# Happy HALLOWEEN





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October 31, 2024

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## '23 Cinderella now Miss Northwestern

pageant took place Sunday where a new Miss North-western, Jessica Davis, middle and a new Miss Northwestern Teen, Madeline Ryerson, left, were crowned. Also pictured is Davis' star, Lawsyn Howard. The three of them will walk the stage again, June 1, 2025, at the Miss Oklahoma competition in Tulsa.

Davis is a freshman nursing major at NWOSU and previously held the title of Miss Cinderella 2023. Davis will receive a \$1,500 scholarship. Her talent was a dance solo to "My Immortal" by Evanesence and her community service initiative is "Empower HER: Empowering Women through Health, Education and Re-silience."

Ryerson is a student at Alva High School. When she attends college, she will also receive a \$1,500 scholarship. Her talent was a vocal solo to "Beyond My Wildest Dreams" from the Broadway musical Little Mermaid." Her CSI is "Your Voice Matters."

See photos on pages 6 & 7



## Ranger team saddles up for hometown rodeo

By TARA OWEN Senior Reporter

The annual Northwestern rodeo is happening Thursday through Saturday.

The rodeo kicks off at the fairgrounds with Northwestern student night on Thursday at 7 p.m. All Northwestern students get into the rodeo for free with their student ID. Friday night is family night starting at 7 p.m. There will even be a calf scramble for the kids along with a team foot race.

"I am looking forward to competing in front of my hometown crowd," Jaci Traul said. "Even though I am not from Alva, it has definitely become a home to me, as the town is so supportive of what we do."

Traul, a senior from Fort Scott, Kansas, is s a breakaway roper and barrel racer for the NWOSU rodeo team. Born into the rodeo background, she explained that



Students participate in the breakway and bulldogging jackpot Sunday.

ranching was always a big part of her life growing up. Traul along with her horses has a rigorous training regimen.

"I'm making sure both my horses and myself are in shape and making sure we are both on the same page and ready to work," Traul said.

New Northwestern head rodeo coach and former Northwestern rodeo member, Cali Griffin, explains how she was thankful to become the head rodeo coach at her alma mater.

"This community and this school are just so supportive of rodeo; it felt so natural to come back here," Griffin said.

Not only is the rodeo an opportunity for the community to witness the Northwestern rodeo teams in action, it is also a chance for the university to recruit

"It's great for a potential transfer student to see what we are doing. That week alone, we have seven students coming as prospective students to the university," Griffen said.



A student ropes a calf at the breakway and bulldogging jackpot Sunday.

NEWS

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## **NEWS**

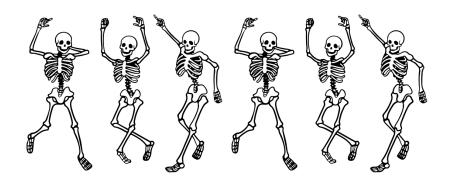


## OCTOBER 31

Scare Maze at Bradts Menagerie, 4 miles west of Alva on Hwy 64, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Halloween Costume Ball 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. second floor of Student Center

Alva Rodeo, Woods County Fairgrounds, 684 Harper Rd, Alva





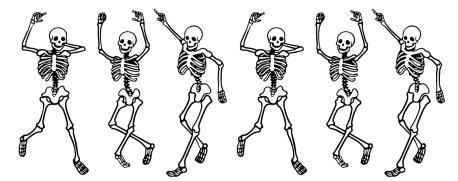
## NOVEMBER 1

First Friday Art Walk at Graceful Arts and Runnymeade, Downtown Square 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Alva Rodeo, Woods County Fairgrounds, 684 Harper Rd, Alva

## **NOVEMBER 2**

Alva Rodeo, Woods County Fairgrounds, 684 Harper Rd, Alva



## Get your scare on

NIghtmare Warehouse

420 W Walnut Avenue, Enid

**NIghtmare in the Country** 

38368 S County Rd 195, Woodward

**Dodge City Paintball Haunted Trail** 16425 NW 150th St, Yukon

The Imagi-Nightmare

8 NW 8th St, OKC

Wicked Forest of Terror

9420 W I-40 Service Rd, OKC

The Sanctuary

7650 W Reno Avenue, OKC Outlets

**Guthrie Haunts** 

4524 Riverside PI, Guthrie

**Trail of Terror** 

2701 W 10th St, El Reno

**Wicked Island** 

3022 S Mclean Blvd, Wichita, Kansas

13 Sinister Souls

527 E Harry St, Wichita, Kansas

**Forest of Terror** 

5059 N Ridge Rd, Wichita, Kansas

Field of Screams Kansas

4055 N Tyler Rd, Maize, Kansas



## NEWS

### **Weather:**

# Possible warmer winter in Alva

By INGRID MALDONADO

Student Reporter

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration predicted this winter La Niña with a warmer and drier climate in the

El Niño and La Niña are climate patterns in the Pacific Ocean that impact the weather worldwide, according to the NOAA.

El Niño causes the temperature of the sea near the equator to be warm and La Niña does the opposite. El Niño means "little boy," while La Niña means "little girl."

According to the NOOA, La Niña is going to start around September-November and will last until January-March 2025.

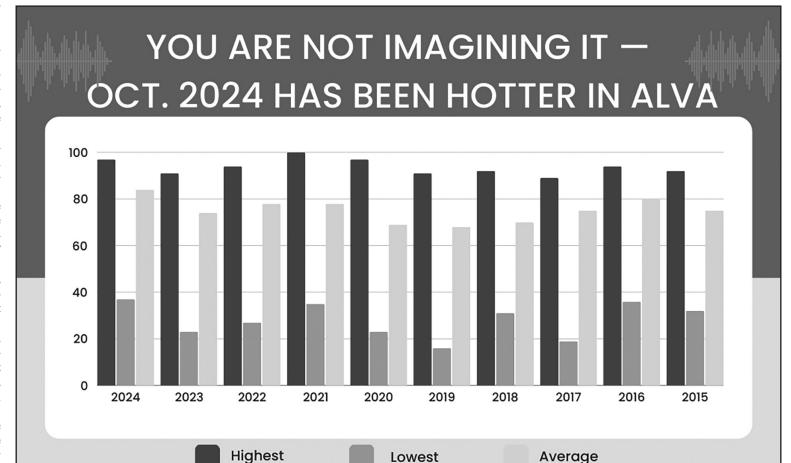
The northern part of the United States will be affected with wetter conditions while the southeast to southwest states will have a warmer and drier-than-normal conditions.

La Niña is predicted by the Climate Prediction Center to be weak and short resulting in low winter impacts.

This means a few blizzards and storms, but a dry climate. Oklahoma will likely have a below-average dry winter season.

"Famously, if you look back through the last 50 years or so when we have these La Niña's, they tend to be drought starters,' said state climatologist, Gary Mc-

According to NOAA past La Niña winters resulted in rough droughts in California and the southwest. El Niño or La Niña impacts the daily weather.



October 2024 hasn't had the hottest temperature - 100 was recorded in 2021- but it has had the highest average temperature in 10 years at 84 degrees. October 2024 also has had more days of high temps than most of the last 10 years. As of Monday, Oct. 28, Alva had seen 19 days above 80 degrees, nine of which were above 90. October 2023 had 15 days over 80 but only two over 90. October 2016 had 18 days over 80 and three over 90.

temp

Source: Mesonet.net

The panhandle recently experieced a record-breaking rain-

Then there are the hurricanes

La Niña will affect Oklahoma with the drier climate which will lead into harvest next year.

temp

That will greatly impact agriculture in Oklahoma. McManus urges producers to plan for the dry weather that will be caused by La Niña. Besides NOAA, the Old-Farmer's Almanac predicts a

warmer than usual winter.

Their newest edition informs of snow in February. Both NOAA and the Old Farmer's Almanac believe this winter to be warmer than usual and dry.

Students that are from the

high

north will have a harsher winter with more precipitation while those from down south will have a warmer drier winter. Students will be glad to know that there is not a big chance of snowstorms happening before winter break.

## **NWOSU:** Beware of phising emails

By INGRID MALDONADO

Student Reporter

What do spoofing and phishing both have in common? Even the smartest students fall for them.

The NWOSU Director of Information, Craig Ricke, talked about cybersecurity at the university, what it is, and how students and employees can avoid falling for cybersecurity incidents like phishing and spoofing.

When hearing the term phishing, people often do not think about cybersecurity. Students and employees often get emails about

THE DAISY VILLAGE

pet sitting. Those are phishing emails. They are phishing by getting students to engage in conversation and in return hopefully get your bank information.

"If you receive a message that seems out of character, it's not from somebody you know, it has a link or an attachment, don't open it," Ricke said.

Do not email the person back but rather check with the person to see if it was them who sent it or the email may get compromised, Ricke said. That email could be spoofing which is similar to phishing. Ricke explained that spoofing involves either an email that looks like it was sent by that certain person, or the email address is made up but the person's signature at the end is attached to make it appear as the person they are faking as.

Ricke discussed the ways to avoid falling for these common spoofing and phishing attacks. He talked about how last week he had a spoofing email that had his name on it and that it came from his email. Ricke had to send out a message saying that it was not him and to delete the message.

"The attacker only has to be right once to get in, we have to be right all the time to keep them out," Ricke said.

Showing how important it is that students and employees do not fall for the emails. He talked about how they may ask for students ID; students name and addresses to call the office and pretend to be students calling. Ricke was then asked about students' bank account security with

"We do not store that information in any of our servers," Ricke

After getting asked about students' security with their bank information. Ricke discussed how

the bank information is not stored in self-service but rather on another different server. If the university's server were breached, a student asked if the information

"There's no chance of that being taken," Ricke replied.

would be at risk.

That gives students some relief to know that if there were a cybersecurity breach, their bank information is not at risk.

"I'd say I feel very blessed we have not had a major cybersecurity event," Ricke said.

When asked about the worst cybersecurity attack, he has had to deal with. Accounts getting compromised is the worst thing that happens and then having to secure them. When at a Cybersecurity meeting, they were doing a scenario and Ricke was asked how long it would take their department to fix it, Ricke said ten minutes. Other schools answered around 24 hours. Ricke shows how great NWOSU's IT Department is compared to other schools. October is cyber security awareness month and when Ricke was asked what students should take away from this interview he said, "don't be dumb."



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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor shall bear the author's handwritten signature, hometown, classification, title, etc., address and phone number for verification and shall be kept on file. Unsigned letters to the editor will not be published.

Letters must be turned in by noon on Monday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwosu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

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## OPINION

# The influence of Stanley bottles

By LEO ROBLES

Opinion Editor

Stanley water bottles have become a cultural item known for their practicality, durability and aesthetic appeal.

Stanley bottles have been used by multiple groups of customers. Hikers, campers and people who go to the gym work out frequently are examples of the different types of people who use this specific water bottle.

Their rise in popularity, driven by a combination of social media influence and genuine consumer appreciation, is an example of how function and design can merge to create a beloved product.

One of the primary reasons for the Stanley water bottle's popularity is its excellent durability. Made with stainless steel and designed to handle the different temperatures of the weather, these bottles have become a symbol of reliability. Whether it's keeping drinks cold for up to 24 hours or maintaining the heat in a beverage for up to 12 hours, Stanley bottles deliver on performance. This ability to keep drinks at the desired temperature, combined with the bottle's rugged construction, makes it highly appealing to those who want a product that can last for years.

Many users appreciate that these bottles are built to endure wear and tear, offering an eco-friendly alternative to single-use plastic bottles. I do not own a Stanley cup, but I have borrowed these cups from family members and friends, and I understand why so many people currently own one.

Even though the cup is a very useful way to consume water in desired temperatures, I have noticed that some of the people who own these cups usually have more than one: which is totally unnecessary. It is like they are trying to collect these items just for the colors. I guess people can own more than one, but they do not need more than 2 cups and at this point its use as a collectible item is unnecessary.

The Stanley cup is available in a variety of colors and sizes; these bottles cater to different personal styles and preferences.

The design is sleek and minimalistic, making it appropriate for a desk at work or a camping trip. The signature handle and the straw provide convenience for hydration, making it easier to sip while traveling, working out or even running errands. It's a product that contributes into various lifestyles.

Social media has further amplified the Stanley water bottle's popularity. Platforms like Instagram and TikTok have helped transform it into a must-have item, with influencers and everyday users alike showcasing their bottles in daily routines, outdoor adventures, or aesthetic drink setups which it is seen as useless.

This viral appeal has elevated the Stanley bottle beyond just a functional item making it almost a symbol. Owning one is seen not just as practical, but also trendy, aligning with the broader movement toward sustainable, reusable products that are both economical and fashionable.

Some of these customers only buy the product for the popularity than for the necessity. In many cases, people can be seen taking these water bottles anywhere making it seem that they just want to be seen holding the product.

Many other brands offer similar products with comparable features at a lower price point. The Stanley water bottle cost can be seen expensive to some, leading to accusations that it has become more of a fashionable accessory

many knockoffs and competitors entering the market, the brand risks becoming oversaturated, losing the unique appeal that initially set it apart.

Stanley water bottles, especial-

than a practical choice. With so

Stanley water bottles, especially the Quencher, represent more than just a vessel for hydration. They symbolize a shift in consumer behavior toward durable, stylish and economical products.

The combination of high-quality construction and thoughtful design make these bottles iconic.

Whether you're hiking a mountain or heading to the office, Stanley bottles offer a reliable and stylish solution for staying hydrated.



## Debating on current gun laws

By **LEO ROBLES**Opinion Editor

Gun laws are a critical issue, especially in countries like the United States, where the Second Amendment protects the right to bear arms.

Opinions on gun control vary significantly, with some advocating for stricter regulations, while others see any limitation as an infringement on personal freedoms.

Balancing public safety and individual rights is at the core of this debate, but finding common ground has proven elusive.

Proponents of stricter gun laws may argue that easy access to firearms increases gun violence, mass shootings, suicides and accidental deaths.

Countries with strict gun regulations, like Australia or Japan, have significantly lower rates of gun deaths compared to the U.S.

Some critical opinions believe that limiting access to certain types of firearms, especially semi-automatic weapons, and instituting more comprehensive background checks could prevent many tragic events.

Others may argue that responsible gun owners should not be punished for the actions of a few individuals who misuse firearms. From this perspective, most proposals for stricter gun laws are seen as overreach, unnecessarily restricting personal freedoms without addressing the root causes of gun violence; such as mental health issues, societal disintegration or inadequate law enforcement.

Some even believe that more people carrying guns, especially concealed firearms, could decrease crime, with the idea that 'the only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.'

It is understandable that the country we live in may let thier citizens own a variety of weapons, but could that be the reason why we may encounter people who think owning a gun and using it in any possible interaion that may lead into violence.

In conflict between a citizen and another, there is usually an

argument and sometimes even physical contact, but that should not lead into a person shooting another. There will always be conflict, but it is important to know that most of us want the least violence provoked to anyone.

The complexity of gun violence goes beyond access to weapons. Addressing the cultural factors that glorify violence, improving mental health care and reforming the criminal justice system are seen as equally important by those who believe the gun debate is too narrowly focused. The argument's usual focus is that gun violence cannot be solved solely by banning certain firearms or arming more citizens, instead it requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the underlying causes of violence in society.

The debate over gun laws reflects a broader tension in society between individual rights and collective responsibility.

For any meaningful change to occur, both sides will need to engage in thoughtful dialogue to find solutions that respect personal freedoms while prioritizing public safety.

The challenge is in reconciling the protection of constitutional rights with the need to prevent unnecessary loss of life, but a balance is essential to address the ongoing crisis of gun violence.

The whole concept of having strict laws against gun laws and letting the citizens the right to own these weapons for safety precautions is difficult to come up with a decision that leaves both sides in comfort.

Some do not want weapons due to the increase of gun violence in the streets or in schools, meanwhile others seem to want these weapons to defend themselves against dangerous individuals.

Eventually a decision will be made, but sadly we need to find a way to live like this for our own good and the community. It is important that people are aware that just by owning a gun it does not give them the right to use it in any interaction that may lead to conflict.

## **OPINION**

## Demon Slayer: A remarkable storyline

By **EDUARDO CORONA** 

Guest Columnist

My favorite Anime right now is demon slayer. Written and illustrated by Koyoharu Gotouge. Its a remarkable story about Tanjiro Kamado, a young boy who becomes a demon slayer after his family is killed by demons, and his sister Nezuko is turned into one.

The story is both heart-wrenching and inspiring, displaying Tanjiro's unwavering determination to save his sister and avenge his family. This journey of perseverance and loyalty is a testament to the samurai spirit.

The animation quality of Demon Slayer is unparalleled. The studio, Ufotable, has created visually breathtaking scenes, especially during the intense battles.

The fluidity of the sword fights, the intricate details of the environments, and the vibrant colors bring the world of Demon Slayer to life. It is like witnessing the graceful yet deadly dance of a master swordsman.

The battles in Demon Slayer are nothing short of epic. Each fight is choreographed with precision, showcasing various sword techniques and breathing styles that are reminiscent of the disciplined training of a samurai. The intensity and creativity in these battles keep me on the edge of my seat, making each encounter memorable.

At its core, Demon Slayer imparts valuable moral lessons. Themes of bravery, compassion, sacrifice, and the importance of family are woven throughout the series. These lessons resonate deeply, much like the code of honor that a samurai lives by.

The series does not shy away from exploring deep emotional themes such as loss, grief, and the struggle for redemption. The bonds between characters, especially between Tanjiro and Nezuko, are portrayed with such sincerity that it tugs at the heart-strings of the viewers. This emotional depth adds a layer of realism to the fantastical elements of the series.

The incorporation of Japanese folklore and mythical elements adds a rich cultural layer to the series. The depiction of demons, their powers, and the historical setting provide a fascinating backdrop that enriches the story.

This blend of mythology and history is akin to the legends and tales that inspire samurai warriors. Each character in Demon Slayer is meticulously crafted with depth and unique backstories aswell.

Tanjiro's kindness and resilience, Nezuko's struggle between her demon and human sides, and the diverse personalities of fellow demon slayers like Zenitsu and Inosuke add layers to the narrative. The development of these characters is akin to the honing of a samurai's skills, each moment

adding to their strength and complexity.

There are other notable characters such as the nine Hashira. The 9 Hashira's are the best of the best demon slayers, their strength, speed, and mentality are what separates them from the rest of the demon slayer corps.

My favorite Hashira is the flame Hashira Kyojuro Rengoku. He is an amazing swordsman and even better person always being the one to cheer up the group and raise their spirits.

Another character people might like is Tengen Uzui. He is the sound Hashira and has a very flashy and over the top personality. Anything he does he likes to do it with style.

Demon slayer is a great first anime to watch and I recommend it to anyone that is wanting to find something different to watch, change up their regular viewing. Check it out if you want a great combat filled and deep meaning I don't want to do animation to mimic reality. I want to push reality.

—Genndy Tartakovsky

## An unbalanced economy in the U.S.

By **LEO ROBLES**Opinion Editor

As we approach the end of 2024, the U.S. economy finds itself at a critical status, marked by both recovery and uncertainty.

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, political tensions, inflationary pressure and technological advancements have all shaped the economic landscape.

Throughout American history, people have faced multiple encounters in which the entire country is in a very difficult moment.

The pandemic was the event that led to our current generation to be facing a difficult time in human history.

While certain sectors have rebounded, others continue to face challenges.

The economy is growing, but at a pace that raises questions about sustainability, equity and prosperity.

One of the most prominent issues throughout 2024 has been inflation.

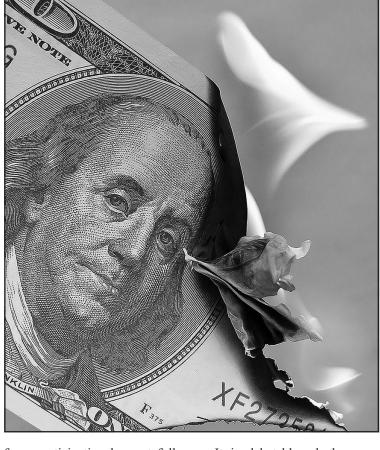
Over the past few years, inflation surged to its highest levels in decades.

Inflation remains a persistent concern for many people, particularly when it comes to housing, healthcare, and energy costs.

While the official inflation rate has come down, wage growth has not kept pace, leaving many households struggling to maintain their standard of living.

This imbalance has provoked many people to have a major necessity for jobs than before.

Until this day unemployment seems to remain low, but labor



force participation has not fully returned to pre pandemic levels.

Many workers, particularly in sectors like hospitality and retail, are still grappling with the effects of job dislocation, others have shifted to new industries or pursued remote work opportunities.

Unemployment may not be a very noticeable problem at first glance, but it is still a current problem in the United States.

The rise of artificial intelligence in the workplace can be a useful tool but also a threat to some employees.

Technology is creating new jobs and opportunities in fields like AI development, cybersecurity, and renewable energy. It is debatable whether employees should actually worry about the increase in the use of artificial intelligence.

Of course it is a drastical change into human culture, but we still do not know the full potential of what Artificial Intelligence may offer to the work environment, education and the overall impact in the world.

Political tensions, particularly regarding trade and energy, have also affected the U.S. economy in 2024.

Citizens are proudly showing their disgust with the current political choices being made into the state.

The political opinions are cur-

rently very divided right now, and we should at least make an effort in what citizens really want and how this decision can be performed for the advantage of their voice.

Ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East have kept energy prices volatile, affecting both consumers and businesses.

These international issues affect the fragility of the global economy and the connection of the market.

The world leaders are the only ones who decided the world's biggest decisions, we as the people may not have a great impact when it comes to trying to change any of this outcomes.

The only possible thing to be done is making movements and protest so that the country seems obligated into making a decision that rescues their own citizens.

Politics are a very dangerous game in which many innocent people are the ones who suffer the from the changes and outcomes of the decisions made by the world leaders.

Certain sectors of the U.S. economy are experiencing notable growth.

The tech industry continues to be a powerhouse, with advancements in AI, electric vehicles and clean energy driving innovation and investment.

The transition to green energy is gaining momentum, with both the public and private sectors making important investments in renewable energy.

This shift has the potential to create millions of jobs and reduce the country's reliance on fossil fuels, positioning the United Sates as a possible leader in the global conflict against climate change.

There are still many things to expect from the new use of the energy sources that were once considered secondary energy sourcers.

It will take time to see an ac-

tual change in the energy environment, but at least we know there are people doing something. about it.

The U.S. economy in 2024 can

be defined as a mixture of resilience and vulnerability.

As the country moves forward, policymakers will need to address these issues to ensure a more inclusive and sustainable economic future.

Balancing technological prog-

ress, equity, and stability could be the answer to the current unbalance in the economic structure of the country.

It is fair that citizens claim for a better econmical status in the country they live in.

It is not always in our control to have the potential to change the economy in a country or even a state

The responsibles of these difficulties are the world leaders and the results of conflicts or any global event is what really affects in the world.

It important to remain patient and trust that there is a possible outcome in the current conflicts that the world is facing.

We should not expect a quick change in the current prices of bills and cost of groceries.

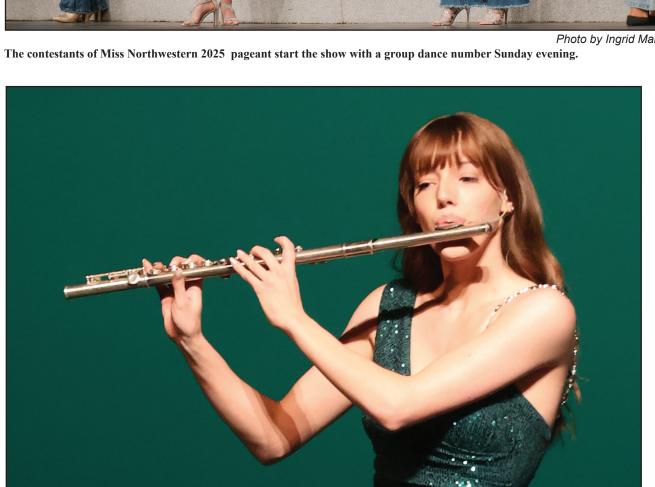
Countries and communities need to reorganize the economical structure in their countries.

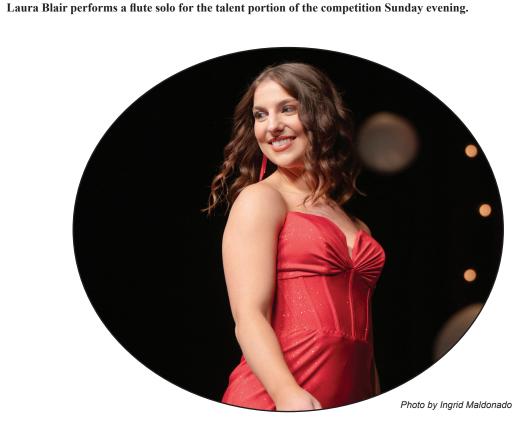
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# Miss Northwestern 2025



Photo by University Relations





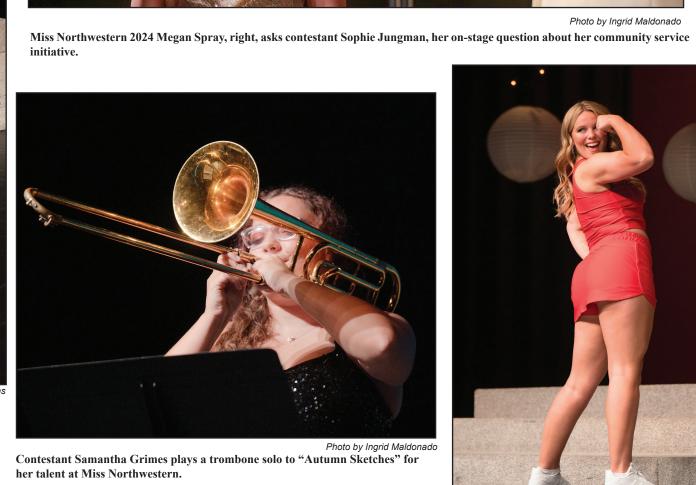
Third runner up Kaylyn Aldrich paces during the evening gown part of the competition

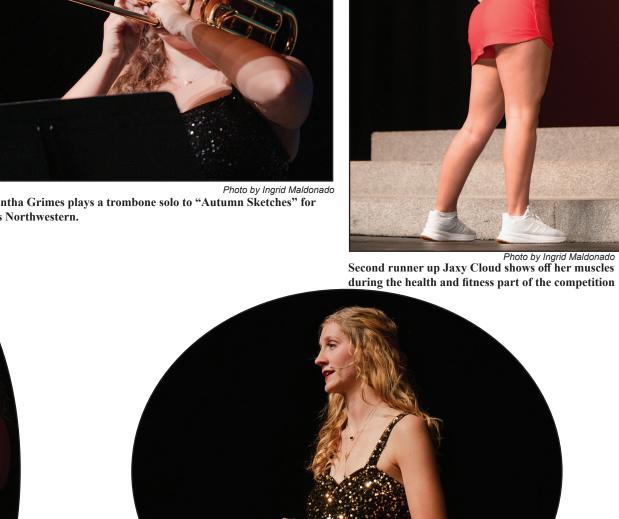


Azucena Rivera performs the solo "Oceans" by Hilsong United on a kalimba, a type of African thumb piano.



Previous winners of Miss Northwesterns passing the crown to Jessica Davis after the competition Sunday.





First runner up Norah Scarbrough performs her original HERStory as her tallent.

Photo by Ingrid Maldonado





## **FEATURE**

# Traveling exhibit now in Jesse Dunn

Northwestern First Stop for Art Exhibit "Building Belonging" is open through Nov. 21 in room 218 in Jesse Dunn building.

The exhibit will begin in Alva and continue to venues across the state. You can see the exhibit spotlighted at the University of Oklahoma, the Pogue Gallery at East Central University in Ada among many others.

"Building Belonging" comprises five pieces created by five artists who moved to Oklahoma. These artists include Thomas Cornell, an assistant professor of visual art at Northwestern; Christyn Overstake, assistant professor of art at East Central; Leticia R. Bajuyo, an assistant professor in the School of Visual Arts at the University of Oklahoma; Leticia R. Bajuyo, an assistant professor in the

School of Visual Arts at the University of Oklahoma; Leticia R. Bajuyo, an assistant professor in the School of Visual Arts at the University of Oklahoma; and Cassidy Frye, assistant professor and studio manager at Tulsa Community College.

Cornell is featuring two pieces. The inspiration for these pieces come from his recent studies of "notations of humans being and invasive species."

Cornell said he thought about "the extended ramification of humans hurting the animals." Cornell's work among many other artists showcases a form of Oklahoma from different points of views.

The gallery is located on the second floor of Jesse Dunn on the south side of the building. It is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.



University Relations Photo

"Building Belonging" is a group exhibition featuring the work of five transplants to Oklahoma.

# Is 'TheGraduate' film of a life time?

Recently my film professor had my class watch "The Graduate,." a comedy/drama about a socially awkward (as well as possibly autistic) college graduate who goes back home to his strict, wealthy father, who throws a party for his son and invites all his friends.

Having no friends of his own, Benjamin, the main character, strug-

gles to inter-

act with the

people of the

party. It isn't

long, howev-

er, before the

finds himself

in an affair

with the wife

of his dad's

inson is a dis-

turbing char-

Mrs. Rob-

co-worker.

acter, to say the least. Not only

is it mentioned in the movie that

she knew Benjamin since he was

a child, she is also shown to be

very forthcoming when he takes

thing to keep him from leaving

so she could corner him into

sleeping with her. Eventually,

Benjamin reluctantly gives in.

After sleeping with her, he be-

gins to realize that Mrs. Robin-

son may only been using him.

This makes him ultimately de-

cide to choose Elaine, Mrs. Rob-

sions the directors made strange,

I'm not ashamed to say that

"The Graduate" still holds up.

While I do find some deci-

inson's daughter.

She purposely tries every-

man

young

WORDS WITH MR. KAUMANS



KEVIN KAUMANS

her home.

Sure, not all of its scenes are comfortable to sit through. But that's the point. The audience is supposed to get second-hand embarrassment from what happens to Benjamin. Not to mention, Katherine Ross' voice acting is something you don't see quite often from modern-day actors. The way she screams makes it seem like the director was threatening her at gunpoint.

Another big theme that appears multiple times throughout the movie is control. The movie makes it clear that, throughout his entire life Benjamin never had control over anything.

His father is constantly pressuring him to go to graduate school. His father's friend, Mr. McGuire, is pushing him to join his company that produces plastic, and arguably worst of all, he gets groomed by Mrs. Robinson, a woman who has known him since childhood.

When he chooses to seek out Elaine and ask her to marry him, it's the first time in his life Benjamin starts thinking about the wants and needs of himself, not his father, not his father's friends, not even Mrs. Robinson.

I didn't go much into the plot because I don't want to spoil the movie. Rather, I encourage you to watch it yourself and come to your own conclusions.

Does "The Graduate" deserve to be remembered in the modern era of film? Is the ending trying to convey a deep message? Is the movie itself even deep? Why does Benjamin constantly walk throughout the movie like he's constipated? These questions, I leave up to you.

# Banned book reading with Sigma Tau Delta

By **DERRICK GALINDO**Senior Reporter

NWOSU's Sigma Tau Delta Chapter and Writer's Roundtable read banned books last Thursday at their annual banned book reading

In room 109 of the Education Center, students and faculty gathered to read books that were challenged or banned, as well as play kahoots for prizes. From children's books to graphic novels, literary classics to those with recent acclaim; attempts were made to censor or ban the books they read that night.

According to the American Library Association, in 2023 alone, people attempted to censor 1,247 books and other resources. This was a 65 percent increase from the year before. Along with this, 4,240 books were targeted, many of which had LGBTQIA+ themes or BIPOC experiences.

The act of reading banned books was actually started by libraries, said Dr. Roxie James, the sponsor of Sigma Tau Delta. The purposes of these readings are to highlight what challenged and banned books are, why they are challenged or banned and why that can be problematic. The main problem of banning books is that it hinders what readers are able to learn because of a seemingly sensitive topic, James said.

"I love it when people read," James said. "It makes me happy when I see people who want to read, like to read and want to talk about reading. When there are books that are banned and chal-

lenged, it kind of breaks my heart a little bit. That is knowledge that is a story that someone won't get to experience."

James brought up the example of "Harry Potter", which is heavily banned because of themes, including the promotion of the occult and witchcraft, the darker tones of later books, confusing children and leading them astray.

"When parents or schools don't allow students to read that ["Harry Potter"], then they miss out on the bigger story; overcoming adversity and good vs. evil. If we are so focused on what's bad, we don't have a chance to learn what's good."

Rose Negelein, a senior biology major from Cleveland who read "The Tell-Tale Heart" at the event, said formed judgment is one thing, but banning is not the valuable not to ban book over them and talk about subjects. The more you long or suppress them, the more to deal with them."

right thing to do.

"I understand parents not wanting their kids to read certain things, but that's up to them at home. You shouldn't be able to just take things out of the public eye like that."

Tyler Blankenship, a senior English education major from Macomb, said that a lot of the processes of banning books could be solved if it were an opportunity to discuss instead of silence.

"I believe they are banned because they provoke something inside of certain people that is just offensive or seems intolerable, or just seems to go against what people believe," he said. "I think it is valuable not to ban books, but go over them and talk about the hard subjects. The more you ban them or suppress them, the more you have to deal with them."

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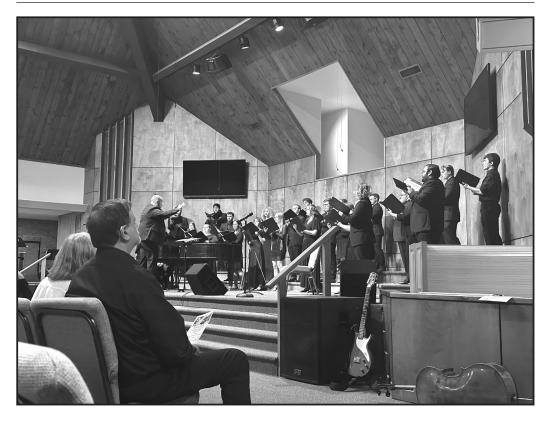
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# Campus Life

## NWOSU Choir Concert



The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Choirs performed their fall concert, titled "Musicks Empire," on Oct. 24 at the First Baptist Church in Alva. The choir is under the direction of Derrick Bready, director of choral studies. Dr. Eduardo Moriera, who teaches piano at NWOSU, provided the accompaniment. The performance included soloists throughout: Jack Mahoney, Jameson Hale, Joseph Messick, Autumn Drake, Levi Crumpton, Jadyn Hendrickson, Daniel Voth, Brooklyn Parker. Several indivduals on various instruments also provided backup throughout the program.



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### Halloween **Dad Joke**

What rock band do mummies love most? The Grateful Dead.

## **SPORTS**

# Rangers lose 2 matches, win 1

By KAROLINA JURESIUTE

Senior Reporter

Northwestern's Lady Rangers volleyball team played three home games in the past week. The Rangers lost 2-3 against Ouachita Baptist Tigers on Oct. 24, won against Henderson State 3-1 on Oct. 25, and lost again 2-3in a non-conference game with McPherson College on Tuesday.

### Rangers 2, Ouachita Baptist 3

The Lady Rangers started the first set of the match with a kill from Ivanny Blackwood and the Tigers with a service error, putting the Rangers in front on the scoreboard, 2-0. The Tigers answered with two straight points to tie the set 2-2. The Tigers and Lady Rangers fought back-toback for points until 13-13. The Rangers then scored 11 straight points and ended up winning the first set of the match, 25-19.

The second set of the evening was in the Tigers' favor as they started with a 9-3 lead. The Lady Rangers tried to fight back but the Tigers were just better that set. The Tigers won the set with a 12-point lead, 25-13.

Third set was back in the Lady Rangers' favor as they started off the set with two kills from Macy Shreffler, which gave them the lead by two. The Tigers answered back with a kill and tied the game at 4-4. The Lady Rangers then scored seven points in a row, five of where were kills and two service errors by the Tigers. The game got closer when the Tigers scored five points in a row and was trailing just by one 19-18. Rangers were determined to win

1. SWOSU

2. Harding

6. NWOSU

7. Southeastern

8. Arkansas Tech

9. Southern Nazarene

10. Henderson State

11. Southern Arkansas

12. Arkansas-Monticello

3. East Central

4. Oklahoma Baptist

5. Ouachita Baptist

the set and finished it with a 25-

The fourth set of the game was not good for the Lady Rangers as the Tigers started off with a seven-point lead, 1-8. After that, the Rangers could not get to a smaller point deficit than four. The Tigers closed down the set 17-25 and now the match score was 2-2.

Last set of the match was close and had everyone sitting on the edge of their seats. The Tigers ended up winning the last set of the match, 13-15 and won the match of the night 3-2.

Erika Asencio Soriano finished the match with 17 kills and 10 digs, Carmae Jones and Blackwood with nine each and Jones with six blocks. Mikayla White had the high of the team of 39 assists and Brianda Diaz with 20

### Rangers 3, Henderson State 1

The first set of the match was a slow start for the Lady Rangers as they only scored nine points. The Reddies dominated the first set and won it by 16 points, 25-9.

Second set was way better for the Lady Rangers as they were leading the whole set. Lady Rangers started off with a seven-point lead, 9-2. The Reddies got as close as being behind the Rangers by three points. The Lady Rangers ended up winning the set by five points, 25-20 and tying the match 1-1.

The Reddies started off the third set with a kill first, but Soriano answered them back right away and tied the score to 1-1. The set was intense and close as each team battled for the win. Every point was important, but the Lady Rangers did not back down

10-1

9-2

8-3

6-5

6-5

6-5

4-7

4-7

3-8

3-8

0 - 11

and won the set by two, 27-25.

The Lady Rangers wanting to end the match in the fourth set started off with a 3-0 run. The Reddies answered right away and went to a 0-4 run to now be in a lead of one, 3-4. The set was also close, point-to-point until the tied score 10-10. After that the Lady Rangers finally pulled away and made the lead grow until they won the last set 25-17.

Soriano led The Lady Rangers with 19 kills, Ece Ozdemir with 13. White had a game high of 36 assists and Brianda Diaz finished the match with 17 digs.

### Rangers 2, McPherson 3

The match started off by the Bulldogs hitting a kill on the Lady Rangers side of the court. Northwestern earned their first point of the evening from the Bulldogs service error. Both teams were fighting for the lead until the set was tied 18-18. The Bulldogs then scored six points in a row, and the Rangers lost their first set 19-25.

The second set of the match started with the Bulldogs striking first and getting a lead of three points, 4-1. The Lady Rangers trailed until they tied the set, 13-13. Northwestern tried to get back on their feet and and was close on doing so, but ended up losing the second set by three points, 22-25.

Even though The Bulldogs struck first with a 2-0 run, this was the set when everything turned around for the Lady Rangers. The Rangers then scored seven points in a row. In this set the Lady Rangers had the biggest lead of 10 and also won by 10 points 25-15.

The fourth and the longest set of the match started off by The Bulldogs going on a 3-0 run. It didn't take long for The Lady Rangers to answer back and get back in the game. The Rangers were trailing for most of the set until Soriano had a kill and the Bulldogs three service errors in a row which tied the game at 24-24. The game went overtime until one of the teams won by two points. The Lady Rangers won set four by Ozge Yavuz's kill and a Bulldogs error.

After winning the last set, the Rangers had hope to win, but they did not succeed. The Bulldogs were in the lead the whole fifth set. After scoring four points for the Rangers, the Bulldogs fin-

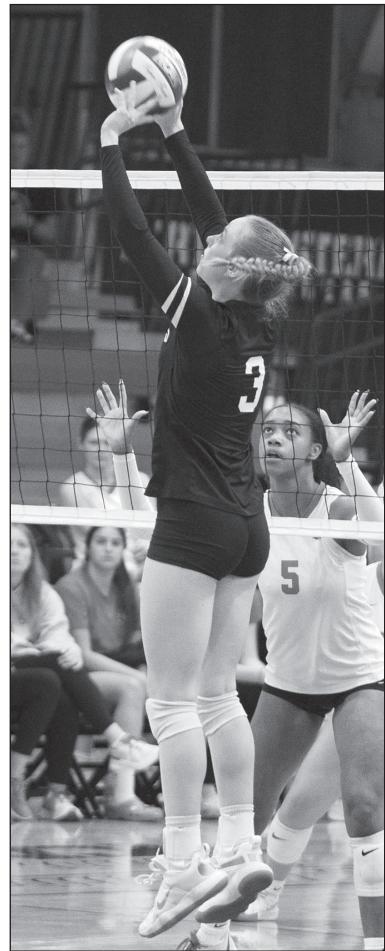


Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

Setter Mikayla White jumps for the ball during the Tuesday night game against McPherson College. The Bulldogs won the match 3-2.

ished off the match by winning their third set with a score 15-11.

Soriano finished the game with 14 kills and 10 digs, while Ozdemir had 13 kills and 15 digs. Diaz had a game high of 30 digs.

London Hilton finished the match with 22 assists.

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### **Volleyball fun facts**

**GAC** standings

- 1895: Volleyball was invented by William G. Morgan, who was director of physical education at the YMCA in Holyoke, Massachusetts. He combined elements from baseball, basketball, tennis and handball and called it Mintonette. The name did not stick and it became volley ball instead.
- 1964: Volleyball joined the Olympic Games. Beach volleyball joined in 1996.
- 1984: The longest game of 85 hours was played in Kingston, North Carolina.
- 1998: The libero position was added to indoor volleyball.

## **SPORTS**

# Early ECU score stops Rangers

By ELY NOBLE Senior Reporter

Northwestern Oklahoma State University soccer team fell short in a close 1-0 loss to East Central University Wednesday evening.

Despite a solid effort, an early goal by the Tigers proved to be the deciding factor, leaving the Rangers still searching for their first conference win this season.

The Rangers record now sits at 2-7-5 overall and 0-4-4 in the Great American Conference. East Central now improves to 4-9-1 overall and 3-4-1 in the conference standings.

Though East Central found the back of the net early, Northwestern fought hard throughout the match. The Rangers narrowly outshot the Tigers 14-13, with nine of those shots on goal compared to East Central's eight. Rangers, Tiara Campbell, Jordan Fawcett, Jazlyn Norwood and Isabella McMillan each contributed shots on target, but were unable to break through the Tigers defense. Ranger goalkeeper Rachel Brown recorded seven saves, keeping her team within striking

The Tigers struck early in the match, capitalizing on a corner kick within the first few minutes. At the 3:12 mark, East Central's Abbie Morris headed in a pass from teammate Paige Jones, putting the Tigers up 1-0. That goal would remain the only one of the match.

The Rangers fought back with their first scoring chance at the 10-minute mark when Campbell fired a shot on goal, only to have it saved by Tigers goalie Maddson



Photo by Victor Kenzie

NWOSU Ranger forward Amaia Stephens gets ready to kick the ball in the game against East Central University on Oct. 23 at home. ECU won, 1-0.

Mayhall. Minutes later, another Ranger shot hit off the right post, just missing the tying shot.

The rest of the first half saw several Rangers shots on goal, all turned away by Mayhall. As halftime arrived, Northwestern trialed 1-0, but the team showed resilience as they kept the game withing reach.

The second half opened with East central looking to extend their lead. A foul gave the tigers a free kick, and a corner kick kept Brown busy in the goal. She saved multiple shots in the span, stopping East Central from pulling further ahead.

The Rangers continued to press offensively, With Fawcett testing Mayhall with a shot off a corner kick in the 83rd minute. Mayhall stayed sharp through it all denying the shot and preserving her team's one goal lead. Despite Northwestern's efforts in the final moments, East Central held on the get the 1-0 victory.

The loss highlights a season of close calls for the Rangers, who

have shown promise but have struggled to convert scoring opportunities into wins.

They'll have another shot to break through on Halloween when they host Harding University at 6 p.m. in Alva. NWOSU plays host Saturday as well against Ouachita Baptist at 11 a.m. They play at SWOSU on Wednesday, 3 p.m.

## Sports this week

Thursday- Saturday	Rodeo	Various times, Woods County Fairgrounds
Thursday	Soccer	6 p.m. vs. Harding
Thursday	Volleyball	6 p.m. @ East Central
Saturday	Soccer	11 a.m. vs. Ouachita Baptist
Saturday	Football	2 p.m. vs. Henderson State—senior day
Monday	Volleyball	6 p.m. vs. Southern Nazarene
Wednesday	Soccer	3 p.m. @ SWOSU



## Golf wraps up fall season

NWOSU's men's golf team from Lafayette, Colorado, led the placed 12th at the Tulsa Cup after two days of play, Monday and had five birdies and 33 pars. Tuesday at the Indian Springs Country Club in Broken Arrow..

The men's team finished with a total of 965 through three rounds. The women turned in a total of 977 (324-321-332). The Rogers State, who hosted the tournament, won both men's and women's divisions.

Matti Zerwin, a sophomore

nometownservices74@gmail.com

Jeremy Nichols 580-748-1534

placed 17th and the women Ranger men with a total of 235 (75-80-80). He placed 43rd. He

Romane Lacoste, a sophomore from Borderes, France, took ninth place with a total of 233 (76-80-77) with seven birdies, one eagle and 25 pars. She was the leader of the Ranger women's team.

This wraps up the fall schedule for the team, which plays the second half in the spring.

Devin Hamlin

580-327-7968

### Men's results

43	Matti	235 (75-80-80)
Zerv	vin	
57	Davan	239 (83-76-80)
Smi	th	
78	Max	247 (84-87-76)
Cou	range	
86	Pierce	251 (81-87-83)
Gen	ninden	
88	Caden	254 (91-80-83)
Holı	mes	

### Women's results

9 Romane Lacoste	233 (76-80-77)
22 Agathe Lacoste	236 (77-74-85)
72 Tess Linden	254 (87-83-84)
72 Kentyn Clark	254 (84-84-86)
93 Addison Furtick	270 (89-90-91)

## **SPORTS**

# Rangers top Okla. Baptist, 30-28

By **OAKLEE FIELDER** 

Sports Editor

The NWOSU Rangers won at home last weekend in a tight game against the Oklahoma Baptist Bison.

The Rangers, who were on a 4-game losing streak, wanting to get their first win on home turf, faced off against the Bison who had one more win than the Rangers at the time of kickoff.

NWOSU's Tyler Furey kicked the ball to OBU's Darius Melton to start the first half of the game. The Bison did not get far at all on the kickoff only getting 5 yards.

Their first drive ended in just one set of downs and they punted to the Rangers. NWOSU was able to get 20 yards across the field until they too had to punt.

OBU got halfway across the field but this attempt was also halted and they punted once again. NWOSU's next drive was a long one, and they were able to get to OBU's 22-yard line before the first quarter ended with no points for either team.

At the start of the second quarter, the Rangers were not able to

keep the momentum going and had to go for a field goal.

Kale Purvis scored the first points of the game and the score was 0-3 NWOSU. The Bison started their next drive with a 1-yard rush and an incomplete

The next and third play of the drive, NWOSU's Myles Mays intercepted the pass and got 25 yards for the Rangers as they started to go on the offense. NWOSU had a quick drive and scored with an 18-yard pass to Travis Romar to make the game 0-10 in favor of the Rangers.

OBU started their third drive and the fourth drive of the quarter with hopes of cutting the gap between the two teams. That drive failed and they punted to NWOSU as the kick went out of bounds.

NWOSU started down the field with a 31-yard throw to Travis Romar to get on the Bison's side of the field in hopes of scoring and taking the lead further. They were able to get a little bit more yards, but decided to go for a field goal on a 4th and 9 and made the score 0-13 for the Rangers as they got ready to defend



NWOSU players Bashu Delco, CobyTillman and Wilson Cal tackle OBU's WR Michael Marshall on Saturday.

against Oklahoma Baptist.

The Bison started the drive with their heads down and wanted to get the win. On 3rd and 9 on their 36-yard line, OBU's Kenny Rosenthal made a 52-yard deep

pass to Darius Melton to get on the Ranger's 12-yard line.

They were able to get their first points in the game and made the score 7-13 NWOSU. There were no other points scored in the

first half for either teams.

The second half started with the Rangers on the offense but were not able to get anything out

There was a lot of back and forth without scoring from either the Rangers or the Bison until the Rangers got a 33-yard field goal. The back and forth continued the rest of the quarter without any points being scored.

The Rangers ended the thirdquarter with the ball and started the fourth with a quick touchdown with a rush from Darien Gill and it was 7-23 NWOSU.

The Bison were ready to start the fourth and scored a touchdown with a 2-point conversion to start to generate a comeback. NWOSU responded with a pick six by Wilson Cal to make it 15-30 NWOSU.

OBU put that last drive in the back of their minds and scored 13 unanswered points but in the end were unable to complete their comeback and ended the game with a NWOSU Ranger win.

### **Playmakers**



**Brodey Johnson** 181 throwing yards



**Travis Romar** 60 passing yards, 1 TD



**Darien Gill** 70 rushing yards, 1 TD



**Kale Purvis** 3 field goals, 3 PATs

## Ranger results from GAC cross country championship Oct. 26

Wollich. Oth Flace		
Ava Miller	41st	20:11.5
Jamaira Ross	45th	20:17.5
Cadence Long-Torres	66th	21:13.0
Reina Gonzales	88th	22:07.7
Azucena Carrillo	95th	22:27.4
Elisa Bernardez	96th	22:33.9
Elizabeth Dorado-Barrera	98th	22:42.7
Jamie Tirres-Franco	118th	23:56.8
Angelica Robledo-Gonzalez	128th	24:43.6
Claire Dodds	136th	27:22.3

### Men: 5th place

James Fincher	16th	26:19.8
Christian Franklin	19th	26:37.6
Riley Herndon	30th	27:02.1
Collins Yego	33rd	27:08.8
Edward Robledo-Gonzalez	47th	27:53.4
Edgar Reyes	48th	27:55.4
Salat Ibrahim	50th	27:58.5
Andrew Scott	56th	28:07.4
Crispus Atukwaste	58th	28:14.1
Alan Lares	62nd	28:29.6
Basheer Suied	71st	29:02.9
Coy Bullard	72nd	29:08.5
Jordan Pierce	77th	29:23.1

Zachary Cox	78th	29:23.8
Banjamin Morfin	96th	30:44.4
Muneer Suied	98th	30:59.2
Ray Chavira	102nd	31:19.8
Tristan Meeker	109th	32:16.2
Aaron Medrano	113th	33:33.3