

## Profile

An unexpected journey: read how Sterlin Broomfield became head track and field coach.

Pages 6 & 7



## Features

Check out our new how to column to learn how to create a study space. Page 9



# NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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Volume No. 86 Issue 18

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, Oklahoma

February 20, 2025

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## NWOSU Theater ready to perform 'The Cave' this week

### Unique stage set up creates challenges for NWOSU play

By ALLI SCHIEBER  
Editor-in-Chief

Thursday through Saturday NWOSU Theater will present "The Cave" at the Fellers Family Auditorium.

On Thursday and Friday the NWOSU Theater will perform at 7 p.m. and on Saturday they will perform at 2 p.m. Admission for the show is \$3.

"The Cave" is a one act play written by Tim Kelly and is a dramatic comedy.

One thing that is unique about this particular play is the audience is set on the stage.

This creates some challenges for the cast as they are use to being on stage and the crowd being in the crowd so everyone can see and hear them.

Jaden Matthews, a junior speech theater major from Hennessy, said that this can be challenging because as actors they are taught not to turn their backs to the crowd but with this play because of the proximity they have to perform there will be times they have their backs turned.

"The Cave" has themes of fear, exploration, reality, survival and betrayal. It also lets the audience create their own ideas of what is happening.

The characters in the play have to redefine the ideas they have on



Photos by Ingrid Maldonado

Students rehearse for their play "The Cave" that will be opening 7 p.m. on Thursday at the Fellers Family Auditorium.

the world and their views on reality.

One thing that has been a little challenging for some of the cast members is that some of the roles have two people playing them.

This in some aspects make things easier as when some cast members cannot make a practice the other person playing that role

is able to read for them.

Matthews said that for her its difficult to keep in her mind that the person she is reacting too is not actually the person in that scene and the person they are supposed to be talking may actually be on the opposite side of the stage.

For freshman Bella Anguino said she thinks it is helpful having some roles played by two different people because they are able to read the lines if the other person cannot make it to rehearsal.

"The Cave" will be Anguino's first time acting in a play at NWOSU however, she has been a part of tech for shows in the past and is still helping with some props for this show as well.

One thing that has been different for Anguino is that she is not as close to the cast as she has been with shows before.

However, she said with every practice she feels as though the group is getting closer.



Ken Irving rehearses his part for the play at rehearsal last Wednesday.



Mickey Jordan helps the students prepare for the play which will open on Thursday at the Fellers Family Auditorium.

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# NEWS

## What's Up?

Feb 21-27

# 21

- O.I.L Meeting  
Education Center 109  
12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Last day to drop  
1st eight week  
classes

# 22

- QPR Suicide Prevention  
Training  
Alva Wesleyan Church  
621 3rd st.

# 24

- SGA Meeting 6:00 p.m.

# 25

- OSSAA Vocal Contest
- Psychology Program  
graduate seminar  
Education Center 109  
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

# 26

- Graceful Arts After School  
Advance Youth Acrylics  
523 Barnes St  
Alva, OK  
3:30p.m -5:30 p.m

# 27

- Writer's Round Table  
VH 200  
5:00 p.m - 6:00 p.m
- Graceful Arts After School  
Intermediate Art Class  
3:30 p.m - 5:30 0.m

### Free Lunches

11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.  
Tuesday at Bible Chair  
Wednesday at BCM  
Thursday at Wesley House



"Go confidently in the direction of your  
dreams. Live the life you have imagined."

Henry David Thoreau



## News around the world

- Young seal found wondering the streets of New Haven, Connecticut
- 11 donkeys roaming San Diego, California and reunited with owners
- Chinese snow village used fake snow made of cotton and soapy water
- Oklahoman man owns world's largest brick collection
- Venomous snake found in banana shipment for a Manchester market



information from UPI

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*Puzzled about  
being snowed in?*



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for every age!*

# NEWS

## Advice that stuck with students

By MEGAN SPRAY  
Student Reporter

A piece of advice can stick with students from years on end and help through all kinds of trials.

When advice is given to someone it may seem like they aren't truly listening to it in the moment, but the words that a person speaks to you when you don't seem like you are paying attention means the most.

People often look back and remember times when someone gave them advice

and how those words have helped them through tough times.

Whether people want to admit it or not, advice truly helps us through the ups and downs.

Take a look at what advice Northwestern students value, and maybe find some encouragement and advice that can benefit you. Sharing advice with others can truly change a person's life.



**Adana Chukwudoro, a freshman nursing major from Houston, Texas -**

"Don't live life based on what you expect it to be, but whatever God has planned for you." – Grace Madeline



**Talia Wright, a senior nursing major from Wichita, Kansas -**

"Whenever you don't feel like going to the gym, always remember that you never regret going to the gym afterwards. You basically just don't want to go, but if you force yourself to go, you'll never regret going." She got her advice from a TikTok.



**Jaydon Mills, a senior nursing major from Beaver -**

"I'd say one of the best pieces of advice I've been given is to just shrug it off. As simplistic as it is, in life there is so many situations that are out of our control and we just have to learn to leave it be and trust God." Mills got her advice from her dad.



**David Cronister, a junior health and sports science major from Mooreland -**

"One time, my grandma told me, that the lord gave me gifts and not to abuse them, but to use them. She was referring to when I wouldn't sing for her one time and then she told me that, and got onto me."



**Adrianna Gutierrez, a senior nursing major from Fort Worth, TX -**

"My best piece of advice is to do something each day that's going to impact someone, because at the end of the day, they're going to remember you. This is about nursing, but like they're going to remember you and your care, but you're not going to really remember them because you have a lot of patients. But they're going to remember the small things you did." She got her advice from a nursing instructor.



**Mary Lee Hainzinger, a senior elementary education major from Ponca City -**

"Probably, my greatest piece of advice would be my mother telling me to always put my name on all of my papers getting out of the car at elementary school every morning, because now, I'm an elementary education major and going to be a teacher. I've been in college for a long time and I do put my name on all my papers."



**Teagen Koontz, a junior elementary education major from Enid -**

"The best piece of advice I've ever gotten is to live for an audience of one. I don't remember who told it to me, but it's always stuck with me. It's so easy to live to please other people, but in reality we are only living for an audience of one, and that one is Jesus Christ. As long as I am glorifying him in the things that I do, than I am living a fulfilled life."

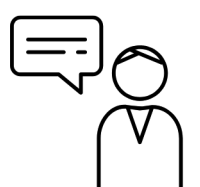


**Carson Wright, a junior biology major from Bellevue, NE -**

"So this one was from my dad, and he always helps me out and reminds me that it's never as bad as it really seems. You know a lot of times, things happen and circumstances happen, and you tend to look at the negative. Like if you had a bad day in class or a bad day at the plate, and it just helps to take a step back and realize that I'm very fortunate to do the things I do. There are thousands of people who would kill to be in my shoes, going to college and playing a college sport. It really helps me keep a good perspective on things."

### Common Advice Given To College Students

- Get involved
- Study hard
- Stay organized
- Don't Procrastinate
- Develop good habits
- Stay focused and active
- Take advantage of school resources



**NORTHWESTERN NEWS**

*Official Newspaper*  
Northwestern Oklahoma State  
University

709 Oklahoma Blvd.  
Alva, OK 73717

Published weekly throughout the school  
year except during examination periods  
and holidays and distributed to students  
and staff.

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The News is printed by  
Alva Review-Courier

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Oklahoma State University, is issued by the  
University as authorized by the Regional Uni-  
versity System of Oklahoma. Four hundred  
copies have been prepared and distributed at a  
cost to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma  
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**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

# OPINION

## Retail stores face growing boycotts

By **CHRISTIAN FRANKLIN**  
*Opinion Editor*

In recent weeks, a growing wave of boycotts has swept across the retail sector, with companies like Target finding themselves at the center of public controversy.

These boycotts, often driven by polarized political views and social movements, reflect broader cultural battles and have ignited heated debates about the role corporations play in shaping societal values.

Consumers are increasingly using their purchasing power as a way to protest businesses' policies or perceived stances on issues ranging from corporate activism to environmental practices and social justice initiatives.

As a result, retailers like Target, which have historically tried to maintain a neutral public image, now find themselves under scrutiny from a divided customer base.

The catalyst for many of these boycotts is Target's recent decisions to support various causes that some groups view as controversial. For example, certain product lines or in-store displays have been associated with LGBTQ+ rights and other progressive social movements, which has drawn backlash from conservative groups.

Critics argue that such actions alienate a portion of their customer base who feel that businesses should not take political stances or engage in what they perceive as "woke" marketing.



In response, many consumers have announced their intention to boycott the retailer, often taking to social media to organize and amplify their voices.

For Target, this boycott poses a significant challenge, as the company must navigate the fine line between corporate responsibility and maintaining a loyal customer base.

While some customers embrace the retailer's support for progressive causes, others feel that the brand has overstepped its bounds and is using its platform for political purposes.

As a result, Target is faced

with the difficult task of balancing social advocacy with the potential loss of customers who feel that their personal beliefs are not being respected. The company's decision to take a stand on certain issues has placed it squarely in the crossfire of a culture war that shows no signs of abating.

The broader implications of these boycotts extend beyond just one retailer.

They are a reflection of the increasing trend of consumer activism, where individuals are using their spending power to express political and social views.

This movement has the poten-

tial to reshape how companies engage with their audiences, forcing them to reconsider how they approach corporate social responsibility.

In the long run, these boycotts may influence how brands position themselves on controversial issues, with many companies likely reassessing the risks and rewards of aligning with specific causes.

As the boycott against companies like Target continues to gain traction, the retail landscape could become a battleground for the values and beliefs of both consumers and corporations.

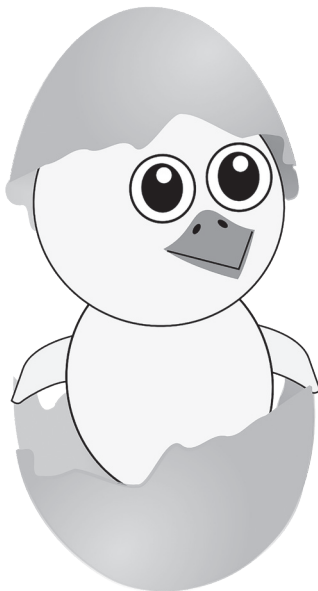
## Egg prices soar as bird flu spreads

By **Christian Franklin**  
*Opinion Editor*

Egg prices in the U.S. have seen an alarming increase, with the average price per dozen climbing to levels not seen in over a decade. As of January 2025, the national average for a dozen eggs has more than doubled compared to the same time last year, with some regions experiencing even steeper increases.

So, what's driving this sharp rise? Industry insiders and economists have identified several interconnected causes for the spike, from disruptions in supply chains to natural disasters and market fluctuations.

One of the most significant contributors to the rise in egg prices is the ongoing avian influenza outbreak that has affected poultry farms across the country. The deadly flu, which began in late 2022, has led to the culling of millions of hens, significantly reducing the number of eggs available on the market. With fewer hens laying eggs, the supply has been unable to keep up with de-



mand, pushing prices up. The impact of inflation on agricultural production has also contributed to the rising cost of eggs. As the prices of key inputs like feed and fuel climb, so too does the cost of raising hens and transporting eggs. Feed costs have been especially volatile due to disruptions in global grain markets, as well as supply shortages linked to extreme weather events like droughts and floods. Farmers who rely on affordable feed to

maintain healthy flocks are now paying more for these essential supplies, and these increased costs are ultimately passed on to consumers in the form of higher egg prices. The rising cost of eggs is a stark reminder of how fragile our food supply chains can be. From disease outbreaks to global inflationary pressures, multiple factors have collided to create

a perfect storm of rising prices. While consumers are feeling the impact, the agricultural industry continues to adapt and find solutions to rebuild supply and lower costs. How quickly these solutions will work remains to be seen, but for many, the cost of eggs is likely to remain an unwelcome strain on household budgets in the near future.

### Cost of a dozen eggs January

1980	\$0.88
1990	\$1.22
2000	\$0.98
2010	\$1.79
2020	\$1.46
2021	\$1.47
2022	\$1.93
2023	\$4.83
2024	\$2.52
2025	\$4.95

Prices have fluxuated over the years, but have steadily risen, like most other food. Eggs are one of the food items tracked by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to calculate inflation in the U.S.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

# OPINION

## Is Musk second-chair president?

By Christian Franklin  
*Story*

In a surprising statement, a senior official from the Trump administration clarified that Elon Musk, who leads the new Department of Government Efficiency, holds no formal or official authority over Dogecoin, despite the billionaire's significant influence on the cryptocurrency market. The comment comes in response to growing public speculation that Musk's statements and actions could have direct impacts on the digital currency.

A Trump administration personnel official emphasized that Musk's role, though prominent in the tech and business sectors, does not extend to making government decisions or controlling the fate of DOGE.

The official's remarks aim to address the misconceptions surrounding Musk's relationship with the popular cryptocurrency. While Musk's tweets and public endorsements have undeniably affected the price of Dogecoin,

the White House asserts that his influence is purely personal and does not translate into governmental or regulatory control.

"Elon Musk may be a powerful figure in the tech industry, but he has no actual or formal authority when it comes to making government decisions," the official stated. This clarification comes amid increasing concerns about the potential for cryptocurrency manipulation and the role public figures play in influencing market trends.

Despite Musk's repeated involvement in the digital currency sphere, including his tweets that have led to sharp rises and falls in DOGE's value, the White House's stance makes it clear that he does not hold sway over its regulatory framework.

As the debate around cryptocurrency regulations continues, this statement from the White House serves as a reminder that, while Musk's actions may influence public perception and market behavior, they do not equate to formal control over the asset class.

### Unofficial advisers not new

Several presidents for the United States have had unofficial advisers who helped them make decisions.

The most famous is probably the "kitchen cabinet" of President Andrew Jackson, who served 1829-1837. He had an official cabinet of six men during his first term, but rumors about Margaret Eaton, the outspoken and flirtatious wife of Secretary of War John Eaton, caused problems among the cabinet, whose wives refused to socialize with Margaret. Even Jackson's demand that all the husbands and wives get along didn't work.

Instead, Jackson turned for advice to an unofficial group of advisers — his Kitchen Cabinet. Although some of his official cabinet were included in this group, many friends and Democratic Party associates made up the bulk of the men.

Some of those friends included Francis Preston Blair, the editor of the Washington Globe, which was the Democratic Party's official newspaper. Journalist Isaac Hill and newspaper editor Amos Kendall were also part of the group.

Jackson was not the only president to have an unofficial group of advisers. Theodore Roosevelt

called his the "tennis cabinet," a group of friends and advisors who would regularly play tennis on the White House lawn.

Warren G. Harding's "Ohio Gang" was sometimes referred to as the "poker cabinet." It was perhaps an appropriate name as Harding's legacy was tarnished by scandals that included hush money to conceal extramarital affairs, a child born out of wedlock and criminal activity of the friends he appointed to high offices.

President Herbert Hoover gathered his friends early in the morning to play "Hoover Ball" on the south lawn of the White House. This "Medicine Ball Cabinet" would throw an 8-pound leather ball over a 9-foot net, all under the watchful eye of Dr. Joel Boone, a Navy physician who served as the White House doctor to Harding, Calvin Coolidge and Hoover. The group of men who participated were Hoover's closest friends. Boone was concerned about Hoover being healthier and suggested he throw around the medicine ball to up his activity levels each day.

Ronald Reagan had a group of California businessmen who served as his advisers.

— Sources: WhiteHouseHistory.org, History.com, med.navy.mil, nytimes.com,

### The Social Buzz

## Talking trash on Facebook

Sam Felton  
Rising contributor · 22h · 🗳️

This poll is pertaining to the proposed ordinance on enforcing a \$150 fine for not bringing in your city supplied trash can from the curb on a timely manner. You can choose two options.

- I support 2025-001 12% >
- I do not support 2025-001 63% >
- I support the fine amount 1% >
- I think the fine is too much. 23% >
- The fine should be more 1% >

👍 11 486 Votes 41 comments 11 shares

### New ordinance on trash cans

Ellen Whitcomb Hutton  
Top contributor · Yesterday at 11:37AM · 📄

Get ready!

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-001**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TO CITY OF ALVA CODE ORDINANCES CHAPTER 44, ARTICLE V – SOLID WASTE, SECTION 44-261 BY REVOKING SAID SECTION IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACING THAT SECTION WITH THE IMMEDIATE ORDINANCE, GOVERNING SOLID WASTE WITHIN THE CITY OF ALVA.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALVA, OKLAHOMA, that Section 44-261, Article V of Chapter 44 of the Alva Code of Ordinances is hereby created, as follows:

Article V: SOLID WASTE

**§ 44-261. PLACEMENT OF RECEPTACLES.**

(1) The placing of provided receptacles shall be dictated by the service provider as agreed upon by the City.

(2) Receptacles shall be removed from the directed placement area the same day as the refuse is collected. This is a fineable offense if abused.

(1) Fines for the offense will be \$150.00 per incident.

(2) Abuse is defined as five (5) or more complaints from other citizens.

(Prior Code, § 44-261)

**PASSED and APPROVED this 18th day of February 2025 by the City Council of the City of Alva, Oklahoma.**

KELLY PARKER, Mayor

ARM AND LEGALITY  
GHAM, City Attorney

Angel Lee Rauch  
So you can't have them in the yard anymore? You have to literally take it somewhere to hide it??? Or is this just to get them out of the street? Because my husband and I always remove it from the street but we have it under the tree by my vehicle.

16 Likes Reply Share

Dakota Blankenship · Rising contributor  
Some of the elderly cannot move their trash cans, while yes people have volunteered to do it they want paid (which I get) but some people are already stretched so thin as it is they can't afford anything else... everything seems to be a mess anymore...

22h Like Reply Share

Paula Kletke · Follow  
22h · 🗨️

Just curious as to why our trash trucks can't run but the UPS and FedEx are out today...

👍 11 8 comments

Like Comment Send Share

Caleb Bacher  
One delivers lifesaving time sensitive medicine  
The other picks up debris with no expiration date.

21h Like Reply Share 10

Tami Hauth Frascht  
Getting my trash picked up today or in a few days isn't a big enough deal to risk trash workers or others in cars and pickups on a two lane highway around town or between here and Meno getting hurt. But I also don't believe UPS and Fed Ex should be working on Sundays and holidays 🙄

22h Like Reply Share Edited 13

## Will recent crashes change plane safety?

By Christian Franklin  
*Story*

In 2025, the United States has witnessed a concerning uptick in plane crashes, drawing attention from both the aviation industry and regulatory bodies.

While air travel remains one of the safest modes of transportation, recent incidents have raised alarm among passengers, experts and lawmakers alike. Over the past few months, several high-profile crashes have occurred, leading to questions about the safety measures currently in place and what might be behind the rising number of accidents.

One of the most recent crash occurred on Feb. 12, when a small regional aircraft carrying 42 passengers went down shortly after takeoff from a regional airport in Texas. The crash resulted in 30 fatalities, with the remaining passengers suffering severe injuries.

Just weeks earlier, another fatal crash took place in California, where a commercial jetliner experienced a mechanical failure, killing all 56 people onboard. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is currently investigating both incidents, as well as several other near-misses that have occurred this year.

Experts are urging for a thorough review of aviation safety protocols.

"The rise in incidents, while still statistically low, is deeply

troubling," said Dr. Laura Simmons, an aviation safety expert. "We need to take a hard look at aircraft maintenance, pilot training, and the integration of new technologies to ensure these tragedies don't continue to unfold."

There are concerns that issues such as aging aircraft, increased air traffic, and staffing shortages in the aviation industry could be contributing factors.

While the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has pledged to enhance oversight and improve training programs, many are calling for a deeper investigation into whether these recent crashes signal a broader trend.

In response to the rising number of incidents, federal lawmakers have also called for increased funding for aviation safety and more stringent regulations. Some have even proposed changes to the certification processes for aircraft manufacturers and airlines, arguing that safety may be being compromised for the sake of cost-cutting measures.

As investigations continue into the causes of the crashes, many Americans are left wondering if recent events will prompt significant changes in how air travel is managed and whether more will be done to ensure the safety of passengers flying across the country.

A Delta plane crashed and then flipped over in Toronto, Canada, on Monday. All 80 on board survived.

# Coach Sterlin Broomfield – from determination to leadership

By CHRISTIAN FRANKLIN  
Student Reporter



Coach Sterlin Broomfield looks for his athletes to appear at a cross country meet in Edmond.

The sound of running shoes striking the asphalt echoes through the empty lanes of the track.

Sterlin Broomfield watches as his runners push themselves, each stride an embodiment of the discipline, determination and resilience that has marked his own life.

It's a quiet moment, but one filled with the kind of meaning that only comes from years of overcoming adversity. Broomfield's journey from an underdog athlete to head coach at Northwestern is as much about the lessons he's learned along the way as it is about the lives he now shapes as head coach.

His story stretches beyond the track, grounded in deep personal loss, his commitment to service and the unshakable belief that true leadership is about helping others become the best versions of themselves.

### Early Life and Motivation

Coach Broomfield's roots trace back to Dodge City, Kansas, a place that shaped his early experiences and instilled in him the work ethic he would carry into every aspect of his life.

While he often identifies with Wichita, Kansas because of his recruitment out of the city, it was in Dodge City where he learned that hardship was something that should be overcome, not avoided.

Raised in a home where his father fought physical disabilities but always found a way to provide for the family, Broomfield was taught from an early age the value of resilience.

"Growing up, we didn't always have everything we needed," Broomfield said. "At one point, we didn't have water or electricity. My dad did everything he could to make sure we had what we needed. Those struggles taught me a lot about resilience and resourcefulness."

When Broomfield lost his mother, it was a devastating blow that reshaped his life. Despite the deep grief, he understood that running was his ticket to a better future.

"I knew that if I wanted to go to college, I had to excel at running," he said. "I had no choice but to succeed—both academically and athletically."

In the face of such loss, Broomfield still showed up for track practice the day after his

mother passed away.

"My coaches were shocked, but I knew I had to keep going. Track was my way out," Broomfield said.

### From Athlete to Coach



Coach Sterlin Broomfield speaks to athletes at the NWOSU cross country banquet last semester.

Broomfield's path to coaching wasn't a straight line.

After excelling in high school track, he earned a scholarship to run at Northwestern, where he pursued a degree in business administration.

*"I had no choice but to succeed — both academically and athletically."*  
— Sterlin Broomfield

However, coaching came into his life unexpectedly in 2016, when he first started coaching.

"I started as an assistant coach here at Northwestern, and at the time, I didn't think I was going to go into coaching," Broomfield said. "I was planning to go into business, but coaching gave me the chance to impact people's lives in a way that I never expected."

What began as an unanticipated path quickly developed into a quiet calling.

As an assistant coach, Broomfield not only worked with athletes but also served as a mentor to first-generation, low-income and Native American students through his work with Trio Student Support Services.

"I was helping students who were far from home and needed a guide, much like I did when I was younger," he said. "That sense of responsibility of showing up for others is something that really changed the way I viewed my role as a coach."

In 2022, after several years as a volunteer coach and assistant track coach, Broomfield

was named the head coach at Northwestern.

His leadership style, rooted in mentorship and personal development, quickly became evident.

"Being a coach isn't just about winning races—it's about shaping individuals, helping them grow not just as athletes but as people," he said.

### Life Lessons and Leadership

Broomfield's leadership is deeply influenced by his own experiences with mentors, particularly a pivotal moment in high school. After suffering a high ankle sprain from a basketball injury, he was unsure about his future, however, a conversation with his coach at the time left a lasting impact.

"He told me he believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself," Broomfield recalled. "That kind of trust and belief is what I try to give to my athletes now. Sometimes, you need someone to believe in you more than you believe in yourself."

Growing up, Broomfield developed a strong work ethic through early jobs, including working as a paperboy at age 12.

"Delivering papers taught me that no matter what the weather was like—whether it was freezing cold or scorching hot—you have a job to do and you do it," he said. "It was about building character, and I carried that lesson into everything I do now, especially coaching."

His leadership philosophy extends beyond just athletic performance. He views his role as both a coach and a mentor, often acting as a father figure to athletes who are far from home.

"When they're away from home, you're their father figure, their mentor. You're the one they lean on, and it's a responsibility I take seriously," Broomfield said.

### Family, Resilience and Growth

In addition to his professional achievements, Broomfield balances his role as a father and fiancé. He and his fiancée, whom he met through a mutual friend at Northwestern, got engaged in January 2024.

Despite his initial reluctance toward marriage, Broomfield credits his fiancée with teaching him the power of partnership.

"I never thought I would get married," he said. "But she's someone I can always count on. When things go wrong, she's there. When my car battery dies, she's the one who'll help without hesitation."

His children, ages 10 and 11, are also a significant influence in his life and work.

"When I'm home, I'm a dad first," Broomfield said. "I cook, clean, do laundry and make sure they see that work ethic. They need to know that even when life gets hard, you have to show up, you have to do your part and you have to take care of those who rely on you."

### Advice for the Next Generation

When asked what advice he would offer to the next generation, Broomfield emphasized the importance of perseverance and self-belief.

"Don't let your circumstances define you," he said. "Your path might not always be smooth, but it's how you respond to challenges that shapes who you are. And when you have the chance to lift someone else up, do it. We rise by lifting others."

His success is evident not only in his own achievements but in those of his athletes, like James Fincher, who led the cross-country team to Conference and Regionals after Broomfield gave him a chance.

Fincher said Broomfield believed in him when others probably would not have and that Broomfield's trust in him helped lead to his success.

"What sets Broomfield apart is his ability to invest in his athletes' growth, both on and off the track, and turn self-doubt into confidence," said head women's track and



Coach Sterlin Broomfield, right, with his dad, Alvin Broomfield, left, at the Jingle Bell Run in Wichita, Kansas. Sterlin Broomfield competed in this race when he was a student at Northwestern.

field coach, Jill Lancaster. "He is always willing to listen and adapt to each individual's needs. His commitment to their development and it's clear that his athletes respect him deeply."

### A Team Built on Trust

Two key figures in the Northwestern cross-country and track programs, assistant coach, Emily Flores and head coach, Derick Young Jr., both reflected on Coach Broomfield's evolution as a leader. Flores, who once ran under Broomfield, describes their relationship as athlete and coach as a seamless transition into their current roles as colleagues.

"We clicked right away as athletes and coaches," she said. "Even now, I feel like he's still a dad figure to me, always checking in to make sure I'm doing okay, both personally and professionally."

Flores credits Broomfield with instilling the importance of transparency and discipline. "He was always clear about expectations—whether it was running, grades or personal

development," she said. "He's a big advocate for time management, and I've carried that lesson into my own coaching."

Young, who has worked closely with Broomfield, echoes the sentiment.

"Our success is built on teamwork," he said. "Whether it's managing training loads or strategizing for individual athletes, we're always in sync. It's about collaboration, not competition."

### A Vision for the Future

The collaboration between Broomfield, Flores and Young has been key to the success of the cross-country and track programs.

"The success we're seeing now is just the beginning," Flores said. "We're laying the foundation for even greater things in the future. And it's because of the teamwork, the leadership and the dedication that Broomfield brings every single day."

Broomfield said his ultimate goal remains the same: to create an environment where athletes thrive, both in track and in their lives.

## Track & Field Fun Facts

- The first modern college track meet was held in England
- Track and Field is the oldest sport in the world it was first played in 776 BC
- The shot put was used as a military training exercise to throw rocks
- Tara Davis - Woodhall and husband, Hunter Woodhall both won gold medals in their events at the Olympics and Paralympics in 2024

Information from Flotrack.org, Beakid.com and olympics.com

Graphic by Alli Schieber

# FEATURE

## Personal struggle turned into a passion for fitness

By **INGRID MALDONADO**  
Senior Reporter

While many struggle to go to the gym, Chloe Jordan goes every day of the week, to the workout classes and works out twice per day, but it was not always that way.

Chloe Jordan is 20 years old and she is often seen at the gym. She is involved in many workout classes the Wellness Center has to offer, from cycling class, body burn class and yoga class. Although she attends many of the classes, she also works out outside of those classes.

"I just really like to push myself to see what my body is capable of and to see how hard I can go without hurting myself," Jordan said.

When Jordan is not working out, going to the gym, or going on a run, she is studying to become a certified personal trainer, which is no surprise. She studies online from a tech school. She is almost done and will soon receive her certification.

"I plan to help people learn how to exercise and move efficiently and effectively in the long term," she said.

Jordan has not always worked out. She began coming to the gym last year and overall began working out three years ago.

The reason she started working out is because family members and friends would criticize her body.

"It was hurtful but looking at it now, I'm grateful for it" Jordan said, "Those insults got me to where I am today, and I've never been happier with where my body's at and what I can do."



Photo by Ingrid Maldonado

**Chloe Jordan practices bicep curls with dumbbells at the Wellness Center.**

While Jordan is at the gym, many people recognize her. She often says words of encouragement during the workout classes and is inspiring others to keep going.

Whether she is walking on the track or taking a break between sets, she's always complimenting those around her.

"It's literally God," she said, "I just think I'm here in this class right now, I'm in this space lifting this weight because God gave me a body that works and that I

should take care of," Jordan said.

Jordan is always positive, even when everyone in the class is exhausted and tired.

She stresses the importance of making a choice to be healthy. She sees the impact that each woman makes the choice to go to the classes.

"I just see God in that," Jordan said, "He gave these women the heart to want to go to workout class, to want to challenge themselves and do better."

## 'Elementary': The Sherlock Homes you did not expect

Recently, I've discovered an old television series called "Elementary". It was an American

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**KEVIN  
KAUMANS**

take on the famous British detective, Sherlock Holmes, that ran from 2012 to 2019. The premise was that Sherlock had come to Manhattan after breaking out of a drug rehab in the UK. Dr. Watson, who is played by an Asian woman (trust me, she's an interesting and likable character) is a retired surgeon who gets hired by Sherlock's father to be his sober companion and make sure he doesn't relapse.

While I was skeptical of the premise at first, I soon fell in love with the show, and now believe it to be a better adaptation of Sir Doyle's original idea for the BBC's character "Sherlock".

See, in the BBC version, Sherlock is constantly a bellend who almost never takes responsibility for his wrongdoings. "Elementary's" Sherlock is a nicer and more apologetic.

Sure, Doyle's original Sherlock is also known for being rude and a practical jokester sometimes, but BBC's version makes him an outright sociopath.

Sometimes you wonder why BBC's Watson is still friends with Sherlock. So while yes, "Elementary's" Sherlock is sometimes mean to Joan and plays pranks on her, he has just as many moments where he encourages his apprentice and even apologies when he goes too far, something BBC's

Sherlock would never do.

Another thing I like about "Elementary" is that Sherlock isn't some omniscient demigod that always knows everything about anything. In the pilot episode, he literally tells Joan that not everything can be found out just by looking at a person for a few seconds.

Just like how Doyle's Sherlock sometimes needed Watson's help with a case, the show makes sure that there are plenty of moments where Joan throws her weight around and shoves the case before Sherlock himself can.

Overall, "Elementary" is one of the best adaptations of Sherlock I've ever seen and recommend anyone reading this to watch it.

Even if you're not a fan of the mystery genre, I have faith you will find something about this show to love.

### Microwave creamy chicken noodle soup

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 medium potato, diced
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1/4 cup shredded cheese
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- salt and pepper (measured to taste)
- bacon bits (optional)
- green onions (optional)

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Place diced potato in a bowl with a little water. Microwave for 3 to 4 minutes. Drain water from bowl.
- Add milk, garlic powder, broth, and salt and pepper to bowl. Microwave for 1 to 2 minutes.
- Stir in cheese and microwave for 30 seconds.
- Mash soup slightly for a creamy texture. Add toppings, if desired, and enjoy!

## Embracing patience, relaxing amid the cold

It's currently seven degrees outside, I'm cozied up with all the layers possible, it's gloomy outside and I'm typing this wishing it was sunny and warm.

Does anyone enjoy winter? The trees are all dead, they look like they got electrocuted and lost all life. There is hardly any

sun, and it is usually cloudy or overcast.

I am yearning for warmer days. Days where I can sit outside, read my book and enjoy the sunshine.

It seems as if winter is always teaching me to be patient.

Patience to wait for spring

to arrive. Patience to wait until I can wear less layers. Patience to wait until I can go outside and not shiver.

Patience seems to be one of the main things I lack. Perhaps it is something everyone now is lacking.

We live in a fast-paced society where everything is constantly moving.

Maybe winter is all about patience. Patience waiting for your car to defrost. Patience waiting for the snow to melt. Winter is all about waiting.

While I can go on and on about how I do not like winter, I can instead show my gratitude.

I can look at winter with a different perspective and see the positive. It can be a time for rest.

Winter can be a time to slow down and reflect. The weather causes us to stay indoors, cozy up and read a book.

During this time, I've noticed, since I can't go outside, I've been learning new recipes and baking more often.

During fall, I never had the time to really bake or try new recipes. Fall was like a to-do list that went on forever. From photo sessions, schoolwork and personal life things, it's like I got used to never having a break.

All of a sudden winter is here and I'm forced to slow down. I am not constantly on the go. Winter has been teaching me how to rest again.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Why do we celebrate President's Day?

By SARAH BRASHEARS  
Features Editor

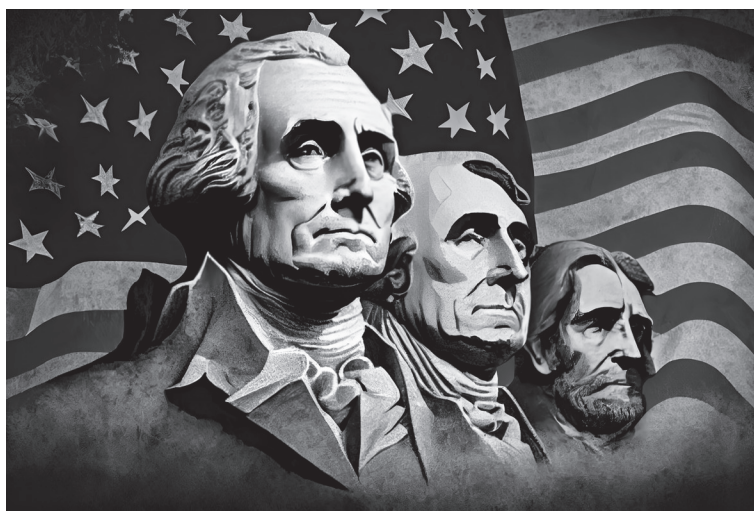
Each year, the third Monday of February marks Presidents' Day, a federal holiday dedicated to honoring the leaders who have shaped the United States.

While many believe this day was established solely to celebrate George Washington, whose birthday falls on February 22, it has since evolved into a day that commemorated all past, present, and future U.S. presidents and their contributions to the nation.

During Washington's lifetime, and even after his passing, Americans informally celebrated his birthday as a tribute to his leadership. In the early 1800s, lawmakers sought to formalize the occasion, leading to February 22 becoming a federal holiday.

This legislation was signed into law by President Rutherford B Hayes, though at the time, it only applied to federal workers in Washington, D.C. Due to growing demand, in 1885, the holiday was extended to include all federal employees across the country.

In 1971, as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, the holiday was moved from Washington's



actual birth date to the third Monday of February. This legislation aimed to create more three-day weekends for American workers and to standardize federal holidays.

While the law was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968, it officially took effect under President Richard Nixon in 1971.

Although the holiday is still officially recognized as Washington's Birthday, over time, it became widely known as Presidents' Day.

This shift was due in part to the proximity of Abraham Lincoln's

birthday on February 12 and the recognition of his contributions, particularly in abolishing slavery.

Over the years, the holiday has evolved into a day to honor all U.S. presidents, celebrating their leadership and impact on the country.

Interestingly, despite its origins in celebrating Washington, the holiday never actually falls on his birthday. Instead, it always occurs between February 15 and February 21. Some states, such as Minnesota, continue to recognize it under different names, including "Washington and Lincoln Day" or simply "Washington's

Birthday."

Presidents' Day serves as a time to reflect on presidential leadership and civic responsibility, both essential to the nation's past and future.

While the holiday is widely recognized for major retail sales, it also includes historical and educational observances. Government offices, banks, and many schools close in observance of the holiday.



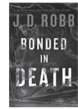





Schools and museums host events highlighting the history and influence of U.S. presidents.

Many Americans use the day to engage in activities that promote civic awareness, such as visiting historical sites, reading presidential biographies, or watching documentaries.

Although the holiday may come and go, the values it represents endure. Americans can celebrate year-round by learning about past presidents, reflecting on qualities of strong leadership, and engaging in community service.

Whether through volunteering, studying history, or simply appreciating the sacrifices made by past leaders, the true essence of Presidents' Day lies in keeping patriotism alive and active.

### NYT Top 10

-  Emptyrean Series  
Rebecca Yarros
-  Deep End  
Ali Hazelwood
-  Bonded in Death  
J.D. Robb
-  The Crash  
Frieda McFadden
-  The Housemaid  
Frieda McFadden
-  Open Season  
Jonathan Kellerman
-  Dream Girl  
Tessa Bailey
-  James  
Percival Everett

### Mug chicken noodle soup

#### INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup chicken broth
- 1/2 cup cooked shredded chicken
- 1/4 cup ramen noodles
- 1/4 cup frozen mixed vegetables
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 1/4 tsp dried thyme
- Salt and pepper

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Cook ramen until noodles are partially soft, but not fully cooked (about 1 minute)
- In a large bowl mix all ingredients
- Microwave for 2-3 minutes until hot.
- Stir and season to taste.

### TALK ABOUT IT THURSDAY

Imagine you're being paid a million dollars to do something you're working on right now. Would your effort and focus change if there was a huge reward?

The truth is, we often underestimate how much motivation can push us to excel. But you don't need a million dollars to

give your best. Recognize that you are capable of bringing that same level of dedication, no matter the reward. This Thursday, ask yourself: If the stakes were that high, how would you act differently? Then, bring that energy to everything you do, because your best work is always worth the effort.

### How to...

## Create cozy study spaces for a freezing, snowy winter day

By SARAH BRASHEARS  
Features Editor

Creating a cozy study space in the small dorm rooms can often seem challenging due to the limited space and potential distractions. However, it can be successful in a few simple ways.

#### Choose the perfect location

Most often, it is chosen to study where there is natural light, so it is an easy, peaceful read. When picking the location for your desk, try to find a window nearby to let natural light in, while also keeping away from any noise distractions. This placement should be away from your bed, removing the temptation to procrastinate and 'tackle it later.'

Since floor space is limited, take advantage of wall shelves and small organizers to keep the space clean and apparent for schoolwork and studying.

If chosen to use a desk as a vanity space, ask your roommate to share the idea. Use one space for getting ready, and the other for studying, each having storage space on the desks to keep your things tidy.

#### Invest in essential furniture

Lighting is important for anytime you are reading. Purchase an affordable desk lamp to brighten the space. Ensure the lamp will take up minor space on

the tabletop but provide enough light to cover the surface.

I recommend the *Mainstays Desk Lamp* that is affordable but provides enough light. These can be found at most any general store, especially Walmart!

A supportive desk chair is also important. Get cushions to provide comfort in the chairs that are provided with the room to offer support on your lower back and posture.

Most any small patio furniture cushion would work for this without breaking the bank.

If you choose to purchase a chair for your room, get a small but cozy one to keep the small space comfortable but productive.

#### Organize your supplies

Use desk organizers to keep all pens, pencils, and highlighters close by. I recommend using a tabletop organizer that holds all writing supplies as well as file organizers for notebooks and binders! These take up minimal space while allowing you to stay organized in your studies.

#### Personalize the space

Use a bulletin board to build a vision board and hang any assignment schedules and due dates on.

This can bring a piece of personality to the space but allow you to prepare for upcoming due dates and tests.

You can also add small plants

or decorative items to make it feel cozier. Grab a blanket, possibly a small pillow to support you, and a cup of coffee to keep the sense of comfort nearby!

#### Get rid of distractions

Put your phone on the other side of the room. As you are studying, take a break from social media and the constant notifications that tempt you to take a quick break that lasts for hours. Also keep any main food or large snacks away. This can cause a bigger distraction than realized.

Keep the space clean and allow yourself to focus on the material rather than eating and having to manage the mess!

#### Optimize productivity

Lastly, get productive! Set a timer to allow yourself to get your work done but not feel stressed about the outside world. I recommend 30-minute intervals with 10-15-minute breaks in between.

This will help keep you on track while preventing burnout and boredom, so you learn more and can keep in contact with your friends!

Once you master this space, you will never want to hike through the snow to the library again!

Don't let the procrastination of studying be the reason your anxiety peaks. Create your space, set a schedule, and have fun!

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# SPORTS

## Small qualifies for NCAA D2

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**  
Sports Editor

Last week, NWOSU's track and field team went to Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas to compete in the Ichabod Invitational.

In the 60-meter men's, Kareem Small placed first overall with a time of 6.75 and made the NCAA D2 qualifying time.

In the 60-meter women's, Diamond Hilton placed twenty-sixth with a time of 7.90.

In the 200-meter men's, Trevor Montanye placed thirty-fourth with a time of 22.6.

In the Women's 200-meter, Diamond Hilton placed twenty-ninth with a time of 26.08.

In the 400-meter men's, Eric Collins placed twenty-third with a time of 50.58.

In the women's, Azucena Carrillo placed thirty-third with a time of 1:04.12.

In the 600-yards, Azucena Carrillo placed eighth with a time of 1:33.02

In the 800-meter men's, Christian Franklin placed forty-fourth with a time of 2:01.66.

In the women's Cadence Long-Torres placed twenty-sixth with a time of 2:29.97.

In the 1-mile, Andrew Scott placed fortieth with a time of 4:37.42.

In the men's 3000-meter, James Fincher placed thirtieth with a time of 8:47.12.

In the Women's Elizabeth Do-

rado-Barrera placed thirty-ninth with a time of 12:23.43.

In the men's 5000-meter, Andrew Scott placed twenty-first with a time of 16:02.05.

In the women's, Jamarie Ross placed twenty-third with a time of 12:23.43.

In the men's high jump, Aiden Kimberlin placed fourth with a height of 1.94 meters.

In the women's, Asia Hicks placed fourth with a height of 1.50 meters.

In the men's long jump, Trejon Crump placed thirty-second with a distance of 6.54 meters.

In the women's Gabriella Hall placed third with a distance of 5.64 meters.

In the men's pole vault, Kaleb Woolery placed fifteenth with a

height of 4.00 meters.

In the women's, Olivia Saner placed tenth with a height of 3.04 meters.

In the men's shot put, Brock Bourgeois placed twentieth with a distance of 13.73 meters.

In the women's, Emmalee Osborn placed thirtieth with a distance of 10.49 meters.

In the men's triple jump, Devin Blackwell placed fifteenth with a distance of 13.57 meters.

In the women's, Harmonie Hughes placed fourth with a distance of 11.69 meters.

In the men's weight throw, Brock Bourgeois placed thirty-second with a distance of 14.23 meters,

In the women's, Kaylan Swindle placed thirty-third with a dis-

tance of 12.51 meters.

The men's 4x400 relays placed thirteenth and sixteenth with times of 3:26.94 and 3:26.54.

Their distance medley placed fifth with a time of 10:28.92.

The women's 4x400 relay placed fifteenth with a time of 4:10.39.

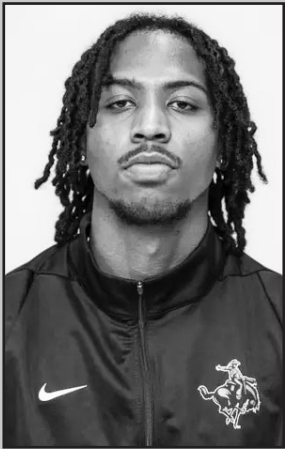
Their distance medley placed seventh with a time of 13:12.78.

The women's track team broke four school records in triple jump, long jump, 5k and the DMR.

Next week, the track and field team will travel to Lincoln, Nebraska to compete in the Nebraska tune-up.

This will be their final meet before they compete in the NCAA DII championship in Pueblo, Colorado on February 28-March 2.

## Athletes share what makes success in track & field



**Jayden Geathers**  
Sprint/Hurdles  
Junior  
Computer Science  
Fortlauderdale, FL

To be a winner on the track you need more than just being fast and strong.

You need have a great mental attitude, because when things aren't going your way a strong mental fortitude can change how you act in different situations.

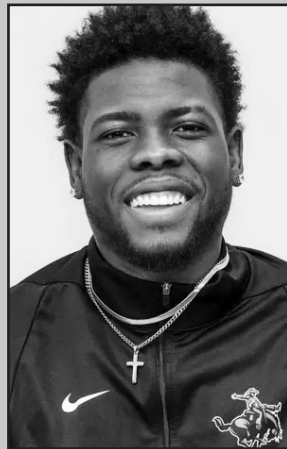
Either for better or for worse so being strong mentally can help you have an edge in the game.



**Wadleigh Valmyr**  
Jumps  
Freshman  
Biology  
Tomarac, Florida

To become a runner have a strong mindset, to push through overcome obstacles also on track you have to maintain of healthy diet and recover.

Also off the track, you must be a student first to be eligible to go to practice and compete at meets.



**Kareem Small**  
Sprint  
Junior  
Business and Accounting  
major, marketing minor  
Kingston, Jamaica

Success in track and field takes discipline, repetition, and confidence.

Motivation gets your started but discipline keeps you going-even on tough days.

A lot of the time you have to make sacrifices and remove distractions that slow your growth.

And you have to believe in yourself because if you don't you've already lost.



**Brianna Brantley**  
Sprint  
Senior  
Nursing  
Amarillo, Texas

I have strong faith in the Lord, you know. I believe that the Lord is the foundation of life and I believe that he died for my sins, so having strong faith has really helped.

Not in track, but in school, but to be a winner.

Having good faith knowing the Lord put you on this earth with the gift and you use that gift for his word.

And I really do think that the lord gave me the gift to run track well, that's the gift he provided me.

## Softball games postponed

On February 17, the NWOSU Softball team was scheduled to play in a double header against Missouri Science & Technology Miners.

The games were scheduled to be played in Neosho, Missouri.

Unfortunately, these games were canceled because of weather. As of now, it is unknown if the two teams will make up these games.

The NWOSU Lady Ranger Softball teams will now look forward to the conference and home opener triple header against the Arkansas Tech Muleriders.

## Zerwin named GAC Golfer of the Week after opener

Sophomore Mathieu Zerwin was named GAC's golfer of the week after their opener last week.

Zerwin opened with 4-over 76 and continued to improve in the second and third round.

He also made two birdies in each of the three rounds.



**Darrienne Thompson**  
Jumps  
Junior  
Chemistry  
San Antonio, Texas

It takes having in faith in God's plan for you to win. Track is a very mental sport and it is easy to get in your head after having a bad performance.

However, trusting in God and His timing for myself helps me to remember that my time will come soon and that I need to be patient.

Our season is pretty long, and I would be rather be at my peak for conference in May.

I also think that being consistent with race times is better than having one good race the whole season and the rest being mediocre.

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# BASKETBALL

## Men begin a losing streak

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**  
Sports Editor

Last week, NWOSU's men's basketball played an away game against the SWOSU Bulldogs and a home game against the OBU Bison. The men are coming off a loss against the Ouachita Baptist Tigers, losing by only one point.

### NWOSU 75-SWOSU 83

The game against SWOSU started off with two free throws for the Bulldogs, making it a 0-2 game.

Cam McDowell responded with a three pointer to take the lead. SWOSU then went on a run to make it 3-8.

The Rangers came back and tied it up at eight. The first half continued to be a close back and forth between the two teams.

After a long period of both teams taking and losing the lead, with two minutes left, the Bulldogs took the lead by five.

The Rangers responded with a layup by McDowell. The Bulldogs shot a three and increased their lead to six, Daraun Clark responded with a three to make the game a two point game at the end of the half.

The start of the second half was slow for the Rangers, and the Bulldogs had an eight-point lead less than two minutes into the half.

The two teams went back and forth once again as the Bulldogs slowly increased their lead during



Photo by Victor Kinzie

**NWOSU Ranger Cam McDowell defends against OBU Bison in home game on Saturday.**

the back and forth.

The Rangers were able to stall them and the score difference was stuck at eight and eleven.

The Rangers were able to shrink their lead to six, but the Bulldogs did not back down. Although NWOSU was able to shrink the opposing teams' lead, they could never take it from them.

SWOSU held onto the lead and increased it once again to eleven with twenty seconds left in the game.

In an attempt to make it look better, Clark hit a three pointer with thirteen seconds remaining

and the game ended 75-83 with an SWOSU win.

### OBU 98-NWOSU 87

The Rangers' next game was against the Oklahoma Baptist University Bison.

The game started with a layup by Max Alexander and a field goal by Kabeya Tshibangu to start the game off on the right foot for the Rangers.

The Bison responded with five points to take the lead from the Rangers.

NWOSU took it right back and had the lead by two. The Rangers increased their lead to six at the fourteen-minute mark in the first

half.

NWOSU held onto that lead, although it shrank. With six minutes left in the half, the Bison took the lead from the Rangers and they ran away with it.

Their lead got to ten before NWOSU reeled them back. At the end of the half, OBU was up 40-34.

The second half started off with OBU running off again. Five minutes into the final half, their lead was at eighteen over the Rangers.

That lead did not shrink for some time, at the nine-minute mark the Bisons' lead was nine-

teen.

The Rangers finally figured out something was wrong and they started to shrink the Bisons' lead. Unfortunately, the Bisons knew what they were doing and didn't let the Rangers shrink their lead too much.

With four minutes left the lead had been more than halved and only eight points separated the two teams.

The lead was shrunk again to five, but the Bison went right back to scoring and increased their lead to thirteen with just over a minute left.

The game ended 98-87 for the Bison and they left Alva as the victors.

Northwestern now sits at the seventh position after losing two games.

They sit under SWOSU, who has the same conference record as the Rangers, overall one less loss.

The Rangers sit above Southern Arkansas, who they play next on February 21 in Magnolia, Arkansas. They will also play against the University of Arkansas at Monticello on February 23 in Monticello, Arkansas.

McDowell currently leads the GAC conference in scoring, with 581 points scored and an average 26.4. Max Alexander sits in third in the GAC conference scoring list, with 503 for himself and an average of 19.2.

## Women fall at home and away

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**  
Sports Editor

The women's basketball team had two games last week. Their away game was first and it was against the SWOSU Bulldogs on February 13 in Weatherford.

### NWOSU 61-SWOSU 78

The game started off being down by ten for the Lady Rangers, and they stayed down hard. The Bulldogs put on a showing against the Lady Rangers in the

opening quarter. Halfway through the first quarter, SWOSU was up by sixteen 5-21. With four minutes left in the quarter, Carly Craig hit a three pointer to shrink the lead to thirteen. At the end of the first quarter, it was apparent who had the upper hand in this game as the score was 8-29 SWOSU.

The second quarter opened with a three pointer by Carly Craig. The Bulldogs seemed to have taken that personally and went on an eleven-point run to

make the difference twenty-nine. Craig hit another three pointer to shrink the lead to twenty-six but the two teams started to go back and forth. With one minute left in the half, Craig hit a field goal and then a three pointer in an attempt to generate momentum. With four seconds left, the Bulldogs responded with a three pointer to make the game at the half 25-50.

The third quarter started off well for the Lady Rangers, and they got five points on the Bulldogs with Jaida Shipp scoring three free throws. SWOSU took the ball and ran with the lead again making the difference twenty-seven. The Lady Rangers took it right back and shrunk it down to seventeen by the end of the third quarter. With the score 46-63 and only ten minutes left the Lady Rangers had a lot of work to do if they were going to be able to bring home the win.

The fourth quarter opened up with the Bulldogs scoring again, and getting their lead to the mid-twenties for most of the final quarter. The Lady Rangers turned it around with four min-

utes remaining and made an effort to bring the difference down, and that they did. They were able to bring the Bulldogs' lead down to fifteen before the Bulldogs scored two more points. The Lady Rangers had a turnover and the Bulldogs waited the clock out to take the win 61-78.

The Lady Rangers' next game was at home against the Oklahoma Baptist Bison.

### OBU 67-NWOSU 51

The game started with eight straight points for the Bison. After that the two teams went back and forth for a while until the Bison took the lead again. They increased their lead to thirteen, but a layup from Kira Bass brought it back down to eleven.

The second quarter started off in a back and forth for the Bison and Lady Rangers. The Bisons' lead had shrunk to seven after two free throws by Payton Jones. Later on, it was shrunk to just six after a three pointer by Carly Craig. The Bison took their large lead back and made it a twelve-point game with twenty-two seconds left in the half. Carly Craig

scored two free throws to bring it down to just ten.

The third half opened with four points for the Bison, but the Lady Rangers fought back and brought the difference down to seven. The Lady Rangers continued to shrink the Bisons' lead and it got down to just four after a three pointer by Craig. The two teams traded free throws and it was a four-point game entering the final quarter.

The Bison decided to not make it a close game at the start of the quarter, and made their lead twelve. The Lady Rangers woke up with half of the final quarter left, and brought the difference to eight. OBU denied the home team the chance to win and created a big gap between them and the Lady Rangers of fourteen. With thirty seconds left, the Bison scored a field goal to extend their lead to sixteen and that was the end of the game 67-51.

The Lady Rangers now sit at sixth in the GAC standings, below SWOSU and above Southern Arkansas, who is their next opponent.

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# SPORTS

## Baseball lose triple header

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**  
Sports Editor

Last week, NWOSU's baseball team had three games against Harding University at a neutral site in Sherman, Texas on February 14-15. The Rangers are coming off a 7-5 loss against New Mexico Highlands University, after beating them three times before.

### HAR 6-NWOSU 1

The first game against the Bison started off slow. The first inning ended 0-0 with Harding leaving one man on base and the Rangers none.

The second inning was the almost identical, as both teams left one man on base.

In the third inning, Harding was out in three. NWOSU had gotten two hits with Jacob Wiltshire sending Chase Gordon home to take the 0-1 lead. The Rangers left one man on base at the end of the third.

In the fourth, the Bison took the lead with a triple homerun making it 3-1, leaving one man on base. The Rangers were out in just three batters.

The fifth inning was a short one, as both teams did not score any points. The sixth inning was the same story, no points for either team.

In the seventh, Harding hit a single homerun to extend their lead to three. NWOSU failed to respond in the bottom of the seventh.

In the top of the eighth inning, the Bison continued their momentum and scored a single run to make it a 5-1 ballgame. The Rangers failed to respond again in the bottom of the eighth.



Photos by Megan Spray

NWOSU's Dawson Toborg pitching to Chase Gordon in the first game of three against Harding University in Sherman, Texas on February 15.

In the final inning, Harding didn't stop their momentum and scored one more run to make the difference five. With one final chance, the Rangers failed to execute and lost the first of three games 6-1.

### HAR 3-NWOSU 0

The second game against Harding was later the same day.

The first inning opened with Harding scoring a run to take the early lead of 1-0 and left one run-

ner on base.

The Ranger's opening inning did not go as well, as they were out in three batters and had no runs.

The next inning was scoreless, Harding leaving one man on base and NWOSU leaving two on base.

The third inning was just as high scoring as the last, as there were no runs made for either team. The Bison left three men on

base and NWOSU one.

The fourth inning was also scoreless for both teams, with NWOSU being the only team having a man on base.

In the fifth, the Bison had hit a double homerun to increase their lead to three. The Rangers were not able to respond and left two men on base.

In the sixth inning both teams were out without any hits or runs. The seventh was the same, with no runs being scored.

The game ended after the seventh inning with a Harding victory of 3-0.

### HAR 12-NWOSU 7

The third and final game against the Harding Bison was the next day on the fifteenth.

The opening inning started with two runs for the Bison. The Rangers did not score in the first.

In the second, Porter Pittman hit a double to left field to bring Colby Grace home. Zach Vetal hit a single with an error from Harding and that sent Pittman home to tie the game.

In the third, Chad Green hit a single to send Connor Green home and take the lead.

Pittman struck out but reached first due to an error by the Bison, which also send Hagen Barcello and Chad Green home to extend their lead and make it a 2-5 game.

In the fourth, Harding hit a single homerun and shrunk the Rangers' lead.

The fifth inning was scoreless

for both teams.

In the sixth Harding hit a single into center field to sent a runner home and make it a one run game.

In the seventh, the Bison scored six runs, four of those being a grand slam and took the lead by five with a score of 10-5.

In the eighth, Harding hit another homerun but this one only being a single. They also hit a single to send one runner home and made the difference six.

Down by seven in the bottom of the ninth, the Rangers had a lot of work to do if they were going to win the final game of the series.

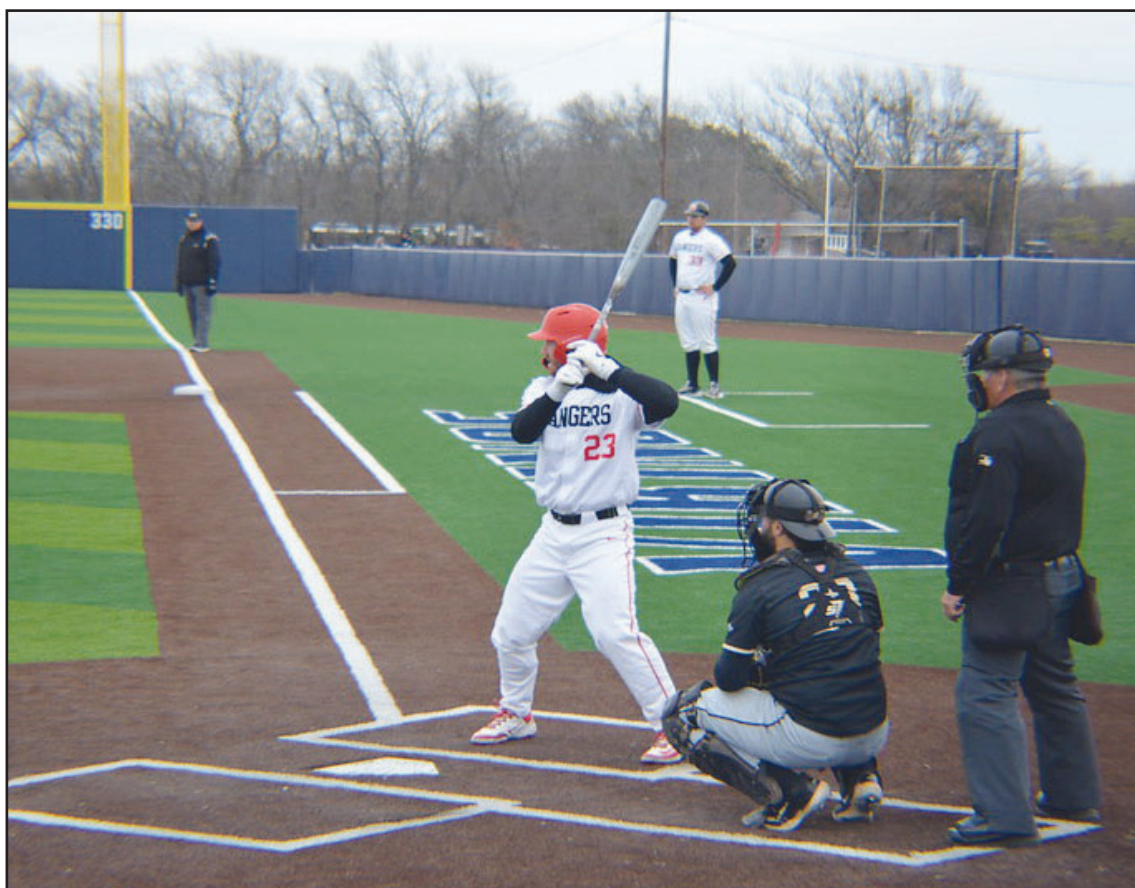
Chase Gordon hit a single to center field and they had a man on base. Dylan Bradford hit a single to right field.

Connor Green hit a double to center field and sent Bradford and Gordon home, and that was all the Rangers had.

The third and final game against the Bison ended 12-7 and the Rangers come home without a win against Harding.

The NWOSU Ranger Baseball team currently sit eleventh out of twelve in the GAC standings, only on top of Southern Nazarene.

On February 21-22 they will go to Russellville, Arkansas to play three games against Arkansas Tech University and on Feb 25, they will be at home against Rogers State University.



NWOSU Ranger Harley Shaffer up to bat in conference opener against Harding University.