

Oklahoma college in trouble

By **JESSICA SCHIEBER**
News Editor

Liberal arts are academic subjects like literature, philosophy, mathematics, and social and physical sciences. Oklahoma’s college, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha is a Liberal Arts college. USAO is one of 30 public liberal arts colleges and universities in the U.S.

This college has recently become a hot topic after a confrontation between faculty and the university’s administration. The administration has brought up some changes that they would like to see and the professors at the school have warned that those changes could fundamentally alter the 118-year-old liberal arts college.

On Sept. 3 USAO faculty voted to adopt a resolution of no confidence in President Kayla Hale and Vice President for Academic Affairs Makenna Garrison. The vote was 40 in favor, one opposed, and four abstentions. This vote made it clear where the professors’ opinions were, and it showed that they were not happy with the changes that were previously proposed.

The vote was a result of proposed policy and structural changes that would lead to larger and more online classes and greater reliance on adjunct instructors among other changes.

Faculty leaders have asked the Board of Regents to postpone approval



of the policies. There are worries that these proposals threaten the university’s mission. Their resolution is independent fact-finding.

USAO is a small college built around close faculty-student relationships. Faculty is more responsive to students’ goals than at large schools and members of faculty have to play multiple roles.

USAO’s administration has kept students in the dark about a recent tuition and fee hike, and the proposed policy would change the academic calendar and reduce specialized, small classes.

The faculty vote of no confidence resolution was a way for them to ask the regents to slow down the process

and establish facts independently. It would also restore faculty participation in academic decision-making. The USAO Faculty Association accused the President and Vice President of Academic Affairs of failing to abide by shared governance processes and undermining academic freedom and institutional stability.

Despite this vote Regents have voted to stop offering tenure to incoming faculty members. Along with that vote came an approval of a policy change on low-enrollment courses. Beginning next spring, USAO classes with fewer than 10 students will require administrative approval. If approved those courses will not be counted towards a

professor’s regular teaching load and they will instead be paid an adjunct rate of \$225 per student per semester.

Students were also affected by this decision, and they walked out of classes last week in protest to the policy changes. They also showed up to the Regents Room holding signs that read “hear faculty before you vote.”

The Regents had unanimously approved every item on the agenda despite faculty’s vote of no confidence.

These changes have changed a lot about what made USAO different than other schools and now students are questioning how good their own school is.

What made USAO stand out to these students is now being changed right before their eyes and the Regents have failed to listen to faculty and students’ concerns.

The regents have sent a message to the students and employees of USAO, they don’t care. They don’t care about the voice of the students or the outcome of this situation.

The people of USAO have been fighting this battle against their administration and it all was mute to the Regents. Faculty who have to face these changes every day, and students who might not be able to attend the classes the need to, were ignored in favor of President Hale and Vice President of Academic Affairs Garrison. This has given administration more power and actively took the voice of the people.

Do students love or hate artificial intelligence?

By **JOHN STOWERS**
Senior Reporter

NWOSU students are generally positive about AI, but some still have their reservations about its effectiveness and its invasiveness.

AI has become a topic of increasing debate, especially when it comes to the younger generations and how to re-

sponsibly use AI. One student says that AI is being abused, but it has its uses as a tool.

“I definitely think that AI is abused today, especially among high-school students and younger people that are still in school,” said Danyel Cato, a sophomore Biology major “It’s not supposed to do the work for you. You can use it as a tool. I don’t really use AI much, but when I do, I treat it like a

supplement. I find that it’s really useful for proofreading papers.”

Another student said that it could take the human aspect out of learning.

“I think that there are a lot of cons, but some pros,” said Hannah Betts, a junior Health and Sports Science major. “I would say more cons in the schooling environment, but in daily life, I’m making checklists, meal-prep plans and workout plans. I’ve seen it be

very beneficial in those areas, but as for the learning aspect, I do think it takes away originality, and our own thought process. ... I do feel like dehumanization is kind of starting to get a little out of control. Like how when you go into a store and there are so many more self-checkouts. No one is going to the register where there’s an actual worker.”

See AI on page 4

NEWS

WHAT'S UP

SEPTEMBER 24-30

24

- Writer's Round Table Meeting VH 200 5-6 pm
- Spanish Club Meeting VH 200 6-7 pm
- Ranger Royalty Banquet Student Center Ballroom 6:30-8:30 pm

25

- Last day to drop 1st eight week classes
- Award presentation to NWOSU ESGR Ranger Room 10:00- 10:30 am

27

- Orientation Day for Miss Cinderella Ranger Room 2-5 pm

28

- OKSE Super Smash Bros Regional Student Center Ballroom 10 am -3 pm
- Intramural Kickball 6-9 pm
- BCM FreshMonday Student Center Ballroom 8-9:30 pm

30

- OASC District 11 Leadership Conference Student Center 8 am- 3 pm
- Intramural Kickball 6-9 pm
- BCM worship Intramural field 7:30-9:30 pm

Trump denies press pass

By ALLISON RUWALDT
Senior Reporter

On Friday, President Trump announced that he would be disabling press passes for those reporting for CNN, Politico and MS Now.

Following this announcement, on Saturday reporters from each of those publications arrived at the White House to find that their credentials had been removed. Photographers from the stations are also being denied access.

Trump did this in an effort to stop them from reporting what he calls “fake news” and mentioned in a social media post that he would ban others if he felt it was needed. He claims that these stations specifically highlight negative things to make the Republican party look bad.

“It’s really just cumulative stories of over the last couple years,” Trump said. “They purposely write negative news.”

According to NBC News, no one on the White House staff was aware of this decision. Some staff members also

said that they were not surprised that he made this choice and are in support of it.

Although the ban does not stop them from reporting on the president and stories that involve the white house, it does prevent them from asking follow-up questions and interacting with any white house officials. This puts those stations at a severe disadvantage and in a position where they simply cannot get all the information they need.

The news outlets are upset with this choice, and all three have said they will take every legal option available to keep the freedom of the press intact. Other news outlets also oppose this ban, as it sets a precedent that banning reporters is acceptable.

In a statement made by the White House Correspondents Association, Jacqui Heinrich, who also reports for FOX News, spoke against the ban, claiming it violates the First Amendment right. She also spoke about how courts have not allowed for a ban on the press in the White House before, and should not start now.

“The implications extend beyond these organizations: a standard used to exclude one news outlet because of its coverage could be applied to any outlet in the future,” Heinrich wrote in a WHCA statement. “The American people, through a free and independent press, must be able to scrutinize those elected to power, regardless of whether government officials view it favorably.”

MS Now anchor Peter Alexander reported on how this ban is not normal, and he spoke with Gabe Rottman, who is the vice president of policy for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, about the legality of this ban. He says the ban is not legal and also feels that it violates the First Amendment right to freedom of the press.

Despite this being what many are calling an effort to intimidate the press, many reporters and political figures are bringing attention to the fact that this is a violation. Even those not directly affected see the issue that banning even one news station causes.

“What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?”

-Van Gogh



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NEWS

Homecoming just around the coner

From University Relations

Northwestern Oklahoma State University is preparing for Homecoming on Oct. 10. The theme for Homecoming this year is “Red, White and Rowdy.”

Homecoming celebrations will start Oct. 8 and last to the Oct. 10.

On October 8, students and the citizens of Alva will be able to go to the 74 annual Miss Cinderella talent night in the Fellers Family Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Friday October 9 at noon students can start to get hype with a Ranger Rally in Perce-full fieldhouse.

Following that event there will be a Red and Black World Series at Myers Stadium at 6:30 pm.

After that students and Alva citizens can go and watch the Miss Cinderella pageant at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday October 10 starts of early at 8:00 a.m. with the Ranger Run at Downtown Alva Square in front of the Rialto. There is a 5K and a one-mile fun run for everyone to enjoy.

At 9:00 a.m. the Alumni tent will be set up with free donuts and coffee on the north side of Downtown Alva Square.

The Homecoming parade will take place at 10:00 a.m. at Downtown Alva Square and it is followed by a Ranger lunch on the square. Cost for the lunch is \$6 per person.

Northwestern soccer plays Southwestern Oklahoma State University at 11:00 a.m. at the Ranger Soccer Field.

At 1:00 p.m. the Alumni Band will have a rehearsal on the third floor of Ryerson Hall.

A massed band will perform at 2:40 p.m. on the Ranger Field and kickoff for the Homecoming game will be at

3:00 p.m.

During halftime of the football game there will be the annual crowning of Ranger Royalty for Ranger King and Queen.

Freshman Queen will be announced during the Ranger Royalty Banquet and recognized during halftime.

After all these festivities there will be a Starcreek star party at 7:00 p.m. on the Alva Recreation Complex.

Don't forget to grab your Homecoming button for \$10! Homecoming buttons can be used for admission to Miss Cinderella events and the football game.

More than 30 Alva merchants will offer discount's to those who make purchases at

their businesses from October 5 to October 10.

You can grab your button from the Alva Chamber of Commerce, Alva Vision Clinic, Bates & Co., Holder Drug, La Dee Da's, Rialto Cinema, Shepherd's Oil, the Northwestern Business office, Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association office, and J.R. Holder Wellness Center.

You can also purchase a Homecoming T-shirt from Alva Beer Co. on September 30 at 6:00 p.m. the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association office until 3 p.m. on October 9, and at the Alumni tent on Alva's downtown square beginning at 8:00 a.m. on October 10.



Photos provided by University Relations

A Northwestern student rides a mechanical bull during the 2025 Student Government Association homecoming activities. This year's Homecoming Kickoff Tailgate is 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5, on the fourth tier of the Ranger football field.



The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Ranger marching band performs during halftime of the 2025 homecoming football game.



Zoey Roberts, Miss Woodward and the 2024 Miss Cinderella, crowns Madeline Ryerson, Miss Alva, as the 2025 Miss Cinderella during last year's pageant. The 74th annual Miss Cinderella Talent Show is Thursday, Oct. 8, and the pageant is Friday, Oct. 9, in Herod Hall.

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NORTHWESTERN NEWS

NEWS

Northwestern students voice their opinions on AI

Continued from Page 1

Terry McCutcheon, a senior Accounting major, said that AI could have it’s uses and that he isn’t worried about competing with AI for jobs.

“I feel like it’s good in mod-
eration,” said McCutcheon.
“You shouldn’t heavily rely
on it, but I feel like it can be

used as a good tool in daily
life, and maybe even in differ-
ent industries of business. I’ve
seen what AI can do, or what it
tries to do, with things like ac-
counting, and I feel like we’ve
got a little bit until [AI job re-
placement] actually becomes
a problem. AI can barely do
simple data entry, so it’s just
really not something that I’m

really afraid of.”

Other students said that AI
development needs to slow
down until we understand how
to regulate it and how to un-
derstand it.

“It’s not healthy to regulate
technology, in my opinion, but
we don’t know how much the
pros outweigh the cons, or if
the cons are just exponential-

ly worse,” said Lance Fish, a
sophomore Mathematics ma-
jor.

The general consensus
among the students seems to
be that AI can be a useful tool.

Only thing is, just like ev-
erything else, too much of it
could be a bad thing for those
around.

Power outage and fire in dorm back-to-back

By SHEALYN PRATT
Features Editor

A power outage as students
began their nighttime routines,
followed by a fire alarm blaring
through the halls the next after-
noon, made for a stressful 24
hours in Cunningham Hall.

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, a thun-
derstorm knocked out power to
Cunningham Hall and the Rang-
er Apartments on Monroe Street.
The tennis court lights and lights
near Ament Hall also went out.
In the halls of Cunningham, stu-
dents could hear people scream-
ing like they’ve never experi-
enced a thunderstorm or a power
outage before.

Kinsey Roberts was on shift
that evening and said all of the
residential housing workers com-
municate with each other as soon
as something like this happens in
any of the buildings. Roberts also

said Cunningham Hall’s head
resident assistant, Ava Miller, re-
ceives hands-on help from Matt
Adair, assistant dean of student
affairs and recruitment director
of housing, and Kaylea Brown,
residence life coordinator, during
severe situations.

“We drop everything and
make sure we can take care of the
students,” Roberts said. “Because
the fire alarms were down and we
had to make sure that nothing
was going to catch on fire or any-
thing like that.”

As soon as power went out, a
mandatory meeting for the RAs
was held in the dark lobby of
Cunningham. The meeting was
joined by Calleb Mossburg and
residents of the building, who
spent time downstairs talking be-
fore returning to their rooms or
waiting out the storm together.

The power came back on at
11:14 pm.

The next afternoon, the fire

alarms began sounding through-
out the halls around 1p.m. Usua-
lly, the annoying sound of these
alarms is followed by a heavy
knock and a RA yelling the words
“fire drill!” This time it was real.

Once students left their rooms,
fearing that everything they
owned could potentially go up
in flames, another RA led them
to the evacuation point near the
tennis courts across from Cun-
ningham.

“Everyone was there within
five minutes,” Roberts said.

Emergency alerts were sent to
the Alva Fire Department as soon
as the fire emergency occurred on
campus. Fire trucks arrived with-
in minutes and assessed the sit-
uation. Roberts said firefighters
could not tell RAs which floor the
fire started on, but they did say it
began in a laundry room on either
the first or third floor.

Jacklyn Hawkins, a Cunning-
ham custodian, said she saw a

vent on the first floor smoking
that afternoon and stopped the
dryer as soon as she determined
which one it was. She mentioned
all of the Cunningham laundry
rooms having poor ventilation
and that she spent all of Thursday
cleaning out the vents.

“The problem is these laundry
rooms don’t have good air circula-
tion,” Hawkins said. “So it’s
very easy for a fire to start.”

Since there wasn’t an exact
cause for the fire, Roberts wants
residents to remember that the
dorm rules are in place for a rea-
son.

“Follow the appliance rules,”
Roberts warned. “I know we
want candles and all of that stuff
but you don’t want all of your
stuff to go up in flames. Clear out
your lint traps, even if it seems
like there isn’t a lot. Take care
of the building that you’re living
in. We are trying to take care of
you.”

Headlines across
the globe

- A raccoon boot camp in Mississippi teaches abandoned kits survival skills
- A truck driver built a model of NYC with over 8,000 structures for fun, now it’s in a museum.
- In Chile, injured penguins wear copper vest to help them heal
- A Paris court awarded Kim Kardashian 1 euro after 2016 robbery

FEATURES

Ranger band prepare for Homecoming

By JANESEA RAINVILLE
Student Reporter

As the homecoming season approaches, the Ranger Marching Band prepares for a show based on the homecoming theme: Red, White and Rowdy.

For this show, they are asking bands to join for a mass band performance.

Not only for the homecoming football game pregame and half-time, but for the homecoming parade that happens in the morning of the game.

During this parade, bands will compete for cash prizes or can join without competing. All bands will get a travel reimburse-



Photo by Janessa Rainville

Ranger Band's drum major Dalton Ebert directs the band before their Family Day performance on the field.

ment for the parade.

If bands wish to stay for the mass band performance, they will

receive a free NWOSU homecoming T-Shirt for all students. Bands staying for the mass per-

formance will also receive lunch and more reimbursement for the performance.

For the mass performance, the participating bands will join our Ranger Marching Band in playing "Ride, Rangers, Ride!" for pregame and one selection from the halftime show. The deadline is September 25th.

If you have any questions, contact Dr. Corey Burton or our Ranger Band's Facebook page.

You can register your band by going to the Northwestern Homecoming page or by going to the Ranger Band's Facebook and using the QR code.

The Ranger Marching Band would love to have your bands here for this homecoming!

The performance will be during pregame and halftime of the Homecoming game at Ranger Field.

25th Annual Big Cruise and Car Show

By SOPHIE JUNGMAN
Student Reporter

This past weekend, the Alva community celebrated its 25th annual Big Cruise and Car Show. A beloved motor event that has put Alva, Okla. On the map.

This is the largest free car show in the state of Oklahoma. Every year, community members anticipate vendors, merchants, food trucks, art, and hundreds of registered cars, all around the downtown square. Classic car owners come from all over Oklahoma and Kansas to enter their cars. Among them was Jerry Donahue of Oklahoma City, Okla. Donahue is the owner of a 1966 Mustang Sprint Coupe that made its third-year appearance: "This is one of the best car shows I like to go to," said Donahue. His vehicle had to the chance to compete in several competitions from paint to performance.

The Big Cruise and Car Show dates back to Sept. 2000. It began with a group of local car fanatics who founded a group called Racing and Cruising En-

thusiasts, AKA R.A.C.E. Among them was Myron Bradt. His son, Nick Bradt, shared, "My father's passion for classic cars traveled deep into the family. From his '66 Mustang convertible to my brother's '49 Plymouth and my '57 Chevy". He went on to share the event's history: "We had a large chunk of entries with the first car show back when the founders started it. The next year there were enough cars to justify moving to the fairgrounds. Then it just kept getting bigger and bigger," said Bradt. He credits the success of the car show to the passion of founders like his father and Mr. Norville Ritter. Other founding members include Mike Dunker and Smith. What started with 62 cars and a burnout in the VAP parking lot has become a three-day event that includes a Dyno contest, an auto cross, drag racing, the burnout, and the big boulevard cruise. Though some weather complications have come along over the years, the festivities still continue.

Community members also note that this event has made a positive impact on the whole

town: "It brings plenty of people and gives business to the stores and restaurants," said local Alva resident Barbara Shelite. She continued by saying, "It has really put Alva on the map". Shelite goes on to explain the memories she has made with her family each year. The same goes for countless Alva families. Among them is Brian Thomas's: "The second year was the first my family and I went to", said Thomas. "The burnout really impressed the boys. They were 9,11, and 13; it was just right for them". The car show has added several youth events, including The Little Miss Cruise and Car Show, bicycle races, Power Wheels, kids' pit stop, and RC cars. They have included non-motor activities like the gallery exhibition and sidewalk art contest.

Alva's 2026 Big Cruise and Car Show proved to be a success. The community is optimistic that it will continue to keep growing. For those who did not stop by or wish to register, come check it out on Sept. 2027.



Photos by Victor Kinzie

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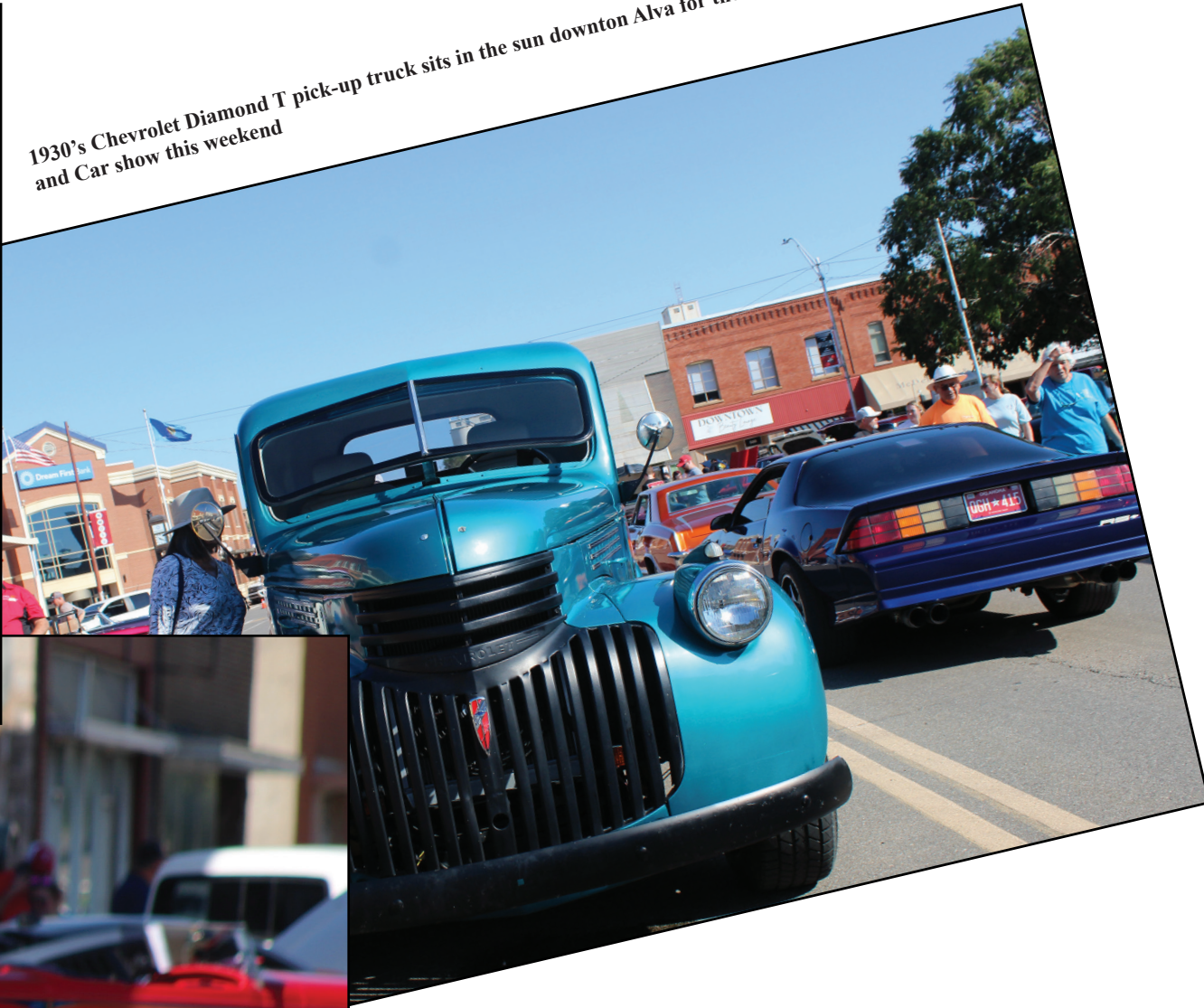


Classic cars cover Alva

Right: Dash of a 1949 Chevrolet Styleline being shown downtown Alva.



1930's Chevrolet Diamond T pick-up truck sits in the sun downtown Alva for the Big Cruise and Car show this weekend



A beige 1948 Plymouth Special Deluxe in front of Holder Drug and spectators looking on.



Big Cruise and Car Show attendees sit under awnings as they wait out the rain pouring downtown Alva.



Photos by Victor Kinzie

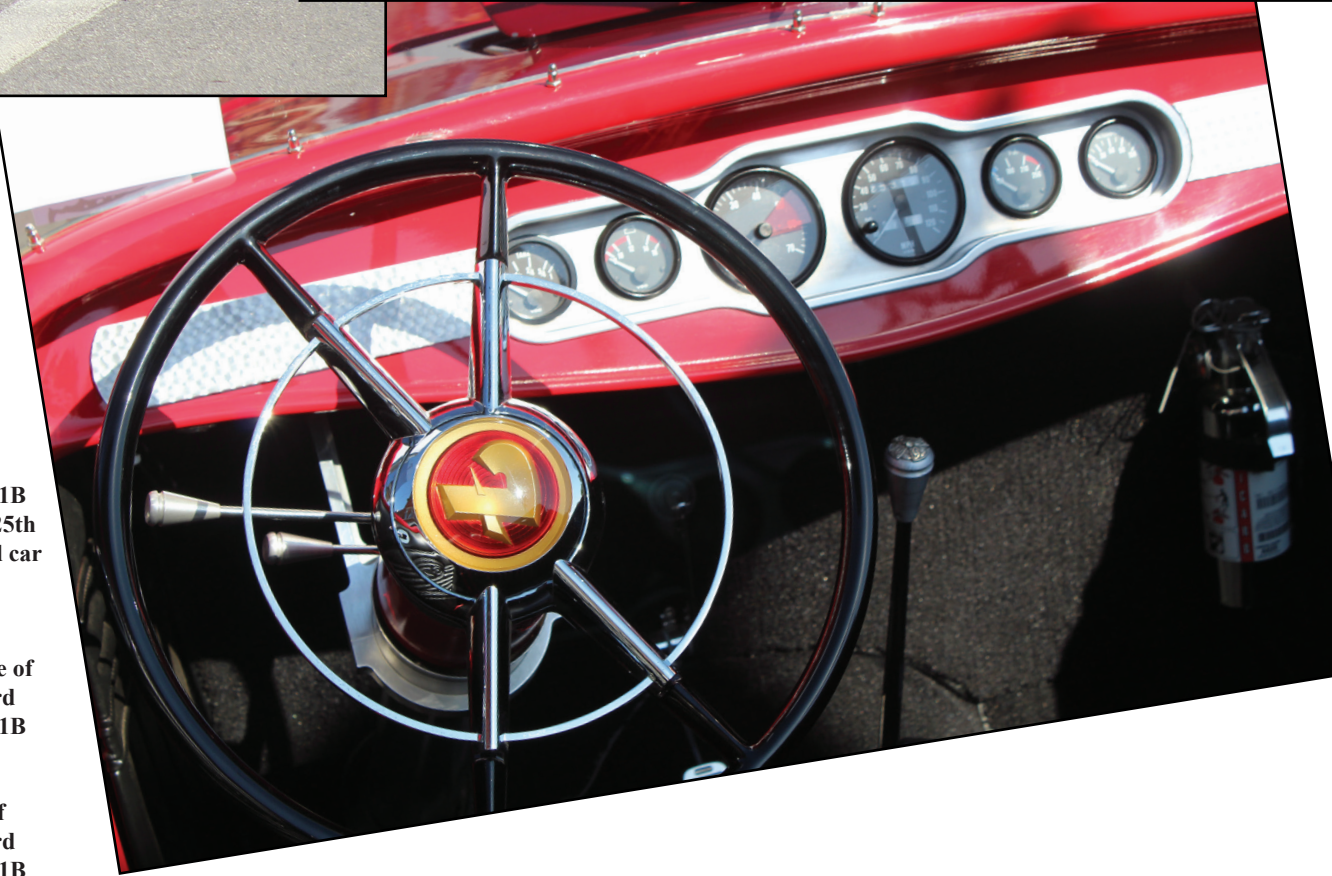
Classic cars lined up on the roads downtown this weekend for the car show.



A 1932 Ford Model 1B at the 25th Annual car show.

Left: Outside of the Ford Model 1B

Right: Dash of the Ford Model 1B



A teal Chevrolet Corvair 95; the only manufactured truck with a side ramp in addition to a traditional tailgate.

FEATURES

Preseason start-up for hockey

By JESSICA SCHIEBER
News Editor

Preseason is such a fun time for me. I love watching players interact with one another after having their off season.

It is fun to watch players just click back together, or to see new players find their footing with the veteran players during preseason.

Hockey is now in their preseason and I have enjoyed this a lot, as hockey is my favorite sport.

One of the best things to me will always be media day.

I love media day in all sports; it just makes me laugh. Especially with how creative some of the media teams can be in these teams.

This year one of the things the New Jersey Devils had asked their players to do was to clap without their hands. Some players clapped their elbows together, some tried to clap their knees, and one just took off his sandals and clapped them together.

Aside from media day teams are starting to play again to get ready for the season. On Tuesday the New Jersey Devils and New York Rangers played each other in the preseason.

The Devils roster for the game was forwards Arseni Gritzyuk, Marc McLaughlin, Jack Hughes, Stefan Noesen, Anthony Mantha, Luke Evangelista, Dawson Mercer, Evan Rodrigues, Jesper Bratt, Jesper Boqvist, Nico Hischier, Timo Meier, defensemen Topias Vilen, Luke Hughes, Jonas Siegenthaler, Mikael Diotte, Dougie Hamilton, Brett Pesce, and goaltenders Nico Daws and Jake Allen.

The Devils were the first team to score, with a goal from Captain Hischier.

Hischier's goal was assisted by Timo Meier and Luke Evangelista. That happened in the second period

After Hischier's goal, Ranger's player Anton Blidh got a goal that was assisted by Liam Greentree and Brody Lamb.

The tie didn't last long as Meier got an unassisted goal.

In the third period another Ranger player, Drew Fortescue got a goal. His goal was assisted by Juuso Parssinen and Lamb.

The next and final goal came from Jack Hughes. His goal was assisted by Bratt and Pesce.

That was the end of the game and a win for the Devils, which fans celebrated because despite it being the preseason the team won over their rivals.



Photo by Jessica Schieber

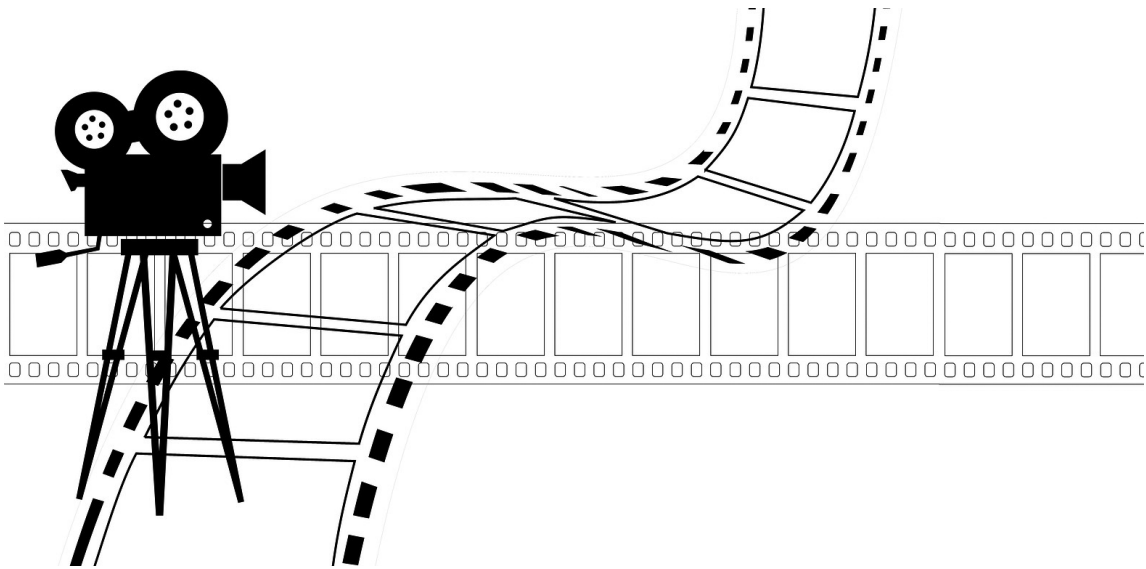
New Jersey Devil Winger Timo Meier during warmups against the Dallas Stars in 2025.

Anniversaries of movies becoming a trend

By KEVIN KAUMANS
Entertainment Editor

You may be shocked, seeing me here in the features page of the newspaper. However, we here at Northwestern News tend to try and switch things up from time-to-time. So this week, I will not just be talking on the entertainment page. I will be talking about the anniversaries of some of the most famous movies in the history of media.

For example, did you know that this year is the 95th anniversary of the first ever "Frankenstein" movie. Based off of arguably one of the most famous horror novels in British literature. By now, there have been so many movies made about the monsters that one could be forgiven for forgetting about the 1931 black-and-white film.



The mad scientist's abomination is now up there with Dracula and Jason Voorhees in the hall of famous horror monsters.

Does anyone remember "Dumbo"? You know, the Disney movie about the Elephant with

giant ears that allow him to fly. Though the movie got a live adaptation in the 21st century, nothing beats the original. Now that it is the film's 85th anniversary, maybe you should see and so you can realize how right I am.

"Invasion of the Body Snatchers" is a staple of the sci-fi horror genre. Though its special effects may seem outdated by today's standards, it was very much seen as the future of special effects

when it first came out. 70 years old, the film explores the human fear of losing control over your body.

"Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark", is approaching its 45th anniversary. A fun and laid-back adventure film that turned into a multi-million-dollar franchise, featuring both sequels and video games.

"Independence Day" is a good favorite of mine. Its story is not all that deep, but the acting and special effects make you forget all about it.

I have seen this movie at least four times over the years, and each time I always spot something new.

Now that it is its 30th anniversary, I encourage anyone reading this to go ahead and check it out.

Sports on every channel, but you still can't find it

By OAKLEE FIELDER
Editor-in-Cheif

Sports seems to be running into an issue, media fragmentation. Every sport is being forced into having to put their games and onto multiple different, sometimes seemingly random, channels or streaming services. With that going on, sports fans are struggling to watch the thing they love the most, the sport itself.

Fans used to be able to turn on their TV, find what channel their

game will be on and turn to it. Now with the steadily rising decline in cable television, we turn to streaming services.

Fox, NBC, CBS, ABC and so many other have their own streaming services that can be split into multiple other services.

Professional sports leagues have deals with multiple different channels that broadcast and stream games.

With the media fragmentation going on, fans are wondering where or even when their favorite teams are playing that night.

Not knowing where their teams are being shown isn't the only problem. Nobody wants to pay for 10+ different streaming services to watch a single team play in a single league throughout a season. The NFL offers games on five different streaming platforms. CBS, Fox, NBC/Peacock, ESPN/ABC and later in the year, NFL Network. That's five different monthly payments to watch the NFL.

With no end in sight, the question remains, will sports remain high in viewership?

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ENTERTAINMENT

How to write talkinig animals in fiction

By KEVIN KAUMANS
Entertainment Editor

Humans are an interesting group of creatures, are they not? For hundreds of thousands of years, we have been telling each other stories to entertain one another. A lot of them feature humans as the main cast, but sometimes there were also stories centered around other creatures; dogs, cats, monsters and even gods.

Today, I am going to be talking about a trope in fiction that has been following me around ever since my childhood: The talking animal.

See, I was only eleven when I decided to become a writer. I was in the Kiowa Public Library, looking for a book to check out. Back then, I still did not know exactly what kind of books I like.

By that, I mean I did not know how to tell if I would like a certain story enough to read it outside of school or if I would only finish for the AR tests my class was forced to take.

I remember the first book to grasp my interest for writing was “Survivors: The Empty City”, by Erin Hunter. The book is an introduction to this series about this group of city dogs who are forced to survive in the wilderness after a city-wide

earthquake forces all the humans to leave. Looking back on it now, I see that the book’s writing is far from Hemingway. Still, it is important that I explain why this story is relevant.

As time went on, I found myself seeking out more literature that featured animals that could be understood by the reader. The animals did not have to be the main focus; they could just as easily be companions to the human characters.

To me, all that mattered was witnessing the absurd concept of humans finally being able to understand the thought processes of the animal kingdom.

It is strange in a way though, is it not? We have all these biases, these stereotypes toward certain animals all because of this genre of fiction. Foxes are clever and care only about killing smaller, defenseless animals.

Pigs are unclean and disgusting. Hyenas are sadistic and malign creatures that have no understanding of love. Dogs are dumb and need to be beaten in order to learn anything. In a way, the talking animal trope can be just as harmful as reinforcing negative stereotypes to humans.

But I would not say that this type of genre is a bad thing either. Animal fantasy has existed for over a century for a good reason; it gives us a look into how we as

humans view the behaviors of other beings we can never fully understand.

Psychological Criticism has always been one of my favorite schools of thought for reasons like this. Why do we see Lions as kings? Why are Foxes, on the other hand, seen as evil pests that are only good dead?

At the end of the day, no animal behaves perfectly. Sometimes, they attack humans with no provocation whatsoever. They do not care if you consider yourself a good person. They do not care if you think of yourself as an animal rights advocate.

Their concept of morality will always be worlds different from ours. Sure, many animals of different species can love their owners. But we still need to remind ourselves that just because one neighbor’s dog bites, it is completely illogical to assume that another neighbor’s will.

What I am trying to argue here is for us as a society to treat animals with the respect they deserve. If a fox is outside your hen house? Go ahead and shoot him. You need to hunt deer to feed your family because of how rural your area is? Do it.

I am just saying that we need to stop trying to wipe out or domesticate every species of animal that fits our narrow-minded human view of good and evil.

Make your talking animal character in-

teresting. Try to do something that has not already been done a hundred times. Add complexity to them.

Before I end this, I need to mention that I myself have self-published two books of the animal fantasy genre that includes them as the main characters.

The books can be found on Amazon, titled: “Wolves of the Tundra”, under my pseudonym, Samuel Seeker. I myself look back on these books and wonder why my younger self chose to write the wolves of his story in the strange, absurd ways they do.

I have to admit, my writing may have improved a lot over these last view years, so a part of me is a little embarrassed to talk about it. Still, it is a joy to look back on something I made and see how much I have improved.

Animal behaviour is my favorite field of zoology. Since I could walk, I have always been obsessed with trying to understand why animals react to certain things the way they do. Why do dogs love being pet? Why do cats love to snuggle up aganist us?

The trope of the talking animal, whether it is the protagonist or simply a companion to a humanoid character, is what makes this area of study so intriguing to me. After you finish reading this article, I can only hope that some of you will see it too.

Movies: The good, the bad, and the dumbfounding

By KEVIN KAUMANS
Entertainment Editor

Everyone has their own tastes. Some prefer films that take you into a new world with rules that are different from ours in every way you could think of.

Others just like seeing realistic movies that are set in the real world, like westerns or action movies.

I myself do not like just one set genre. I watch fantasy, westerns, historical dramas, mysteries and even psychological thrillers.

Because I do not have one favorite genre, there is no set movie that I like more than any other top favorites.

However, I hope I can assure all of you that I can certainly tell



Poster for Pulp Fiction (1994)

a bad movie from a good one. I may have some movies that I believe to be great that you might think needs to be erased from history, but that does not mean I am unable to know the mechanics of what makes a movie interesting.

For example, I did not care for the live “Lion King” adaptation. My parents like it, but I just do not see the appeal.

Why make a remake of an already nearly flawless movie only to change nothing about the sto-

ry? I am being serious, the movie changes almost nothing about the original except for changing it from animated to live action.

A movie does not necessarily have to be deep for me to like it, mind you. I enjoy watching pointless action movies every once in a while.

John Wick in particular is one of my favorite action movie characters. The fight scenes are perfectly scripted and each one brings something new for the viewer.

That being said, if a film is pointlessly tedious or is confusing for the sake of being confusing, then I start to get critical of it. I am not saying I dislike movies that leave the deeper meanings up to the person watching it.

No, I am talking about movies that throw you in with all these weird images that have no relevance to the plot and expecting people to think you are some philosopher when you really just made a bad movie.

A good example of a movie that is confusing but in a good way is “Pulp Fiction”. The movie’s events are out of order, and thus force the viewer to figure out the order everything happened in. This is also one of Samuel L. Jackson’s best roles.

For good fantasy films, I would tell you to find “The Lord of the Rings”. These movies set the standards for what a good fantasy movie is.

Tolkien was more than someone trying to create his only little world, there is genuinely depth



Poster for Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring released in 2001.

to every race and lore for every named character on screen. Obviously, the movie does not feature everything the books do, so I advise you all to go ahead and read them once you watch the movies.

“Full Metal Jacket” is probably my favorite war movie of all

time. Its mix of comedy and dark moments make it both a feel-good film and an anti-war statement. Its bootcamp scene is by far one of the best things I have ever witnessed in my entire life.



Release poster for Full Metal Jacket released in 1987 picturing a helmet.

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SPORTS

Soccer leads GAC standings

By OAKLEE FIELDER
Editor-in-Cheif

The Lady Rangers defeated Southern Nazarene and Oklahoma Baptist this week in two shutouts on Wednesday and Saturday for Family Day, adding to the win streak.

Southern Nazarene was defeated 3-0 and OBU was defeated 2-0. Katy Jo Werner had a two-piece against SNU, Cambell Tabor had the other goal. Elia Dang, Jenna Mills and Taylor Annen had assists.

SNU had the most shots on Wednesday with 23 and 10 on goal. NWOSU had 16 shots with 8 on goal. Braxtyn Turner added onto her list of bookings this season with a yellow card in the 85th minute.

Werner had the most shots, she had four shots with two on goal. Tabor was a close second with three shots and two on goal. Annen recorded 10 saves against the Crimson Storm.

In game two, the Lady Rangers defeated Oklahoma Baptist 2-0 for their families on Family Day. Tabor recorded the first goal of the game in the 18th minute with an assist



Photo by Tierra Green

Lady Ranger Cambell Tabor slides as Oklahoma Baptist player Jada Lamond tries to get possession of the ball.

from Mills. Jazelle Alvarado scored her second goal of the year in the 24th minute with help from Werner.

The Lady Rangers' opponent had more shots as the Bison gave Annen eight shots to save, with 13 other shots not hitting the net. The Lady

Rangers had 16 shots, six of those went on goal.

Myriah Roybal had a yellow card in the 59th minute. Tabor had the most shots on goal with two. Emerson Curd had three shots with one going on goal. Annen had eight saves against the Bison.

Annen and Dang were announced as Great American Conference Players of the Week. Dang was the Defender of the Week for her efforts in the shutouts this week and her assist against Southern Nazarene. Annen was the Goalkeeper of the Week. Annen had four shutouts this season and leads the GAC goalkeepers in saves with a save percentage of .951. Annen only has two goals against her this season.

The Lady Rangers lead the GAC conference standings. They are the only team with a winning record. Harding is second place, they have a record of 2-3-1 against NWO-SU's 6-1-1.

Northwestern is ranked No. 9 in the Central Region NCAA DII Intercollegiate Women's College Soccer Organization for Coaches poll.

Volleyball now has losing record

Cross country breaks PRs

The volleyball team lost two conference games this week, one at home against Southeastern Oklahoma State and another in Shawnee against Oklahoma Baptist University.

The Lady Rangers only won one set between the two games against the GAC rivals. The two losses take their record into the losing territory, 7-9. The Lady Rangers sit 9th in the GAC standings, above Southeastern and beneath Ouachita Baptist.

Three of the four sets played between the Savage Storm and

Lady Rangers on Thursday were incredibly close. Set two was not. Set two ended 25-12, the other sets ended with at the most, five points separating the two teams.

Ivanny Blackwood led Northwestern in kills against Southeastern with 13. Kemelly Baez Miecznikoski was a close second with 11. Baez Miecznikoski had the most blocks with five. Ryann Eastes had 19 assists. Jadyn Padilla had 18 digs.

Game two for the Lady Rangers was a bit rougher on Tuesday. Northwestern was swept 3-0 in

Shawnee on Tuesday. The Lady Rangers were unable to score more than 20 points in two of the three sets.

Baez Miecznikoski led the Lady Rangers in kills with 11. Blackwood had seven kills and four blocks. Eastes and Kallie Conway both had 14 assists. Padilla and Celia Mbaya had 10 digs each.

The next team on the schedule for the Lady Rangers is Southwestern Oklahoma State in Percefull Fieldhouse on Thursday night.

By OAKLEE FIELDER
Editor-in-Cheif

Cross-country traveled to Joplin, Missouri to compete in the 37th Annual Southern Stampede at Southern Missouri University on Saturday where 12 runners broke PRs.

The men finished 9th out of 28 schools.

Riley Herndon was the top Ranger in Joplin. Herndon finished 25th with a time of 25:22. Andrew Scott finished 42nd with a time of 25:49. Coy Bullard was

the third Ranger with a time of 26:26 putting him in 75th.

Matthew Manning finished 113th with a time of 27:10. Boyd Hamby finished with a time of 27:56, putting him in 153rd. Daxton Williams was the next runner from Northwestern. Williams finished 158th with a time of 28:09.

Tristan Meeker finished 187th with a time of 28:45. Boomer Mendenhall was 193rd with his time of 29:01. Kaleb Madden finished 200th with a time of 29:08.

The women finished 16th out of 24 teams.

Reshila Curley was the top Lady Ranger. Curley had a time of 19:27 and finished 54th. Cadence Long-Torres was the second Lady Ranger. She finished 67th with a time of 19:37. Next was Jessica Myers in 83rd with a time of 19:54.

Ana Rojas finished 149th with a time of 20:57. Emilia Ceniceros had a time of 21:21 putting her in 171st. Ashley Myers was not far behind in 179th with a time of 21:30. Jaidyn Frantz finished 186th with a time of 21:40.

Next for the cross-country teams will be the Chile Pepper Festival. This takes place in Fayetteville, Arkansas at the University of Arkansas on October 3.

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SPORTS

Football loses in another “What if?”

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

The Rangers lost to Oklahoma Baptist on Saturday night, after delays for lightning pushed the game later and later into the night.

The game was incredibly offensive with 12 touchdowns between the two teams, ending in a final score of 55-37. Jacob T Jones had two touchdowns thrown and ran into the endzone for two touchdowns. Jones had 275 passing yards and 90 rushing yards.

Jayce Morgan had the most rushing yards for a running back for Northwestern with 52. Morgan also had one touchdown. Royal Kyle had the most receiving yards with 92.

Aiden Lewis and Casen Olson showed up on the defense as they both had 11 tackles. Lewis had eight solo tackles and three assisted. Olson had three solo and eight assisted tackles.

The game was a tight battle, but in every quarter, the Bison outscored the Rangers. The first quarter ended 14-6 after two Oklahoma Baptist touchdowns and one Northwestern touchdown. Kicker Kash Shipley missed the PAT after the first touchdown, but didn't miss another PAT or field goal the rest of the game.

Two touchdowns from each team kept the score close heading into half-time. A field goal from the Bison gave them an 11-point lead, just a two-possession game.

In the third, the Bison scored two touchdowns to increase their score by 14 points. The Rangers scored one touchdown and a field goal to try to keep within reach. The final quarter was cut short for lightning after a field goal from the Bison. The game ended 55-37, another “what if” game for the Rangers.



NWOSU Athletics Photo

Ranger quarterback Jacob T Jones runs from Oklahoma Baptist University lineman Brady Luff on Saturday night after lightning delays.



Jacob T Jones
275 passing yds, 2 TD, 2 rushing TD

The Rangers are still a great football team despite being winless. Their defense can step up and get stops, and



Aiden Lewis
11 tackles, 8 solo, 3 assisted

their offense has been scoring touchdowns. They just need the right time and to put it all together for this team

to see the success just over the hill. Four Great American Conference teams sit at the bottom of the standings. Northwestern, Arkansas at Monticello, Southern Nazarene and Southwestern Oklahoma State.

Three teams remain undefeated: East Central, Harding and Henderson State.

Next up for the Rangers is one of those undefeated teams, East Central University.

The Tigers will play at home on Saturday at 6pm at Ranger Field. This time around, we look to see if they can match their offense and defense to put together a win against ECU.

Men’s golf win MSU Classic

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

The Ranger golf sent two teams to Northeastern State University for the NSU Men’s Golf Classic where team one tied for first and team two finished third.

The 13-team tournament included eight of the 10 Great American Conference teams. Northwestern topped all the other GAC teams.

Southern Arkansas, Harding, Arkansas at Monticello, Southwestern, East Centra, Southeastern and Southern Nazarene were the other GAC teams in the NSU Men’s Golf Classic.

Northwestern team one finished tied for first with the host team, Northeastern State. They had scored of -7. North-

western team B finished third with a score of +2.

Mathieu Zerwin won the tournament with a score of -5.

Zerwin only had eight holes over par in the 54 holes played. Zerwin finished -2 in round one, -3 in round two and par in round 3.

Chris Xiao finished tied for 3rd with a score of -3.

Zac Farmer and An-chieh Tsai finished together with scores of -2 putting them tied for 7th.

Jack Collingswood finished tied



Mathieu Zerwin
Winner of NSU Classic

for 11th with a score of -1, Jonathan Wijanto finished with the same score as Collingswood, putting him 11th as well.

Pierce Geminden was the first Ranger over par.

Geminden finished with a score of +2, putting him tied for 16th.

Semih Engez was further down the list finishing tied for 46th with a score of +10.

Aspen Hopper finished tied for 57th with a score of +13.

Alex Chenard finished tied for 66th with a score of +18.

The next tournament for the men will be the Battle of the Belt in Hot Springs, Arkansas. This tournament is hosted by GAC rival Henderson State.

It will take place on Monday and Tuesday.

2026 football schedule

L 76-0	@Harding University
L 34-29	vs Arkansas Tech University
L 55-37	vs Oklahoma Baptist University
Sep 26	@East Central University
Oct 3	@Southern Arkansas
Oct 10	vs Henderson State University
Oct 17	vs Southeastern Oklahoma State
Oct 24	@Southern Nazarene
Oct 31	vs Ouachita Baptist University
Nov 7	@Arkansas at Monticello
Nov 14	@Southwestern Oklahoma State

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Freshmen Frenzy

Right: The White Chicks dance as they fight to win the talent show.



Back in Black accept their award on Thursday.



The White Chicks pose with their award.



The Evil Minions dance for their act for Freshmen Frenzy on the Ranger Field.



The Kool Krew performing their act.