

NEWS

WHAT'S UP

September 10-16

10

- OBI Blood drive 10 am- 3 pm
- Writer's Roundtable Meeting VH 200 5-6 pm

12

- Heartland BEST Robotics Kickoff 2026 Fellers Family Auditorium 8 am-2 pm

14

- Intramural Kickball Tournament Intramural field 6-9 pm
- BCM Fresh Monday Ranger Room 8-9:30 pm

15

- W or F issued on dropped 1st Eight-week classes
- Constitution Day Ranger Room 11 am-1 pm
- Annual Meeting of NWOSU Foundation/Alumni Ranger Room 4-6 pm

16

- Intramural Kickball Tournament Intramural field 6-9 pm
- BCM Worship Ranger Room 7:30-9:30 pm

25 years since 9/11

By JESSICA SCHIEBER
News Editor

It has been 25 years since the attacks on 9/11 have happened. It has been something that has changed the world forever, not just America.

It would be an injustice to not talk about this event and go over it like it seems everyone else does.

There are families that still feel the pain and hurt of what happened.

There are still people who never get to see their family because of the event.

I have talked in a pervious year about how Gen Z making fun of the 9/11 attacks is harmful, but now with even younger kids doing it there appears to be a gap in how it is perceived.

Children these days are desensitized to the horrors of what happened during that time.

Many may have grown up watching videos of the towers falling, like myself. While these videos haunt me still to this day, others seem to be able to just laugh it off.

Maybe joking is how they respond to traumatic experiences, but what about the kids who just see the jokes online and make them when they don't understand what has happened to these families?

Are we so desensitized that

now we can't even take a moment to realize that somethings just aren't meant to be the end of jokes?

How do we help make people understand that there is no joking matter when it comes to this?

Maybe there is no way to. Maybe we are already becoming so grown apart from it that to them it's just another day.

Could it be that in 25 years people have forgotten what happened?

While the event took place in the United States, the effects were on everyone.

It was a devastation that haunts many people, yet others just laugh and make jokes about it.

One of the effects that happened because of the event is the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

It's crazy to think that before 9/11 things were a lot different in airports and airport safety.

TSA was created to take federal control of airport security, baggage screening, and passenger checks.

Another change is the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) it was formed to coordinate national security and protect against future domestic threats.

Now the One World Trade Center stands at the rebuilt site. The building opened in 2014. It is a 1,776-foot skyscraper.

The exact spot the towers once stood is now a museum and memorial site.

One thing that can be contributed to the attacks that no one is really thinking about is how much we consume.

Consumerism was encouraged after 9/11 because the need for an economy was greater at the time.

Now American's are still consuming, more than what anyone probably should. We are constantly looking at shops on websites, in stores, or ads for shops on our social media accounts.

This might not be directly connected to what happened but I still think there is some merit to it and I want to check it out more.

What made America into the consumer country that it is, and what effects does that have on not only us but the younger generations?



AMERICA WAS NOT BUILT ON FEAR. AMERICA WAS
BUILT ON COURAGE, ON IMAGINATION AND AN
UNBEATABLE DETERMINATION TO DO THE JOB AT
HAND.
— Harry S Truman

Spanish: lasting effects on Alva

By ALLISON RUWALDT
Senior Reporter

Continued from Page 1

He suggested she wait until the Spring semester to complete the classes, but then he was informed about her true situation and began working on other options for her.

"There's that side of it, where it's like, what do you mean my classes are canceled I didn't know. What's this gonna mean," said Carr. "But like the other side is that Dr. Vest dropped off the face of the Earth, and I've been taking Spanish classes with him for four years, and now he's just gone?"

Students expressed frustration about the way they were informed about the change.

Carr said that she was informed only ten days before the semester began by an email, say-

ing the class was canceled, but there were no details about the situation.

Many students felt hurt by this because of the positive effect that the former Spanish professor had on them.

"It is ridiculous how they handled it," said Andrea Rosas, a junior at NWOSU. "There needs to be better student- professor communication."

Carr spoke positively about how Robert Vest, the former Spanish professor, would often teach classes even for just one student if he or she needed it.

He would also do court interpreting for those who did not speak English.

Losing him not only impacts the campus, but the community.

The staff is also concerned about the changes and their effect on a well-rounded education. Without the Spanish program, the campus offers no foreign lan-

guages.

This disadvantages language and arts programs, as well as those who may work with Spanish-speaking people someday.

"I think I'm a little concerned because it causes a disruption in the liberal arts curriculum," said Vaughn. "Foreign language is an essential part of a good liberal arts education."

The administration is working to get Spanish classes started for those enrolled and shares the concern about the students' education.

Though this was not a choice they wanted to make, they are working with students to ensure they are not disadvantaged.

"We're aware that this is a concern; we're aware that it did cause a disruption for students," said Vaughn. "But we are taking steps as quickly as we can to remedy the situation."

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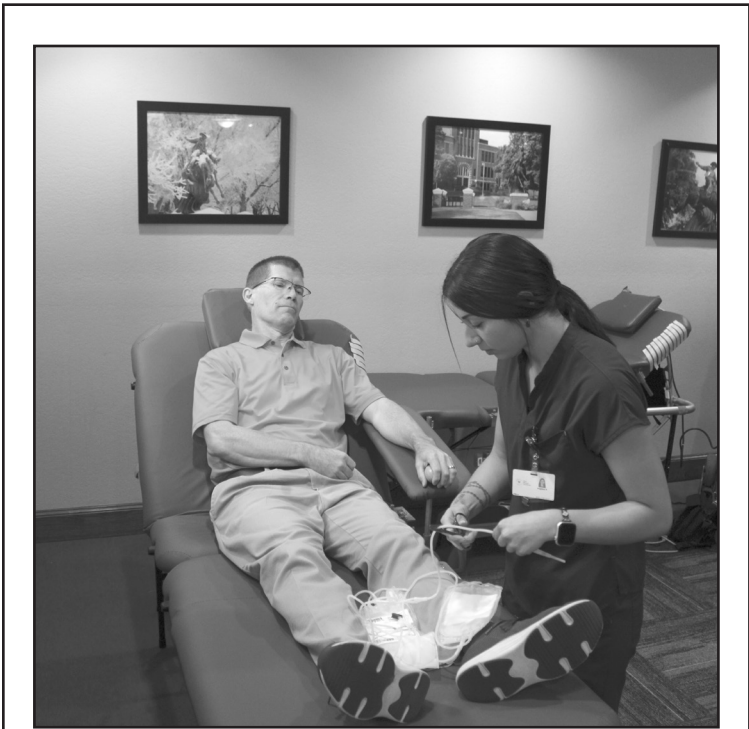


Photo by Oaklee Fielder

Dr. Tim Maharry prepares to give blood at the Oklahoma Blood Institute blood drive in the Ranger Room on Wednesday morning.



Photo by Victor Kinzie

Students walking around during the Education Career Fair that took place September 8. The event took place in the Student Center Ballroom from 11 a.m to 1 p.m.

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MOS: Changes for campus

By **JOHN STOWERS**
Design and Photo Editor

Returning Northwestern Oklahoma State University students feel positive about the direction the university is headed.

The university has gone through a few changes since the end of last year.

The biggest and most obvious change being the Ament Hall renovation, but there have also been a few staffing changes and new technologies being implemented across campus. Returning Northwestern students were asked for their opinion on how campus runs and looks with these changes and the feedback was mostly positive.

“I think campus has improved,” said Brock Bourgeois, a junior Computer Science major from Pratt, Kansas. “They’ve made improvements like security cameras that help with safety, and they’re working on improving Ament. This is my third year here and I can just see improvements beginning to show up throughout campus.”

Another student, Kellen Fischer, a senior Computer Science major from Enid, said that he hasn’t noticed much of a change.

“It feels mostly the same. There have been some things moved around, some new things or [new] appearances. I work at the caf [eteria], and they’ve had a number of new people in, and they’ve done some things differently than how we did in the past, but I think it’s mostly for the better. That has been interesting to get used to but for the most part I’d say it’s the same if not a little better.”

Some students, however, said that, while campus was doing a good job, there was still room for improvement.

“I think the ticketing could be a little better on Coronado’s parking lots and stuff,” said Keedan Allenbach, a senior Biology and Health Sciences major from Fargo. “I’ve seen people park there really sketchily. I think that’s something that could be done a little better.”

John Jones, a sophomore Piano major from Arapaho, said that

there should be more communication between maintenance, administration and students.

“The only thing I wish would change would be... a little update when things are down. I feel like we’re not kept up to date on things [as students]. Like yesterday I had no idea that the library was out. I didn’t know that until I walked up and saw the sign that was on the door, and it would’ve saved me time. Granted, probably not a lot of time, but I can imagine people living off campus, who need to go to the library for something, drive all the way on campus and see that the library’s AC is out and they’re not open ... I didn’t see an email about that. And sometimes they do a really good job of [letting students know], and then sometimes they don’t.”

Overall, campus seems to be doing well, or even better than last year according to some students, despite the changes in educational and administrative staff and changes to the living situation for most students.

MOS: A fresh opinion of campus

By **JOHN STOWERS**
Design and Photo Editor

Freshman students are happy they picked Northwestern Oklahoma State University as their first university, while transfer students are happy they made the switch.

With fall classes having started almost four weeks ago, Northwestern freshmen were asked to give their opinions on how their very first university experience is going. The feedback was extremely positive, with few students saying that campus should change anything.

“I think the academics are wonderful,” said Ralph “David” McFadden, a Media and Com-

munications major from Pond Creek. “I love just about all of my classes, and I’m enjoying them. Even though it’s only like two or three weeks in, I still enjoy them. I think [campus] is nice. I think it looks great, I think it runs pretty good. I like the fact that students can get hired on as faculty. It’s pretty nice. Pretty good campus. Any issues that I had were addressed almost immediately.”

Another freshman had a similar opinion about campus.

“I enjoy it a lot,” said Hailee Brown, an Elementary Education major from Jetmore, Kansas. “Very nice people here, very clean campus, which I like because there are a lot of campuses that are very gross, but no I really enjoy being here. I have a lot of good classes, a lot of teachers that help. At least these teachers get on a one-on-one basis, like they know your name. A lot of teachers from back home didn’t even care about your name. At least these professors are very caring, and they will help you a lot, which is great.”

Some freshmen even cited Northwestern’s small size and simplicity for why they like this campus.

“I actually really like it, because I’ve found that it takes me exactly five minutes to get to pretty much anywhere, which is nice because if I’m running late then I won’t end up being that late, and I know where everything is now and it’s really easy to remember,” said Kelsey Armstrong, a Biology major from Waukomis. “Since I went to Waukomis, this is really nice because I went to a super small school, so this is like

a college version of that. The only thing I didn’t know where it was was Carter Hall, but then I just looked at the map. But ... now I know what routes to take.”

A transfer student even said that this campus was a direct upgrade to his previous one.

“I really think it’s just an upgrade,” said Maro Egodotaye a senior Health and Sports Science major from, Dayton Ohio. “My main thing was somewhere that has good resources. The school [Midway University, Kentucky] was nice, it was cool, I liked it, but I just felt like I needed somewhere that was better, and where the people cared more about the students and stuff like that. We have a good weight room, the training room is really nice, we have a lot of stuff in there that I didn’t have at the last school. Everybody knows each other here because it’s a small city, it’s just a nice community, I just like it overall and I just feel like it’s an upgrade from my last school.”

The only thing that anyone said to change about campus was the Wi-Fi and air conditioners.

“Right now, I feel like maybe get some better wi-fi, make sure all the air conditioning is working,” said Egodotaye. “It’s pretty good though. Most of it’s pretty good. My power hasn’t gone out — some of my teammates’ has, but it hasn’t happened to me yet. But I like my dorm, I like the space that I have, and the bathrooms are clean, and yeah, I really don’t have much to complain about.”

Whatever choice they made it seems like NWOSU was the right one.



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FEATURES

Meet the NWN News Staff

By ALLISON RUWALDT
Senior Reporter

My name is Allison Ruwaldt, and I'm a junior Media and Communications major. Usually, I spend my time working at Walmart, playing with my dog or hanging out with my chosen family.

I was born in Springfield, Missouri, but moved to Southlake, Texas, when I was around one. We moved again when I was four, but I'll always have fond memories of my daycare and my family's old trailer home.

I lived in Alice, Texas, for seven years after that. My elementary years were spent deep in South Texas, where I gained a love for Mexican food and a passion for helping others.

By TIERRA GREEN
Photographer

Hi! I am Tierra Green, I am a freshman here at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. I'm originally from Austin, Texas and was blessed to receive an offer for the Northwestern Track and Field team. I've ran sprints since the 8th grade and track has taught me how to balance both my life and my academics while being a student athlete. In my free time I enjoy watching musicals, listening to jazz or soul music, walking, and hanging out with my family. Adjusting to the college life has been a bit stressful, as it can be for every freshman. But by joining clubs and hanging out with my friends balancing this new way of my everyday schedule has become a lot easier. I have learned so much about myself and others within just three weeks of being a student here at NWOSU. I enjoy getting to know people, creating

By VICTOR KINZIE
Advertisement Manager/
Photographer

Hello, my name is Victor, and I will be your photographer and your ad manager for the Northwestern News.

Here's a little about me. I was born in Russia and then came to America. We then moved to Germany and lived over there for a while (about 11.5 years). I have traveled the world and have been to about 33 countries to include Vietnam, Kenya, Bulgaria, Sweden, and more.

I graduated high school in Germany in the class of '23. Most of my schooling was in Germany. From the third grade to my senior grade in high school, I was in Germany. We moved back to the U.S. in June of 2024. My family currently lives in Edmond.

My major is Health and Sports Science and Education. I want

In Alice and surrounding towns, the unhoused population was noticeable, and my mom would always encourage us to come with her to bring food to them and donate things. She instilled in me at a very young age that you never know what people are going through.

Her determination to help people inspired me to help those who do not have a voice. My dad, as a pastor, always taught me to care for others and stand by my convictions. In journalism, I get the chance to bring light to issues that otherwise would go unseen, and I always thank my parents for instilling a sense of justice in me.

When I was 11, my family moved to Alva, Oklahoma. Going from Alice to Alva was a big culture shock to me, but eventually I adapted, and it became home. In

new memories by capturing them which is why I wanted to join the newspaper.

I've done photography for about 7 years now and it's something that I've always enjoyed. The more I did it the more I started to appreciate the art. It's always been something that I would look to express myself in a way whether that's through the depth in photos, angles, or even the expressions shown in pictures. In Highschool I my focus was sports media. As a fellow athlete I feel like I'm able to understand and show some sort of emotion through my photos. Sports photography has also allowed me to capture moments that are often missed or overlooked.

I'm excited to take on this new journey of joining the Northwestern Newspaper staff because I'm able to showcase students' crafts in the classroom and within extra-curriculars. This new experience allows me to capture and tell student athletes stories through my

to become a physical education teacher and work in the country of Bahrain.

My favorite hobbies include coding, flying, studying physics, photography and more. My passion for flying came when I was a young. I started taking an interest in studying aviation and physics. I am currently learning theoretical physics.



my senior year of high school, I decided I wanted to stay in Alva and go to NWOSU. My main reason was that both my sisters were going to school there as well. One was in high school, and the other was attending NWOSU.

However, in my sophomore year, my family moved back to Texas, and my main reason for staying was gone. I contemplated transferring to a different college, but the more I thought about it, the more it became clear that staying in Alva would be the best for me. Although my biological family was gone, I still had roots here and many relationships that feel like family.

Writing was never something I originally saw myself doing. In high school, I had seen all the TikToks of people making fun of Mass Com. students, so I did not

even consider the major. However, after I had switched majors twice, I decided to try it and instantly fell in love. I have never been the loudest or most outspoken person, but getting the chance to write for the paper has helped me do things I never thought I could.

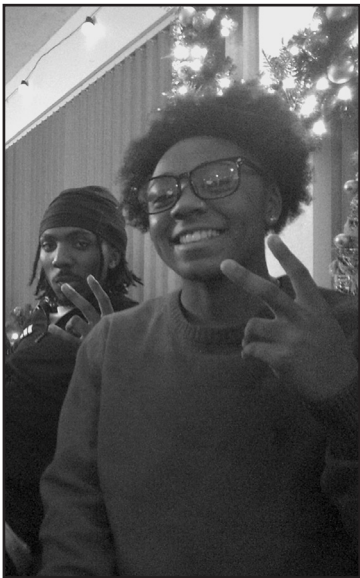
I tend to stay in the shadows as an introvert and photography allows me to express my photos from behind the scenes. Every event I learn more about other sports and my fellow student athletes that I walk the halls with every day. A major adjustment for me has been stepping out and learning how to tell these stories to express different sports and the challenges they go through on game day, within the classroom, and even during club events such as BSU.

I major in Media and communications. My goal is to take on Sports media and possibly one day get into taking photos for huge organizations. I've already been given so many opportunities that I think will help me get to that point eventually, but if all fails I'm joining the Military!

I am excited to embark on this journey as a ranger and help the school be more connected through my photography. Photography isn't just about taking

I first started learning physics when I was in the seventh grade with general physics and general theory of relativity. When I was in the eighth grade, I also started studying quantum mechanics and quantum theory.

images for me it's about telling the story, and I am excited to tell each and every sport, club, and ranger events that occur here at Northwestern. I cannot wait to be actively involved in everyone's journey here whether that's on the court or on the field. I am honored to capture the memories that will be shared here through my lens.



I started taking an interest in photography when I was in the ninth grade. I am currently still learning how to take photos and edit. I have worked with Northwestern News for about 2 years now, and I am currently a junior.

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FEATURES

Suicide prevention month

By **SHEALYN PRATT**
Features Editor

CONTENT WARNING: The following article discusses suicide and may contain distressing content. If you or someone you know is considering suicide, help is available. Call, text, or chat 9-8-8 anywhere within the United States to reach the National Suicide Prevention Hotline.

As we continue this transition period at the university, it is important to recognize concerning behaviors within ourselves. Many of us are away from home for the first time, facing academic stress and more. The anxiety and stress that come with being a college student can feel overwhelming.

A recent National College Health Risk Behavior Survey

found that 10.3% of college students reported that they seriously considered suicide in the past 12 months, with college-age men being four to six times more likely to carry out their plans.

September is Suicide Prevention Month. This is a time to share resources, raise awareness and reduce the stigma associated with mental health.

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month was first officially declared in September 2008.

We continue to recognize September as a time to raise awareness for mental health. Yet, conversations regarding mental health and suicide are still too often met with silence or shame.

In the United States alone, 13.9 million adults had serious thoughts of suicide during 2025.

This is separate from the 4.9 million adults who made a suicide plan and the 2.3 million who attempted suicide that year.

So, how can you help someone who may be suicidal? Simply be there. Smile as you scoot past someone waiting in line at the Student Center. If you find yourself walking near someone in the halls of Jesse Dunn, ask them how they are doing. Keep the surprise to yourself, if someone answers with more than an “I’m fine,” when you ask them how they are.

It is so easy to forget to be truly present when you’re trying to remember to do assignments, keep up with practice and meeting schedules, feed yourself, rest, maintain a social life, take care of your body, talk to your mom, work and study. Despite it being

easy, September is the perfect time to be vigilant about your presence.

If you or someone you know is having a hard time mentally, there is help available on campus or online. If a nonemergency immediate response is required and you are on campus, contact NWOSU campus police at (580)216-7347 or contact Leah Brady, MSW, LCSW, director of Counseling Services. You can schedule a counseling appointment, free of charge for all current students, on Northwestern’s official website.

TimelyCare is another way that Northwestern students can find help. TimelyCare is a virtual health and well-being platform for students. It is accessible through the app or online and is also free of charge for current students. TimelyCare provides 24/7

services, whether it be for mental or physical health concerns. TimelyCare gives you the ability to choose from a variety of medical professionals and offers the option to text, call or zoom with your provider based on what is most comfortable for you.

Help is always available.

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- BARACK OBAMA

”

Controversy at Michigan football leads to confusion

By **JESSICA SCHIEBER**
News Editor

College football games are an American favorite pass time. So many fans sit together, or alone, in front of a screen or at a game and they cheer for their favorite college teams. With the start of the college season there were many great games, but there was one game that left many wondering “what’s going on?”

The game that I’m going to talk about today is Michigan vs Western Michigan.

The teams played on Saturday and Michigan got away with

fans are calling a “sketchy win.” Michigan ended up winning in a 13-12 scoring game. Some people are even calling the game rigged after watching the win.

This win came down to the clock, literally. At the end of the game Michigan’s quarterback, Bryce Underwood, launched the ball and it went out of the back of the end zone.

Western Michigan, believing they had won, began to celebrate however Michigan’s coach said there was still time on the clock, when everyone else’s clocks had the time as 0 he had his as 1. Officials determined that there was one second remaining on the

clock when the ball was thrown.

Many have asked “but what if it was the other way around? Would Western Michigan get that second chance?” The short answer is probably not. Western Michigan isn’t as big as Michigan is and so the complaint probably would have just been ignored.

This allowed Michigan on more play. Underwood was able to get the ball to J.J. Buchanan for the game-winning score.

The question that fans are asking now is “why weren’t the clocks equal?” What should have been the end of the game has now turned into controversy, one that Michigan should be weary of.

If this is how the team is going to play this season than it is going to leave many fans feeling disappointed and wronged. A game shouldn’t be won by ref calls, all fans agree on that.

Even more disappointing that fans stormed the field after Michigan won. A game that was set for a win, a game that should have been a win, a game no one was expecting to be as close as it was, and fans stormed the field.

Michigan is set to play Oklahoma University Saturday, September 12. Speculations have it that there is a chance that Michigan tries to pull off a similar stunt with the Sooners. If this happens

than there will be no denying that Michigan is playing a dirty game.

Teams go through rough patches, but to argue over one second so they can win a game they were favored to win is a low that should make the team question their staff.

If a team can’t accept a loss than maybe the staff needs to make adjustments within it. However, I am not a coach, and I certainly don’t have enough knowledge to make that call.

OU Sooners won their first game 51-0 on Friday. The team is looking good for the season and are sure to be ready for Michigan when Saturday comes around.

ENTERTAINMENT

‘Wolves and lambs’, a short story

By **KEVIN KAUMANS**
Entertainment Editor

Two men walk into a night-club. One is a young man with freckles, wearing a white light-weight jacket with flat buttons on the left-hand side. The other was an older man in his early thirties. He was both tall and handsome, complemented with an athletic build.

His body was a work of art; his muscles were visible beneath his wine-red dress shirt. His black slacks were lined perfectly, not an inch too short, not an inch too long. His black dress shoes were made with real cow leather shipped over from Rome.

The two men had never met before tonight. The young man had just turned twenty, studying abroad from Denver. He was going into anthropology and aiming for his Masters. He did not go out often, preferring to lock himself away in his private dormitory to focus on his studies.

The older man, on the other hand, was a lover of the night life. For the last ten years, he’s frequented every club in Glasgow, drinking and indulging in every substance known to man. He gossiped with socialites, blended in with the hosts, charmed the dancers into coming home with him, and could command attention in any room he walked into.

No one knew his name, nor where he was from. He spoke with a conservative RP dialect, his voice deep and confident. His English was perfect with every syllable that left his mouth, as though each word was rehearsed.

The two men walked up to the club’s pub area. The young man ordered a can of cheap beer after a few seconds of slightly scanning the menu. The older man signaled to the bartender, ordering his usual. The bartender made the older man’s drink first, grabbing a martini glass and fixing up a Death in the Afternoon.

The two men didn’t notice each other at first; they were sitting two seats away from each other at the bar, their attention on their drinks. The older man was the first to turn and look at the other.

The younger man was looking down at his drink, his face somber and stressed. The older man stood up and grabbed his drink before approaching him from behind.

“Waiting for someone?” he asked.

The young man spun around, his eyes wide as the taller man stepped closer. “I ... what?” the younger man asked, his voice soft and meek.

“You’ve been sitting there looking at your drink for ten minutes now. Are you expecting someone?”

The younger man shifted in his

seat, forcing an awkward smile. “O-oh, no, nothing like that. I’m just ... trying to relax.”

“You don’t look relaxed.” The older man said, sipping his drink. “Come on now, out with it.”

The young man looked up at him, confused.

The older man waved his free hand dismissively. “Relax mate, I’m not fishing for gossip. I just want to help out a fellow man.”

He sat at the stool next to him. “You have a name?”

The younger man looked at him nervously. His drink was still tightly clutched in his hands when he finally answers. “Tanner.”

The older man extended his hand to him. “Arthur.” It wasn’t his real name; he had a fake name for every club he went to. But the poor anxious man didn’t need to

Arthur walked to where Tanner was sitting, leaning his head down until their faces were level. “Is the noise too much for you?” “Kinda, yeah.”

The older man took out his wallet, putting his money on the pub table. “Let’s go back to my house. I just got off the phone with my friends. They want to bring some girls over. Maybe you can find yourself a new bird to love.”

Tanner’s eyes widened. “Wha — seriously?! You’re not messing with me, are you?”

“I’m serious.” Arthur said, his voice rising slightly in an exaggerated tone. “You look like you could use a night to relax.” He pulled out his phone, unlocking the screen. “Besides, I’m about to order a ride home anyway so I

“I’m serious, you look like you could use a night to realx. Besides, I’m about to order a ride home anyway.”
-Arthur

know that.

Tanner hesitated, but eventually reached out in turn to shake his hand.

“There we go! That’s a lad!” Arthur chirped, leaning forward in his seat. “So, what’s been putting you down?”

Tanner sighed, chugging his beer. “I broke up with my girlfriend last week.”

Arthur chuckled. “Ah, that explains it. Most guys your age are usually more comfortable in places like this unless they come alone. Still can’t get over her?”

“No, no, it’s not that. Trust me, I’m glad to finally have her out of my life.”

“Oh? Why are you alone then? Where are your friends?”

Tanner turned his head, sipping his drink.

Arthur tilted his face sideways. “Hm? Am I upsetting you? I can leave if you want.”

He stood up to leave. Tanner raised his head. “Wait.”

Arthur went still.

Tanner took in a deep breath. “I don’t have any friends. I’ve spent my entire life locked away in my parents’ house. M-my ex ... she was the first person I ever opened up to. I ... don’t really get out much.”

can set up the drinks before they arrive. You can help me.”

Tanner looked at his drink, his eyes glancing over at the money on the table. He downed his drink, putting the empty can aside. “Sure. Why not?”

Arthur nodded, putting a hand around the younger man’s shoulder. The contact only lasted a few seconds, but there was something reassuring, almost affectionate about the touch that put Tanner’s mind at ease. “That’s a lad. Don’t worry, I’ll take good care of you.”

The older man led him out of the club doors and towards his car, a dark-red Bentley, fitted with brown leather seats and gems that must have cost tens of thousands of dollars. Arthur opened the passenger door for Tanner before sitting down in the driver’s seat.

The car reached the east end of the city before Arthur finally made a turn into the driveway. The two-story house was made out of a beautiful black wood that complemented the dark forest off in the distance behind. Tanner followed him up the steps of the front porch, watching as the older man unlocked the door and ushered him inside.

Arthur took his suit jacket off. “The liquor cabinet is in the

kitchen. Help yourself.”

“Thanks.” Tanner said, putting his jacket on the coat hanger next to Arthur’s. The young man explored the house as Arthur went to his bedroom to change. He found himself a bottle of Fireball and poured himself a drink. Arthur had at this point returned from his bedroom, replacing his fancy dress shirt for a gray turtleneck. He watches as Tanner fixes his drink, leaning against the marble table.

Tanner walked over to the table, checking the time on his phone. “When will your friends be here?”

“Hmmm ... I’d say about twenty-to-thirty minutes.” Arthur replied softly, getting some ice out of the freezer for his own glass. “They live all the way on the oth-

the older man couldn’t see his expression. “I guess I’m tired of feeling like a loser every day. It feels like every guy in my classes except me is talking with their friends about how many parties they’ve been to or how many girls they’ve slept with. I just ... it’s kinda pathetic, you know? Being in your twenties and still a virgin. A-at least, that’s what I feel like everyone is saying behind my back.”

Arthur watched the younger man sit down on the couch, rubbing his head. Though he’d never say it, a sharp pain would always sprout in his chest whenever he came across people like Tanner; young, innocent, untouched by the horrors of the world. He could always spot one a mile away at any club he went to. They were the most trusting, the easiest for all the degenerates of the nightlife crowd to take advantage of.

He’d witnessed it happen many times, even participated once in while. It was a perversely beautiful thing, watching them break, for them to realize how disgusting humans were as a whole, for them to have their eyes opened to the true nature of man when he is given the option to enact his will on others.

As he felt his legs move to approach Tanner from behind, the pain in his chest intensified. It turned into a deep, throbbing pain that made it feel as though his own heart was about to explode. But the older man persisted, edging closer. He already knew what needed to be done to make the pain stop.

Reaching into his robe pocket and pulling out a cream-colored scarf, Arthur spoke in a soft, nurturing tone. “Love?”

Tanner turned his head. Arthur lunged forward, wrapping the scarf around the skinnier man’s neck. He then grabbed onto both ends and pulled, squeezing the air out of him. Tanner struggled against him, attempting to twist out of his grip. But Arthur stood his ground, keeping his feet planted in place.

After a few minutes, Tanner’s body gave out, dropping to the floor. Arthur crouched down, checking his pulse. He reached out to Tanner’s eyes, closing them. There was something peaceful about the final hour of life. No matter how painful someone’s last moments are, the end result is almost always the same.

Gently, Arthur picked up Tanner’s arms and dragged him back onto the couch. After making sure the young man was sitting properly upright, he sat himself down next to him. Arthur ran his fingers through Tanner’s hair, stroking him. He laid the younger man’s head on his shoulder, looking up at the ceiling. Arthur took in a deep breath and closed his eyes, going to sleep.

SPORTS

Volleyball wins GAC opener

Volleyball schedule

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**
Editor-in-Cheif

Lady Ranger volleyball won three games, including their conference opener, and lost two over the last week, giving them a 5-5 record to start 2026.

The Lady Rangers traveled to Las Vegas, New Mexico to play in the Meadow City Classic against three New Mexico teams and one team from the Great American Conference.

Eastern New Mexico University was the first opponent for Northwestern, they defeated ENMU in a five-set 3-2 win.

The first and final sets were the closest set of the match between the Greyhounds and Lady Rangers. Set one finished with a NWOSU victory 25-20. Northwestern won the second set, but dropped sets three and four. In set five, the Lady Rangers took the win by four points 15-11.

Kaylah Thomas had 15 kills and six digs. Jady Padilla had 11 digs and four assists. Ivanny Blackwood had eight kills and three blocks.

Game two in the desert for the Lady Rangers did not go as well. They lost to New Mexico Highlands 1-3. Although it was a loss, all the sets were closely battled, with none of them ending with more than 9 points separating the two teams.

NM Highlands won sets one and two, then dropped the game-winning set to Northwestern. The Lady Rangers won set three by five points. Highlands then took set four 25-16, giving them the win over the Lady Rangers.

Blackwood had eight kills and five blocks. Padilla had 15 digs, five assists and three aces. Thomas had eight kills, 11 digs and one ace.

The third game was against Southeastern Oklahoma State University. This game provided an early look into conference play for both teams. The Lady Rangers won the game three sets to two.

Game three went back and forth between the two teams. Set one went to Northwestern, set two went to Southeastern. They traded



Photo by Tierra Green

Lady Ranger Celia Mbaya jumps to hit the ball on Tuesday against ECU.

sets until set five, where the Lady Rangers won the game-winning set by two points.

Blackwood had the most kills with 13. Tess De Zanet had 12 kills, eight digs and five blocks. Padilla had 13 digs and three aces.

The final game in New Mexico was a quick one, with the Lady Rangers being shut out by Western New Mexico. Northwestern was unable to score more than 17 points in the three sets that were played, and WNMU took a decisive victory over the Lady Rangers.

De Zanet led NWOSU in kills with eight. She also had two blocks and five digs. Padilla had seven digs and two assists. Blackwood had seven kills and one block.

The Lady Rangers came back home on Tuesday, as they opened conference play in 2026 with a home game against East Central University.

The conference opener was a tightly contested match between the two Oklahoman teams. No

set was won by more than three points. Every set had a chance to go into extra points, but the Lady Rangers took the final three sets of the four-set game.

Set one went into extra points as East Central took the set 28-26. Set two had more distance between the two teams as NWO-SU won the set 25-22. The third set went into extra points and the Lady Rangers won 30-28. Set four was a close one, but Northwestern just edged out the Tigers to win the final set 25-22 and win the conference opener.

Katie Wadas had 36 assists, 12 digs and two aces. Padilla came up on the defense and had 26 digs as well as five assists. Kemelly Baez Miecznikoski had 13 kills and six blocks.

With these results, the Lady Rangers boost their record to an even 5-5. This is a great start to the year in comparison to the previous, where they started 1-9.

The Lady Rangers sit sixth in the Great American Conference standings out of 12.

W 3-1	vs East Central University
	@William Jewell
Rosella Meier UNK Fall Classic	@Nebraska at Kearney
	@Hastings College
Sep 15	@Southern Nazarene University
Sep 17	vs Southeastern Oklahoma State
Sep 22	@Oklahoma Baptist
Sep 24	vs Southwestern Oklahoma State
Sep 29	@Newman University
Oct 1	vs Henderson State University
Oct 2	vs Ouachita Baptist University
Oct 8	@Harding University
Oct 9	@Arkansas Tech University
Oct 13	vs Pittsburg State University
Oct 15	vs Southern Arkansas
Oct 16	vs Arkansas at Monticello
Oct 20	vs Oklahoma Panhandle State
Oct 22	@East Central University
Oct 27	@Southeastern Oklahoma State
Oct 29	vs Southern Nazarene University
Nov 3	vs Oklahoma Baptist University
Nov 5	@Southwestern Oklahoma State

Volleyball Playmakers



Ivanny Blackwood



Jady Padilla



Tess De Zanet



Kenelly Baez Miecznikski

Cross country season starts

Northwestern's men's team finished third out of six. They beat, Cameron University, by five points. Lubbock Christian finished above the Rangers with 56 points to NWOSU's 69.

The Lady Rangers finished fourth out of six, topping Amarillo College by 30 points. Midwestern State took the final podium spot over Northwestern by just 10 points.

They will be back in action on Saturday in Moore.



Top Lady Ranger
Nicolette Webster



Top Ranger
Andrew Scott

Smok

Help



Shak

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SPORTS

Soccer now defeated

Soccer Schedule

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**
Editor-in-Cheif

Lady Ranger soccer had two outcomes to their games against William Jewell College and Fort Hays State University, one win and one loss.

Game one for the Lady Rangers was in Liberty, Missouri, home of the William Jewell College Cardinals. It was not a very offensive or defensive game from either team. 18 shots were given to the netminders on NWOSU and William Jewell.

The Cardinals had eight shots and four on goal. Northwestern goalie Alexa Flores saved all four shots William Jewell gave her, giving her a shutout at the end of the day. Northwestern was more active on the offense as they had 10 shots and eight on goal. The Cardinal goalkeeper almost had a shutout as well, but a shot from Cambell Tabor deflected off of the goalie and went in.

Tabor's 61st minute goal was the only goal in the game between Northwestern and William Jewell. Tabor gave William Jewell's goaltender a handful. There were four shots and three on goal from Tabor, the most on the Northwestern roster. Emerson Curd was a close second with two shots, each on goal.

The Lady Ranger defense also came in and did their jobs well. With only four shots against Flores, her job was made easier. Without the plays from the defense, the game might have ended in a different story.

Fort Hays came to Alva with a plan to ruin Northwestern's undefeated record. That they did. The Tigers took down the Lady Rangers with two late game goals to put NWOSU's record down to



Northwestern defender Elie Dang, defends against Fort Hays State Tiger attacker Isasabelle Mull on Saturday.

a 2-1-1.

The Fort Hays offense were on a mission, as they gave 20 shots and 12 on goal. Northwestern's goalkeeper against the Tigers, Taylor Annen, had 10 saves. Fort Hays were also the more aggressive team, as they had nine fouls and one of their players, Alyssa Estanich, was shown the yellow card in the 87th minute.

Cassidy Fitzgerald gave the most attempts on goal with four shots. No Lady Ranger had more than one shot on goal against the Tigers.

The Lady Rangers will be on the road for the next week. They travel west to Oklahoma Panhandle State University to face the Aggies on Thursday in Goodwell. Then, they travel even further

west to Las Vegas, New Mexico. There, they will play the New Mexico Highlands University Cowgirls.

The Aggies have an even record with the Lady Rangers, both having 2-1-1 records. The Cowgirls from Las Vegas, New Mexico are winless to start 2026. They've lost their last three and tied their season opener.

T 1-1	vs Newman University
W 1-0	vs Rogers State University
W 1-0	@William Jewell College
L 2-0	vs Fort Hays State University
Sep 10	@Oklahoma Panhandle State
Sep 12	@New Mexico Highlands
Sep 16	vs Southern Nazarene
Sep 19	vs Oklahoma Baptist
Sep 26	vs East Central University
Oct 1	@Harding University
Oct 3	@Ouachita Baptist University
Oct 7	@Oklahoma Baptist
Oct 10	vs Southwestern Oklahoma State
Oct 14	@East Central University
Oct 22	vs Ouachita Baptist University
Oct 24	vs Harding University
Oct 28	@Southern Nazarene
Oct 31	@Southwestern Oklahoma State

Football loses 73-0 to Harding

By **OAKLEE FIELDER**
Editor-in-Cheif

The Rangers lost the season opener by 76 points against Harding University on Thursday in Searcy, Arkansas, where the Rangers scored no points.

Northwestern lost to the 2025 National Championship runner-ups in a hot 93-degree night. The Rangers had zero first downs and a total of -31 rushing yards. Jacob T. Jones threw for five yards and had five complete passes. Jones only threw one interception.

The Ranger defense showed promise, as five defensive Rangers had three or more solo tackles. Aiden Lewis led the Rangers in tackles with eight total tackles, four solo and four assisted. Rock

Schomaker and Cade Reynolds were close seconds. They each had three solo and four assisted tackles, a total of seven each. Reynolds also had a forced fumble against the Bison.

Terry McCutcheon and Alexander McLain both had forced fumbles, giving Northwestern offensive opportunities.

Ezequiel Luna had the most yard rushed with 11. Merric Judd had the most receiving yards with 6.

Kash Shipley had 11 punts with two over 50 yards.

The next game for Ranger football will be on Thursday. The Rangers face the Arkansas Tech University Wonderboys in the Northwestern home opener. The crowd will be dressed in black for blackout. Later, there will be whiteout and redout nights.

Soccer Playmakers



Cambell Tabor



Cassidy Fitzgerald



Alexa Flores



Elie Dang



Taylor Annen



Emerson Curd