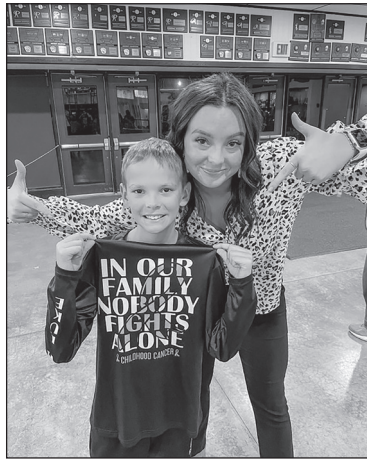


Photo provided
Megan and her brother Luke.

ment. Just like any disease, it is hard to understand the severity of the situation unless experienced, so it is crucial to raise awareness and actively create a change.

On May 13th, 2013, Luke was born with a grapefruit-sized tumor in his abdomen. Four days later he had an unpredictable, life-altering surgery. Luke was cut from side to side. The tumor was attached to both his esophagus and stomach, which then had to be partially removed and reattached to extract the tumor. After the surgery, the tumor was diagnosed as cancerous. While cancer free now, Luke will forever live with the side effects of his cancer

and surgery.

My family and I are incredibly blessed to have Luke here with us. However, many children lose their battle or suffer through years of treatments and hospital visits. This is why raising awareness for this cause is so important.

With my current title of Miss Northwestern, I have incorporated 'Gold Night' events at local schools in northwest Oklahoma and have teamed up with Ranger Athletics to bring 'Gold Nights' to the NCAA level. At each event, I have been able to raise funds for families within our state currently fighting childhood cancer. Additional funds were raised and distributed to local childhood cancer foundations that helped my brother during his fight. Currently, I have raised over \$7,000 for local families and foundations, and am still actively scheduling and partnering to continue funding these organizations and families to help ease the burden during their fight.

An additional project I've promoted is window painting to "paint the town gold" during the month of September, which is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Windows have been decorated all over campus and businesses on the square with

the gold ribbon and encouraging quotes such as "Fight Like a Kid" and more! Not only have we advocated through the display of the gold ribbon, but we have had the opportunity to reach every person who has noticed the design or asked questions about the ribbon. We have successfully raised awareness by reaching any individual that has encountered a Gold Night or window painting and they now know more about this disease and the options available to dedicate themselves to the cause, whether it be through a donation or word of mouth.

I have been very busy this month advocating for childhood cancer by filling the month with Gold Night games and window painting. Northwestern has three scheduled Gold Night games this month starting with football on September 12th, volleyball on September 17th, and soccer on September 25th.

I'm so grateful to have the opportunity as Miss Northwestern to promote a cause so near to my heart and ease the burden for families who are currently fighting childhood cancer. I'm thankful for my hero, Luke, every day and I'm even more thankful that he fought like a kid.

Are video games art or waste?

Last week I had a conversation with some of the editors at Northwestern News about whether or not video games could be considered a form of art on the same

**WORDS
WITH MR.
KAUMANS**



**KEVIN
KAUMANS**

level as books and movies. Books have been around since ancient times, while movies have existed since the late 1800s. Video games--on the other hand--were popularized barely 50 or 40 years ago. I have never understood why the older generation of our kind see playing video games for more than three hours a week as a waste of time yet will gladly sit down on a weekend and watch television for ten hours straight.

We judge the quality of books

and movies based on how good the plot, characters, and themes are, yet we don't seem to hold video games to the same standard. Why is that? It can't be because video games can't make good stories; in fact, I've played video games that had better and more interesting narratives than most of what Hollywood's been churning out recently. Take "Red Dead Redemption 2" for example, which is one of my most favorite games of all time and probably will be till the day I die.

The game is about a gang of outlaws at the end of the wild west era trying to escape lawmen hunting them down after a bank robbery gone wrong. Despite the simple premise, "Red Dead Redemption 2" has one of the most mature themes and realistic graphics that I have ever seen in any form of media, movies or otherwise. The main character, Arthur Morgan, is a cruel yet

extremely sympathetic character despite being an outlaw most of his life. Once he contracts a deadly illness around the third act and realizes he probably isn't going to be alive for much longer, Arthur does everything in his power to set things right before he dies, as well as making sure the people he cares about in the gang have good lives after he's gone.

The gang of "Red Dead Redemption 2" is full of likable and interesting characters that, despite them being criminal, you can't help but hope that (almost) everyone makes it to the end of the story without dying. The main villains of the game

are sadistically vindictive yet still manage to be charming. By the end of the game, you may begin to feel heartbroken as you watch what remains of the gang slowly crumble under the weight of every mistake they've ever made throughout the story.

Yet you never see any film or art professor talking about video games on the same level they do with books and movies. My hope is that, in the future, we'll finally start appreciating video games for what they are: A combination of pixels that, when done right, can be turned into art.

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CAMPUS

REGISTER TO VOTE



Photo by Alli Schieber

Tyler Cleveland, left, an agriculture education major, visits with Edna Garcia, a psychology major who was manning the voter registration table in the cafeteria on Monday. Cleveland will have to register in her home state of Alabama in order to vote in the coming presidential election. Students eligible to vote in Oklahoma can still register on campus

in the student center on Thursday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. After that, they can register online at okvoterportal.okelections.gov or visit the Woods County election board office downtown at 427 Barnes Ave., Suite 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. weekdays. Deadline for registration is Oct. 11. The presidential and other local elections will take place Nov. 5.

SPORTS

Ranger golfers eye regional win

By **KAROLINA JURESIUTE**
Senior Reporter

NWOSU Rangers Golf officially started its season on Aug. 31 with both men and women's teams qualifying that weekend.

"It was a long, hard weekend of golf for everybody, but it was good to just get back into the swing of things," women's and men's golf head coach Dan Campbell said. "Some of the kids on both of my guys and girls side really came back sharp and ready to go. Obviously, some people took some time off during the summer. Since we play all fall and spring, summer is a little bit of a down time."

Coaches saw a lot of good signs out of everybody, even the players that didn't come back on their A game that weekend. Campbell said he had conversations with players on how to get to that next level.

"We are very excited for the upcoming season here," Campbell said. "We want to win our conference, but we also want to go to regionals. That's really our ultimate goal."

He said the Rangers felt like they were really knocking at that door last year and came close to heading to the regionals.

"We were excited to be bringing back all six girls who traveled to conferences and five of our guys who traveled as well," Campbell said. "The only player that is not coming back as a player is actually still here, as our as-

sistant coach. He was my captain last year, did a fantastic job as a leader and we are very excited to keep Cade Seymour around and bring him into the coaching staff and just keep building on to the momentum that we had last year."

The Rangers were voted as the most improved of any team in Division 2 golf in the country on both sides. The Rangers jumped up more spots than anybody in the region by far. Campbell said, keeping on that continuity coming into this year, they are excited, and have some high goals which they think they can accomplish.

"This season it is nice having everybody returning instead of last year [when] it felt like it was a whole new program, where we had just a handful of returners, and it was a little bit of a learning curve for everybody," Campbell said. "So many new people just were figuring out the balance between of being a student-athlete. Coming in as freshmen is hard."

The men's team has added nine new players for this season which include a couple of transfers and a couple of freshmen. Coaches are excited to see the new players bring in new talent and new attitudes coming in and pushing the returners.

"We are excited with what we have seen out of a lot of these new guys so far, and I think we have a really good group, and they fit in with the team fairly well," Campbell said.

Both men and women will have five two-day events, plus a one-day event against rival school SWOSU this season.



Rachel Brown

Goalie is player of week

Senior biology major Rachel Brown is the Great American Conference soccer goalkeeper of the week.

Brown registered the sixth shutout of her career as the Rangers opened the season with a 0-0 draw against Wayne State College.

She made nine saves against the Wildcats, her most in a single game since she made nine saves

against Southwestern Oklahoma State on Nov. 3, 2022.

Brown is in her fourth year with the Rangers. During her first three years, she made 73 saves with a 76.8% average.

Fans can see Brown in action at 1 p.m. Sunday when the Rangers host the Northeastern Oklahoma State University Riverhawks at the Alva Rec Center field.

Sports this week

- Thursday — Football vs. Ouachita Baptist
- Thursday-Sunday — Rodeo @ Colby, Kansas
- Friday-Saturday — Volleyball @ Hays, Kansas
- Saturday — Cross country @ Newton, Kansas
- Sunday — Soccer vs. Northeastern
- Monday-Tuesday — Men's golf @ NSU, Muskogee
- Monday-Tuesday — Women's golf @ Lawton

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Women golfers kick off season

Women golfers open their season in Muskogee with a 12th place overall in the Northeastern State Classic.

Ranger individual leader was Agathe Lacoste, who tied for 14th with a score of 146. This included one round at 72, the lowest score for the Rangers.

Romane Lacoste was second in individual scores for the Rangers with a 152.



Agathe Lacoste
14th with 146



Romane Lacoste
30th with 152



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SPORTS



Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

Christi-Anne Mills, No. 7, takes the ball forward Sunday in a game against Pittsburg State, who won 3-0.

Soccer loses opener, 3-0

By ELY NOBLE
Senior Reporter

After an exhibition game two weeks ago in Alva, the Northwestern Oklahoma State Lady Rangers soccer team officially opened its home season Sunday at noon with a loss.

The team faced Pittsburg State, a team having its first season as a soccer program. The Lady Rangers fell 3-0 to the Gorillas at the Alva Recreation Complex, keeping it close in the first half, but the Gorillas capitalized on their chances, scoring one goal before half and adding two more in the second half.

Pitt State forward Sophia See was the star of the night, scoring two goals for the Gorillas. See opened the scoring at the 37:40 mark, finishing a quick build-up with a low strike past Northwestern goalkeeper Emily Jantz. The Lady Rangers defense, anchored by Taylor Songster and Reese Welch, had done well to contain the pressure up until that point, but See's goal gave the Gorillas a 1-0 lead going into halftime.

In the second half, the Lady Rangers came out with renewed intensity. Their best chance came just minutes after the break when Tanah Huffines met a corner kick with a header that hit the crossbar, barely missing the tying shot. Despite the miss, the Lady Rangers kept pressing forward, with Tori Ruvalcaba, Tiara Campbell, Isabella McMillan and Lauren Gauthier working to create chances for their team.

However, Pitt State doubled its lead in the 52nd minute, once again from the foot of See. This time, the forward capitalized on a defensive mistake and fired a shot from close range, making it 2-0. Despite the setback, the Lady Rangers didn't give up. Jantz who had a good performance in goal, made several key plays to keep Northwestern in the game, including a diving stop in the 70th minute that denied Pitt State a third goal.

"I thought Emily played really well tonight," said Lady Rangers defender Reese Welch. "she kept us in the game with some great saves, and we had our moments, but we need to be better defensively going forward."

The Gorillas put the game out of reach in the 85th minute when midfielder Sophia Agramon scored from a long-range effort, beating Jantz with a well-placed shot to make it 3-0. Despite the score, the Lady Rangers continued to fight until the final whistle, with Songster and Welch bringing defensive efforts and their forwards running hard to try and spark a comeback.

The loss drops the Lady Rangers to 0-1-1 on the season, while Pitt State improves to 2-0. Northwestern will look to bounce back when they traveled to Southwestern College in Kansas to face the Jinx on Wednesday.

The Lady Rangers return home on Sunday for a match against Northeastern State University. Kick-off is scheduled for 1 p.m. at the Alva Recreation complex.

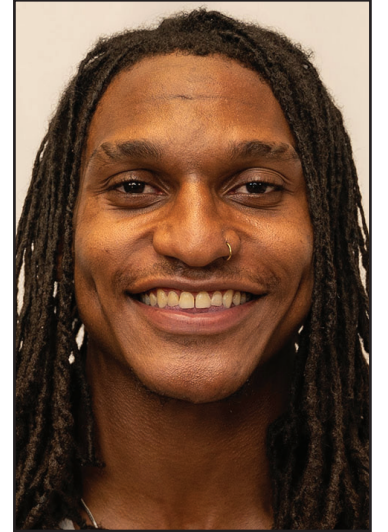
Franklin breaks own record in 8k

Men's cross country placed fourth at the 8K at the Aggie Duels in Lawton last weekend with Christian Franklin coming in sixth and breaking a school record he set last year.

Franklin turned in a time of 25:09.88 which was nine seconds faster than last year.



Jamaira Ross



Christian Franklin

Other top 20 finishers included James Fincher coming in 13th with a time of, 26:16.98, and Riley Herndon at 17th with 27:07.53.

The women's team came in sixth in the 5K at the Aggie Duels.

The top three finishers included Jamaira Ross, 14th with a time of 19:14.90; Cadence Lang, 26th, with 19.41.17; and Ava Miller at 37th, with 20.30.84.

Both teams travel to Newton, Kansas, for a meet on Saturday.

Rangers volleyball just getting started

Great American Conference action doesn't begin until next week, but the volleyball team is already racking up impressive stats despite some preseason losses.

In the Midwestern State Tournament in Wichita Falls, Texas, last weekend, the Lady Rangers bested Adams State 3-0, then fell to Drury 3-1 and Western New Mexico 3-0.

The team is now 1-3 for the season.

Four players were nominated for GAC player of the week honors: Macy Shreffler, Brianda Diaz, Hennesys Lalane and Mariela Jimenez.



Macy Shreffler
39 kills



Brianda Diaz
68 digs, 5 aces



Hennesys Lalane
112 assists, 5 aces



Mariela Jimenez
15 blocks

Edler named champion

Emmett Edler walked away as the Men's All Around Champion at the Kansas State rodeo last weekend.

Edler placed sixth in the calf roping and second in steer wrestling.

Colter Snook and Cale Morris placed first in team roping.

The men's team tied for fourth while the women's team came in third. In the Central Plains Re-



Emmett Edler

gion, men are sixth and women third.

Other results:

Calf Roping:
Logan Mullin- 8th; Kerry Duvall- 9th; Jacob Haren- 12th

Breakaway Roping:
Payton Dingman: 6th; Morgan Poust- 12th

Steer Wrestling:
Tevin Cowan- 6/7th

Goat Tying:
Payton Dingman- 2nd; Savannah Greenfield- 5th, Dale Lee Forman- 11th

Jacob Haren ties the calf's legs during a recent rodeo team practice.

Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

