the Spotlight
Newsletter
Issue 17 - Fall 2025

Fall semester brings excitement, newness for all

Every fall semester brings with it an excitement for the new academic year. This excitement stems from a freshness that all students, faculty, and staff share to some degree. For first-year students, it could be their first time away from home. For division and department chairs, it could be a new year with new faculty members. For faculty and staff, it could be working with a new cohort of students that are just beginning to learn the ropes. However, within the context of all this newness (especially for those who've been at NWOSU for some time), there are also renewed accounts of folks' dedication for those recurring, familiar events.

And in the context of this newness, dedication, and an abundance of annually occurring events, it is quite evident that we as Rangers engage in a "Let's get to work!" mode, too. Certainly, this applies to new projects and new ventures. But it also applies to the amazing, regular, and sustained familiar work our community engages in year after year:

- Each fall semester, faculty and students conduct research and/or travel to conferences,
- Each fall semester, there are induction ceremonies and substantial advising efforts across campus,
- Each fall semester, there are performances and instances of tremendous school spirit on display,
- Each fall semester there are students placed in clinical, practicums, and internships,
- Each fall semester . . .

Open to any page in this edition of the Spotlight and you'll see evidence of efforts by individuals and groups working at many levels that collectively make NWOSU the great place that it is. Some of these accounts will be of an activity that's new to everyone. Some will be of an annual event that's new to only a few. And yet others may be of a regular function that's new to none. In each case, there's a spirit of Rangers working together, getting things done, and striving to help NWOSU thrive.

Many student volunteers generously gave of their time to help unload a truck full of items to benefit the Campus Cabinet food pantry during Day of Kindness festivities in November.

In short, we are a community that rolls up its sleeves. We take on new ventures and dedicate our time so that long-running efforts continue to succeed. We get involved and are not afraid to tackle new challenges. Through small individual acts and larger coordinated initiatives, we move forward with a sense of Ranger Pride – and I am humbled by all that is accomplished each and every year!

Collegially,

Steven J. Mauer

30 students register, learn skills at eSports day camps in June

Thirty students in grades 6-12 registered to learn new skills at one or more of the three one-day esports camps at Northwestern's Alva and Enid campuses in June.

Dr. Tim Maharry, chair of the mathematics and computer science department, said that 18 students attended the June 14 camp in Alva, to learn more about competing in the game "Marvel Rivals." On June 21, nine students took part in the Enid campus camp to learn more about "Super Smash Bros." And, 14 students attended the June 28 camp in Alva to learn about "Super Smash Bros."

Students learn more about the game "Super Smash Bros" during the esports camp at the Northwestern-Alva campus on June 28.

Northwestern's Computer Science program and eSports team, with funding from the Buckles and Tucker Endowments, sponsored these camps.

Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science and Northwestern's eSports manager, said the main goal of the camps was for the students attending to have a fun day of playing video games, to grow their skills and meet like-minded players.

College-level players also helped coach and participated with camp attendees.

Questions about camps, competitions and the Northwestern eSports program and its scholarships may be directed to Maharry at (580) 327-8583 or tjmaharry@nwosu.edu or send emails to esports@nwosu.edu.

More information about the mathematics and computer science programs is available online at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/math-and-computer-science.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 2

Time is running out! The deadline for NWOSU's First-Time Freshman Scholarships is just TWO WEEKS AWAY - July 15, 2025!

Don't miss your chance to make college more affordable.
All you need is: High School Transcript (plus transcripts from all other schools if you took concurrent classes), ACT/SAT Score, Submit Your Application.

Mail transcripts and ACT/SAT scores to: NWOSU Registry Office, 709 Oklahoma Blvd., Alva, OK 73717.

Ready to join the Ranger family? Apply today and take the first step toward your future at NWOSU!

Apply now: https://www.nwosu.edu/paying-for-college/scholarships.

Fall enrollment is open until August 26. Call us at (580) 327-1700 or visit www.nwosu.edu/apply-online.

#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks #Scholarships #CollegeFinancialAid #HigherEducation

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 2
Two retired individuals of the #RangerFamily passed away recently --

Dr. Dorothy Day-Modeland, who led our Spanish Department for several years died on June 23 and will have services in Oklahoma City July 3 with burial in Sheldon, Missouri, on July 5. Obituary: https://bit.ly/3TlYglY
and

Larry Justice, who led the Baptist Student Union (now Baptist Collegiate Ministry) for several years and also served as an adjunct instructor at #NWOSU during those years, died June 30. A memorial service for Larry will be on Monday, Aug. 4, at 2 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Derby, Kansas. There will be a private family burial before the service. Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church quilting group in Derby, KS, NWOSU BCM (BSU) in Alva, OK, or Harry Hynes Memorial Hospice in Wichita.

Our hearts go out to the many family members and former students of these great Rangers.

Archived articles from the Northwestern News about these two individuals are attached, along with a couple of photos of each.

Page 10 NORTHWESTERN NEWS

Teacher Feature

Day Dreaming

Spanish professor realizing childhood dream

"I'm doing what I've always wanted to do. Everyone has a dream when he is little; teaching was my dream..."
—Dr. Dorothy Day

Dr. Day uses creative props to teach her students Spanish vocabulary

WHAT'
Instructor for thirty-four y
says goodbye to Northwest

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

OK-LSAMP Opens Doors: Student Explores STEM in France, Spain

Ko Brooks, a senior biology major from Alva attending Northwestern, was selected to participate in an international STEM experience through the Oklahoma-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (OK-LSAMP) program.

Brooks joined 15 other students from universities across Oklahoma on an academic trip to France and Spain from May 25 to June 1. The week-long journey included visits to some of the world's most iconic landmarks, such as the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and the Palace of Versailles, as well as guided tours of the Gothic Quarter in Barcelona and the Sagrada Familia. Students also participated in university and industry site visits related to STEM fields.

"My favorite part of the trip was getting to visit the Louvre," Brooks said. "Getting to see the Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo, and other iconic paintings and statues felt surreal. Additionally, most students on this trip were complete strangers to each other. But we all bonded quickly, and I made new friends that I now couldn't imagine the trip without."

The OK-LSAMP program, led by Oklahoma State University and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), aims to increase the number of underrepresented students earning degrees in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Fourteen four-year universities across the state, including Northwestern, are part of the alliance.

"I've been the OK-LSAMP-STEM campus coordinator at Northwestern since 2002," said Dr. Tim Maharry, professor of mathematics and chair of the mathematics and computer science department. "Approximately four to eight students each year receive scholarships and other support through the program. It benefits students by providing scholarships as well as funding for research and attending conferences and seminars. Students can continue in the program beyond Northwestern if they pursue graduate degrees in STEM fields."

Brooks said the flights, tours and two group meals were paid for by OK-LSAMP.

"I had never imagined I would get this opportunity, Brooks said. "I knew the program had many research and travel opportunities, but nothing like this trip."

Brooks encourages other eligible students to partici

Continues to page 4

Continues from page 3

OK-LSAMP...

pate in the program.

"OK-LSAMP offers many research opportunities, both nationally and internationally, and travel opportunities such as this trip," Brooks added. "Another major part of the program is supporting students who are seeking to go on to graduate school. Monthly meetings focus on helping students apply and transition into graduate school."

Brooks, who is actively involved in the program, said this international experience exceeded her expectations and credits Maharry for making her aware of this scholarship opportunity.

Northwestern students interested in information on this program should contact Maharry at tjmaharry@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8583, or contact Brooks at kmbrooks12@rangers.nwosu.edu.

One of Ko Brooks' favorite parts of the trip to France and Spain as seeing the famous Mona Lisa painting in the Louvre.

Alva senior Ko Brooks takes a selfie while standing in front of the Eiffel Tower. She was able to take this trip to France and Spain.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 7

Looking for your next university home? We want YOU to #BeARanger! And, we have scholarships for you, too, but you need to apply before July 15!
Incoming freshman scholarship deadline July 15, too!
For more info about transferring to #NWOSU, visit https://bit.ly/nwosu-transfer-info.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 3
#RideRangersRide
Great American Conference
July 3
Meet the finalists for #theGAC 2025 Male & Female Scholar Athlete of the Year! Winner to be announced on Mid July

Camp Ranger for incoming freshmen held at Northwestern

Northwestern's Camp Ranger for incoming freshmen was held July 31 through Aug. 2 on the Northwestern-Alva campus.

This event was organized and run by the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors (NSA), a group of campus leaders who are selected to represent Northwestern in and out of the classroom.

"We look forward to welcoming the freshmen attending Camp Ranger," said Ella Bowers, a senior psychology major from Woodward, NSA member and Camp Ranger director. "All the counselors are eager to meet the incoming freshmen and develop new friendships as we prepare for the fall semester."

By attending, incoming freshmen have the opportunity to meet their classmates, get to know senior staff members, become familiar with the Alva community and its leaders, learn campus traditions and officially join the Ranger family with the creation of their student ID.

"Camp Ranger is a great opportunity for kids to branch out and dip their toes into the water of what college really is," said Mary Isbell, junior accounting major from Enid and NSA member.

The cost for the camp was $115 for three days of activities, meals, housing and an exclusive T-shirt only received by students attending this event.

Exciting activities were planned for the group like touring Bradt's Menagerie, Bowers said. She said the leaders couldn't wait to meet each individual who registered and show them what it means to be a part of the Ranger Family.

Check-in began on July 31 at noon and ended at 5 p.m. at Cunningham Hall. Students were able to move into the residence halls they would be living in for the semester. At 5 p.m., the students met in the lobby of their respective dorms for a welcome and icebreakers before dinner and other fun activities. Check-out time was Aug. 2 at 1 p.m.

For more information about future Camp Rangers or the Northwestern Scholar Ambassador program, contact Ethan Sacket, student success coordinator, at egsacket@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8606.

Camp Ranger 2025

Report shows economic impact of Northwestern

In partnership with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) and the University of Cincinnati Economics Center, data was provided to show the economic impact of Northwestern Oklahoma State University on the economies it supports.

The operations expenditures made by Northwestern, as well as the spending of students and alumni, generate economic impacts in the form of economic output, jobs, and wages throughout the State of Oklahoma. These expenditures, in turn, stimulate additional economic impact resulting from increased demand, income, and jobs within other industries as well as increases in household income and spending. The subsequent impact on state and local tax revenue represents the fiscal impact. This result is comprised of the income tax revenue resulting from the wages supported as well as the sales tax revenue resulting from student spending and the spending of wages.

The report highlights the following:

- Northwestern generated a total of $124.08 million in economic output and supported a total of 1,204 jobs with wages of $55.45 million in the State of Oklahoma in fiscal year 2024.
- The operations, student spending, and alumni of Northwestern created a total of $3.75 million in fiscal benefits for state and local jurisdictions in fiscal year 2024, which is comprised of $2.01 million in income tax revenue and $1.74 million in sales tax revenue.
- Every dollar in state appropriations Northwestern received in fiscal year 2024 resulted in $12.36 in total economic output in the State of Oklahoma.

"We know we give students a great education and experience at an affordable cost, but seeing numbers on how Northwestern impacts our communities and the State of Oklahoma gives us another reason to be proud of the work we are doing," President Bo Hannaford said.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 8
Come Visit Us!
Alva Chamber of Commerce
July 8
Alva made the list of most beautiful college towns! All the more reason to spend this weekend making it look better than ever!!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 10
Experience Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing like never before!
Take a virtual tour with Dr. Leslie Collins and Dr. Jennifer Mahieu and discover why our Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing is the perfect place to launch or advance your nursing career.
What makes us special?
95% NCLEX pass rate with 100% job placement
Flexible online courses that let you learn while you earn
Cutting-edge simulation labs across four locations
Caring-centered curriculum that encompasses all aspects of nursing practice
20+ scholarship opportunities available
Expert faculty including Northwestern alumni
From our campus, we provide diverse clinical experiences and strong community support. Our Traditional BSN, RN-to-BSN, and BSN-to-DNP programs offer the flexibility you need to succeed.
Ready to join the Ranger Family? Enrollment is open year-round!
Apply now: https://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks #NursingEducation #BSN #DNP #NursingSchool #Healthcare #Oklahoma #StudentSuccess

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
July 14
Please join us in celebrating Dr. Wendy Dusenbury, a 1994 graduate of the NWOSU nursing program, on her upcoming induction into the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN), one of the highest honors in the nursing profession!
Dr. Dusenbury, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, ANVP-BC, FAHA, is a nationally recognized neurovascular nurse practitioner and Assistant Professor at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix. Her groundbreaking work in acute stroke care has transformed stroke treatment across the country, especially in underserved areas. Her leadership includes co-authoring national stroke guidelines, launching the first mobile stroke units and telemedicine programs, and shaping stroke certification standards across the country.
When reflecting on her time at NWOSU, Dr. Dusenbury shared:
"My education at NWOSU was outstanding and provided me with the knowledge and skills that I needed to move forward in my career. I am so thankful for the nursing faculty who invested in us as students. It was a special place with unique opportunities."
Congratulations, Dr. Dusenbury! Your dedication to advancing the nursing profession continues to inspire us all.
#RangerNurses #NWOSU #FAAN #NurseLeader

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NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
July 14
Each spring, we recognize outstanding graduates in multiple categories. If you know of a graduate who is an exceptional business professional, we invite you to nominate them for the Outstanding Graduate award. To nominate go to https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/spring-alumni-reunion

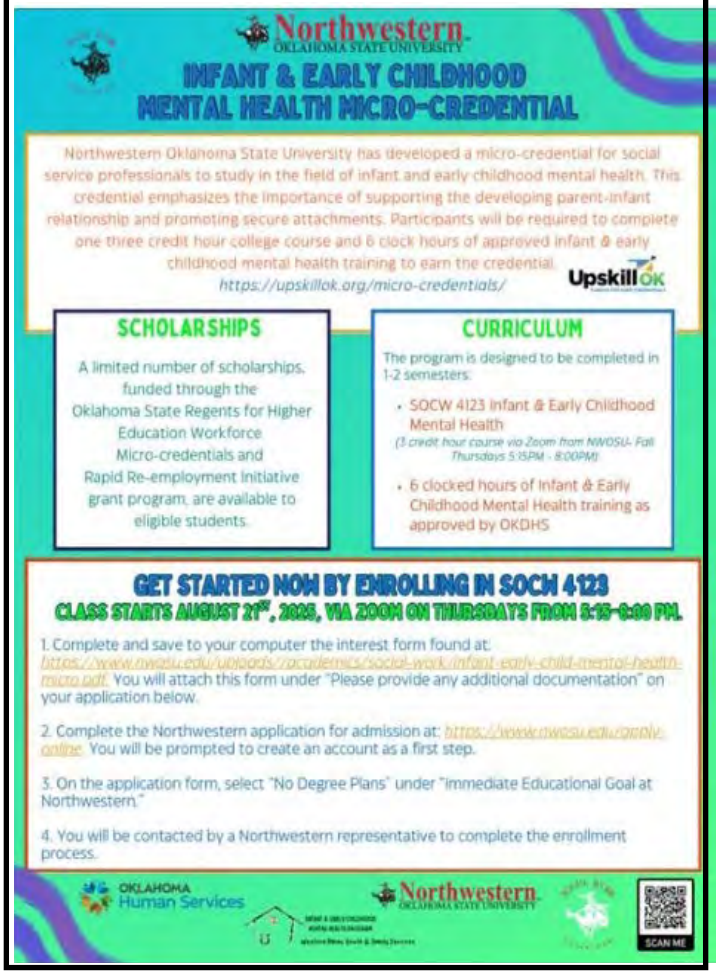
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 18
DNP Residency Week was a success!
We had an incredible week of learning, collaboration, and hands-on experiences during NWOSU's 8th Annual DNP Residency Week. Thank you to our amazing students, faculty, volunteers, and community partners who made this event possible!

#NWOSUNursing #DNP #FutureNursePractitioners

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 23
Lady Rangers Rank Eighth in WBCA Division II Academic Top 25 #RRR

NWOSU Department of Social Work
July 28
Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Micro-credential.

Sign-up now to take the course for FREE! Ideal for teachers, social workers, child welfare specialists, counselors, clinicians & those in the medical field. Get enrolled today! Questions can be directed to Dr. Rehder-kdrehder@nwosu.edu



Oklahoma Cross Country & track Coaches Association
July 29
Living Legends: A Conversaton with Jill Lancaster & John Pickens

Two of Oklahoma's most respected names in coaching, Jill Lancaster and John Pickens, sit down to share stories, lessons, and insidghts from decades of experience. With careers marked by championships, mentorship, and impact far beyond the finish line.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 29
Our '25-26 President's Leadership Class is enjoying the heat at six flags today with their annual trip!
They have spent an evening on campus, held team building activities, and traveled as a group.
#PLC #RRR #NWOSU

Oklahoma Career Tech
July 30
Oklahoma CareerTech and the Regional University System of Oklahoma have launched the Teaching to Teach Apprenticeship Program to provide teachers with education training at a regional university and on-the-job training under a mentor at their school districts or early learning centers.
Apprentices will receive a scholarship and pursue standard certification through the Assessment of Professional Knowledge exam.
The Teaching to Teach Apprenticeship Program is available for the 2025 – 2026 academic year. The scholarship amount is up to $10,000/semester. The amount will vary depending on the remaining unpaid balance of tuition, books and certification voucher exam (if applicable) costs. Program spots are on a "first-come, first-serve" basis.
We've received a strong response so far, but there's still time to apply! Applications are due by Tuesday, August 5, 2025.
Find a list of required documents and instructions on how to apply at https://bit.ly/40k0yWw!
Set yourself up for success in the classroom and apply today!
#okcareertech | #oklahomasworkforceleader | #teachingtoteach | #apprenticeships

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
July 30
Check out our summer Degrees of Progress newsletter and learn about: the economic impact of #OKHigherEd, how Northwestern Oklahoma State University builds OK's workforce, Seminole State College of Oklahoma's partnership pathways to careers, OneNet's 400G network upgrade, phase II, tinyurl.com/2rvys77d | #OKHigherEdWorks

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
July 30
Ready to advance your career? The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Business Online MBA program offers two specialized tracks: Business Management and Health Care Administration. Our first cohort has already completed their degrees, proving you can earn your MBA in just 12 months with our fully online format designed for working professionals.
- 33 credit hours
- Flexible 8-week sessions
- No GMAT required
- Financial aid available
- Proven results with completed graduates

Northwestern business, accounting, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing graduates with a 2.75 GPA are automatically admitted!
Learn More: https://www.nwosu.edu/graduate-studies/mba
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks #OnlineMBA #GraduateStudies

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 6
Is there a more perfect time than his birthday to introduce our new assistant coach? Happy birthday Emmett Edler! We're excited for what you'll bring to our program!
#RRR #RangerRodeo #NorthwesternRodeo

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 5
Check this out! The first level tier at Ranger Field is receiving a face lift.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
August 5
Are you new to Northwestern Oklahoma State University ENID Campus? Join us for NEW student orientation!

14 DNP students complete 2025 summer residency training

Fourteen students in the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice at Northwestern spent five days on the Alva campus for residency week in July.

The students are involved in a hybrid program meaning that much of their education is completed online. The students can complete clinical work in their hometowns while Northwestern faculty members supervise remotely. For residency week, the students come to the Alva campus for a week of hands-on training and to show that they are competent in physically assessing patients.

Students who attended this year's week-long residency program included Teresa Austin of Mooreland, Dipal Bhakta of Tulsa, Payton Bills of Yukon, Jordan Bourland of Colgate, Cassandra Denoya of Ponca City, Shirley Font of Yukon, Sydney Hamill of Anthony (Kansas), Sarah Maldonado of Monkey Island, Caitlin Nagel of Garber, Heather Patton of Stigler, Mollie Hughes of Tulsa, Caley Sharp of Ponca City, Ifeoma Uduezue of Edmond and Elizabeth Wright of Durant.

During residency week, students are able to check off their physical assessment skills to prepare for a clinical setting. They receive an introductory experience to common procedures they will encounter in primary care such as suturing, eye injuries and biopsies. Kiowa Meat Locker donated pig feet to practice suturing and cattle eyeballs for assessing eye injuries, and Moore's Venture Foods in Alva donated overripe produce for biopsy simulation.

Dr. Gwyneth Holderby, assistant professor of nursing and Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice program director, was joined by assistant professors of nursing Dr. Angela Skousen, Dr. Hannah Hoppes, Dr. Krystal Elliot and Dr. Sierra Elsey to provide instruction to the group during the week. Together they supervised physical exams that were completed on community volunteers and taught the students procedures like joint injections, repairing lacerations with sutures, and other procedures commonly performed in primary care.

Holderby also met with students to discuss their DNP projects and clinical placement.

"It was a great week," Holderby said. "The faculty and students really got to bond with each other and grow their relationships. The students checked off on head to toe exams so they are ready to start clinicals in the spring and learned many skills they will need for practice. We had so many amazing volunteers from the community as well."

The BSN-to-DNP program enrolled its first class in August 2017. The sixth class to have graduated did so this year in May. Members of the graduating class of 2025 presented their respective projects in the J.W. Martin Library on July 17 in an event open to the public.

Northwestern is one of five public universities in Oklahoma to offer a Family Nurse Practitioner program, was the first public university with a BSN-to-DNP offering, and is the only program in the state with an emphasis on nursing in rural communities. So far, the program boasts a 95 percent or better certification pass rate and a 100 percent employment rate.

Students may enroll full-time for the three-year program or part-time for the four-year program. Instruction within this program helps

Continued to page 12

Students, faculty and benefactors of the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice met at the President's House on the Northwestern-Alva campus during the 2025 summer residency week. Those who attended are (front row, left to right) Jordan Bourland; Sarah Maldonado; Mollie Hughes; Dipal Bhakta; Caitlin Nagel (second row, left to right) Paul Mungiria; Shirley Font; Cassandra Denoya; Sydney Hamill; Caley Sharp (third row, left to right) Dr. Peggy Wisdom; Payton Bills; Ifeoma Uduezue; Heather Patton; Teresa Austin (fourth row, left to right) Dr. Hannah Hoppes, assistant professor of nursing; Elizabeth Wright; Dr. Angela Skousen, assistant professor of nursing; Dr. Gwyneth Holderby, DNP program director (back row, left to right) Dr. Leslie Collins, Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing chair; Todd Holder; Dr. Bo Hannaford, Northwestern President.

Continued from page 11

14 DNP students...

to prepare students to become certified Family Nurse Practitioners in their home communities and surrounding areas without first earning a master's degree; however, there is an advanced placement option for students who have already completed a master's degree in nursing.

A virtual tour of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing is available on the university YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@nwokst or the program webpage www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing. For more information, call (580) 327-8493.

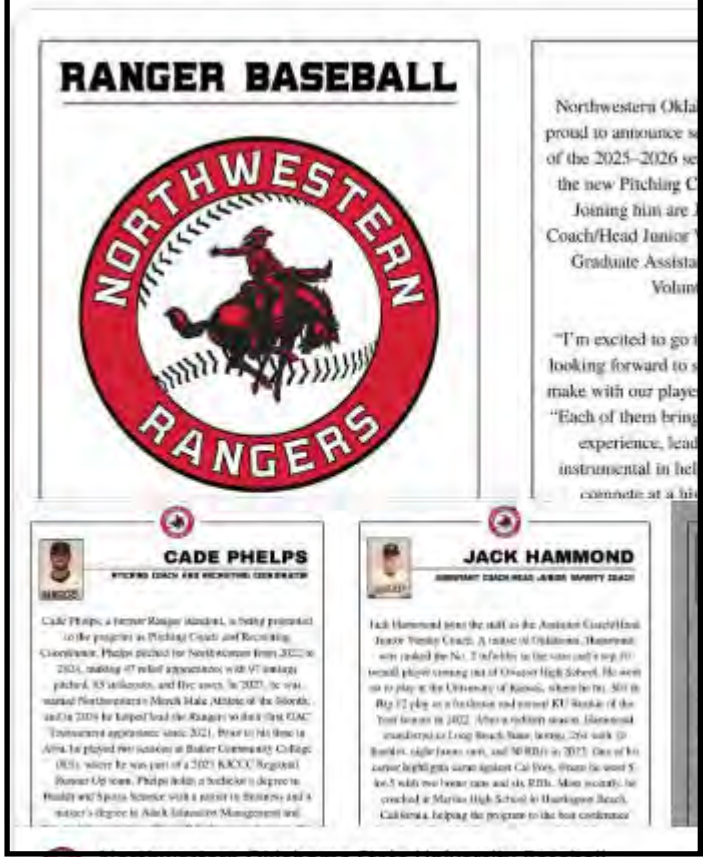
Additional information about the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice program may be found online at www.nwosu.edu/graduate-studies/bsn-to-dnp or by calling (580) 327-8442.

2025 Northwestern DNP graduate Thuy Van gives a presentation in J.W. Martin library during the 2025 DNP residency week.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 7
Derek Jewell and Vanna Fuqua dropped by this morning with an amazing check to support our campus pantry! We appreciate them and the whole crew!! THANK YOU!!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Baseball
August 11
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Baseball is proud to announce several coaching staff updates ahead of the 2025–2026 season. Cade Phelps has been named the new Pitching Coach and Recruiting Coordinator. Joining him are Jack Hammond as the Assistant Coach/Head Junior Varsity Coach, Jacob Wiltshire as a Graduate Assistant Coach, and Cam Riemer as a Volunteer Assistant Coach.

"I'm excited to go to work with our new staff and am looking forward to seeing the positive impact they will make with our players," said Head Coach Ryan Bowen. "Each of them brings a unique combination of playing experience, leadership, and energy that will be instrumental in helping Ranger Baseball continue to compete at a high level in the Great American Conference."



Northwestern launches updated Media and Communication Degree

The Mass Communication program debuted as Media and Communication this fall.

"This title is a better representation of our academic program as it encompasses mass media and strategic communication," said Tamara Brown, communication department chair and assistant professor of speech.

Faculty spent many hours researching to determine what changes needed to be made to this longstanding, well-known program and how to make them.

"We reviewed years of exit surveys that had been completed by graduating seniors of the Northwestern Mass Communication program," Brown said. "We discussed options previously considered for program changes, researched other university programs and discussed current industry trends with communication professionals."

The updated curriculum is designed to enhance alignment with evolving industry standards, a priority for the program. The primary modifications to the degree requirements for major and major/minor programs include updates to previous courses as well as some new classes to replace outdated coursework.

New classes required for the degree include: Writing for Media Professionals, a lower level writing course to address the basics of writing in all areas and to serve as a prerequisite to prepare students for all upper-level writing courses; and the 4000-level course Social Media Strategy, a course to address how to incorporate social media platforms in a comprehensive communication plan, including use of analytics to gauge effectiveness.

Students continue to participate in award-winning student media the Northwestern News newspaper and NWTV7 broadcast, the student-led strategic communication firm Ranger Communication and are provided the opportunity to utilize the program's podcast recording studio.

Students are also afforded career enrichment opportunities such as media tours with corporate and non-profit communication teams, TV stations, marketing and advertising firms, and newspapers in the region. Previous tours included discussions with communication professionals—including Northwestern alumni—from the Love's Corporation; KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City; the Paycom Center; event and entertainment venue Texas Live!; and The Oklahoman.

"The students are able to learn from various professionals, network and visualize the 'big picture' of how they may fit into the industry, which is so important for future success," said Dr. Jesse Schroeder, assistant professor of communication and NWTV7 adviser.

New elective classes will also be available in the major/minor program including Media Literacy, Advanced Reporting, and Special Topics in Communication. Students will still receive top-tier instruction in broadcast, journalism, strategic communication, and related areas.

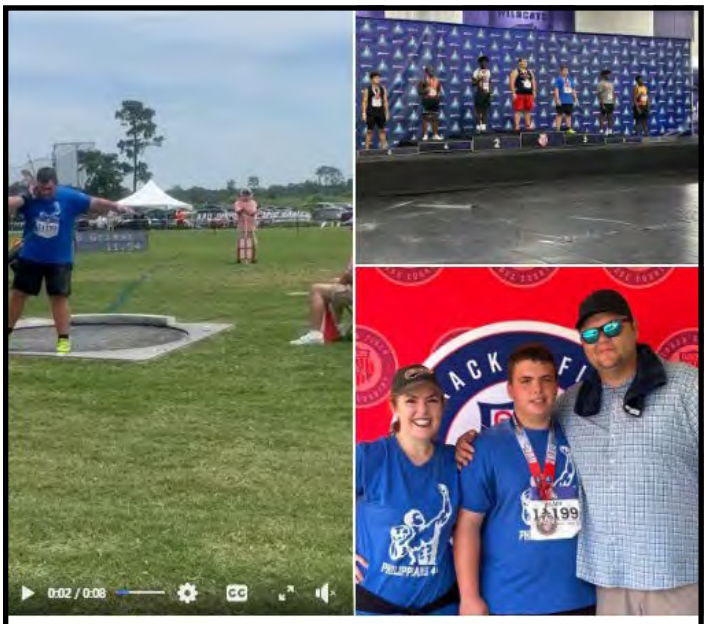
These changes were approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education during the spring 2025 semester.

To read the Northwestern News Online visit northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com and follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NorthwesternNewsNWOSU. To watch NWTV7, visit www.nwtv7.rangerpulse.com, subscribe to their YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@nwtv-7 and follow them on social media. Contact the Ranger Communication firm by visiting their website www.rangercommunication.rangerpulse.com, email them at rangercommunication@nwosu.edu and follow them on social media.

For more information on the Northwestern Communication Department contact Brown by email at tlbrown@nwosu.edu or by phone at (580) 327-8429.

Students from the media and communication program (left to right) Kenneth Irving, senior from Diberville (Mississippi); Derrick Galindo, senior from Alva; Dr. Jesse Schroeder, assistant professor of communication; Piper Gallagher, senior from Watonga; Jaxy Cloud, senior from Enid; Karolina Juresiute, senior from Vilniaus, Lithuania; Ingrid Maldonado, senior from Alva; Allison Scheiber, graduated senior from Okeene; and Tamara Brown, communication department chair; visited KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City this past April.

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
August 11
ICYMI: Northwestern Oklahoma State University Bo Hannaford highlights NWOSU's student success. Nearly 50% of NWOSU students graduate with zero education debt, and over 80% are still employed in Oklahoma five years after graduation.
More: tinyurl.com/2rvys77d | #OKHigherEdWorks



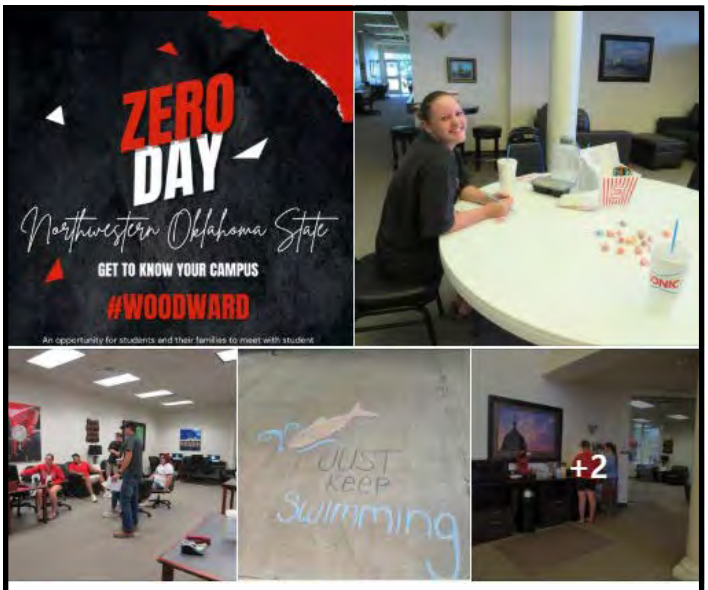
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 14
Dr. Sierra Elsey, an assistant professor in the Division of Nursing at #NWOSU, and her husband Mike, gained bragging rights in northwest Oklahoma and the state this summer. Their 13-year old son Lucas, who attends school in Moore-land, placed first at AAU Regionals in discus and shot put, which qualified him to throw at the AAU Junior Olympics in Texas! He placed third in the nation for shot and earned an all-American patch. He placed 16th in discus.
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics — keep an eye on this one!
Links to video interviews:
KOCO ch5 in OKC: https://bit.ly/4oCM3HQ
Woodward News video interview:
https://www.facebook.com/woodward.../vid-eos/4262336000719801
Congrats to Lucas and the Elsey family!
#nwosu #RangerFamily

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 13
Signage was added to a couple of areas this summer - the Alva Presbyterian Church that was gifted to #NWOSU last year now has an official university name on it, and above the entrance to the auditorium in Herod Hall now has the official new name of the Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall.
Learn more about how you can donate to continue the upkeep of the auditorium at https://ournorthwestern.org/ffanp

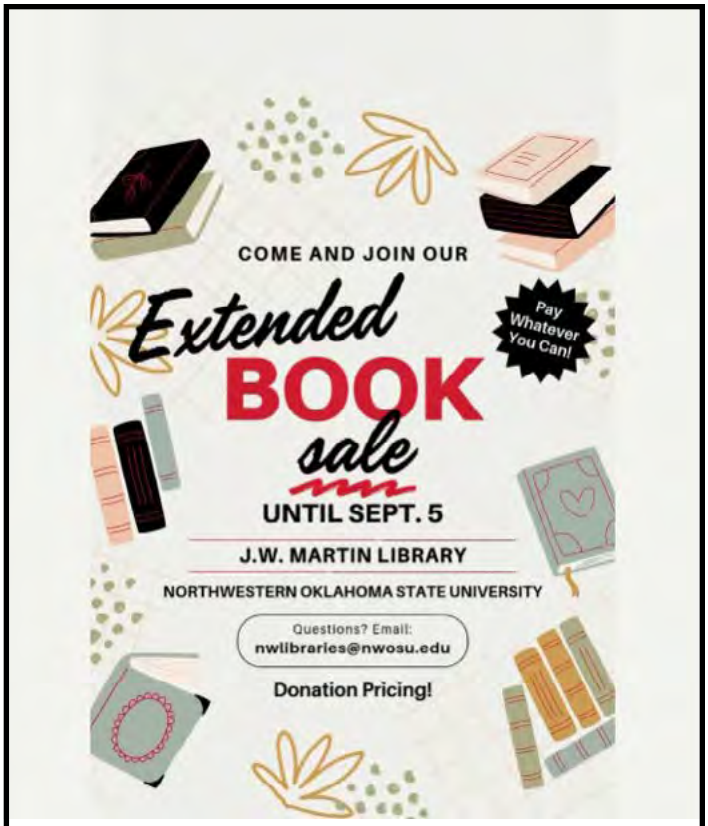
NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
August 14
Each spring, we recognize outstanding graduates in multiple categories. If you know a graduate who is a standout educator, we invite you to nominate them for the Outstanding Graduate award. To nominate, go to https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/spring-alumni-reunion

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
August 14
Thanks 7 Brew for the refreshing drinks! We enjoyed the drinks at our freshman orientation!

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



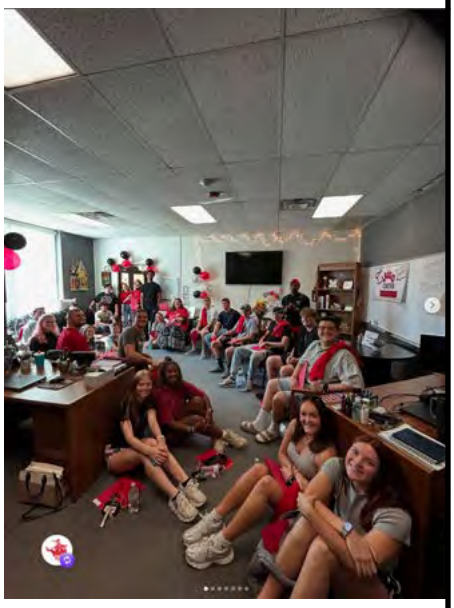
Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Woodward Campus
August 15
We enjoyed an evening getting to know our new students and getting them set up for success in Fall 2025! Can't wait for this semester to get started!!! #ZERODAY #RRR #NWOSU #woodwardcampus #fall2025



Northwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries
August 14
Plot twist! We're extending our book sale through September 5! Perfect timing for our returning Rangers to hunt for books before the semester chaos begins. Textbooks, comfort reads, dorm decor - we've got it all at donation prices. Pay whatever you can: Cash, Check, Venmo, CashApp Mon-Fri, 8-5 in J.W. Martin Library. Fair warning: Sept 5 = auction time for anything left! Ready to find your next favorite book? Questions? nwlibraries@nwosu.edu #RideRangersRide #NWOSU #BookSale #WelcomeBack

NWOSU LASSO
August 16
Happy Freshman Orientation Day!!!

Today, the LASSO Center got to welcome our incoming freshmen! We were so excited to introduce ourselves and tell them what the LASSO Center is about! Class of '29 we are ready to serve YOU!
#rrr



Longtime Northwestern employees promoted

Northwestern officials have announced the promotion of two longtime Rangers, Brad Franz and Calleb Mosburg. Franz has been named vice president for athletics, moving from his role as director of athletics. Mosburg has been named vice president for student services and enrollment management, previously serving as dean for student services and enrollment management.

Brad Franz

Brad Franz

Franz is entering his 10th year leading the Ranger athletic department and 19th overall. Under his direction, the program has maintained stability and steady progress in all sports since the university's transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division II.

Ranger athletic teams excel academically, posting an athletic department GPA of 3.21 for the 2024-2025 school year, which marked the 18th semester in the past decade above a 3.0 GPA. In 2024-2025, 127 ¬¬¬student-athletes earned D2 Athletic Directors Association All-Academic honors, requiring a minimum 3.5 GPA, which ranked number one in the Great American Conference.

Franz has also been instrumental in expanding athletic opportunities. In 2019, he launched the women's track and field program, now boasting 56 members under nationally recognized coach Jill Lancaster. In 2023, he initiated the men's track and field program which also has 56 members.

His leadership has resulted in facility improvements, including overseeing the renovation of Percefull Fieldhouse, a new 20-stall horse barn for the rodeo team, and the completion of the Dunning Performance Center renovation. He spearheaded the physical creation of the Ranger Hall of Fame in Percefull Fieldhouse and helped secure the funding for the Verne Metcalf family university track.

Franz was named the Donovan Reichenberger Fundraising Award winner in both 2018 and 2022. Before becoming athletic director, he served as head men's basketball coach during the 2015-16 season, leading the team to its first Great American Conference tournament appearance. Franz previously served as vice president for instruction at Otero College in La Junta, Colorado, and as vice president of student services and enrollment management at Northwestern from 2006 to 2013.

Along with an extensive history with Northwestern, he also earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the university. Franz has three children — Jordan, married to Kylie; Cecely, and Aleysa, married to Dalton Rose — and is a proud grandfather to Emma and Jimmer, with another grandchild on the way.

Calleb Mosburg

Calleb Mosburg

Mosburg began his career at Northwestern in 2007 in the Office of Recruitment, where he helped produce some of the largest freshman classes in school history. His success led to promotions in 2008 to retention coordinator and assistant director of recruitment. In these roles, he continued to drive freshman enrollment growth.

In 2010, Mosburg became director of financial aid, implementing practices to make the process more efficient and student-friendly. He guided the office and students through a smooth transition during major federal loan program changes.

Three years later, he was named dean of student services and enrollment management. In this role, Mosburg has advanced enrollment growth by institutionalizing Complete College America and Higher Learning Commission strategies, increasing concurrent high school enrollment by 104%, and establishing the Enrollment Management Task Force. His efforts have contributed to three consecutive years of 4% enrollment growth. He has also prioritized campus safety with infrastructure and procedural improvements.

Through the many positions Calleb has held at Northwestern, the one constant has been his love for serving students and being a part of each one's journey as a Ranger.

Mosburg serves in the Alva community on the Woods County Election Board, the Alva Airport Commission, and as a deacon at the First Baptist Church. He also volunteers his time coaching youth softball and assisting in many other volunteer activities.

He enjoys his time away from the office with his wife, Dr. Callie Mosburg, and his three daughters, Reese, Ashton, and Zoe. The Mosburgs create fun experiences for their family by spending time traveling, relaxing at the lake, or snowboarding on the mountain.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 16
Welcome to the NWOSU #RangerFamily Freshman Class 2025-26!

Job seekers invited to fall 2025 education career fair Aug. 27

Northwestern connected education employers seeking to fill open positions and internships with students and local job-seekers at the Fall 2025 Education Career Fair.

The event took place in the Student Center Ranger Room on Wednesday, Aug. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Attendees were encouraged to come prepared with copies of resumes and cover letters.

Taylor Wilson, director of counseling and career services, encourages job seekers to dress professionally and to visit her office in Ryerson Hall 209 if they need assistance before the fair.

Organizations planning to attend included Alva Public Schools; El Reno Public Schools; Enid Public Schools; Freedom Public Schools; Garden City Public Schools USD 457 in Garden City, Kansas; South Barber USD 255 in Kiowa, Kansas; Kremlin-Hillsdale School; Barber County North USD 254 in Medicine Lodge, Kansas; Network of International Christian Schools; Northwestern Graduate Studies; Santa Fe South Public Schools in Oklahoma City; Shawnee Mission School District USD 512 in Overland Park, Kansas; Ponca City Public Schools; and Tonkawa Public Schools.

For more information, visit www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services or contact Wilson at tawilson@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8547.

New Ranger statue unveiled at Ranger Field

Northwestern proudly unveiled its newest campus landmark thanks to the generosity of Liz Smith, Jeff Allen and Woody Glass. The public dedication took place on Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. at the entrance to Ranger Field.

The bronze figure, crafted to embody the spirit and strength of the Rangers, is positioned to greet fans as they arrive for football and baseball games.

This Ranger statue is the third installment, with one located on the northeast corner of the Alva campus, along with one at the Northwestern-Enid location. The original Alva statue was a gift to Northwestern from past university president Tom McDaniel and wife, Brenda, with Harold Holden as the artist. A dedication ceremony for the first Alva statue took place in November 2007.

In February 2008 during the dedication ceremony at the Enid location, Holden said, "The structure will symbolize the qualities of the cowboy: honesty, hard work and courage." The Northwestern-Enid statue was donated by Harold Hamm and his former wife, Sue Ann.

The lead donation came from Liz Smith, wife of the late Alva optometrist Dr. Troy Smith, whose passion exuded when it came to supporting the university. The Smiths chaired Northwestern's annual scholarship drive for 25 years and served the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association in other capacities. Troy Smith started at the Alva Vision Clinic in 1981 and was proud to serve his northwest Oklahoma clients, said Liz Smith.

When Liz Smith learned that another statue was still in storage, she knew this would be the best way to honor her late husband. While the three statues were being cast, the couple traveled to the workshop to watch the process. Liz said her husband loved building anything from tables to decks, and was really fascinated with the work on the statues.

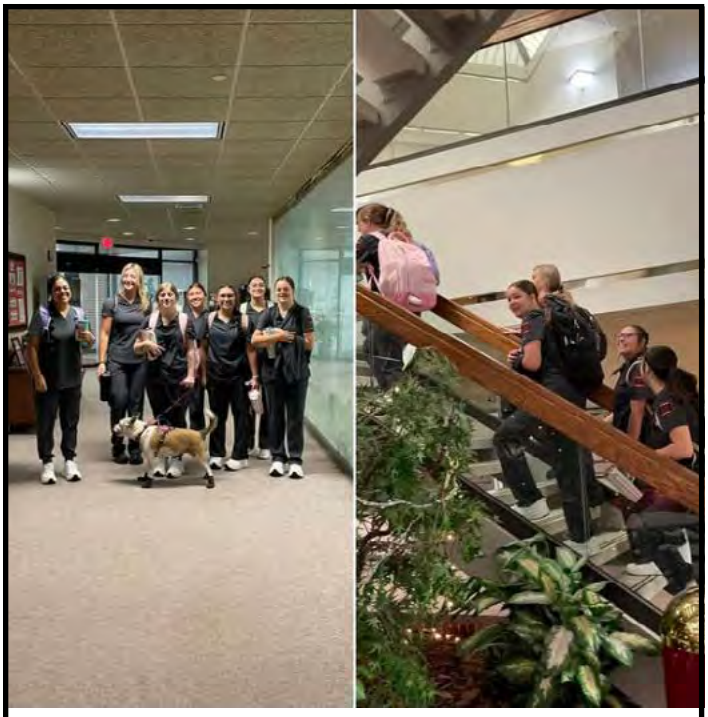
The Smiths both graduated from Northwestern in 1976, Liz Smith with a business administration degree and Troy Smith with a biology degree. Jeff Allen, a former member of the Ranger baseball team, earned a business administration degree in 1987, and longtime friend of the university Woody Glass, a former member of the Ranger football team, attended Northwestern from 1986-1989.

"We are extremely grateful for these donors to create a lasting legacy through this statue," said Dr. Bo Hannaford, university president. "It is more than art, it's a reminder of who we are as a university and the values we stand for."

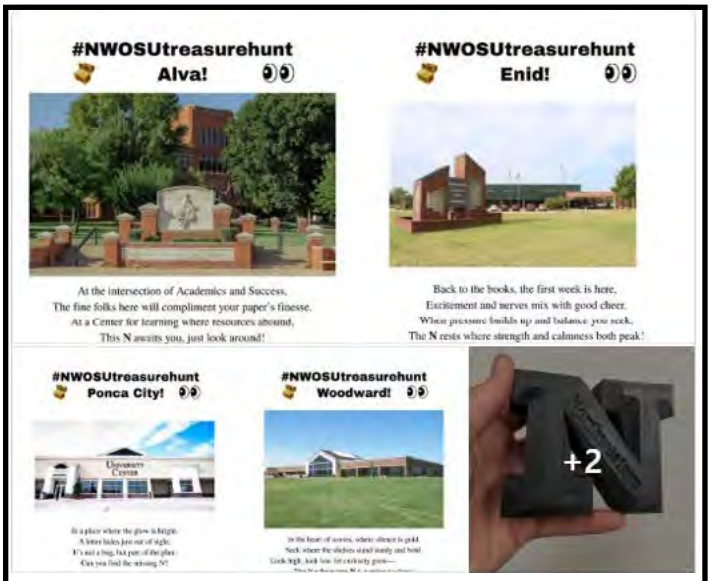
The statue now stands near Ranger Field, serving as a bold symbol of school pride and tradition.

Above: The newest Ranger statue was dedicated on August 23 near the entrance to Ranger Field. Family and friends gathered to hear Dr. Bo Hannaford and Liz Smith speak at the event. The lead donation for this statue came as way to honor her late husband, Dr. Troy Smith. Donations from Jeff Allen and Woody Glass completed the funding.

Left: Liz Smith touches the name plate for the statue.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
August 19
2025-26 school year has started



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 20
Steve Maier
August 20
Hello Ranger Nation! It's the first week of classes, and what better way is there to start things off than a good ol' treasure hunt!! In this round, we have a Northwestern "N" hidden at each main location we offer classes!

When you find your treasure, be sure to take a selfie, tag NWOSU, and use #NWOSUtreasurehunt! Good luck.

NWOSU Teacher's Closet
August 19
Fall 2025 student teachers shopping the Teacher's Closet

NWOSU Theatre
August 20
Welcome to NWOSU Theatre!
Say hello to the Theatre Production I & II students!
There are many familiar faces and lots of new friends. We are all excited for a great '25 - '26 season of productions!
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #castleplayersclub #nwosu #nwosurangers #théâtre #theatre #theatreeducation #theatrestudent #theatrelife

NWOSU Division of Education
August 20
Fall 2025 student teachers head out to their internships tomorrow!
RRR!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 20
From one Ranger to the next. Have a great semester, nursing students! #rangerpride #RRR

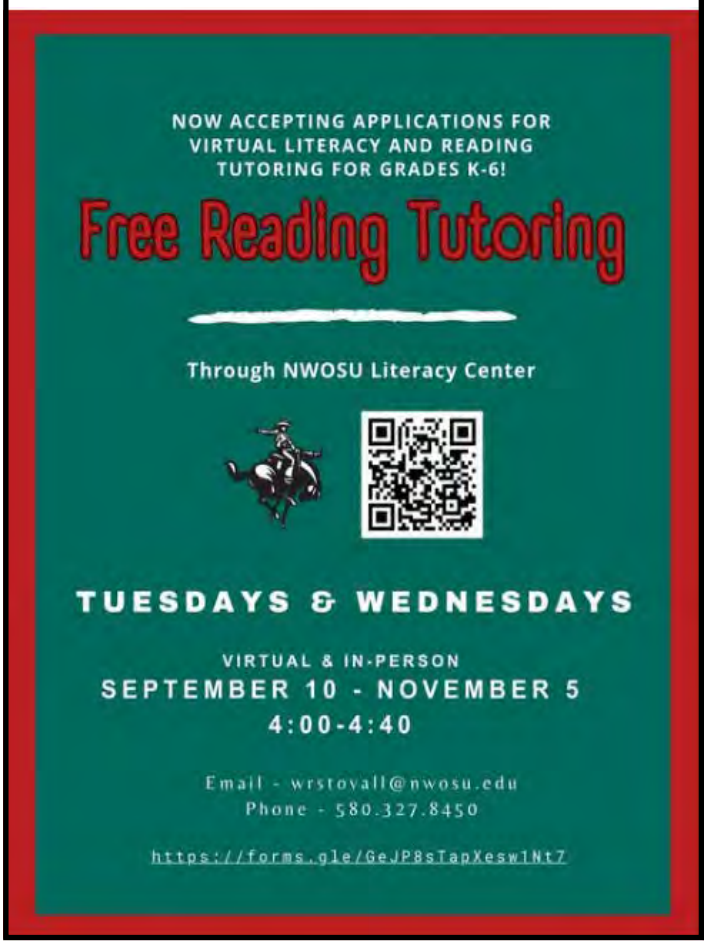
NWOSU Literacy Center
August 21
Literacy tutoring will be available both VIRTUALLY and IN PERSON this semester beginning in September!

At the NWOSU Literacy Center, we'll match your child with a teacher-candidate who is majoring in education. This service is free!

Tutoring will begin the week of September 8 and end the week of November 3. Mrs. Stovall will actively participate in tutoring and supervise teacher candidates.

Scan the QR code or use this link to apply: https://forms.gle/bCCRthNPv6Xz6s9y6

Contact Mrs. Stovall at wrstovall@nwosu.edu or 580-327-8450 with any questions!



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Moreira continues traditional fall piano recital September 9

The Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts at Northwestern Oklahoma State University will showcase world-class faculty talent when Dr. Eduardo Moreira performs a free piano recital Sept. 9.

Moreira, assistant professor of music, will continue his tradition of offering a solo piano recital in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall on Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

"This concert is a chance for Northwestern students to witness a music professor perform as a professional musician and an opportunity for those who enjoy classical music on the piano," Moreira said.

The program features all four ballades by Chopin, Berg's Sonata Op. 1, three etudes by Rachmaninoff and concludes with Prokofiev's Seventh Sonata.

An internationally experienced concert pianist, Moreira has performed in prestigious venues across Brazil, France, Germany, the United States and Uruguay. At Northwestern, he teaches piano as well as accompanying the Northwestern choirs and all music students.

Moreira holds bachelor's and master's degrees in musical performance from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil and the University of Strasbourg in France, respectively. He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano degree from the University of Oregon.

For more information about the concert, contact Moreira at emoreira@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8192. For more information about the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts, contact Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre arts and department chair, at kkweast@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8462.

Eduardo Moreira

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 22
This was just our first week of the semester at #NWOSU! So many fun things to do and new people to meet! We loved seeing our returning students and everyone coming together to make one big #RangerFamily.

Wouldn't you like to #BeARanger, too? Fall semester class enrollment ends Aug. 26. www.nwosu.edu/course-schedules And don't forget, we have a great scholarship program to help you pay for school. In fact, nearly 60% of our graduates are debt-free!

recruit@nwosu.edu | (580) 327-8546
#RRR #OKHigherEdWorks

NWOSU Higher Education Prevention Services
August 22

We had the honor of having Steve Tanio, a retired special agent from OSBI and currently employed as an investigator for the DA's office. He spoke to NWOSU college athletes and coaches about the risks they may face, including substance use. He discussed the dangers of counterfeit pills and fentanyl, the ongoing opioid crisis, and explained what Narcan is and how it works.

If you or your loved one needs help, call or text 988, a non-emergency hotline that is anonymous. If in an emergency, call 911. Get the care and help that you deserve!

To learn more, go to: https://okimready.org/

Steve Tanio

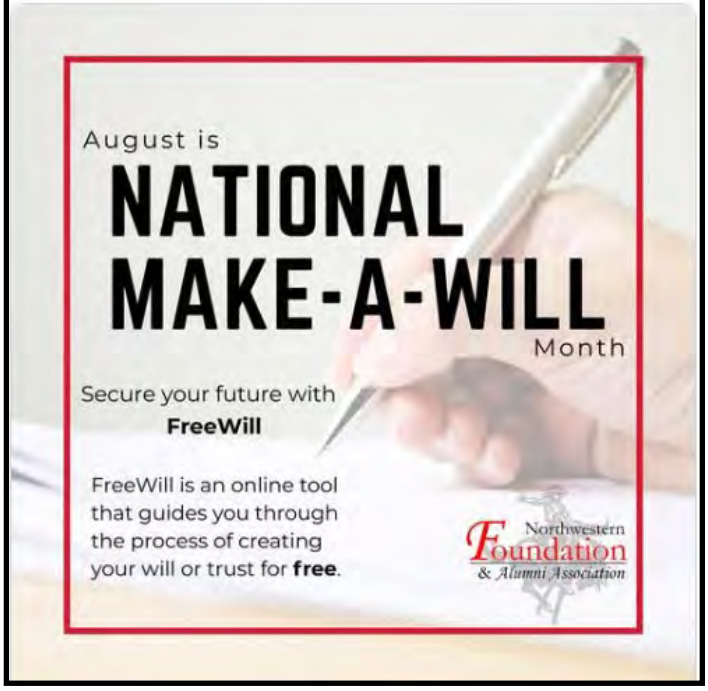
Mr. Steve Tanio is currently employed as an investigator for the District Attorney's Office, where he covers five counties in NW Oklahoma, investigating a wide variety of criminal offenses. He has been a law enforcement officer in the State of Oklahoma since 1980 and retired as a Special Agent from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI).

NWOSU Theatre
August 23
The 2025-2026 Donovan Reichenberger Core Leadership Theatre scholarship recipients setting goals for the new year!
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #nwosu #castleplayersclub #nwosurangers #scholarships

NWOSU Spanish
August 25
Announcing our first meeting!
We're so happy to see everyone back on campus this year. If you're looking for something to do, come hang out with us this Thursday for game night!
After we're done you can check out @nwosuhalo's meeting at 6:30 in Vinson Hall 200!

NWOSU Division of Education
August 25
Melody Blosser from Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom visited campus today to present student teachers with comprehensive agriculture curriculum resources and opportunities for integrating agricultural education into P-12 instruction. Her presentation demonstrated how these materials (Oklahoma Specialty Activity Sheets) align with Oklahoma Educational Standards, providing valuable tools for incorporating agriculture-based learning experiences across grade levels.

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
August 25
August is National Make-A-Will Month. If you haven't already, it's not too late to sign up for FreeWill. We have partnered with FreeWill to offer you a secure, intuitive tool to create and/or update your will completely free of charge. Protect your loved ones by planning ahead today. https://tinyurl.com/49mvymdc



Northwestern partners with local businesses to sell beer at football games

Northwestern announced the approval of beer sales for home football games at Ranger Field.

In the spring, the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents approved the request from Northwestern to join other universities in selling beer at the home football games.

Local businesses Alva Beer Co. and Troubadour teamed up to sell different types of beer at each home game. University officials asked fans not to bring their own alcohol into the stadium.

Home football games for the Rangers included:

- Sept. 4 vs. Harding University at 6 p.m.
- Sept. 27 vs. East Central 6 p.m.
vs. Southern Arversity at 2 p.m.
25 (Homecomern Nazarene 3 p.m.
(Ranger Preview) of Arkansas at Monticello at 2 p.m.
- Nov. 15 vs. Southwestern Oklahoma State University at 3 p.m.

About Alva Beer Co. (ABC)

Alva Beer Co., a locally owned craft brewery in downtown Alva, serves a variety of craft beers, artisan pizza, and is a welcoming space for people to gather or catch live music on the weekends.

About Troubadour

Troubadour is a family-owned restaurant and bar located in Alva. Combining a fun atmosphere with their menu of comfort food and drinks, the Troubadour gives its customers great options for lunch and dinner.

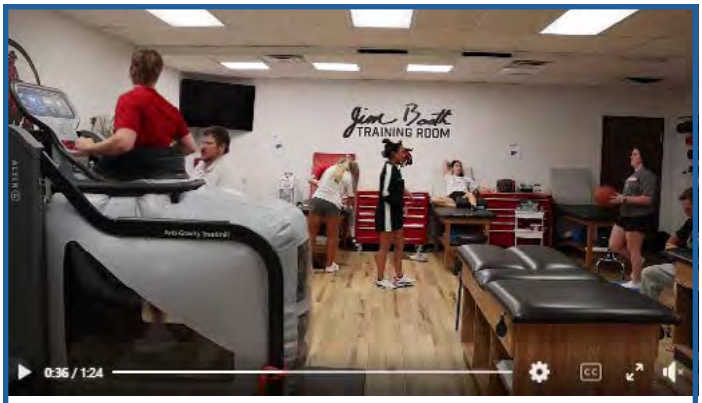
NWOSU FIRST GEN
August 26
Join us this Thursday, August 28th at 5 PM in Jesse Dunn 124 for our First Club Meeting! Come learn more about the club and how to get involved! A Zoom link will also be available in our bio for those who cannot make it to campus. See you there!

NWOSU Division of Education
August 27
Thank you, administrators, for taking time out of your day to serve on our administrator panel today.
Our student teachers enjoyed learning from you!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 27
Exploring opportunities at today's Education Career Fair
#CareerReady #RRR

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 28
Celebrating our Rangers who made the Summer 2025 Honor Roll!
These dedicated students earned their place on either the President's Honor Roll (4.0 GPA) or Vice President's Honor Roll (3.5+ GPA) while taking a full course load during the summer session.
From our home campus in Alva to students across Oklahoma, Kansas, Texas, and California - you've shown that Ranger excellence knows no boundaries.
Your hard work, dedication, and commitment to academic success exemplifies what it means to be a Northwestern Ranger. Whether you're continuing your education this fall or have completed your degree, we're proud of your achievements.

See the full Summer 2025 Honor Roll list at https://bit.ly/4mMPmuH
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #SummerHonorRoll #AcademicExcellence #RangerPride #OKHigherEdWorks



NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
September 2
The Jim Booth Training Room is a powerful example of how meaningful contributions can leave a lasting legacy at Northwestern. Thanks to the ongoing support of alumni and friends, projects like this continue to enhance the lives of students and shape the future of our university.
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics

NWOSU Division of Education
August 28
We loved meeting you at Back to School Night!
Post your pictures here!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
August 29
First-tier parking at Ranger Field is undergoing a facelift with plans to be finished before Ranger Football's season/home opener Thursday, Sept. 4, at 6 p.m.
Several Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics teams are kicking off their seasons soon. Be sure to check out the various sports schedules at https://riderangersride.com/calendar.
#RRR #RangerFamily

World-class opera singers open concert series season

The 2025-2026 Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series season opened with a matinee performance in September at Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva.

World-class opera singers Brooklyn Snow, soprano, and Matt Greenblatt, tenor, from Nashville, Tennessee, presented selections from famous operas and musical theatre songs. They were accompanied by Northwestern assistant professor of music and concert pianist Dr. Eduardo Moreira.

General admission for all shows is $20, senior admission is $15 and student admission is $5. Tickets may be purchased at Holder Drug, the Graceful Arts Center or online at www.nwocs.ludus.com.

Originally from Beaverton, Oregon, Snow holds music performance degrees from the University of Oregon and the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Greenblatt is a native of Port Washington, New York. The duo made their Carnegie Hall debut as soloists for Choirs of America's emerging Artists Series, and have performed across the United States.

Critics rave Snow delights audiences with her remarkably beautiful soprano voice and stunning combination of vocal athleticism and theatrical smarts. Some characters she interpreted include: Susanna in "Le Nozze di Figaro"; Adele in "Die Fledermaus"; Bastienne in "Bastien und Bastienne", joined by Greenblatt as Bastien; Clara in "The Light in the Piazza", joined by Greenblatt as Fabrizio; Musetta in "La Boheme"; Anne Egerman in "A Little Night Music"; Nannetta in "Falstaff"; Maria in "West Side Story", joined by Greenblatt as Tony; Olympia, Antonia, Giulietta, and Stella in "Les contes d'Hoffmann"; Woglinde in "Das Rheingold"; Andina in "L'elisir d'amore"; and Cunegonde in "Candide."

Other important appearances include Eugene Opera, Opera Santa Barbara, Union Avenue Opera, Palm Beach Opera, Eugene Concert Orchestra, New Philharmonic Orchestra (Chicago), Northwest Indiana Symphony, and others.

More information about the artists can be found at www.brooklynsnow.com/home.

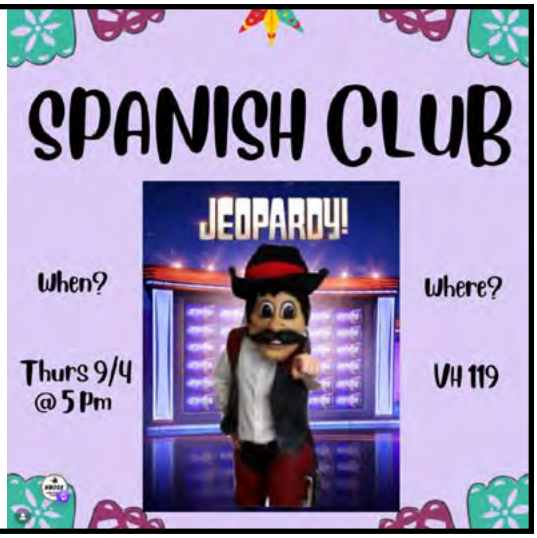
The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series is supported by the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts at Northwestern, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Charles Morton Share Trust. Stay up-to-date with the series by liking their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/. Keep an eye out for the hashtag #NWOCS.

For more information, contact Moreira, director of the concert series, at emartinsmoreira@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8192.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 2
And this year's winner of the Golden Cowboy Hat for having the most Ranger Spirit at Meet the Rangers Night … @rangerbands1 ! Congratulations! #RRR

NWOSU
Spanish
September 4

We're playing Jeopardy tonight!!



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 4
It was a beautiful night for football at Ranger Field, but the #rednblack came up short 7-49 against No. 2 in the nation Harding (Ark).
And, big congrats to Soccer on its win today!
Great job to the Ranger Band and Cheer tonight, too.
See y'all next time!
#RRR #RangerFamily #RangerNation #BeARanger

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Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 4
Northwestern welcomed RUSO Board of Regents on Alva's campus today! Thank you for all you do for our universities! #OKHigherEdWorks

NWOSU TRiO-SSS
September 5
Many students at NWOSU are First-Generation college students! There are supports in place if that's you. Come visit TRIO in Ryerson Hall.

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 5
Come see our awesome #NWOSU volunteers at the Woods County Fair today, 3-9 pm, in the Merchants Building. Sign up for our prizes, too! Lots of others in the building to visit as well.

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
September 5
Elayna Warrington was selected this past summer to be a participant in the Fort Worth Zoo Conservation Expedition. Warrington is a junior at Northwestern.

The Fort Worth Zoo works in collaboration with its in-country partners, the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands, who lead the Anegada Rock Iguana Conservation program. Warrington was one of 30 students in the country to be selected. The expedition took place on Anegada Island, one of the British Virgin Islands. While on the island, she played a direct role in conservation research of the Anegada Rock Iguana (Cyclura pinguis iguana), a critically endangered species.

The seven-day expedition was filled with learning opportunities, including radio tracking, conducting surveys, field researching and more. Warrington and the other students spent each day soaking in the knowledge they learned and helping do their part in conservation.

The island is now home to many invasive species including feral cats, free-ranging cattle and goats. These animals are hindering the growth of the iguana population. This makes the research more important.

"We would set up cameras to see if the iguanas were frequenting specific areas and record their behaviors," said Warrington.

Warrington assisted at The Anegada Rock Iguana Head Start Facility. This facility houses young hatchlings that are fed and protected until they are old enough to not fall prey to the feral cats and other animals.

"Being able to see a critically endangered species and the program that is working to protect what remains of the iguanas was really special to me."

Warrington is pursuing her degree in natural history biology. She is set to graduate fall 2026. In the meantime, she plans to continue to work in other conservation and wildlife programs.

"This trip confirmed that I want to continue to follow my childhood dream of working in conservation."

NWOSU Theatre
September 8
Castle Players Club meeting today!
Cool club poster graphic by social media officer @kendralp06
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #castleplayersclub #nwosu #nwosurangers #theatreclub #théâtre #theatre #theatrestudents

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 8
Dreaming of studying abroad? Last year, John Cloud traveled to Wales through this program, creating memories to last a lifetime. With the Brad Henry Scholarship of $13,000, YOU could be next! Learn more about how this scholarship can open the door to your own global adventure.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 9
The Student Center is busy tonight with activity. Two new groups are meeting - Chi Alpha is in the Ballroom and Northwestern Crafters in the Commons Area.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
September 9
Thank you Enid Chamber of Commerce for hosting a Welcome back reception for the faculty and staff of NWOSU and NOC!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 9
NWOSU Enid is excited about starting up the Ranger Recycling with the Fowler EC again! Mrs. Tanner's class enjoyed the read from Dr. Seuss "Thank You for Being Green" and getting to help recycle.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 9
Join us! SWAT meeting

NWOSU FCA
September 9
The first FCA meeting of the semester is here! Join us tomorrow, Sept. 10th, at 6 PM in the Student Center. Come as you are for a time of Christian community, connection, and fun. We can't wait to see you there, and we'd love for you to join us!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 9
Join us at the NWOSU Academic Success Center Open House! September 10th

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM & 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Learn how the Academic Success Center and NWOSU LASSO can support your academic journey. Whether you're faculty, staff, or a student, come discover the resources available to help you succeed!

Enjoy popcorn, cookies, and refreshments while you learn more about our services.

#NWOSU #AcademicSuccess #StudentServices #OpenHouse #RangerNation

Fall interest meetings held for 2026 study abroad trip

Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Study Abroad Program will depart on its 2026 trip to Germany, Italy and Switzerland, with an optional extension to France, on May 13-25, 2026.

All Northwestern students, alumni and members of the public interested in experiencing European culture, history and landmarks firsthand are invited to attend one of the upcoming virtual interest meetings:

- Monday, Sept. 15, at 5 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 13, at 5 p.m.
- Thursday Nov. 13 at 3 p.m.

A recording of an interest meeting is also available at youtu.be/GrQcMQvzUtM.

The 13-day trip's highlights include exploring Munich's historic charm by visiting the main city square and former royal palace of the Wittelsbach monarchs, gliding through the canals of Venice on a gondola, taking in the majesty of Lucerne from the Swiss Alps, and exploring iconic Paris landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower and Notre-Dame Cathedral.

To get the Zoom link for an upcoming meeting, contact group leader Dr. Leslie Collins, chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing and associate professor of nursing, at lncollins@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8489.

To learn more about the 2026 trip and the Northwestern Study Abroad Program, visit www.nwosu.edu/study-abroad.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 11
We are so grateful to social work alumni for their continued engagement in the BSW program. Jennifer Pribble LCSW (BSW 2012) teaches in the program and Korbin Bowers, L.M.S.W., Clinical Supervisor at Northwest Domestic Crisis Services (BSW 2020) guest presented.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 11
Behind every unforgettable meal is a team of chefs and cooks who poured heart, soul, and a dash of magic into it.

This week, we celebrate the culinary artists who turn ingredients into experiences.
#ChefAppreciationWeek
#KitchenHeroes

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
September 11
The first face-to-face Ranger2Ranger event will be held on October 8, 2025.
Students, take advantage of this opportunity to meet with Northwestern alumni working in your future career field and create lasting connections. The following alumni will be joining us for this event.
This event allows students to book 30-minute sessions with an alumni of their choice.
To sign up https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/ranger2ranger

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 11
Check out Safe Families Oklahoma! https://www.safefamiliesok.org/

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 12
We love it when graduates come back to see us! Keep up the incredible work Laney!

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
September 15
Each spring, we recognize outstanding graduates in multiple categories. If you know of a graduate who is dedicated to the welfare of people, we invite you to nominate them for the Outstanding Graduate award in the Humanitarian category. To nominate, go to https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/spring-alumni-reunion

14 seniors placed in student teaching assignments

Fourteen Northwestern senior education students were placed for their student teaching assignments at local schools to gain critical hands-on experience.

The students returned to campus monthly to assess their progress, attend a service learning day at the Oklahoma State Capitol in October and complete their portfolio exit interviews in December. Commencement was held Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m in Fellers Family Auditorium inside Herod Hall.

Listed below are the students, their majors, hometowns and teaching assignments.

Early Childhood Education – Brianda Diaz of Carson City, Nevada, at Liberty Elementary School in Ponca City; Mary Tyler of Alva at Burlington Elementary School

Elementary Education – Chloe Bradt of Alva at Cherokee Elementary School; Hope Ellis of Enid at Pioneer-Pleasant Vale Elementary School in Enid; Kylee Frazee of Enid at Hoover Elementary School in Enid; Mary Lee Hainzinger of Ponca City at Newkirk Elementary School; Bailey Humphries of Enid at Adams Elementary School in Enid; Tegan Jones of Shattuck at Reydon Public Schools; Adele LaBombard of Ponca City at Tonkawa Elementary School; Edgar Reyes of Laredo, Texas, at Northwest Elementary School in Dodge City, Kansas

English Education – Mara Miller of Manning, Iowa, at Drummond High School; Kylee North of Erick at Freedom Public Schools

Health and Sports Science Education – Mary Kate Foster of Alva at Dodge City High School in Dodge City, Kansas

Social Science Education – James Dodson of Enid at Kremlin-Hillsdale Public Schools

For more information on Northwestern's teacher education program, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-education/education or contact Dr. Jennifer Oswald, chair of the Division of Education and associate professor of education, at (580) 327-8451 or jdoswald@nwosu.edu.

New to campus and need to find out where to get your copy code, where to have your exams printed or whom to contact when your copier goes crazy? Contact Printing Services, Alica Hall, Ext. 3476 in Jesse Dunn.

Campus Constitution Day observance set for Sept. 29

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Institute for Citizenship Studies and Department of Social Sciences played host to the annual Constitution Day Observance Monday, Sept. 29, in the Student Center Ranger Room on the Northwestern-Alva campus.

This year's topic was "Presidential Pardons: A Closer Look at a Second Chance."

Co-Founders and Co-Executive Directors of the Northwestern Institute for Citizenship Studies Dr. Aaron Mason, professor of political science, and Dr. Eric Schmaltz, Northwestern Social Sciences department chair and professor of history and global studies, explored the constitutional authority of the Executive Branch to grant pardons, commute sentences and otherwise lessen or eliminate issues of guilt and punishment. The program also examined how the public views this unique presidential power and highlighted notable historical examples of its use.

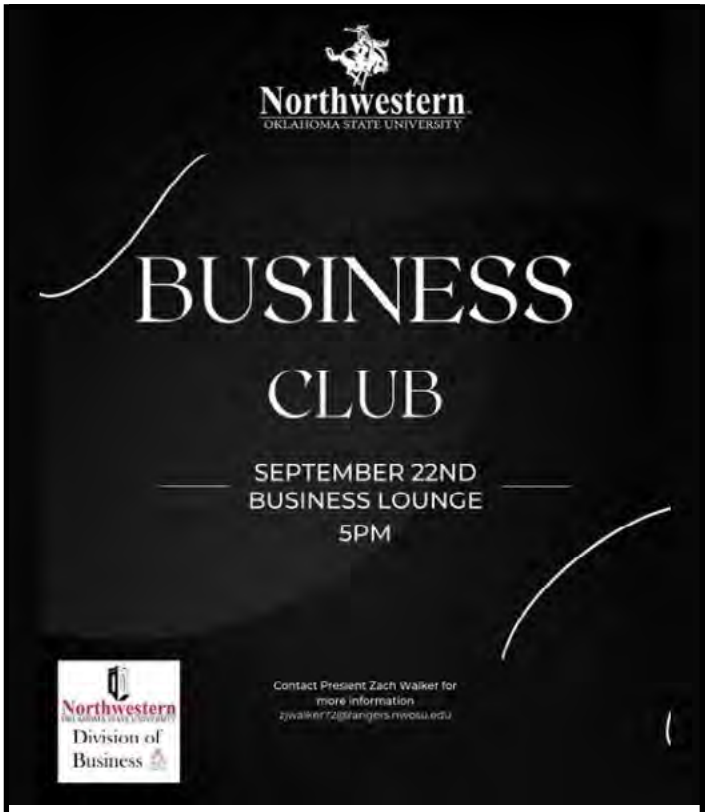
Following the presentation, the audience was invited to join in an open discussion and Q&A session. Attendees were encouraged to bring questions to help spark a robust exchange of ideas. Free snacks and beverages were provided.

For more information on the Northwestern Institute of Citizenship Studies visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences/nwics or contact Mason at mason@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8522.

For more information on the Northwestern Department of Social Sciences, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences or contact Schmaltz at ejschmaltz@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8526.

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 16
TwisTed Rodeo
September 15
Northwestern Oklahoma State University senior Kyler Altmiller scored the first Rangers victory of the 2025-26 season by winning the heading title at Colby this past weekend. https://twistedrodeo.com/2025/09/15/altmiller-ropes-victory-in-colby/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBExa3NVRHNwTENVMDNuU3F0WHNydGMGYXB-wX2lkEDIyMjAzOTE3ODgyMDA4OTIAAR5naAdQvs_4KCujWyX57pA6UICuz80QSIa6Xs8KAcMsE03vVPWIHmATT-CEYbg_aem_EdI5VPbhd_9WrIa1lTBJgA (2024 photo of Altmiller taken by Dale Hirschman)



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Business
September 15
Join us next Monday for our Ranger Business Club meeting!

Family Day held Sept 27; families 'shop for tuition'

Family Day was Saturday, Sept. 27. The annual event, organized by students in the Northwestern Scholar Ambassador (NSA) leadership group, brings families to campus where they can take tours, purchase Ranger gear, shop for tuition scholarships, attend a Ranger football game and more.

Families were invited to visit the participating Alva merchants to "shop for tuition" where they could register for a $500, $300 or $200 tuition giveaway for the spring semester of 2026. Families could register once per merchant location. The winning individuals were presented with their awards during halftime of Saturday's football game

The Alva merchants participating can be found at www.nwosu.edu/family-day.

If families visited on Wednesday, Sept. 24, there was a Ranger women's soccer game vs Oklahoma Baptist University at 6 p.m. at the Alva Recreation Complex and on Thursday, Sept. 25, there was a women's volleyball game against Southern Nazarene in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Current college and high school students whose parent(s) are Northwestern alumni were invited to attend a lunch Saturday, Sept. 27, with their families in the Student Center Ranger Room, courtesy of the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association.

Family Day registration was Saturday, Sept. 27, in the Northwestern Student Center commons area. Families received free tickets to the football game and a chance to win additional prizes, including a prize for the family who traveled the farthest.

The Ranger Market was open from noon to 2 p.m. for families to buy Starbucks drinks and snacks. The bookstore was open from noon to 4 p.m. to purchase Northwestern merchandise.

At 2 p.m. the Family Cornhole Tournament was held outside the Student Center.

A new activity this year was the Ranger Race, a town-wide scavenger hunt, on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.

Gates to Ranger Field opened at 4 p.m. Families were invited to the free Tailgate Party starting at 5 p.m. on the fourth parking tier at Ranger Field. The food and drinks were served for free thanks to Energy Transfer, who is sponsoring this year's tailgate.

Saturday's pre-game events wrap ped up at 6 p.m. as the Northwestern Ranger football team took on East Central University.

"Family Day is a special opportunity for students and their families to come together and participate in a variety of activities both on campus and in the community," said Ethan Sacket, student success coordinator and Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors adviser. "We were excited for the weekend together."

For more information, contact Sacket at egsacket@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8606.

Many Ranger families enjoyed the fun at Family Day 2025.

NWOSU Visual Arts
September 16
The art society @nwosuartsociety made friendship bracelets as an open club activity yesterday. We had a great time. Come join us on the 29th when we're making rubber stamps. You can make one for scrapbooking, marking your books, stamping your friends, making your mark, or just make one to make one! Hope to see you then.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 17
Thanks Hunter McMillin for mentoring the BSW class of 2026!

Great American Conference
September 17
#theGAC WEEK 3 GOLFERS OF THE WEEK:
Roby Cooper - Arkansas Tech
Gracie Doke - Northwestern Oklahoma State

NWOSU HALO
September 17
Meet the HALO Officers. We're ready to bring the culture, fiesta and good vibes ALL year long!

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWTV
September 17
NWTV 7 News is up and running for the Fall 2025 semester. Check it out!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 22
#NWOSU students learned a few valuable lessons on self-defense during a session organized by the Student Government Association. Thank you to the National Guard for bringing the training to campus. Watch for more sessions to be scheduled.

For assistance with obtaining your campus parking sticker, Northwestern ID, ADA Services, and so many other services, contact the Student Services office, Ryerson Hall 126, studentservices@nwosu.edu

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 18
Thank you to everyone who stopped by to visit our #NWOSU booth at the Woods County Fair! We had five winners!
- Jordan Leon (not pictured)
- Vonda Knabe, whose husband Kenny made the pickup
- Debra Rankin, whose son Austin picked up
- Steve Sterling, whose wife Joni picked up and
- Ashley Kelly

Congratulations!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
September 22
Shout out to Rowdy and Psychology professor Natalie Adams for representing NWOSU at the parade!

Watson earns inaugural 'Teach Like a Ranger' recognition

Last year, the Northwestern Oklahoma Division of Education launched "Teach Like a Ranger," a way to celebrate outstanding educators who embody the Ranger spirit in their classrooms.

Serah Watson, a second-grade teacher at Adams Elementary in Enid, has been selected as the first honoree of this celebration. This recognition highlights educators who demonstrate the excellence, dedication and community spirit that defines the Ranger tradition.

Watson, who graduated from Northwestern in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, was nominated by her principal, Reba Gregory-Harris.

"(Watson) is an amazing teacher and a true Ranger," Harris said.

When reflecting on her advice for current student teachers, Watson emphasizes the fundamental importance of connection.

"Make sure to build a rapport with students," she said. "If you build relationships with them, they will do anything for you."

Her journey in education was shaped significantly by her experience at Northwestern, particularly during student teaching.

"Student teaching was hands-on, and I learned most of what I needed," Watson said.

After more than 15 years in education, Watson's passion remains undimmed. When asked what keeps her motivated to continue teaching, her answer was immediate and heartfelt.

"The kids. I love the kids, and I learn so much from them," she said.

Being selected as the first "Teach Like A Ranger" honoree holds special meaning for Watson.

"It's honorable to be recognized for the hard work I put in and appreciated," she said. "I also love having my first student teacher and another set of hands."

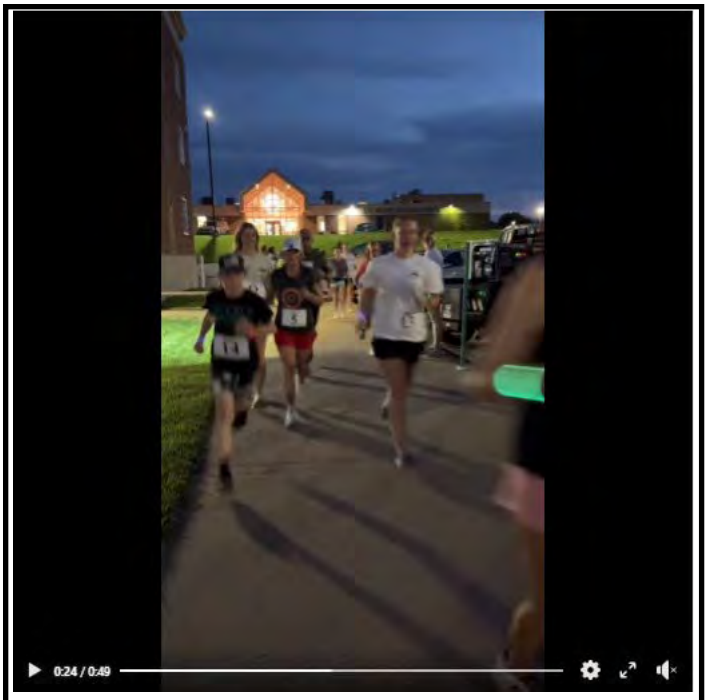
As the Northwestern Division of Education continues to prepare the next generation of educators, Watson's story demonstrates the profound impact that passionate, committed teachers can have on their students and communities.

"Adams Elementary and the Enid community are fortunate to have an educator who brings such passion and dedication to her classroom every day," said Dr. Jen Oswald, chair of the Northwestern Division of Education and associate professor of education. "Her recognition in this inaugural celebration ensures that her commitment to excellence will inspire others to carry on the proud tradition of teaching like a Ranger.'"

The "Teach Like A Ranger" celebration will continue to recognize outstanding education graduates who are making a difference in classrooms across Oklahoma and beyond. Photos of these recipients will be found in the Joe J. Struckle Education Center on the Northwestern-Alva campus.

For more information of the Northwestern Division of Education, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/education or contact Oswald at jdoswald@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8451.

Serah Watson, second-grade teacher and inaugural recipient of the "Teach Like a Ranger" recognition, teaches her students in her classroom at Adams Elementary in Enid.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 22
The Northwestern Division of Nursing staff and nursing alumni held a Fun Run/5K Glow Run Friday, Sept. 19, on the Alva campus. All proceeds from the race go to the division's 40th anniversary celebration set for December.

Great American Conference
September 23
#theGAC WOMEN'S WEEK THREE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
Offensive - Christi-Anne Mills, F, Northwestern Oklahoma State
Defensive - Adison Johnson, D, Southern Nazarene
Goalkeeper - Gianna Bonnett, GK, Southern Nazarene

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 22
So proud of you Sara!
The Clinic
September 22
Sara Jacobson, a Licensed Master Social Worker, is the newest member of The Clinic's Behavioral Health team. She is currently working under supervision to earn her Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) status.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
September 25
This week our NWOSU nursing faculty and students joined nurses from across the state at the 2025 Oklahoma Nurses Association Annual Convention in Norman!
We explored innovative ideas in patient care, leadership, and advocacy. Thank you to ONA for hosting such a meaningful event with opportunities to learn, grow, and connect.
#NWOSUNursing #OklahomaNurses #ONA #NursingLeadership #2025ONAConvention

NWOSU Fall Career and Internship Fair held Oct. 6

The Northwestern spring Career and Internship Fair was held Monday, Oct. 6, in the Student Center Ballroom in Alva.

Northwestern students and job seekers in the community were welcome and encouraged to attend the fair. All were encouraged to be prepared to provide copies of resumes and cover letters.

Organizations registered to attend included: Blue Sky Crop Consulting and Tri-County Seeds; College Works Painting; Kansas Highway Patrol; Okeene Municipal Hospital and Medical Clinic; the Oklahoma Department of Human Services; and Wolters Kluwer.

Taylor Wilson, director of counseling and career services, also encouraged job seekers to dress well and to stop by her office in Ryerson Hall 209 if they need any help before the fair. She also may be reached at tawilson@nwosu.edu.

For more information visit www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services.

Infant, Early Childhood Mental Health micro-credential is successful

The Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health micro-credential program facilitated by Northwestern's Department of Social Work is proving to be a successful program.

Designed to equip social service professionals and students with the knowledge and skills to support young children's mental health and development, the program has seen 27 professionals successfully complete the micro-credential with an additional 25 currently enrolled as of September 2025.

"The growing demand for this micro-credential reflects a rising awareness of the vital role early mental health plays in lifelong development," said Dr. Kylene Rehder, Northwestern Department of Social Work chair and program director of the Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Training Academy. "By equipping professionals with specialized knowledge in infant and early childhood mental health, we are responding to a critical workforce need and empowering individuals to make a meaningful, lasting impact on the lives of young children and families across our state."

Developed by Northwestern's Department of Social Work with guidance from Oklahoma Human Services and Western Plains Youth and Family Services, the program emphasizes the critical importance of nurturing parent-infant relationships and promoting secure attachments.

Participants must complete one three-credit-hour course in Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health and six clock hours of approved training in the field. This curriculum offers a comprehensive foundation and is delivered by social work faculty, alongside leaders in early childhood mental health. Courses and trainings are available both in-person and via distance education, offering flexibility to accommodate diverse student needs.

A limited number of scholarships are available through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Workforce Micro-Credentials and Rapid Re-Employment Initiative. These scholarships are designed to support eligible students pursuing this credential and entering a high-demand field.

Micro-credentials serve as a valuable form of certification, allowing professionals to demonstrate specialized skills and advance their careers through continuing education. The micro-credential is designed specifically for social service professionals seeking to deepen their expertise in infant and early childhood mental health.

For more information on how to get enrolled in this micro-credential, contact Rehder at kdrehder@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8135. Additional information on the Northwestern Department of Social Work may be found at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work.

Jenna Maier (center), an Alva senior social work major, was one of the first Northwestern students to earn the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Micro-Credential from Dr. Kylene Rehder (left), Northwestern Department of Social Work chair and Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Academy director, and Dr. Steven Maier (right), Northwestern Dean of Faculty.

Northwestern Theatre presents one-act 'Asylum'

The Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts presented "Asylum" by Jerome McDonough on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 2-3, in the Fellers Family Auditorium located in Herod Hall on the Northwestern-Alva campus.

The play was directed by Woodward speech/theatre major Gabriel Bussinger for his senior capstone production to fulfill the requirements for his degree.

"Asylum" is a one-act ensemble play that explores the fine line between sanity and madness. The production is set in a stark, confined mental institution where the story is driven by a series of monologues and interactions between patients, each revealing their own struggles, traumas and perceptions of reality.

"Asylum" is appropriate for audiences 13 years of age and older.

This production is presented by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing Company, Inc. of Woodstock, Illinois

Cast members for this production and the name of their characters included:

Aspen Marshall, Tulsa junior majoring in theatre, as Stan; Aidan Slater, Follett, Texas, freshman majoring in elementary education major as Harper; Jaden Matthews, Hennessey senior majoring in speech/theatre, as The Girl/Jenny; Emily Wright, Cheyenne junior majoring in media and communications, as Dinwiddie; Alexander Marshall, Oklahoma City senior majoring in funeral service, as Judge/Doctor; Lucas Wood, Enid sophomore majoring in vocal music education, as Influential Person; Bella Anguino, Tulsa sophomore majoring in speech/theatre, as Mrs. Heart; Matthew Skinner, Sand Springs junior majoring in speech/theatre, as Ron/Prosecutor; Justus Durham, Alva freshman majoring in speech/theatre, as Mitch; Hellena "Ellie" Exum, Follett, Texas, freshman majoring in vocal music education, as Wanda; Chuck Shafer, Alva freshman majoring in speech/theatre, as C.C.; Maegan Holson, Waynoka senior majoring in psychology/criminal justice, as Kris; Madilyn Pickle, Hennessey freshman majoring in vocal music education, as Juror No. 1; Kendra Puebla, Felt sophomore majoring in psychology, as Juror No. 2; and Dawson Defoor, Erick sophomore majoring speech/theatre, as Guard.

Lily Post, Ponca City sophomore majoring in speech/theatre, served as an understudy for the role Influential Person.

For more information on theatre performances and courses in the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts at Northwestern, contact Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre arts and Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts chair, at kkweast@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8462 or see more info at www.nwosu.edu/fine-arts.

Need Information for ALCA? Contact:
Kaylyn Hansen for Assessement, Ext. 8150
Shawn Holliday for Faculty Portfolios, Ext. 8589

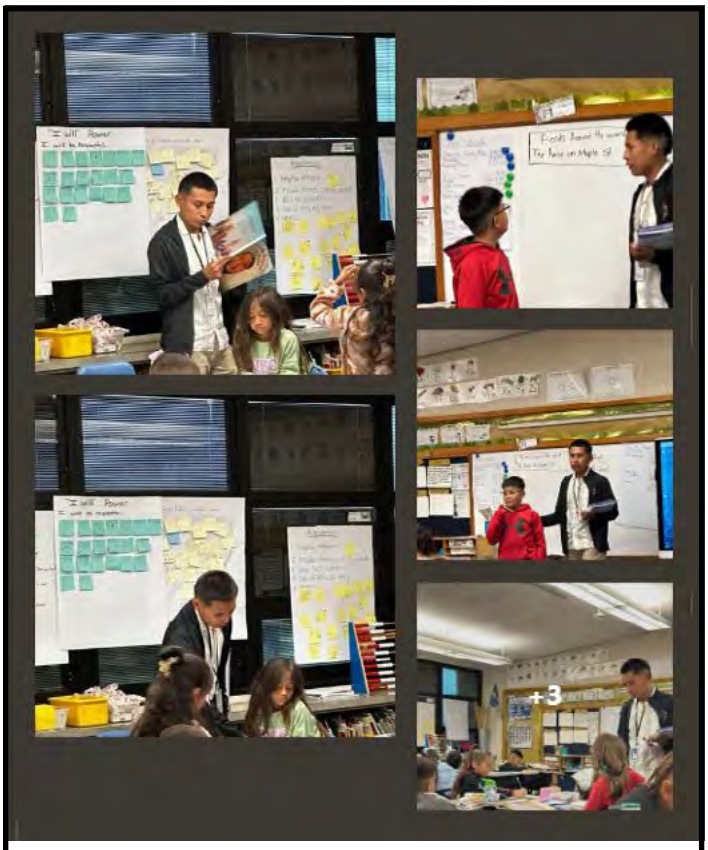
NWOSU Theatre
September 29
Checking in?
We're glad you have decided to visit the staff and patients here at St. Calgary.
ASYLUM by Jerome McDonough opens THIS THURSDAY NIGHT! (10/2/25) Don't miss this intriguing short play directed by Speech/Theatre senior Gabriel Bussinger!
Recommended for audience is 13 and up.
$5.00 General admission
$3.00 with student ID

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 24
WOCDA Honor Choir Auditions have been happening on campus today, and some of those auditioning took advantage of the nice weather on the mall area of campus. Some were singing, and some were enjoying the weather. Glad to have you on campus.

NWOSU Division of Education
September 29
At Pioneer Elementary, student teacher Hope Ellis maintains student engagement while teaching about finding the main idea.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campu
September 26
We love our Little Rangers!
Students from Fowler Early Childhood Center in Enid received "Little Rangers" t-shirts and swag from the NWOSU Division of Education to show their Ranger Spirit!
Fowler Early Childhood Center is a joint project between Enid Public Schools and #NWOSU. The center, which is adjacent to the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus, is equipped to educate both Pre-K Children and College Students.
#RideRangersRide #OKHigherEdWorks

NWTV
September 26
September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness month. A time to recognize warning signs, discuss mental health, and learn about resources that are available. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention



NWOSU Division of Education
September 29
Edgar Reyes, a student teacher, is exploring Compare and Contrast concepts with Second-grade students at an elementary school in Dodge City.

NWOSU Teacher's Closet
September 30
We enjoyed hosting the social work students today at the NWOSU Teachers Closet!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
September 29
E-Sports tournament going on today in the Ballroom until 4 p.m.

GAC
September 30
#theGAC WOMEN'S WEEK FOUR PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
Offensive - Luana San Miguel, F, Northwestern Oklahoma State
Defensive - Skylar Henley, DM Harding
Goalkeeper - Maysa Willis, GK, Harding

Rangers get 'Rowdy Under the Big Top' for homecoming

The Rangers of Northwestern got "Rowdy Under the Big Top" for Homecoming October 23-25.

Information on all things Homecoming can be found at www.nwosu.edu/homecoming including registration forms for a number of the events taking place.

Homecoming buttons were sold for $10. Buttons are the main source of funding for the celebration. Buttons can be used for admission to Miss Cinderella events and the football game, a $35 value. Over 35 Alva merchants offered discounts to those who made purchases at their businesses during Homecominweek. A list of discounts is available on the homecoming webpage.

Float entries incudig float sketches had to be completed by noon Oct. 22.

All groups participating in the float competition received a $200 incentive per float entry. First place in the float competition received $200, second place received $150, and third place received $100. A President's Award for the best overall float and an Alumni Award for an exceptional display of "Ranger Spirit" were also given.

Area bands marched in Saturday's parade and/or could participate in the massed band during pregame of the Ranger football game. First-place winners in each class in the parade received a $150 award, second place received a $100 award and third received $50. All bands participating in the parade received a $250 travel reimbursement.

Visiting bands were invited to perform on the field with the Pride of the Ranger Nation Marching Band during pregame and halftime. Bands that stay for the game and participate in the massed band performance received free homecoming t-shirts, pizza and an additional $50.

Alumni Band members received a free Homecoming t-shirt at rehearsal in the band room on the third floor of Ryerson Hall.

The Ranger Run, a 5K race or one-mile fun run, on Alva's downtown square starting in front of the Rialto Cinema, Official Homecoming t-shirts were given for each paid entry.

A whole slate of events for Northwestern students were scheduled every day during Homecoming week courtesy of the Northwestern Student Government Association (SGA).

Monday, Oct. 20, was a bonfire with added free food..

Tuesday, Oct. 21, was "Games and Glow", on the Northwestern Intramural Field. Students were encouraged to wear their brightest clothes and SGA provided glow in the dark face paint.

Wednesday, Oct. 22, the first 100 Northwestern students with student id got free admission to Bradt's Menagerie Hay Maze, and on Thursday, Oct. 23, there was a block party on Monroe Street between Coronado and Cunningham Hall.

The "Ranger Rally" Homecoming pep rally took place at noon on Friday, Oct. 24, in Percefull Fieldhouse. E

Student clubs and offices around campus participated in on-campus contests during Homecoming week including the annual Door and Window Decorating Contest and the Sheet and Board Decorating Contest.

The Miss Cinderella events for high school senior girls took place on Thursday, Oct. 23, with the talent show, and the pageant portion set for Friday, Oct. 24, both in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall.

On Friday, Oct. 24, the Northwestern Alumni Association sponsored its annual Homecoming Medallion Hunt. The website at www.ournorthwestern.org/medallion-hunt opened at 10 a.m. where participants received the first clue. they solved the clues, found the medallion and won $100 in Alva Chamber Bucks.

Friday evening, Alumni members of Northwestern's baseball team came together for the "Red and Black World Series," an alumni baseball game at Myers Stadium.

Saturday, Oct. 25, the day's events started in downtown Alva at 8 a.m. with the Ranger Run, followed by the Alumni Tent opening with free donuts and coffee. Leading the parade at 10 a.m. in downtown Alva was parade marshal Dr. Ken Brown.

Lunch on the Square prepared by the Rowdy Rangers began after the parade inside the Graceful Art Center because of weather.

Northwestern Soccer played East Central University at noon at the Ranger Soccer Field and the Northwestern Football game against Southern Nazarene University be-

Continued to page 44

Goodfellow family gets top distance prize; tuition scholarships won

The family that traveled the furthest distance plus the winners of scholarships won during "Shop for Tuition" for Northwestern's annual Family Day were announced at halftime of the Ranger football game Saturday.

Debra, Latisha and Rayah Goodfellow traveled 1,868 miles from Arlington, Washington, to visit their Rangers Jailon and Amari Goodfellow, who are both juniors from Auburn, Washington, majoring in business administration and play baseball for the Rangers.

The three students winning Northwestern Foundation tuition scholarships after shopping for tuition include Aidan Slater, a freshman elementary education major from Laverne, who received the $500 tuition award; Madison Hayes, a freshman psychology major from Seiling, the winner of a $300 tuition prize; and Levi LeCrone, a sophomore history major from Enid, the $200 tuition prize winner.

Ethan Sacket, student success coordinator, transfer student recruiter and sponsor of the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors (NSA) who organized the Family Day events, said that hundreds of slips were entered in the Shopping for Tuition drawing and is extremely thankful for the businesses who participated.

About 50 families registered in the Student Center Saturday to receive tickets that would allow them free entry into the Ranger football game that day. Families were also able to shop in the Northwestern Bookstore.

Debra, Latisha and Rayah Goodfellow, the family of Northwestern Rangers Jailon and Amari Goodfellow, were given the award for the family who traveled the furthest distance to attend the annual Family Day events during halftime of the Ranger football game. They came 1,868 miles from Arlington, Washington.

The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association played host to a free lunch for Northwestern alumni and their children who currently are attending the university.

Twenty teams participated in a cornhole tournament during the afternoon. It was won by Trevor Fowler, Wagoner freshman majoring in business administration/general business, and his dad Will.

Other families completed the Ranger Race, a town-wide scavenger hunt, by solving a set of clues and then taking family group photos at the various destinations. They then returned to the Student Center to show the photos they had taken. For their efforts, participants earned discount cards to the Northwestern Bookstore.

Sacket noted that the families who participated in the Ranger Race said they loved it, and they hoped it would be held again next year.

Rounding out the day's events was a free tailgate meal at Ranger Field before the kickoff of the football game. The hamburgers and hot dogs were sponsored by Energy Transfer.

"Family Day is always a great event and something I look forward to each year," said Calleb Mosburg, vice president for student services and enrollment management. "We had a great turnout of families who came to campus and enjoyed time with their student."

Mosburg also praised the NSA students for all their work to make this day a success, and gave additional kudos to Janie Rempel, a Forgan junior majoring in elementary education and current NSA member, who coordinated the event and all the activities.

"Family Day was an epic success this year," Rempel said. "The scavenger hunt allowed families to explore Alva and take some great family pictures. The Cornhole tournament was a huge success as well. And, we

Continued to page 45

Continued from page 43

Rangers get Rowdy....

gan at 3 p.m. at Ranger Field on Saturday, Oct. 25.

During halftime of the football game, the annual crowning of Ranger Royalty for Ranger King and Queen was held. Freshman Queen was announced during the Ranger Royalty Banquet and recognized during halftime.

After the football game, everyone was invited to the Northwest Tech Center for an evening of stargazing to finish the week's activities.

Continued from page 44

Goodfellow...

served about 400 hamburgers and hotdogs at the tailgate.

"I love being able to make connections with families so that they, too, can experience the Ranger Family atmosphere. We could not have done it without help from the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors," Rempel said.

For more information about Family Day or Northwestern visit www.nwosu.edu/family-day or contact Sacket at egsacket@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8606, or Mosburg at cnmosburg@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8415.

Northwestern Foundation Chief Executive Officer Skeeter Bird (far left) presented three Northwestern students and families with tuition scholarships during halftime of the Ranger football game. Receiving the $500 tuition giveaway is Aidan Slater; Madison Hayes is the winner of the $300 tuition prize; and Levi LeCrone is the $200 tuition prize winner.

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
October 2
Meeting today! See you at 11:00am in EC 202!

NWOSU Department of Social Work
September 30
Social Work Senior Day! Great day networking, shopping at NWOSU Teacher's Closet, & getting professional headshots. New social workers coming soon. #nwosusocialwork #RRR

NWOSU Division of Education
October 1
We applied our geometry skills to design our pumpkins in Mrs. Buckhault's Math Methods course.

Hot Pickin 57s take concert series stage on Oct. 7

Bluegrass and country band the Hot Pickin 57s took the stage at Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall, Oct. 7, for the second Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series of the 2025-2026 season.

The Hot Pickin 57s bring a mix of energetic bluegrass, country and Americana music with sets including well-known covers and original compositions. They have deep roots in the Austin, Texas, music scene, playing on and off since the early days of bluegrass in Austin at Artz Ribhouse. They reunited in 2016 after their musical educations at Berklee College of Music, South Plains College and Texas State University.

Members of the group have played in bands such as the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash, Whit Smith's Hot Jazz Caravan and Rosie and the Ramblers and have performed alongside artists Sierra Hull, Kym Warner, Alun Munde, Billy Bright of Wood and Wire, Mark Cosgrove and David Bromberg.

More information about the Hot Pickin 57s can be found on their website, www.hotpickin.com.

The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series is supported by the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts at Northwestern, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Charles Morton Share Trust. Stay up-to-date with the series by liking their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/. Keep an eye out for the hashtag #NWOCS.

For more information on the Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series, contact Dr. Eduardo Moreira, assistant professor of music, by email at emartinsmoreira@nwosu.edu or call (580) 327-8192.

For more information about the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts, contact Kimberly Weast, department chair and professor of theatre arts, at kkweast@nwosu.edu or call (580) 327-8462.

Hot Pickin 57s

NWOSU Division of Education
October 1
Student teachers advocacy day at the Capitol.
I didn't take as many pictures of our meetings as I should have.
We are grateful for the opportunity to meet with our area senators and representatives who were available today, and a very special thank you to Rep. Newton for reserving a Dome Tour for us!

Do you have a current club or organization that you sponsor using social media? Make sure you make it university official by registering with the University Relations department. Contact Kelsey Martin or Valarie Case for details.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
October 2
So proud of you Natalie!
GSP Health
October 2
Natalie Adams, LCSW
We're proud to have Natalie Adams, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, on our behavioral health team at GSP Health Enid East. Natalie offers compassionate, client-centered care for individuals and families navigating life's challenges.
Whether you're seeking support for stress, anxiety, grief, or everyday struggles, Natalie is here to help you take the next step toward healing.
Behavioral Health Services
GSP Health – Enid East
Call today to schedule your appointment 580-233-2900

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
October 3
The Wymer Nursing Lab is helping the Northwestern nursing program stay among the top in the state and across the nation. This innovative space gives students the hands-on experience they need to succeed in the field. Watch this video to see how the Wymer Nursing Lab endowment is shaping the future of nursing and preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Northwestern
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
October 2
Pumpkin Painting Contest!
For just $5, you can join in on the fun!
How it works:
• Click the link to register: form.jotform.com/252594654307160
• Pick up your pumpkin Oct. 7–8 (8 AM–5 PM, EC 210 or 216).
• Take it home to decorate OR paint it on campus (supplies provided!) on Oct. 7 or 8.
• Return pumpkins by 3:00 PM on Oct. 10.
Prizes include:
Gift cards from local vendors & restaurants, NWOSU swag, game tickets, and more!
Reminder: This is the PAINTING contest! The Carving Contest will be at the end of the month, with voting for both painting and carving on Oct. 31 .
We can't wait to see all the creativity — let's make this the biggest pumpkin contest yet!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 2
Update: Due to the government shutdown, this event will be postponed. New dates will be announced once decided.
NASA is coming to Northwestern!
Join us Thursday, Oct. 9, at 2 p.m. in the Science Amphitheater as NASA Acres brings their Space for Ag Listening Tour to Alva. Arrive at 1:45 p.m. to get settled.
Dr. Karen St. Germain (Division Director of the Earth Science Division at NASA), Dr. Michael Humbler (Deputy Director of NASA Acres), and Dr. Alyssa Whitcraft (Founding Executive Director of NASA Acres) will present on how Earth-observation tools like Landsat and Sentinel can enhance agricultural practices and resilience.
This is an opportunity for high school students, college students, faculty, staff, and the public to engage with NASA leadership about technology for agriculture. All regional National FFA Organization chapters are invited to attend.
After the lecture, there will be time for students to interact with the NASA team before they continue their tour through Northwest Oklahoma.
Learn more: https://bit.ly/46TnMVT
For more information, contact Dr. Kent Martin at klmartin@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8485.
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 3
Code cracked. Treasure found. Legend unlocked.
UC student Anna just went full National Treasure and snagged the N in the #NWOSUTreasureHunt
We don't know how she did it (wizardry? caffeine? sheer brilliance?), but she finished the hunt like a boss.
Your move, Indiana Jones.
#NWOSUTreasureHunt #NWOSU #ucponcacity

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 6
Thanks to everyone who came out to today's Fall Career and Internship Fair!
It was great to see Rangers connecting with employers from healthcare, law enforcement, agriculture, and more. Whether you landed an interview, made a new connection, or practiced your networking skills, you took an important step forward.
A big thank you to all our participating employers for investing time in our Rangers' futures.
Didn't make it to the fair? Career services is still here to help. Contact Taylor Wilson in Ryerson Hall 209 or email tawilson@nwosu.edu for resume reviews, mock interviews, and job search support.
Learn more about career services: www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEd-Works

Northwestern choirs present fall concert Oct. 13

The Northwestern Oklahoma State University Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts fall choir concert is Monday, Oct. 13, at 7 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Alva.

Admission is free, and Kane Bradley, Northwestern instructor of music and director of choral studies, welcomes members of the community to come experience the beauty of live choral music and support the talented students of Northwestern.

The free concert will feature the Northwestern Concert Choir, Northwestern University Chorale and the Northwestern University Singers performing a vibrant mix of classical, folk and contemporary choral works from around the world.

"A choir concert is more than just music," Bradley said. "It's a chance to experience the power of voices united in harmony. Attending supports local musicians, builds community and invites you to share in a tradition that has inspired people for centuries."

The program includes Marta Keen's "Homeward Bound," the American folk tune "Cindy," Javier Busto's Spanish anthem "Esta Tierra," and "Tres Cantos Nativos dos Indios Krao," a Brazilian piece arranged by Marcos Leite.

Additional selections include Andrea Ramsey's "Richer for Her," Dan Forrest's "Cantate Canticum Novum," Handel's "Your Voices Tune," and contemporary favorites "Route 66,' "Big Yellow Taxi," and "All Star."

"This concert celebrates the wide-reaching power of choral music," Bradley said. "From timeless classics to modern hits, our singers are excited to share a program that connects across cultures, generations and styles."

For more information, contact Bradley at jkbradley@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8692. To learn more about the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/fine-arts.

The Northwestern choirs presented their fall concert at the First Presbyterian Church on Oct. 13

Freshman Frenzy, an event for all Ranger Connection classes, was held at Ranger Field on Sept. 18. Judges Michelle Shelite, Hunter McMillin and Jesse Massee had a tough job!

Great American Conference
October 7
#theGAC WOMEN'S WEEK FIVE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK
Offensive - Luana San Miguel, F, Northwestern Oklahoma State
Defensive - Lauren Hanley, MF, Oklahoma Baptist
Goalkeeper - Taylor Annen, GK, Northwestern Oklahoma State

Northwestern sees four-year enrollment increase

Northwestern officials announced an increase in enrollment for the fall 2025 semester. Currently, there are 2,152 students enrolled as Rangers, which is a 3.41 percent increase. Credit hours have increased by 2.55 percent.

Almost every category of enrollment has seen an increase. The most notable increases are in concurrent high school enrollment, with a more than 20 percent increase, and transfer enrollment, with an increase of more than 30 percent, compared to Fall of 2024. The Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice (DNP) also saw an over 30 percent enrollment increase.

Since 2021, the universities' enrollment has increased more than 20 percent. Strategic enrollment initiatives and collective efforts have led to this progress over the past four years, explained Calleb Mosburg, vice president for student services and enrollment management.

"We are always encouraged to see growth in our student enrollment," Dr. Bo Hannaford, university president, said. "This progress reflects the hard work and commitment of our faculty and staff. It is truly a campus-wide effort, and we are excited to welcome these new Rangers into our community."

Hannaford is also proud that nearly 60 percent of Northwestern undergraduate students graduate debt-free.

To become a Ranger, email recruit@nwosu.edu. Additional information about Northwestern may be found at www.nwosu.edu.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
October 7
Charlotte Kendrick, MSW Program Director from The University of Oklahoma Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, discussing the Master's of Social Work (MSW) degree with seniors.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
October 7
Misty Stanberry, CWPEP Program Director from The University of Oklahoma Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, presenting on the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program for social work majors. #nwosusocialwork #cwpep

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 8
We are honored to have hosted REALITY CHECK for Enid High School students!
Enid High School
October 8
Senior Reality Check 2025!
Today, our seniors stepped into the real world with Senior Reality Check — an interactive day full of hands-on experiences, eye-opening lessons, and valuable life skills for life after high school!
- Students participated in real-life financial simulations and attended breakout sessions led by local professionals, including:
- KH Financial
- Bay Insurance
- YWCA
- Attorney Robert Faulk
- Oklahoma Money Matters
- Oklahoma's Promise
- NWOSU Career Services
- Enid Police & Fire Departments
- And of course, we kept everyone fueled with food trucks: El Monchis, Fuego Wood-Fired Pizza, and Okie Hot Dog!
This event gave our seniors a taste of the responsibilities — and opportunities — that await them after graduation.
Thanks to all our amazing partners and speakers who made this day possible!
#SeniorRealityCheck #LifeAfterHighSchool #FutureReady #ClassOf2025

NWTV
October 8
NWTV's, Jaxy Cloud, was honored today at the annual OBEA Student Day held at OETA in OKC. She received a scholarship for her achievements at NWOSU! This scholarship is given every year to deserving students across the state. Several former Media & Communication Program students have received this honor in year's past. Congratulations Jaxy! We're proud of you!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 9
Steve Maier
October 8
Update: This treasure has been found!n
Dr. Wayne McMillin at the Enid campus location has hidden a glowing Northwestern N! Can you find it??
"When shadows stretch long and pumpkins grin wide,
A secret green glow has chosen to hide.
Where students seek Resources to conquer their dread,
The N waits on the shelf where knowledge is fed."
@nwosurangers @nwenidcampus #NWOSUtreasurehunt

Ryerson wins Miss Cinderella Pageant, 16 compete

Madeline Ryerson, Miss Alva, won the title of Miss Cinderella for the 73rd Miss Cinderella Pageant at Northwestern on Friday, Oct. 24.

Ryerson took home the Talent Award for her vocal rendition of "Beyond My Wildest Dreams" from the musical "The Little Mermaid" by Alan Menken, in addition to the Interview Award.

The pageant is held for high school senior girls in conjunction with the university's homecoming celebration.

The Miss Cinderella Talent Show was on Thursday with interviews taking place Friday morning, ending with the pageant Friday evening.

First runner-up was Leah Taylor, Miss Shattuck; second runner-up was Josie Littau, Miss Woodward; third runner-up was MaKenzi Hamil, Miss Taloga; and fourth runner-up was Mariella Herrera, Miss Cherokee. Henzley Thomas, Miss Timberlake, was voted Miss Congeniality by her fellow contestants.

As Miss Cinderella, Ryerson will receive eight semesters of tuition and a one-year room waiver scholarship for a semi-private room at Northwestern-Alva. As the winner of the talent award, she will receive an additional one-year room waiver, and as the winner of the interview portion of the contest, she will also receive a book scholarship from Northwestern.

The first and second runners-up will receive six and four semesters of tuition, respectively. Third and fourth runners-up will receive one-year room waivers. Miss Congeniality will receive a one-year room waiver.

Each contestant who participates in the Miss Cinderella Pageant receives a $2,000 tuition scholarship to be used during their freshman year at Northwestern-Alva.

All Miss Cinderella contestants also are a part of the annual homecoming parade that takes place Saturday, Oct. 25, at 10 a.m. on the downtown square.

For more information on Northwestern's Miss Cinderella Pageant or homecoming events visit www.nwosu.edu/homecoming.

Winners from the 73rd Miss Cinderella Pageant are (from left to right) fourth runner-up Mariella Herrera, Miss Cherokee; second runner-up Josie Littau, Miss Woodward; first runner-up Leah Taylor, Miss Shattuck; Miss Cinderella 2025, Talent and Interview Winner Madeline Ryerson, Miss Alva; third runner-up MaKenzi Hamil, Miss Taloga; and Miss Congeniality Henzley Thomas, Miss Timberlake.

High school seniors who competed in the 73rd annual Miss Cinderella Pageant Oct. 23-24 are (back row, left to right) Kaitlyn Laverty, Miss Laverne; MaKenzi Hamil, Miss Taloga; Mariella Herrera, Miss Cherokee; Randi Shay Wilson, Miss Waynoka; Raelyn Syms, Miss Sharon-Mutual; Madeline Ryerson, Miss Alva; Jaden Gillespie, Miss Mooreland; and Rose Thompson, Miss South Barber (Kansas); (front row, left to right) Adalee Alley, Miss Buffalo; Addyson Petty, Miss Fairview; Kylee Daugherty, Miss Seiling; Chloe Jantz, Miss Burlington; Leah Taylor, Miss Shattuck; Josie Littau, Miss Woodward; Henzley Thomas, Miss Timberlake; and Mackenzie Dulinsky, Miss Ringwood. Both events will be held in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall.

Inaugural Reichenberger Legacy Scholar Program Applications Open

Northwestern students will be able to step out of the classroom and learn about American historical locations in person this spring.

Applications were open in October for the inaugural Donovan Reichenberger Legacy Scholar program. This program will provide students with real-world exposure to ideas and concepts covered in traditional classroom study via travel and first-hand experience at historic locations.

Donovan Reichenberger

All full-time Northwestern undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply; no concurrent students are eligible, and applicants must be at least 18 years old.

The first session of the program is titled Ancient America: Exploring America's Pre-Columbian History. Students will consider the rise and fall of ancient American Indian civilizations by first learning about and then visiting sites such as Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center in eastern Oklahoma and Cahokia Mounds near St. Louis, Missouri.

Students will study the complexity and accomplishments of ancient American Indian societies and consider why they eventually ceased to exist. Students will gain an appreciation for the idea of conservation of historic and cultural resources and study the politics associated with the preservation of these sites.

"We are very proud and excited to announce the inauguration of the Donovan Reichenberger Legacy Scholar Program," said Dr. Aaron Mason, Northwestern professor of political science. "This program will provide an innovative and groundbreaking opportunity for Northwestern students."

Donovan Reichenberger was born in Andale, Kansas, in 1927. He served in the United States Navy from 1945 to 1963, a Veteran of World War II and the Korean Conflict. He married Dorothy Reichenberger on June 6, 1958.

After his completion of military service, he earned his bachelor's degree from Northwestern in 1966, and a master's degree from Wichita State University in 1967. That same year he joined the Northwestern faculty, but his commitment to the university extended far beyond the classroom.

During his tenure, he would serve as Northwestern's Faculty Representative for the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference from 1975 until his retirement in December 1992. Upon his retirement, he served as the Chairman of the Centennial Steering Committee and aided in the formation of plans for Northwestern's 100th Anniversary.

In 1996, he and his wife created the Donovan Reichenberger Chair in History. This gift provided non-appropriated funds to benefit Northwestern's history program. This gift, as well as many other contributions to the university over the years, continues to support and nurture the Northwestern Department of Social Sciences.

"We are eager to honor and recognize our generous benefactor for his many gifts to the university and secure his legacy," said Dr. Eric Schmaltz, Northwestern Department of Social Sciences chair and professor of history.

The program will consist of two components. First, students will familiarize themselves with the chosen historical topic outside of a classroom situation. This step began this fall and involved students reviewing online resources, reading required texts, and meeting with faculty to discuss the topic.

Students completed these requirements to be eligible for the second component. Northwestern Social Science Department faculty members overseeing the program would determine student performance at this point.

The second program component will involve travel to the sites of study in Spring 2026. This stage involves students agreeing to make the trip and comply with all university and departmental protocols during the trip.

Upon returning from the trip, students will be required to write a final assignment on a topic designated by the faculty organizers. Upon successful completion of the program, students will earn designation as Donovan Reichenberger Legacy Scholars and receive a certificate to that effect. Students will be able to incorporate this distinction into their resumes, assisting them in future academic endeavors for graduate school or employment.

In the process, the program showcases Northwestern's role in making possible such activities outside of the classroom, while recognizing the Reichenbergers' generous legacy, both to Northwestern and the wider community.

Applications can be completed online at www.nwosu.edu/forms/donovan-reichenberger-legacy-scholar or are available for download on the Social Sciences webpage at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences. Hardcopies can be emailed to Schmaltz at ejschmaltz@nwosu.edu.

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
October 9
Ranger2Ranger was an absolute blast! We had the honor of hosting 20 Northwestern alumni who met with students for 30-minute sessions throughout the day. Four alumni also served as guest speakers in various classes, sharing their experiences and advice. In total, more than 100 meetings took place, making it an incredible day of connection and learning.

NWOSU Pre-Nursing Association
October 13
Introducing our 2025-2026 PreNA officers.
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing
October 13
Congratulations to the incoming officers for the pre-nursing association! Their next meeting is 10/28/2025 at 3:00 pm. If you're a pre-nursing student, we hope to see you there!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 13
Mental Health Simulation at NWOSU Nursing!
Senior nursing students at Northwestern Oklahoma State University participated in an interactive mental health simulation on Oct. 7 at the Woodward campus. The event featured four realistic scenarios designed to strengthen skills in therapeutic communication, medication administration, teamwork, and safety in mental health settings.
Local actress and Northwestern alumna Sara Acosta brought each scenario to life, while Integris of Woodward provided lunch, and community partners, including Karen Harrison (Western Plains Youth & Family Services) and Tammie Smith (White Horse Ranch), joined to support the experience.
The simulation was organized by Dr. Sierra Elsey, assistant professor of nursing, with assistance from Mrs. Crystal Gillett and Dr. Krystal Elliott. We are proud of our students for engaging in the day with participation and thoughtful discussion.
#NWOSUNursing #SimulationLearning #MentalHealthAwareness #HandsOnLearning

Who do you talk to about tutoring?
Contact Aleysa Rose, (Ext. 8149), IE 113, Academic Success Center Coordinator, for information on getting things set up.

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Bohlen receives Henry Bickerstaff Scholarship

The Henry Bickerstaff Scholarship through the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA) recognizes an outstanding accounting student each year residing in or attending a university located in northwestern Oklahoma.

Hadley Bohlen, a Northwestern senior accounting major from Ringwood, has been selected as this year's recipient and was awarded the $2,000 scholarship.

"I would love to be a CPA in Northwest Oklahoma," Bohlen said. "I have been in this area, born and raised here, so I would love to stay small town, Northwest Oklahoma, and just help people."

A third-generation Ranger, Bohlen switched from biology to accounting during her undergraduate career. She serves as a Becker Campus Ambassador, promoting CPA exam study materials to accounting majors on campus. In return, Becker will help cover her study materials for the CPA exam.

Bohlen, who will graduate in May with 144 credit hours, plans to complete the additional six hours required for CPA licensure at Northwestern.

Dana Roark, instructor of business and Bohlen's adviser, encouraged her to apply.

"She is an excellent student who works hard and is very deserving of the award," Roark said.

"The CPA profession has given me a lot of opportunities to grow, learn and teach," said Henry Bickerstaff, scholarship benefactor. "As I grow older, I want to be able to give back to my profession, and one way that I've been able to do that was to establish a scholarship for students in the northwest corner of Oklahoma."

Bickerstaff, who has maintained an accounting practice in Alva since 1978, serves on the board of trustees for the OSCPA's Education Foundation.

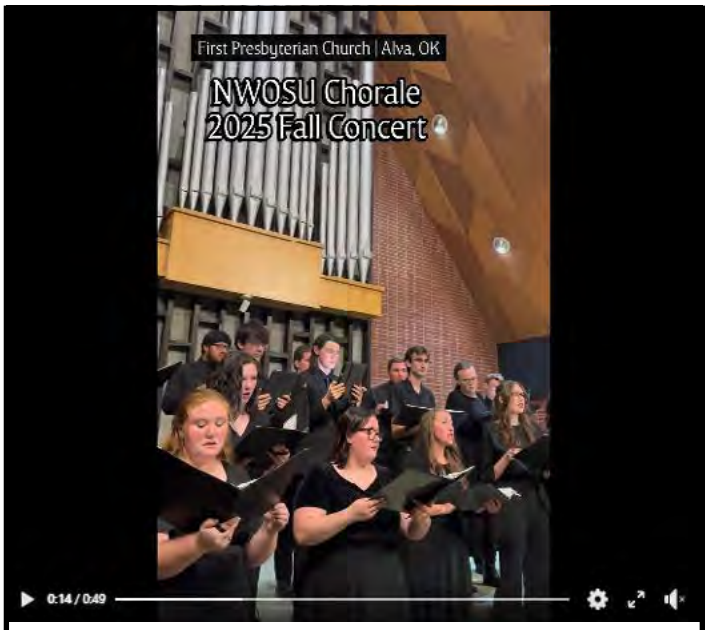
"I get to see all the applicants, and Hadley is one of the top applicants," he said. "She's an impressive student."

Bohlen also works with Higher Education Prevention Services, informing students about suicide and opioid prevention services available on campus, including Narcan/Naloxone lock boxes and free counseling resources.

"I'm super grateful for the opportunity to learn from them and this program," Bohlen said, thanking Bickerstaff, Roark, instructor of business Teri Allen and all her accounting instructors. "I'm also super thankful to be the recipient of a great scholarship."

For more information on the Northwestern Division of Business, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/business.

Hadley Bohlen (left), a Northwestern Oklahoma State University senior accounting major from Ringwood, receives her $2,000 scholarship award from Henry Bickerstaff (right), scholarship benefactor.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 14
A standing ovation for our NWOSU Chorale at their Fall Concert in the First Presbyterian Church last night!
Thank you to everyone who joined us!
#RideRangersRide #RideOnSingOn #OKHigherEdWorks

Flexible hybrid LPN-to-BSN track launches spring 2027

The Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing will soon launch a new hybrid LPN-to-BSN track.

This program is designed to provide a flexible and efficient pathway for Licensed Practical Nurses seeking to advance their education and career.

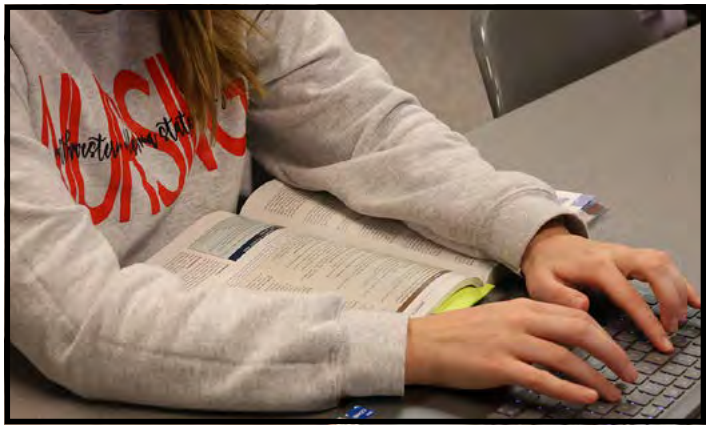
Starting in Spring 2027, this innovative program will blend online coursework, residency-style laboratory sessions, and in-person clinical experiences to accommodate working professionals and busy students.

The division sought feedback from stakeholders to determine any barriers, and those barriers have been addressed. Students will have more flexibility as well as frequent in-person contact with faculty members to ensure success.

The LPN-to-BSN hybrid track will allow students to complete their degree in just four semesters, combining the convenience of online learning with hands-on clinical training essential for nursing practice. The residency-style laboratories are structured to enhance practical skills, while in-person clinicals ensure real-world experience in healthcare settings.

Applications for the program will open in Summer 2026, giving prospective students ample time to prepare and apply. The new track exemplifies Northwestern's commitment to accessible, high-quality nursing education tailored to the evolving needs of healthcare professionals.

For more information about Northwestern's LPN-to-BSN hybrid track and the application process, please visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing/bachelor-of-science-in-nursing or contact the Northwestern Division of Nursing by email at nursing@nwosu.edu.



A Northwestern nursing student studies course material on her laptop. The Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing will begin accepting applications in summer 2026 for a new hybrid LPN-to-BSN program, with classes starting in spring 2027.

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWTV
October 14
NWTV News for October 14, 2025

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
October 15
Each spring, we recognize outstanding graduates in multiple categories. If you know of a graduate whose accomplishments recognize the Ranger excellence and have graduated within the last ten years, we invite you to nominate them for the Outstanding Graduate award in the Ranger Recognition category. To nominate, go to https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/spring-alumni-reunion.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing
October 15
Our Student Nurses Association partnered with the Woods County Health Department to help administer flu shots in Alva today!
We're proud of our nursing students for serving our community and promoting public health through hands-on experiences like this. Way to represent NWOSU Nursing!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 20
FALL FEST 2025 at NWOSU Enid Campus :)

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
October 15
Each spring, we recognize outstanding graduates in multiple categories. If you know of a graduate who is dedicated to the welfare of people, we invite you to nominate them for the Outstanding Graduate award in the Humanitarian category. To nominate, go to https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/spring-alumni-reunion.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
October 20
They say experience is the best teacher, and we've been in it for a minute!
The nursing faculty at NWOSU bring decades of real-world expertise to the classroom, blending lessons learned on the frontlines with a passion for shaping the next generation of nurses.
Swipe through to see where our nursing journeys began — and how far we've come!

NWOSU Division of Education
October 21
Future educators on the move! Our NWOSU Foundations of Education class had a fantastic field trip in OKC, touring three incredible schools: Positive Tomorrows, Santa Fe South Hills Elementary, and Santa Fe Middle School. Getting a firsthand look at school diversity will be invaluable for their teaching careers. #FutureTeachers #NWOSU #Education #OKC #TeacherPrep

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
October 22
Pumpkin Carvers - it's your turn! Purchase your pumpkin here: https://form.jotform.com/252594654307160
We'll have a room available for you to carve your pumpkins on October 28 & 29. Or, swing by and pick up your pumpkin to take it home! You will need to return it by Wednesday, October 29 by 3 PM!
Judging for both the painting and the carving will be October 30th from 5-6!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
October 22
We're grateful for our partnership with Evans Pharmacy in Enid, which made it possible for our nursing students to administer flu immunizations to residents at Meadows Point Apartments this morning!
A big thank-you to Evans Pharmacy for their support and to the residents of Meadows Point for welcoming our students with kindness. Together, we're helping keep our communities healthier this flu season.
#NWOSUNursing #NWOSU #CommunityHealth #HandsOnLearning #FutureNurses

NWOSU Theatre
October 22
Castle Players Club 2025 Homecoming Spirit Board
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #castleplayersclub #nwosu #nwosurangers #homecoming #homecomingweek

Esports sponsors Regional Scholastic Esports Tournament at Enid

The Northwestern Esports team played host to the regional Oklahoma Scholastic Esports "Super Smash Brothers" Tournament Monday, Oct. 27, on the Northwestern-Enid campus.

Nine local schools were registered with approximately 75 middle and high school students competing in their respective divisions. High schools competing were Blackwell, Buffalo, Canute, Davis, Laverne, Ponca City, Taloga and Watonga. Middle schools competing are Blackwell, Canute, Davis, Guymon, Ponca City and Taloga.

Local students compete in "Super Smash Brothers" during a regional Oklahoma Scholastic Esports tournament held on the Northwestern-Alva campus in April.

Students competed throughout the day in preliminary matches, with final matches in the afternoon. Players advanced by winning head-to-head matches.

Points were earned by participants based on their wins and losses from the tournament. Points were used from this tournament and other regional tournaments this semester to determine invite standings for state playoffs.

Current or future Northwestern students interested in learning about the Northwestern Esports team, including available scholarships, can visit www.nwosu.edu/nwosu-esports, or contact Evan Vaverka, Northwestern Esports director and instructor of computer science, at esports@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8587.

For more information about the Northwestern Math and Computer Science Department, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/math-and-computer-science.

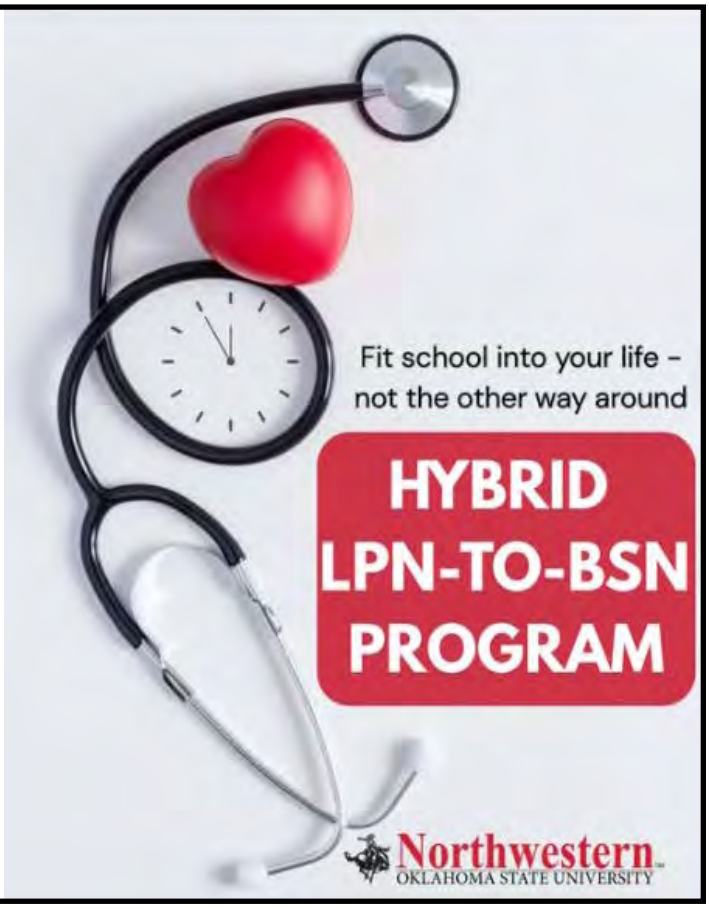
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing
October 22
Licensed Practical Nurses — it's your time to level up!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Division of Nursing is launching a new Hybrid LPN-to-BSN Program starting Spring 2027 (applications open Summer 2026).

This flexible track is built for working LPNs who need balance — combining online coursework, residency-style labs, and in-person clinical experiences for real-world learning.

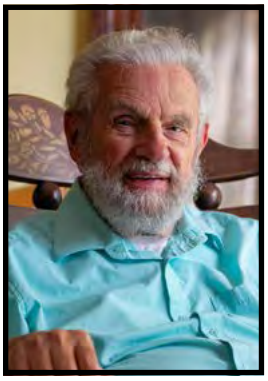
Program Highlights:
- 4-semester completion timeline
- Hybrid format with hands-on training
- Up to 27 credits of advanced standing
- Strong faculty support
- Questions? Contact nursing@nwosu.edu

#NWOSUNursing #FutureBSN #NurseLife #LPNtoBSN #NursingEducation



Brown leads 2025 Homecoming parade as marshal

Leading the "Rowdy Under the Big Top" 2025 Northwestern homecoming parade will be retired professor of chemistry and longstanding Northwestern supporter, Dr. Kenneth Brown.



Kenneth Brown

Brown is originally from a town similar to the size of Alva in upstate New York called Herkimer. Brown graduated with chemistry and math degrees from Hope College in 1960 before continuing on to graduate with a Ph.D. in physical and inorganic chemistry from Rutgers University in 1966. He began teaching at Northwestern in August 1973 and retired in May 2004. Brown is still active in the Alva community after retirement.

"I get around," Brown joked.

He volunteers four days a week at Share Medical Center as well as sitting on the Alva Hospital Authority and Northwest Family Services board. During the summer, Brown also works at the Salt Plains Refuge Center, a job he started as a Northwestern faculty member and he's retained for over 20 years. He also handles maintenance and operations of the historic Runnymede in downtown Alva. These countless volunteer hours earned him the Volunteer of the Year award from the Alva Chamber of Commerce in 2017.

Some of Brown's favorite memories around the Northwestern Homecoming activities are from the parade itself, making his selection as parade marshal a full-circle moment. He has assisted the Miss Cinderella candidates at the Runnymede for several years and looks back fondly at bringing his kids to the parades in years past.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 22
It's Homecoming at Northwestern!
Several great sheet designs were entered this year. Great job!
Stay tuned for more posts from the various campus contests… #HOCO2025

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing
October 24
Our nursing faculty are sharpening their expertise today!
Mrs. Martin, Dr. Elliott, and Mrs. Gillett are attending the Stillwater Medical Center Critical Care Conference to stay current on the latest evidence-based practices.
When our faculty advance their knowledge, our students advance their future.
#NWOSU #RangerNursing #criticalcare #lifelonglearning

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 23
Residents of University Housing got into the spirit of this year's Homecoming theme of "Rowdy Under the Bigtop."
Great job. #HOCO2025 #NWOSU

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 22
Great creativity in the NWOSU Homecoming Spirit Board Contest!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 23
Take a look at the talent on the #NWOSU campus for the Homecoming Door Decoration Contest.
#hoco2025

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 24
Come try our chili at the United Way Chili cook off at the Stride Bank Center

NWOSU Ranger Bands
October 24
That Friday feeling when you remember it's game day eve
Mr. Perkins understood the assignment

Northwestern-Enid plays host to OPSA meeting

For the first time, Northwestern Oklahoma State University played host to the Oklahoma Political Science Association (OPSA) annual meeting Thursday, Nov. 6, and Friday, Nov. 7, on the Enid campus.

The theme of this year's observance was "History as our Guide to Politics," and sought to explore the nexus between the study of history and how it informs the understanding of politics.

The meeting was a statewide yearly conference that brings academics, professionals and the interested public together to discuss and study the field of political science. The group considers state, regional, national and international political issues by hosting academic panels presenting new research and thoughtful inquiry regarding political matters.

Each year, the conference is held at a different university within the state of Oklahoma with each university acting as a host institution.

Dr. Michael Cohen of American University served as the featured, evening speaker on the final day.

University faculty members Dr. Roger Hardaway, Dr. Shawn Holliday, Dr. Aaron Mason (OPSA president and event organizer), Prof. Jana Pittman and Dr. Eric Schmaltz also presented at the conference.

Dr. Michael Cohen, research professor in the Department of Government and a faculty fellow in the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies at American University, was the featured speaker during the final night of the conference.

For more information, contact Dr. Aaron Mason, Northwestern professor of political science, at mason@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8522.

For more information about the Northwestern Department of Social Sciences, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences.

Dr. Aaron Mason, professor of political science, OPSA President and event organizer, served as a presenter at the conference.

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

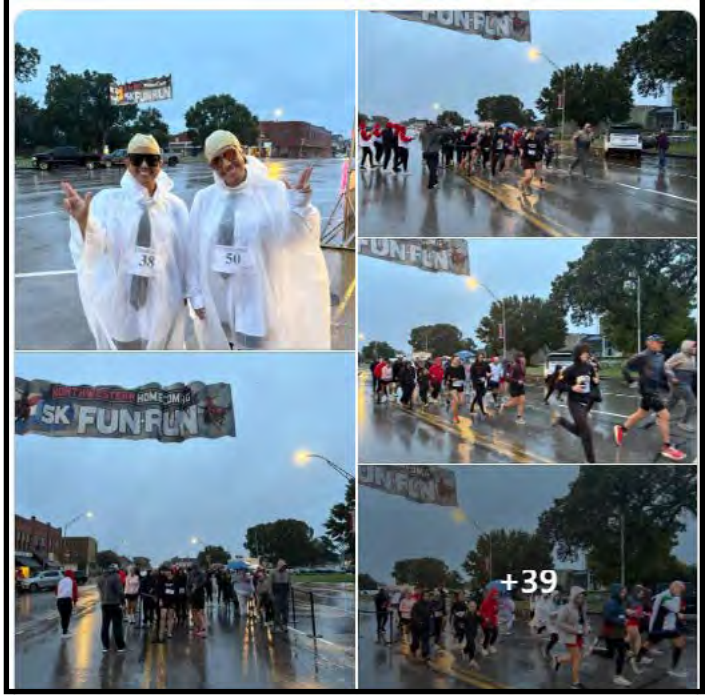
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
October 23
Our nursing and pre-nursing students have been busy this week getting ready for Homecoming! We can't wait to show our Ranger pride and represent the Student Nurses Association and Pre-Nursing Association in Saturday's parade. #NWOSU #RRR #RangerPride #Homecoming

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 24
Window displays for the #NWOSU Homecoming contest were outstanding. #HOCO2025

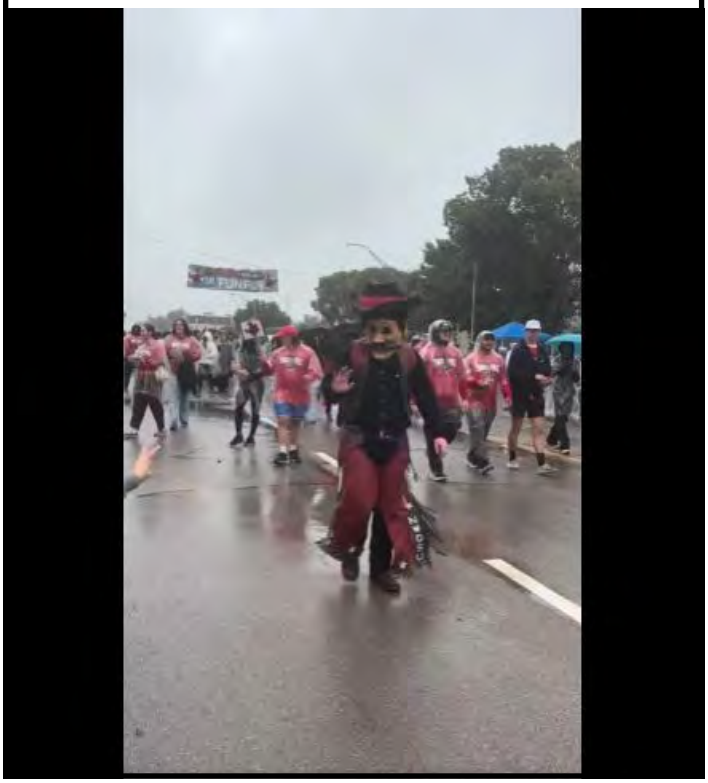
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
October 25
Rain or shine, nothing dampens our Ranger Pride! We had a blast representing NWOSU Nursing in the homecoming parade this morning!
#NWOSU #RRR #Homecoming2025

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
NWOSU SGA
October 25
And there you have it!
The 2025 Ranger King is Tra'von Johns and the 2025 Ranger Queen is Jaxyn Cloud! Congratulations to these two individuals!
Thank you to our 2024 Ranger Royalty for your year of service and crowning our 2025 Ranger Royalty.
To our candidates, thank you all for running and participating in this homecoming tradition, we couldn't do it without you. We enjoyed spending time with you and getting to know your personalities. We wish you all the best!
As always... RIDE, RANGERS, RIDE
#studentlife #nwosu #homecoming2025

J.R. Holder Wellness Center
October 25
Not even a little rain can stop us! Thanks to everyone who weathered the elements and participated in the Ranger Run!



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 25
Homecoming parade 2025
A little rain, a lot of ranger pride
#Rangerfamily



NWOSU Ranger Bands
October 26
The rain tried to slow us down, but the Ranger Marching Band doesn't miss a beat. We brought the energy and made Homecoming one to remember.
Rain or Shine, NWOSU Homecoming is always an amazing time

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 25
Ranger football wins Homecoming 33-22!!! Way to go!!!
#RRR #RangerFamily #RangerPride #HOCO2025

NWOSU Division of Business
October 27
The AI Question: Is AI truly transforming entrepreneurship — or just another passing trend?
Our 2025 speakers use AI in very different ways (and some are cautious about it). What's your experience? Has it actually helped your business yet?
Share your thoughts — then join us Nov. 6–7 for The Entrepreneur & AI to hear both sides!
NWOSUEntrepreneur2025.eventbrite.com
#TheAIQuestion #EntrepreneurAndAI #BusinessInnovation #SmallBizGrowth #nwosuevent

Show must go on: Homecoming stays 'Rowdy Under the Big Top' despite rain

Rain showers didn't stop the Rangers from getting "Rowdy Under the Big Top" as Northwestern homecoming activities concluded on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Festivities on Saturday began with the annual Ranger Run sponsored by the J.R. Holder Wellness Center. Twenty-three participated in the 5k race, and 21 ran in the 1-mile fun run.

Leading the parade on Saturday was parade marshal Dr. Ken Brown, retired Northwestern professor of chemistry and longstanding Northwestern supporter.

Parade Marshal Dr. Ken Brown led the Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Oct. 25.

After the conclusion of the parade, the winners of the marching band contests were announced from among the six bands that participated:

High School Marching Competition – 4A: first Place, Woodward High School; 3A: first place, Alva High School, second place Chisholm High School; 2A: first place, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale High School.

Junior High Marching Competition – first place, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale; second place, Chisholm Middle School.

The Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors (NSA) won the President's Award for best overall float.

In the float competition, first place for on-campus floats was the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors (NSA), who also earned the President's Award for best overall float. Second place went to the Northwestern Aggie Club, and third place went to the Northwestern Student Government Association (SGA).

In the off-campus, commercial business float category, first place went to Beadles Nursing Home, who also earned the Northwestern Alumni Association Ranger Spirit Award for the float depicting exceptional Ranger spirit. Second place went to Alva State Bank.

In the off-campus, non-profit float category, first place went to the Alva Pumpkin Patch, and second place went to the Cherokee Strip Museum.

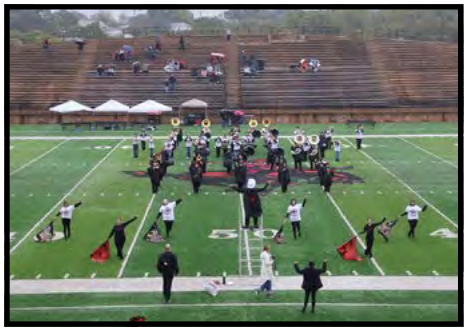
Members of the Alva and Woodward High School bands joined the Northwestern Ranger Marching Band for a massed band performance during pregame of the Northwestern football game. Alva High School drum major Emry Williams conducted alongside Northwestern drum major Levi Crumpton, a senior vocal music education major from Cushing, during the band's halftime performance.

Northwestern played host to several other activities including the alumni band, which was led by guest director Shawna Gilbert, Northwestern access services librarian and assistant professor of library science, and the crowning of the Ranger King and Queen.

This year's Ranger Royalty included Ranger King Tra'von "TJ" Johns, a senior health and sports science education major from Phoenix, Arizona, who was sponsored by the Northwestern Men's Track and Field Team.

Ranger Queen is Jaxyn "Jaxy" Cloud, a senior media and communication major from Seiling, who was sponsored by the NWTV-7.

Abbey Elam of Shattuck was crowned Freshman Queen during the Ranger Royalty Finalist banquet.



Members of Alva High School and Woodward Junior High and High School bands joined the Northwestern Ranger Marching Band for a performance on Ranger Field before the Ranger Football Homecoming game.

She is majoring in media and communication.

Dee Mason, spouse of Northwestern professor of political science Dr. Aaron Mason, won the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association medallion hunt. Mason won the medallion along with $100 in Alva Chamber Bucks. Mason also won the medallion hunt in 2022.

Northwestern's on-campus ac-

Continued to page 66

Continued from page 65

Show must go on...

tivities had a great turnout of decorations that showed Ranger spirit.

First place for the on-campus Spirit Sheet Competition was the Chemistry Club, second place went to the Northwestern Art Society, and third place to the Writer's Roundtable.

First place for the on-campus Spirit Board Competition went to the Northwestern Baptist College Ministry, second place went to the Northwestern Black Student Union, and third place to the Medical Sciences Club.

The winning office/window display was awarded to the Business Office, second place went to the J.W. Martin Library, and the Human Resources and Payroll office received third.

The winning door/wall display went to the Dean of Faculty office, Graduate Studies, and Counseling and Career Services, second place went to the TRIO Student Support Services office, and third to the Housing Office.

The winning dorm was Fryer Hall, second place was Cunningham Hall, and Coronado Hall received third place.

The Rangers got their first football win of the season against Southern Nazarene University, 33-22, and Northwestern Soccer triumphed in its game over East Central University at Advance Soccer Complex in Enid, 1-0.

"Our committee worked hard to ensure a fun-filled celebration for our community," said Dr. David Pecha, homecoming chairman and university executive vice president. "We had a great homecoming week and are thankful for all the participation despite the weather."

The Homecoming committee will start work soon on next year's Homecoming set for Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026.

Be watching for a contest to open during the spring semester to enter ideas for next year's homecoming theme and parade marshal. Until then, people may enter the competition at www.nwosu.edu/homecoming. The homecoming committee will consider all entries and make an announcement of the new theme and parade marshal during the spring semester.

Photos from the homecoming events can be found at www.flickr.com/photos/nwosu-rangers/collections/72157721568384563/.

TJ Johns and Jaxy Cloud were crowned Ranger King and Queen during Northwestern's Homecoming halftime event. Ranger Royalty court included (front left to right) flower girl Emma Franz and crown bearer Luke Martin; (back left to right) 2024 Ranger Queen Diamond Hilton; Queen finalists Janie Rempel and Brenda Lezama; Freshman Queen Abbey Elam; Ranger Queen Jaxy Cloud and Ranger King TJ Johns; King finalists Jeremy Smith and Nathan Vaughn; and 2024 Ranger King Marshal Howard.

The full Ranger Band was one of the leaders at the beginning of the Homecoming parade, but the Second Line group were the one who completed the parade!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 27
Maybe this will brighten your day on this gloomy Monday after Homecoming.
If you didn't get to see the full presentation of the Business Office's First Place Homecoming entry, check this out!
#hoco2025 #nwosu

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
October 27
Rain or shine, Ranger pride never fades! Thank you to everyone who joined us for a memorable Homecoming weekend. The day kicked off with a wet Ranger Run, followed by a rainy, but lively, parade through downtown Alva. When the weather didn't cooperate, we moved the Alumni Tent and lunch to Graceful Arts, where everyone stayed dry and enjoyed reconnecting with fellow Rangers.
By the time the football game began, the rain had finally let up. The Rangers brought home a big win, and the Alumni Band kept spirits high by playing from the stands.
We are thankful for everyone who showed their Ranger pride and made this Homecoming special despite the weather.
Ride, Rangers, Ride!
For the full photo gallery, go to https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjCyL9f

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 27
Rangers, what a homecoming! Despite the rain, we got "Rowdy Under the Big Top" on Saturday, Oct. 25.
Congratulations to TJ Johns and Jaxy Cloud, our 2025 Ranger King and Queen, and to Abbey Elam, our Freshman Queen. Special recognition to parade marshal Dr. Ken Brown and all our float competition winners—including the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors - NSA who took home the President's Award for best overall float.
Our Rangers brought home victories on the field and the pitch: Football defeated Southern Nazarene 33-22 for our first win of the season, and Soccer shut out East Central 1-0 in Enid.
Thank you to everyone who participated in the Ranger Run, marching bands, spirit competitions, and all the festivities. Your Ranger spirit made homecoming unforgettable.
Looking ahead: Mark your calendars for Homecoming 2026 on Saturday, Oct. 10!
Contest to submit theme ideas and parade marshal nominations opens spring semester at www.nwosu.edu/homecoming.
See more photos: https://www.nwosu.edu/university-relations/

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Woodward Campus
October 27
NEVER SAY NEVER!!!
Last semester, students filled a shopping cart with food and grooming items for our campus cabinet, to help fellow students in need. Dr. Thomason had promised that a full cart would mean that students could throw a pie or two at him. And last week--WLAB members did just that!
#campuslife #NWOSU #woodwardcampus

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Woodward Campus
October 27
It's that time of year again!
Once again our students blew us away with their creativity in this year's pumpkin decorating contest! Check out the entries below and let us know your favorites!!!
#halloween #woodwardcampus #pumpkindecorating

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 28
Enid News & Eagle
October 28
Do you esports
Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Enid invited middle and high school students for tournament competition Monday. #SupportLocalNews #hometownENE

"They are very competitive gamers"

LET THE BATTLE BEGIN

E-sports teams Smash it up at NWOSU-Enid tourney

"One of the things I like about e-sports is it brings some of the kids out of their shells. Also, it actually teaches some real-life skills and can lead to a career." — Amber Dunham, esports coach

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 28
We are proud to have hosted an E-Sports Competition on Monday, Oct. 26 on our NWOSU Enid Campus. A great time was had by all!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 28
The Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University and Miss Northwestern's Teen competitions will be held Sunday, Nov. 2, at 4 p.m. in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall. Doors open at 3:30 p.m.
Six Rangers will compete for the Miss Northwestern title: Kaylyn Aldrich, a junior early childhood education major from Okeene; Jadyn Chancey, a junior psychology major from Mooreland; Abbey Elam, a freshman media and communication major from Shattuck; Jamie Torres Franco, a junior criminal justice major from Hennessey; Jessica Goucher, a sophomore biology major from Waynoka; and Addison Tucker, a freshman nursing major from Piedmont.
Four high school students will compete for the Miss Northwestern's Teen title: Olivia Church of Weatherford, Tanith Erikson of Alva, Lauren Thomason of Burlington, and Jayce Schultz of Okeene.
The new Miss Northwestern and Miss Northwestern's Teen will represent the university at the Miss Oklahoma Competition in June 2026.
Tickets are available in the Northwestern Business Office or from contestants. General admission is $8 in advance or $10 at the door and $3 for students with Northwestern ID. Tickets also are available from Paige Fischer, Miss Northwestern executive director, at (580) 327-8533.
Learn more about the contestants and competition: https://bit.ly/4qw18vA
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

Northwestern
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY™

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 27
Ranger Rodeo Week Schedule:
We can't wait to see everyone!
#northwesternrodeo #nwosurodeo #rangerrodeo #NWOSU #RRR #RideRangersRide

Northwestern Oklahoma State Univeristy
Division of Nursing
October 29
Our nursing students have been busy providing flu immunizations at multiple community sites across Enid. These hands-on experiences strengthen clinical skills and make a real difference in community health. Thank you to Evans Drug in Enid for supporting these learning opportunities!
#NWOSUNursing #CommunityHealth #FutureNurses #RangerPride

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 28
It's time for another #NWOSUTreasureHunt!
Steve Maier
October 28
A glowing green 3D printed NWOSU capital N with "Northwestern" engraved diagonally down the middle.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 30
We had a great time at the NOC and NWOSU Bridge event
Shoutout to Coffee Inclination.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
October 29
Advance your career without pressing pause!
Licensed Practical Nurses — your next step is here. Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Division of Nursing is launching a Hybrid LPN-to-BSN Track beginning Spring 2027 (applications open Summer 2026).
Designed with working nurses in mind, this four-semester program blends online coursework, residency-style labs, and in-person clinical experiences — giving you the flexibility to earn your BSN without stepping away from the job you love.
Program Highlights:
- Four-semester completion timeline
- Hybrid format for busy professionals
- Hands-on skill labs and clinical training
- Up to 27 credits of advanced standing
- Personalized faculty support throughout your journey

Applications open Summer 2026 | Classes begin Spring 2027
Questions? Contact: nursing@nwosu.edu

Ledbetter presents snake talk at local business on Nov. 4

Dr. Nicholus Ledbetter, assistant professor of biology at Northwestern, gave a one-hour interactive talk on the snakes of northwest Oklahoma at the Alva Beer Company on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Ledbetter said this was an opportunity to learn about some of the most feared animals in the region and discuss their value, identification and common myths.

Those attending were asked to come prepared with snake photos and stories.

For more information about the talk, contact Ledbetter at nmledbetter@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8673.

For more information on Northwestern's Department of Natural Science, visit https://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/natural-science.

Heartland BEST Robotics Competition held November 1

Eight teams were scheduled to compete in the 23rd annual Heartland BEST Robotics competition at Northwestern's Alva campus on Saturday, Nov. 1, from in Percefull Fieldhouse.

The high schools and middle schools scheduled to compete include Alva Robotics, Arnett High School and middle school, Burlington High School, Elgin High School, Lawton Academy, MIGHT Community Development Team from Lawton, and Persimmon Creek Robotics, comprised of students from the Mutual, Sharon and Vici areas.

BEST co-director Dr. Tim Maharry, chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science department and professor of mathematics, who also serves as the head of sponsorship and finance and the BEST Award, said that the teams have been designing and building their robots over the past eight weeks. All teams start with an identical kit of parts. Teams score points by completing various tasks in the game field. This year's game was "Factoids" and has dan AI theme.

Each team competed in six preliminary matches, with the top teams advancing to the finals. The top three winning teams from Heartland BEST advanced to the regional competition in Wichita, Kansas, on Dec. 6-7.

BEST stands for boosting engineering science and technology. BEST is a national robotics competition that started in 1993. Heartland BEST in Alva started in 2002.

Also serving as co-directors for Heartland BEST are Dr. Mary Riegel, professor of mathematics, who also serves as the game committee chair, and Dr. Jenny Sattler, chair of the Department of Natural Sciences and professor of physics, who also serves as the committee chair.

Others on the committee include other Northwestern faculty, Alva community members and the families of committee members, including Dr. Adam Alber, assistant professor of chemistry; Dr. Roxie James, chair of the English, Foreign Language and Humanities department and associate professor of English; Dr. Keenan Meeker, assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Jason Wickham, professor of chemistry; Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science; and Dave Riegel, Sandy Riegel, Dena Riegel, and Kaylynn Samples.

More information is available from Maharry at (580) 327-8583 or tjmaharry@nwosu.edu or at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/natural-science/heartland-best.

Heartland BEST game day was held on campus Nov. 1 in Percefull Fieldhouse.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
October 30
NWOSU Aspiring Educators
October 29
NWOSU Ranger Recycling on the Enid campus with the help of the Little Rangers from Fowler EC. Dylan is leading.

Social Work Club conducts Dignity Drive

The Northwestern Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) club is playing host to its annual "Compassion in Action Dignity Drive" to collect essential household and hygiene items through Nov. 15.

Donations of hygiene items, laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers and wipes may be dropped off at all Northwestern campus locations.

This year's donations will benefit Youth and Family Services – Family Court in Enid. The Family Treatment Court is dedicated to promoting the safety and well-being of children while supporting caregivers in achieving timely reunification. Items collected will be distributed to families currently enrolled in the program.

"Participating in the Dignity Drive is a simple way to make a real difference," said Isabella Burden, SWAT president. "It's inspiring to see our campus and community come together to support others and promote dignity and hope."

For more information about the Compassion in Action Dignity Drive, contact Codi Harding, assistant professor of social work and director of field experience, at (580) 213-3148 or clharding@nwosu.edu.

For details about Northwestern's social work program, visit www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work or contact Dr. Kylene Rehder, Department of Social Work chair and professor of social work, at kdrehder@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8135.

Entries accepted for inaugural contest, Red Dirt Review; reception held

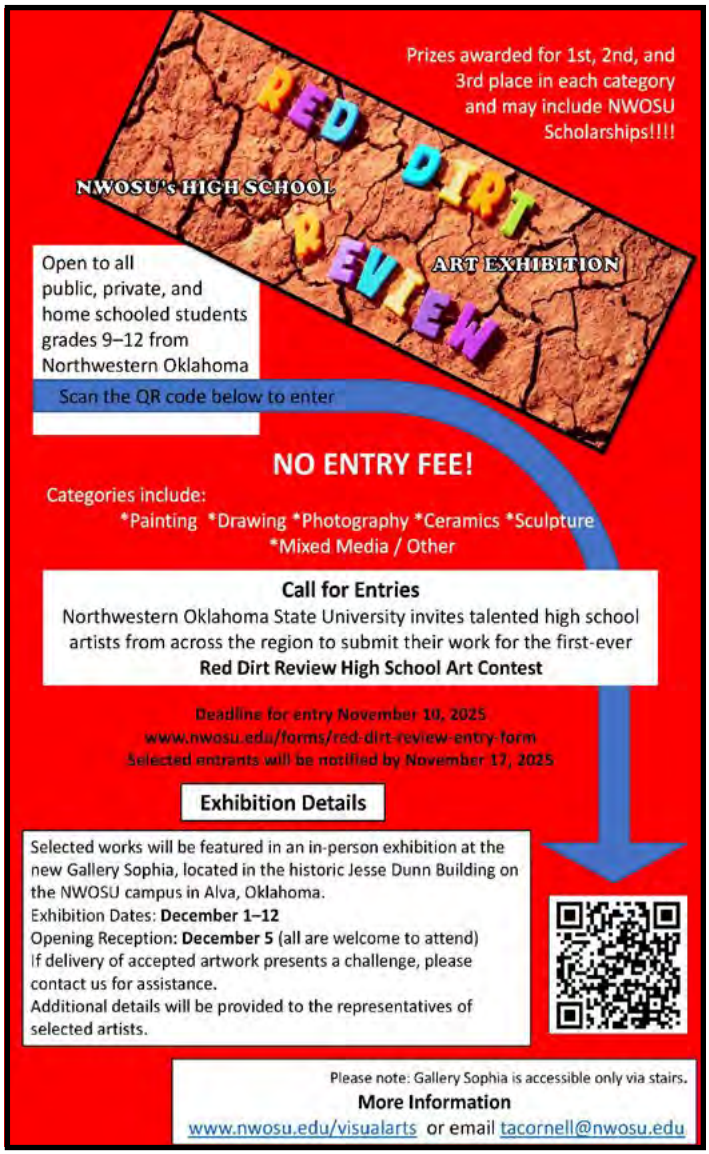
The Northwestern Visual Arts program invited regional high school artists to enter the inaugural Red Dirt Review High School Art Contest at the Alva campus.

Public, private and homeschooled students in grades 9-12 could submit pieces by the Nov. 10 deadline in the categories of painting, ceramics, drawing, sculpture, photography and mixed media/other. There was no entry fee.

Thomas Cornell, assistant professor of visual arts, said all entries were initially be adjudicated online. Selected entrants and winners in each grade level and category were invited to display their work in the exhibition.

A public reception was held Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. Awards and places were announced at the reception.

If delivery presents challenges, students may contact Cornell at tacornell@nwosu.edu for assistance or with questions. Gallery Sophia is accessible only by stairs.



Ranger Rodeo held Oct. 30-Nov. 1 at fairgrounds

The Northwestern Rodeo Team played host to its annual Ranger Rodeo on Thursday, Oct. 30, through Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Woods County Fairgrounds Arena.

Twenty schools from the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) Central Plains Region with more than 450 students competed for the top prize in each event.

"We were so excited to host our home rodeo here for another year," said Northwestern Rodeo head coach Cali Griffin. "It's a great chance for us to bring over 450 contestants and their families into our community to see what Alva has to offer, and we love the opportunity to show the community what we've been working so hard for, and compete in front of our home crowd."

Thursday was "Student Night" with all Northwestern students being admitted free of charge by showing a current student ID; Friday was Family Night/Calf Scramble for Kids; and Saturday was the Match of Champions.

On Friday night, teams of two men and two women from various rodeo teams entered into a foot race with the winners taking home $100. Each team member had to be in western attire with boots and hat and had to go down and back the length of the arena.

Slack, or overflow contestants, took place on Thursday at 2 p.m. for barrel racing with timed-events following on Friday and Saturday at 9 a.m.

On Saturday night during the Match of Champions, winners of the aggregate in the breakaway roping, steer wrestling and team roping went head-to-head against former Northwestern Rodeo standouts and National Finals Rodeo qualifiers Taylor Munsell, World Champion Jacob Edler and Shannon Frascht for the chance to win a $500 bonus. The matches were held immediately following each event.

Before the home rodeo, Northwestern Rodeo was on track to have another successful season, having participated in three rodeos so far this semester: Colby Community College, Southeastern Oklahoma State University and Oklahoma State University.

Team photo of the 2025-2026 Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo team.

The Northwestern women's team sat at fourth place in the Central Plains standings after a Reserve Championship finish at Stillwater; the men's team currently was at sixth in the standings.

Four Northwestern Rangers had found the winner's circle so far this semester:

Kyler Altmiller, a senior agriculture major from Canadian, Texas, started off the Ranger's rodeo season with a team roping title at Colby's rodeo, partnering with Oklahoma Panhandle State University rodeo team member Porter Hall.

Emmett Edler, assistant rodeo coach and graduate student from State Center, Iowa, claimed the steer wrestling title at Southeastern's rodeo.

Savannah Greenfield, a junior health and sports science education major from Lakeview, Oregon, won the barrel racing title, and Nathan Duvall, a junior agriculture major from Henryetta, won the steer wrestling title at Oklahoma State's rodeo.

Duvall leads the Central Plains steer wrestling standings with 315 points earned this semester. Kendyll Miller, a freshman agriculture major from Hennessey, led the breakaway standings with 206 points.

"We were very excited to host the Northwestern Rodeo again this year," said Brad Franz, Northwestern vice president for athletics. "Coach Griffin has done an outstanding job preparing for it. Our team has had an excellent fall rodeo circuit and culminated with hosting our rodeo."

Bullfighters this year were Alex Phelps and Wacey Munsell, and Tim Fuller was the announcer. The Frontier Rodeo Company of Freedom provided the rough stock, while timed event cattle were provided by Tim Ohm, Shannon Frascht, Stockton Graves and Jacob Edler.

For more information on the Northwestern Rodeo team visit www.riderangersride.com, or contact Griffin at crgriffin@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8688.

Campus Cabinet contest established as Day of Kindness project

In association with the Nov. 14 Day of Kindness in Northwest Oklahoma event that Northwestern and area communities participate in, a project to benefit the university's Campus Cabinet Food Pantries in Alva, Enid and Woodward was held.

All three of Northwestern's campuses participated in campus-wide food drives for their respective campus locations through Nov. 14.

The contest for the groups collecting the most pounds of food and other necessary products was open to various organizations, clubs, athletic teams, academic departments and programs, individual classes, groups of friends, and more.

Groups participating in the contest had to register their intentions to participate in both the Day of Kindness event and the food drive. Groups had to explain how they planned to collect their donations.

Prizes were awarded to the group bringing in the most pounds of products.

The Campus Cabinet Food Pantry set a goal to collect 1,000 pounds of product.

Angelia Case, coordinator of the Campus Cabinet on the Alva campus, explained that with about five weeks left in the fall semester, a weekly average of more than 156 pounds of food is being distributed from the Alva pantry, with some weeks seeing higher distributions than others. The Alva pantry is also spending an average of $759 a month this semester to purchase items to keep the pantry stocked for university students and employees in need.

"We wanted to be helpful to our friends at the Enid and Woodward Campus Cabinets as well," Case said. "Their needs may be a bit different from ours in Alva, but we hope they were able to add items to their campus food pantries by way of this campus-wide food drive, too."

Case said that at the conclusion of the drive, the various groups at the Alva campus that registered scheduled a time with her to take their collections to the pantry location in Shockley Hall.

In Enid, donations may be dropped off at the front office any time during regular office hours. For any questions, please contact Kristy Davidson, Enid administrative assistant, at kldavidson@nwosu.edu or (580) 213-3101.

Groups participating in Woodward will schedule a time to weigh in with Rachel Hopkins, campus coordinator. She may be reached at rahopkins@nwosu.edu or (580) 254-2502. Dr. Jonathan Thomason, dean of the Woodward campus, is also available to answer any questions at jethomason@nwosu.edu or (580) 254-2501.

Needs are similar but different at each campus pantry. In Alva, the pantry welcomes many different shelf-stable foods, as well as personal hygiene items, sheets, pillows, coats, gloves and school supplies.

Items most needed at the Enid and Woodward campuses include canned soups/pastas and other individual meals, powdered milk, fruit cups, peanut butter/cheese crackers, hygiene products plus diapers.

Additional information about the Alva pantry, including a Most Needed Items List, is available at www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet. The food form on this web page will provide the types of foods that are available for selection each week at the Alva campus. Students in Enid and Woodward should visit their respective office leaders for help from their pantry locations.

Community members who would like to help a favorite group should donate products directly to them or contact Case to donate products or tax-deductible monetary donations. A link to two online purchasing "Wish Lists" is also available on the web page, where donations may be purchased and sent directly to the Alva campus. If donating by check, please make the check payable to the NWOSU Foundation with a notation that the donation is for the Campus Cabinet Food Pantry.

Questions about the contest or the food pantry may be directed to Case at (580) 327-8577 or arcase@nwosu.edu.

Damonta Jones, a Midwest City freshman majoring in sociology, volunteers at the Northwestern Campus Cabinet Food Pantry in Alva to fulfill hours needed for a Habitudes Class.

Elam crowned Miss Northwestern; Thomason takes home teen title

Abbey Elam of Shattuck was named Miss Northwestern 2026 during the annual Miss Northwestern competition on Sunday, Nov. 2, in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall. Lauren Thomason of Burlington was crowned Miss Northwestern's Teen 2026.

Elam, a freshman media and communication major, performed a vocal solo of "She Used to Be Mine" as her talent, and her community service initiative (CSI) is "Small Victories."

Thomason performed a vocal solo of "My Man", and her CSI is "Confidence for Kids."

Elam will receive a $1,500 tuition scholarship and a $500 cash scholarship as Miss Northwestern. When Thomason attends college at Northwestern, she will receive a $1,500 tuition scholarship as well.

Hadleigh Dugger of Shattuck, named Miss Northwestern's Star 2026, will accompany Elam and Thomason to the Miss Oklahoma Scholarship Competition at Rose State College in June. Dugger is the daughter of TaKeyah Dugger.

Miss Northwestern's first runner-up is Jamie Torres Franco, a junior criminal justice major from Hennessey. She will receive a $1,250 tuition scholarship.

Second runner-up is Kaylyn Aldrich, a junior early childhood education major from Okeene. She will receive a $1,000 tuition scholarship.

Jadyn Chancey, a junior psychology major from Mooreland, won the Miss Northwestern People's Choice Award; Olivia Church of Weatherford won the Teen People's Choice Award. Jessica Goucher, a sophomore biology major from Waynoka, was the top ad/patron seller.

Abbey Elam (right) was named Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University 2026 during the annual Miss Northwestern competition on Sunday, Nov. 2. Hadleigh Dugger was named Miss Northwestern's Star 2026 (front row). Lauren Thomason (left) was crowned Miss Northwestern's Teen 2026.

The 2026 Miss Northwestern and Teen contestants are (left to right) Jayce Schultz, Olivia Church, Teen People's Choice Award winner; Tanith Erikson; Lauren Thomason, Miss Northwestern's Teen 2026; Hadleigh Duggar (front) Miss Northwestern's Star 2026; Abbey Elam, Miss Northwestern 2026; Jadyn Chancey, People's Choice Award winner; Addison Tucker, Jessica Goucher, top ad/patron seller; Kaylyn Aldrich, second runner-up; and Jamie Torres Franco, first runner-up.

Contestants for the Miss Northwestern and Northwestern's Teen titles were judged on talent/HERStory, evening gown, private interview, health and fitness, and on-stage conversation.

Elam and Church earned the evening gown awards, a new recognition this year, and each received $5oo Northwestern bookstore gift certificates.

Addison Tucker, a freshman nursing major from Piedmont, also competed in the Miss Northwestern competition. Each Miss contestant will receive a $200 cash scholarship provided by the Northwestern Leadership Trust.

Tanith Erikson of Alva and Jayce Schultz of Okeene also competed in the Miss Northwestern's Teen Competition. Each Teen contestant will receive a $200 tuition scholarship upon attendance of Northwestern.

Other contestants for the Miss Northwestern Star program included Kaia Kann of Tuttle; Sawyer Lawrence of Hitchcock; Seraphina "Sera" Hall of Alva; Harper Higgins of Alva; and Ellie Vermillion of Alva.

For more information on the Miss Northwestern Competition, visit nwosu.edu/miss-nwosu, or contact Miss Northwestern director Paige Fischer at (580) 327-8533.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
October 30
Stop by to vote for your favorite painted/carved pumpkin from the Psychology Club contest while attending Trunk or Treat in the Library parking lot.

NWOSU Theatre
November 3
Lights, Camera, Action
Miss a Northwestern 2026 is on her walk of fame!
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #castleplayersclub #nwosu #nwosurangers

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 3
Do you have your project registered for the Nov. 14 event? Also, a new Campus Cabinet-NWOSU food pantry food drive contest for the Alva, Enid and Woodward campus locations has been added for groups to register and compete for prizes! Poster for that contest in the comments of this post.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
November 3
Last weekend's rodeo was one for ages!

Whether it's putting the finishing paint touches around the auditorium doors or working in the concession stand at the rodeo, when a job needs to done many of the hard working people on campus fill the gaps. Here, Dr. Bo Hannaford fills those gaps with paint and food!

NWOSU Enid Entrepreneur Seminar
November 4
We're just 2 days away from The Entrepreneur & AI!
Which speaker are you most excited to hear — or what do you hope to learn from this year's seminar?
From small business to big innovation, this lineup brings together voices exploring both the opportunities and challenges of AI in entrepreneurship.
- Nov. 6–7 | Free & open to the public
- Attend at NWOSU Enid, Alva, Woodward, or Ponca City
- Register for virtual attendance: www.NWOSUEntrepreneur2025.eventbrite.com
#EntrepreneurAndAI #NWOSUEvent #Leadership #Innovation #TheAIQuestion #BusinessCommunity #businesscommunity

NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 3
NWOSU Trunk or Treat! Thanks Kaydence Decker, Isabella Burden, Haylee Durrence & Alana Shotpouch

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
November 4
We are just a few days away from welcoming four distinguished alumni to campus for the Northwestern Leadership Forum. These alumni will take part in a panel discussion focused on leadership practices, challenges, and innovations. Students, faculty, staff, and community members are all invited to attend.
Please note that Tom McDaniel is unable to attend, and Senator Roland Pederson will now serve as a panelist.

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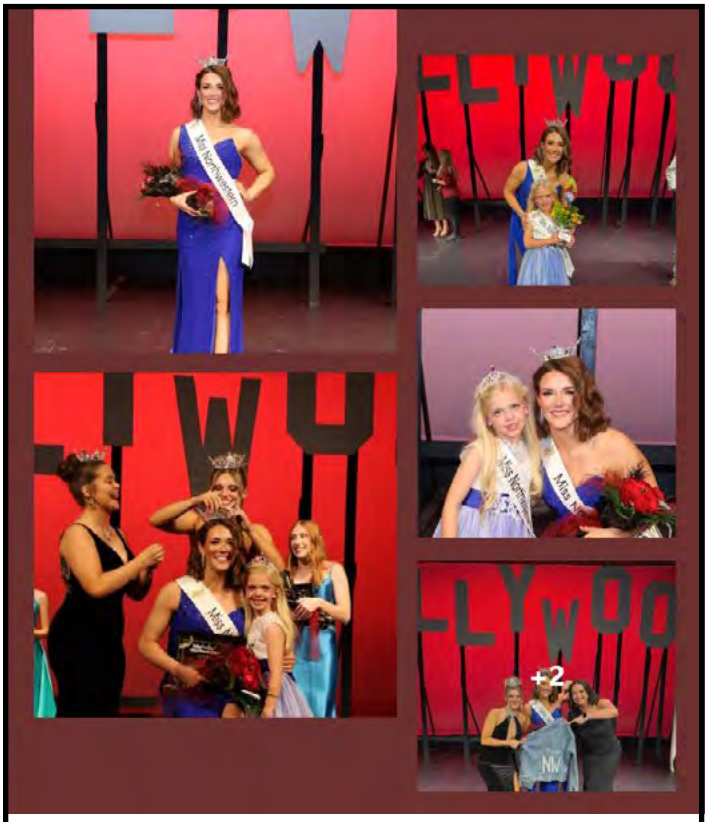

Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 4
Hi guys!
I'm so honored and thrilled to introduce myself as Miss Northwestern 2026!
Here's a little bit about me:
My name is Abbey Elam
I'm a freshman at Northwestern Oklahoma State University majoring in media and communications
I'm from Shattuck, Oklahoma
My star is Hadleigh Dugger, who is also from Shattuck
My community service initiative is "Small Victories" - it's all about celebrating the little moments that lead to big change
This will be my first time competing at Miss Oklahoma
I want to give a huge shoutout to Miss Northwestern 2025, Jessica Davis. I am so incredibly grateful to have someone so inspiring to look up to, and I know I have huge shoes to fill! I pray I am able to continue her amazing work. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to be under her guidance this following year. Thank you, Jessica!
I'm so excited for this next year and can't wait to see what God has in store for this journey. Feeling incredibly thankful for the opportunity to represent Northwestern and serve through something I'm so passionate about.
#MissNorthwestern #NWOSU #SmallVictories #MissOklahoma #FaithOverFear #GodsPlan #NewBeginnings

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 4
NWOSU Visual Arts students will have their artwork on display at the Runnymede in downtown Alva Friday from 6-8 pm.
Stop by to see the art for free.
A watercolor painting workshop also is happening where participants will create fall-themed cards. $10 for the workshop.
And, if you're looking for an inexpensive lunch before the Ranger Football game on Saturday, stop by Atwood's for the Nescatunga Arts and Humanities Council, Inc. fundraiser. Get 2 hot dogs and a drink for only $1.00 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nescatunga Arts and Humanities Council, Inc.
October 31
Artwork will be on display and created for the November First Friday Artwalk at the Runnymede in downtown Alva on Nov. 7 from 6-8 p.m.
The Nescatunga Arts and Humanities Council will play host to students in the Northwestern Oklahoma State University visual arts program as they show some of the work they've created.
Nescatunga vice president Kristy San Soucie, an art teacher in the South Barber (Kansas) school system, will present a watercolor workshop during the evening. Those participating will be painting fall-themed greeting cards using watercolors, stencils and rubber stamps, all provided by Nescatunga. The cost for the workshop is $10 and may be paid at the event. Please RSVP to NescatungaArts@yahoo.com if planning to participate in the workshop so the organization knows how to prepare.
More info: https://bit.ly/4nzPY6B

Campus Cabinet
Northwestern Food Pantry
For students and employees in need.
www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet
We're here if you need us.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 4
TwisTed Rodeo
November 4
Northwestern Oklahoma State University sophomore Payton Dingman earned the title belt by becoming the goat-tying champion at the Rangers' home rodeo this past weekend. (Northwestern alumnus Perry Dietz of sponsor K&S Tires is pictured)

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
November 5
The votes are in……
Community Painted Pumpkin Winner: Pig
Student Painted Pumpkin Winner: Pumpkin Spice Latte
Community Carved Pumpkin: Bat
Student Carved Pumpkin: Jack-O-Lantern
Winners, please visit us on Friday to pick up your prizes!
Thank you for participating and mark your calendars for next year!

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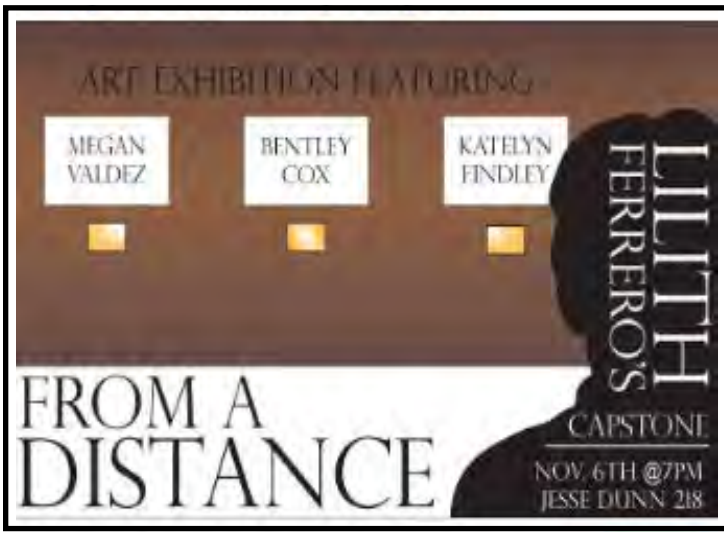
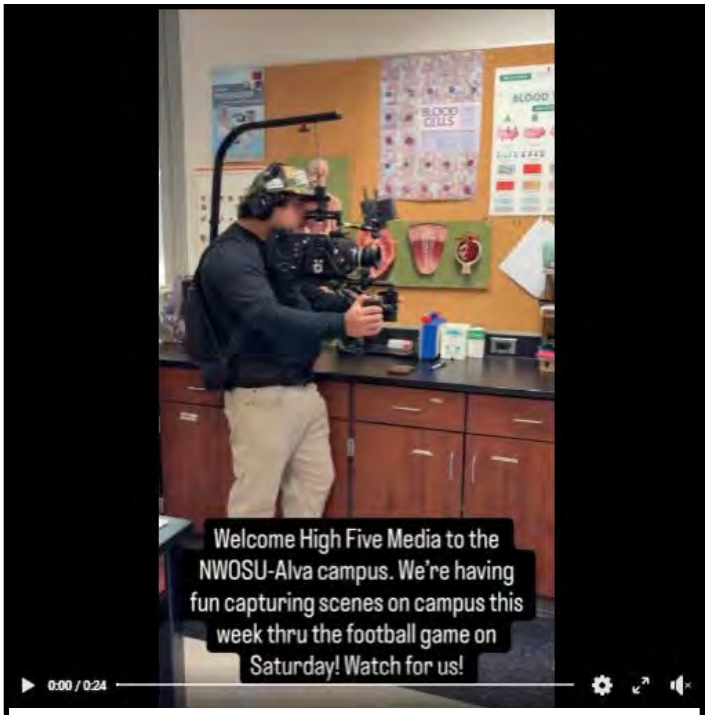


Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 5
Tomorrow night! NWOSU Visual Arts students invite you to "From a Distance" — a group exhibition featuring Lilith Ferrero's capstone work alongside pieces by Bentley Cox, Katelyn Findley, and Megan Valdez.
Join us tomorrow, Thursday, November 6 at 7 p.m. in Gallery Sophia (Jesse Dunn 218) for the opening reception. Light refreshments will be served.
These students have dedicated their semester to creating meaningful work — come support Ranger artists and see what they've accomplished.
For more information, contact Professor Thomas Cornell at tacornell@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8111.
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

NWOSU Division of Education
November 5
Congratulations! Dr. Summer Foster



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 6
Welcome High Five Media to the NWOSU-Alva campus. We're having fun capturing video/photos on campus this week thru the football game on Saturday! Watch for us!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 5
A new commentary by Summer Foster, Instructor of Education at NWOSU and doctoral candidate in Education Administration and Leadership, examines Oklahoma's national ranking in child well-being and explores how focused student support programs could impact academic success.

The article reviews research on students' academic and social development, outlines current challenges to implementation in Oklahoma schools, and considers possible statewide strategies to strengthen support for students' emotional and academic growth.

Read the full piece in the Oklahoma Education Journal: Investing in Oklahoma's Future: Why Social-Emotional Learning Deserves Our Full Support: https://bit.ly/4nH5nC7
Learn more about NWOSU Division of Education programs: www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/education

#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

Burlington advances to 5th straight BEST Regional Robotics Championship

Burlington High School captured first place in the BEST Award category during the Heartland BEST robotics competition Oct. 31-Nov. 1 marking its fifth consecutive win and advancement to the regional championship, held this year in Wichita, Kansas, Dec. 6-7.

Joining Burlington in Wichita to compete for the BEST Award is Arnett High School, which returns to regionals after advancing last year. Arnett Junior High, in its first time competing independently from the high school team, also advances to regionals to compete in the game component.

Teams competed against other teams from Colorado, Kansas, Ohio, Pennsylvania and South Dakota, as well as Oklahoma teams from the OKBest hub in Oklahoma City.

Locally, the first- and second-place BEST Award winners—Burlington and Arnett High Schools—automatically qualified for regionals, along with the top Robot Game finisher not already advancing, Arnett Junior High.

The BEST Award, locally and at regionals, combines five components: engineering notebook, marketing presentation, team exhibit and interview, spirit and sportsmanship, and robot performance. The weighted average scores determine the overall winners.

All advancing teams can also compete for special awards like T-shirt design, most photogenic robot, or the Founders Award for Creative Design.

All BEST teams received identical kits of parts to design and build their robots over the past eight weeks. This year's game, Factoids, featured an artificial intelligence theme that challenged teams to complete a series of field tasks.

A breakdown of all awards from the Heartland BEST 2025 competition is as follows:

BEST Award: first, Burlington High School; second, Arnett High School; third, Lawton Academy of Arts & Science

Robot Game Award: first, Arnett High School; second, Burlington High School; third, Arnett Junior High; fourth, Persimmon Creek Robotics

BEST Coach of the Year: Jennifer Newlin, Burlington High School

Special Awards: Most Elegant Robot, Arnett High School; Most Photogenic Robot, Lawton Academy; Most Robust Robot, Persimmon Creek Robotics; Founders Award for Creative Design, Burlington High School

Best T-shirt Award: (as voted by the teams) Alva Robotics

BEST Spirit and Sportsmanship Award: Burlington High School

At the Championship held in Wichita, Burlington students plaed as follow:

- BEST Award - 3rd place
- Founders Award for Creative Design
- Engineering Notebook 2nd place
- Addie Pray – Kendrick Castillo Memorial Outstanding Student Finalist

Three Northwestern faculty members serve as BEST co-directors including Dr. Tim Maharry, chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science department and professor of mathematics, who also serves as the head of sponsorship and finance and the BEST Award; Dr. Mary Riegel, professor of mathematics, who also serves as the game committee chair, and Dr. Jenny Sattler, chair of the Department of Natural Science and professor of physics, who also serves as the kit committee chair.

Others on the committee include Northwestern faculty, Alva community members and the families of committee members, including Dr. Adam Alber, assistant professor of chemistry; Dr. Roxie James, chair of the English, Foreign Language and Humanities department and associate professor of English; Dr. Keenan Meeker, assistant professor of mathematics; Dr. Jason Wickham, professor of chemistry; and Dave Riegel, Sandy Riegel, Dena Riegel, and Kalynn Samples.

For more information, contact Maharry at (580) 327-8583 or tjmaharry@nwosu.edu or at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/natural-science/heartland-best.

Burlington High School's robotics team won the BEST Award, presented by Dr. Jenney Sattler, at the Heartland BEST Robotics contest. The team also placed second in the Robot Game competition, was the winner of the Founder's Award for Creative Design, along with the Best Spirit and Sportsmanship award.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
November 6
THE OKLAHOMA POLICTICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION presents HISTORY AS OUR GUIDE TO POLITICS.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 6
What an achievement!
The Doctor of Nursing Practice Class of 2025 at Northwestern Oklahoma State University has achieved a 100% pass rate on the AANP Certification Exam!
Your commitment to excellence continues to elevate the standard of nursing practice.
#NWOSU #RangerPride #DoctorOfNursingPractice

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NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 6
Social work students are busy developing interviewing skills and writing treatment plans.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing
November 7
NWOSU nursing faculty Dr. Sierra Elsey visited fifth and sixth graders in Mooreland this week to teach students how physical and mental health are connected. She demonstrated pulse and pupil checks, shared hands-on examples of neurological assessments, and talked about nursing school and careers in healthcare. Way to go, Dr. Elsey!
#NWOSU #RangerNurses

Cast brings nursery rhymes to life 'Hard Boiled: A Nursery Crime'

Children of all ages, plus adults, were welcomed to attend the public performance of the Northwestern theatre production for young audiences, "Hard Boiled: A Nursery Crime" by Tracy Wells in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall in Alva on Saturday, Nov. 22

The production, produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service in Denver, Colorado.

Classes from local and area elementary schools attend the production on Thursday and Friday, prior.

Kimberly Weast, chair of the Department of Fine Arts, professor of theatre arts, and director of the children's play, said there are several people in the cast for this production, where audience members saw that people don't have to be "eggsperts" to love this series of nursery rhyme-inspired vignettes that offered incredibly flexible casting and minimal props and sets.

This production showed that being a hard-boiled detective in the Nursery Rhyme Unit isn't all it's cracked up to be, and it's hardly ever sunny side up!

Members of the large cast for "Hard Boiled: A Nursery Crime" gathered for a table read as they kicked off rehearsals for the production for young audiences.

According to the synopsis for the play, the story showed Humpty Dumpty coming in scrambled and shell-shocked from a fall; it was up to a team of punny detectives to interview all the unusual suspects and wacky witnesses. From five little monkeys, five Jacks and a Jill, a fiddling cat, and a vowel-loving farmer and his barnyard friends, to a screaming teapot, three blind mice, three mitten-less kittens, an old woman in a shoe, and more, it seems everyone was scrambling to prove their innocence.

This investigation wasn't over-easy, that much is certain, but with the egg-timer ticking, these detectives needed to crack the case wide open before they ended up with egg on their face!

Enid campus awarded TSET grant

Northwestern's Enid campus has been awarded a Built Environment Grant from the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET) to fund the Enid Campus Recreation Area project. The $25,000 grant is matched by an additional $25,000 from Northwestern.

Awarded in June 2025, the grant is funding new lighting along the walkway connecting the Northwestern and Northern Oklahoma College Enid campuses to enhance safety. The public-access walkway is ADA-compliant and frequently used by students and community members.

The grant has also funded a new gazebo along the walkway and 10 new disc golf pads to expand the existing nine-hole course and practice area.

When completed at the end of 2025, the project will enhance outdoor recreation opportunities on campus and provide a safer, more accessible space for family-friendly activities.

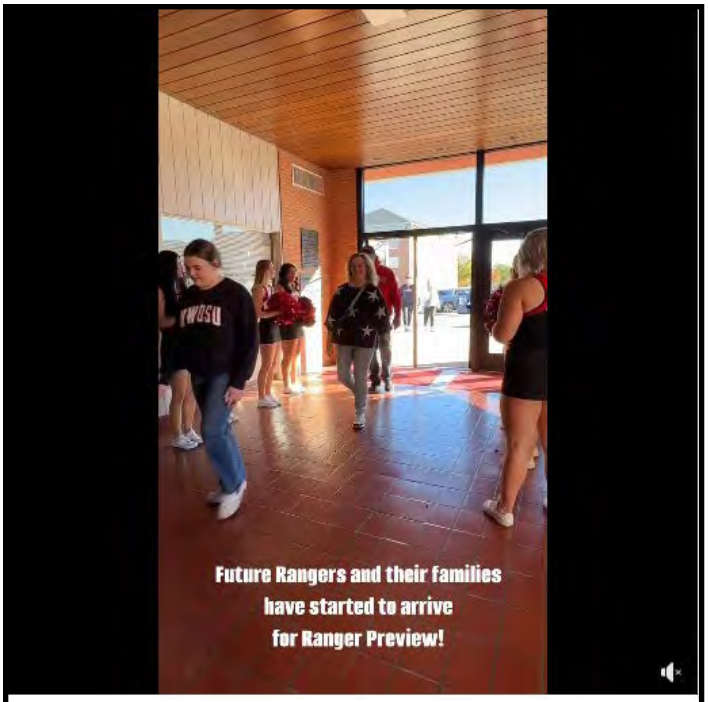
"This TSET grant will help make our campus more accessible and increase opportunities to promote wellness," said Dr. Wayne McMillin, dean of the Enid campus. "The pathway is both a symbolic and practical reminder of our Bridge program with NOC. It connects our campuses and supports our shared commitment to higher education in the Enid community.

"The gazebo will offer a resting spot and gathering place for students, staff and community members, while also serving as a shelter for disc golfers. The new lighting improves safety for those using the walkway in the evening. This was a much-needed project, and we are very thankful for TSET's support."

A grand opening ceremony is planned for early spring 2026 to celebrate the project's completion.

The TSET Built Environment Grant program supports Oklahoma communities in creating healthier spaces that encourage physical activity and access to nutritious food. Funding is available for both planning and construction projects such as trails, parks, sidewalks and community gardens. All projects must be open to the public, based on local needs, and designed to improve long-term health outcomes for Oklahomans.

To learn more about TSET Built Environment Grants, visit TSET Built Environment Grants (https://oklahoma.gov/tset/funding-opportunities/tset-built-environment-grants.html).



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 8
Future Rangers and their families have started to arrive for Ranger Preview!

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
November 7
The Wisdom Family Agriculture Education Center and endowment are shaping the future of agriculture and Northwestern students by creating opportunities for learning through experience. Students gain valuable hands-on skills that prepare them to lead and innovate in the agricultural industry. Thanks to the generosity behind this initiative, Northwestern continues to provide meaningful experiences that connect education with real-world impact and ensure the continued growth of agriculture for generations to come.

Great American Conference is with Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 11
By virtue of today's draw Northwestern Oklahoma State has claimed the final spot in #theGAC Women' s Championships #clINched

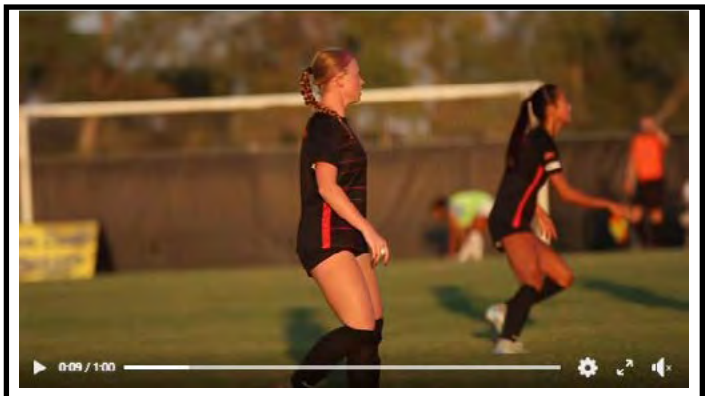
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Business
November 8
Thank you to all who came out to see us for Ranger Preview last Saturday!! We hope to see you all on campus and in the classroom next Fall!!

Looking to get enrolled? Contact Ella Ayers by email or phone.
erayers@nwosu.edu
(580) 327-8615

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 11
Today we pause to honor and thank all who have served and are currently serving our country. We are especially proud to have a veteran among our nursing faculty, Dr. Krystal Elliott, whose service and leadership continue to make a lasting impact on our students and community.
Thank you, veterans, for your courageous commitment to our nation and for exemplifying the spirit of service we strive to uphold.
#VeteransDay #NWOSUNursing #RangerPride

NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 12
Thanks to our service-minded social work students & their commitment to the Campus Cabinet-NWOSU!
Campus Cabinet-NWOSU
November 12
THANK YOU to the United Way of Enid & NW Oklahoma and the donors who made today's delivery possible for our pantry!! Our clients will benefit greatly from your generosity!!
It's Day of Kindness in NW OK area week. Have you registered a project yet?
www.nwosu.edu/day-of-kindness-nw-ok

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 12
It's an honor to be honored!
This week, several members of NWOSU Nursing were recognized for their hard work, dedication, and years of service to the university.
Mrs. Lindsey Nighswonger received the 2025 Adjunct of the Year award for her exceptional contributions to the Division of Nursing.
Dr. KeEra Byrd, Assistant Professor of Nursing, was recognized for five years of dedicated service to NWOSU.
Dr. Leslie Collins, Professor of Nursing and Division Chair, was honored for 15 years of service to the university.
Dean Kilgore, maintenance staff for Carter Hall and an integral part of our nursing family, was recognized for an incredible 30 years of service to the university.
Please join us in celebrating these outstanding individuals for their commitment to excellence, leadership, and the success of our students!

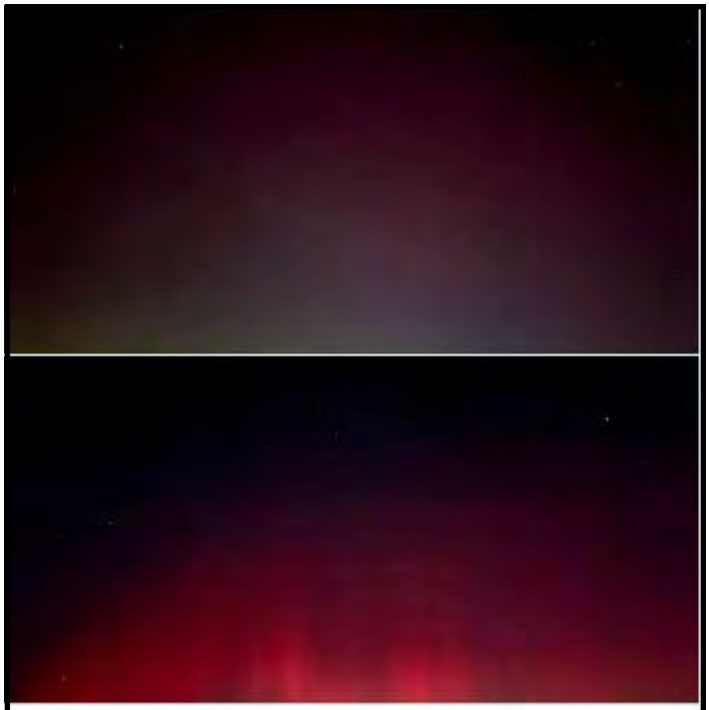


Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 8
GAC tournament starts this Friday

NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 12
Celebrating Dr. Rehder's 20 years of service.
#nwosusocialwork #RRR

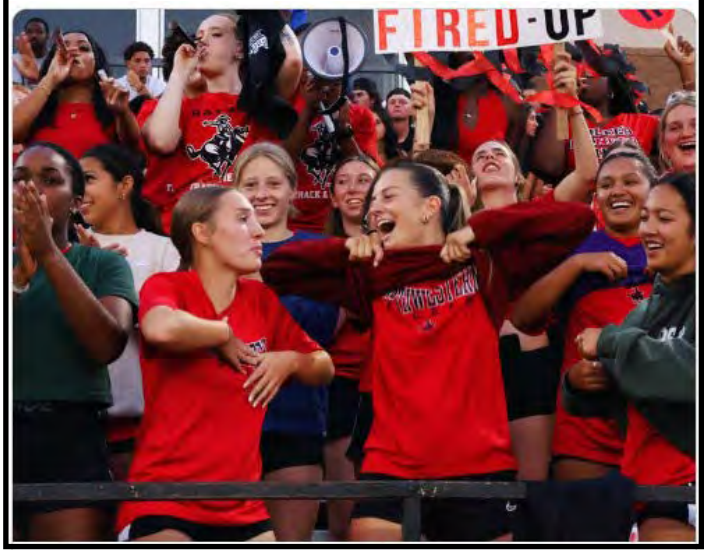
To find photos from this school year and past years, follow this link: https://www.nwosu.edu/university-relations/nwosu-photos

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 14
Our BSN students gathered on the Enid campus yesterday for a fall Day of Caring. They completed Psychological First Aid (PFA) training, which equips them with the skills to recognize signs of distress, offer calm and compassionate support, ensure safety, and connect individuals experiencing trauma with helpful resources. In the afternoon, they participated in mentor–mentee bonding activities and signed thank-you notes for our clinical facilities. A special thank you to St. Mary's Hospital for providing lunch!



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 12
Did you see the Northern Lights last night? These images were taken with an iPhone in Alva, OK! And, you could actually see the colors in the sky with your eyes! Tonight, possibly after 7:30, should be even better, so go find a dark area wherever you are and take some photos with your phone on a night setting or break out the camera and tripod and show us what you capture! Could be a few meteor showers, too! #NorthernLights

Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
November 14
Kindness helps everyone succeed—whether it's through study groups, sharing notes, or giving words of encouragement. Let's celebrate the ways kindness shapes our campuses and our futures.
#WorldKindnessDay | #OKHigherEdWorks



Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
November 13
pop out for senior night vs SWOSU TONIGHT!!

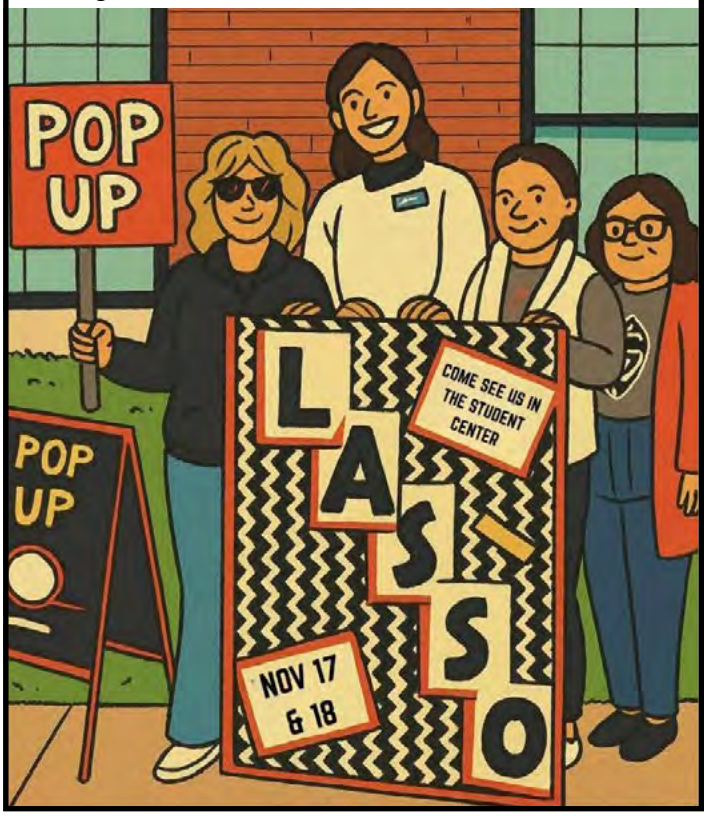
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Business
November 14
Congratulations to Dr. Garret Lahr, Division of Business Chair, for receiving the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award, at the 2025 Employee Recognition Ceremony!

NWOSU LASSO
November 13
LASSO POP-UP ALERT!
Your One Stop Shop is happening Nov. 17–18 outside Starbucks in the Student Center!

- Stop by our table for everything you need to finish the semester strong:
- Enroll for the Spring semester
- Drop a Fall 2025 class before the deadline (Nov. 21)
- Check on your bill
- Find your advisor
- Review your finals schedule
- Get answers to all your NWOSU questions!
- And just for stopping by, you'll be entered in a SURPRISE DRAWING!

Grab your coffee, swing by, and let LASSO make your week easier (and more fun)!

#LASSO #NWOSU #OneStopShop #RangerReady #CollegeLife



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Black Wall Street seminar presented on Enid Campus

A program on the Greenwood District's Black Wall Street area in Tulsa was given at the Northwestern's Enid campus Nov. 14, thanks to a free seminar offered by Teaching American History.

Northwestern's Department of Social Sciences played host to the program. Lunch was provided courtesy of Teaching American History.

"Our goal when hosting these professional development workshops is to bring opportunities to attend events conducted by national organizations to Northwest Oklahoma and Southern Kansas," said Jana Brown Pittman, instructor of history at Northwestern and organizer of the event. "We want to make the experience of gaining a deeper understanding of our history and government, as well as gathering resources for their classrooms more convenient for our educators."

Longtime Teaching American History representative and educator Bill Peeper speaks about future event opportunities at the conclusion the Black Wall Street gathering held on the Northwestern - Enid campus. Seated are: NWOSU student-teacher Jessica Myers, NWOSU instructor and social science education coordinator Prof. Jana Pittman, and NWOSU student-teacher Ryan Miller.

The seminar, led by Dr. Donna Devlin, focused on Tulsa's Greenwood District, known as Black Wall Street, that developed in the midst of the Jim Crow Era following the American Civil War and during the early 20th century.

Devlin was raised on her family's farm near Jewell County, Kansas. She earned bachelor of arts and education degrees from Fort Hays University in 2006, completed her Master of Arts in American History degree from Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio, in 2012 and finished her Doctorate of Philosophy in History from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2023. Devlin served 11 years in the Kansas public school system teaching social studies and currently works as an assistant professor of history at Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas.

Teaching American History provides more than 150 one day seminars per year at no cost to the host or the teachers. The Nov. 14 program was conducted as a discussion, utilizing primary source documents as the only readings, with Devlin facilitating the conversation instead of lecturing or presenting. Registrants will receive the readings prior to the seminar and are highly encouraged to read all the documents in advance and come ready with questions. Teachers will receive a letter of attendance at the conclusion of the seminar.

Dr. Donna Devlin leads a seminar on Tulsa's Greenwood District, known as Black Wall Street, at the Northwestern - Enid Campus on November 14. Educators came from as far as eastern Oklahoma and northeastern Kansas.

"Teaching about the Greenwood District's Black Wall Street is a requirement in the Oklahoma social studies standards for Oklahoma history," Pittman said. "However, the topic is also part of U.S. History and can serve as a case study for economic courses as well. This workshop will help teachers understand the history and gather primary source materials that they can use in lesson plans for U.S. history, Oklahoma history and even economics courses."

For more information about the Northwestern Department of Social Sciences visit: www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences or contact Dr. Eric Schmaltz, department chair and professor of history, at ejschmaltz@nwosu.edu or call (580) 327-8526.

NWOSU Division of Education
November 14
Edgar Reyes, a student teacher in Dodge City, Kansas, is making a positive impact on his students, inspiring growth and fostering a love of learning. Having successfully completed his final observation, he is thriving in the classroom and setting a high standard for teaching excellence.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
November 14
Our students contributed 66 pounds of donated items for our Enid Campus Cabinet. What an excellent way to celebrate Kindness Day:)

Northwestern
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY™

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
November 14
Our little Rangers from the Early Childhood Fowler Center surprised us by spreading kindness throughout our Enid Campus.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 14
Dr. Jennifer Mahieu and Ms. Brenna Smith represented NWOSU Nursing at The Governor's Healthcare Workforce Committee's recruitment event, the "Health Science College, Program, and Career Fair," on November 12. The event's theme was "The Places You'll Go" by Dr. Seuss, and we had a great time leaning into it. These opportunities are exciting not only for the students but also for those of us who have the chance to attend.
Visit our website to learn more about our nursing programs and all the places you can go: https://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing

Former Ranger quarterback delivers fall 2025 address

Northwestern alumnus Thad Dilbeck delivered the commencement address at his alma mater during the University's fall commencement ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 7, at Fellers Family Auditorium inside Herod Hall.

Thad Dilbeck

Dilbeck played quarterback and wide receiver for the Ranger football team, playing on two Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference (OIC) Champion teams in 1986 and 1989. His favorite memories are spending time with his friends and teammates in Ament Hall. Those memories made profound impact on Dilbeck, along with his football coaches at Northwestern.

"Lee Brower taught me the value of hard work and preparedness," Dilbeck said. "(Dr.) Steve Lohmann taught me tenacity, focus and intensity. My teammates taught me how to be a good teammate and good friend."

As a player for the Rangers, Dilbeck earned OIC Player of the Week along with All Conference and All-Academic Team honors. In addition to his role on the football team, he was also a member of Phi Beta Lambda and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

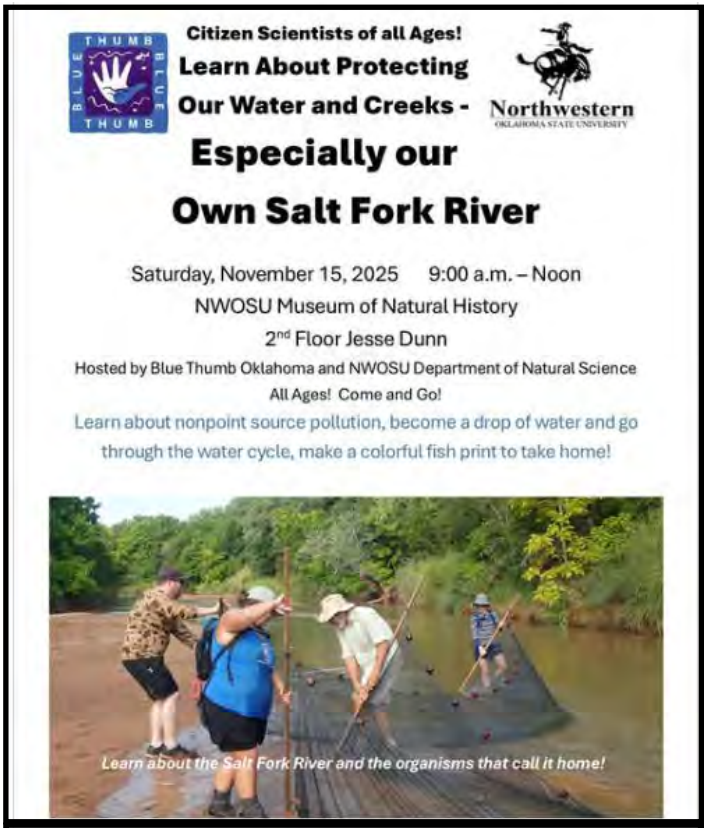
Dilbeck earned two degrees from Northwestern, an educational foundation that has led to a career of over 25 years as a teacher, coach and administrator. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Business Administration degree in 1991 and a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education degree in 1994. He also served as the head coach for the Northwestern Men's and Women's track team in 1995.

Dilbeck graduated with a Master of Education in Education Leadership degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 2010.

Dilbeck is originally from Pawhuska, which is where he currently resides, and serves as Executive Director of Activities and Athletics for Bartlesville Public Schools. In 2020, he earned the Oklahoma Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (OIAAA) 6A East Athletic Director Newcomer of the Year.

He is also currently the secretary for the Oklahoma Frontier Valley Conference and serves on the board of Bartlesville Sports Commission. He is a member of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, the Oklahoma Coaches Association and OIAAA.

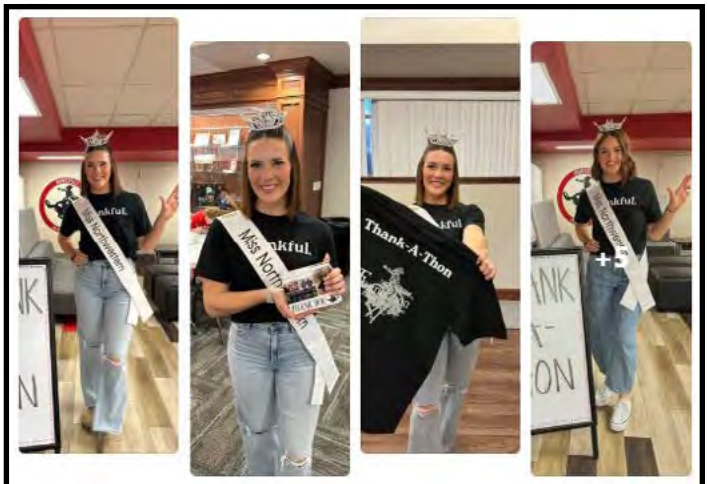
Dilbeck is a trustee of the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association and a member of its governance committee.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 14
Tomorrow at the NWOSU Museum of Natural History in Jesse Dunn. We will be there from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 14
Happy Day of Kindness in Northwest Oklahoma!
We'd love to have your thoughts on a couple of questions:
Is it better to Give or Receive Kindness?
Tell us something good or kind that happened to you today, or you did for others.
We hope you have a great day, Ranger Family!
#NWOSU #BeKindNWOK
Day of Kindness in NW OK area

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
November 14
Thank-a-Thon 2025 is a wrap!
We kicked things off at our Woodward and Enid campuses, then wrapped up the celebration in Alva on November 12–13. Rangers came together to write heartfelt thank-you cards and make phone calls to the donors who have invested in their futures.
Students enjoyed free T-shirts, pizza, and fun giveaways throughout the event. It was a wonderful opportunity to show appreciation and celebrate the impact of our donors support.



Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 14
A wonderful event dedicated to gratitude. I had the opportunity to participate in NWOSU's Thank-A-Thon, where students join together to call and write letters to the donors who generously support our university. I am truly grateful to be part of an institution that values its students and alumni, and I deeply appreciate the donors whose continued support makes such a meaningful impact on our campus.
Thank you to the NSA and the Alumni Foundation for organizing another outstanding event. #RRR

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 14
We are busy posting encouraging notes and delivering thank you letters for Kindness Day. #nwosusocialwork
#kindnessday2025
#bekindnwok

Employees honored at recognition ceremony

Northwestern's employees were honored during the annual Employee Service Recognition Ceremonies Nov. 11-12. Ceremonies took place in Alva and Enid to honor employees who work at Alva, Enid and Woodward campus locations.

Dr. Garrett Lahr, chair of the Northwestern Division of Business and assistant professor of business, received the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award.

Dr. Garrett Lahr (left) was presented with this year's John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award by Dr. James Bell (right).

This award was presented on behalf of Barton by Dr. James Bell, Northwestern vice president for academic affairs. The purpose of the award is to honor a faculty member who embodies Barton's examples of service, distinguished teaching and administrative leadership to Northwestern along with local, state and national organizations.

Nominations for the award are made by faculty, staff and students, then the recipient is determined by a selection committee. To be selected, the recipient must be a full-time faculty member at Northwestern.

Sue Marker (left) was presented with this year's Thelma Crouch Staff Employee of the Year Award by Dr. David Pecha (right).

Sue Marker, financial aid assistant director, received the Thelma Crouch Staff Employee of the Year Award. Marker has worked for Northwestern for 17 years, including in the custodial department and the Upward Bound program before her current position in the Financial Aid office.

"(Marker) in her nomination letter, was highlighted as an employee that goes above and beyond to help students," said. Dr. David Pecha, Northwestern executive vice president, who presented the award on behalf of Crouch. "She can often be seen in the office working on trying to keep up with the ever-changing laws from Washington, D.C., and is the go-to person for answers concerning financial aid questions."

This award was established to recognize exceptional performance and/or service by a member of the Northwestern staff. The recipient of this award shows dedication to Northwestern and its students. The Student Government Association accepts nominations for this award and then determines the recipient.

Dr. Steven Maier, dean of faculty, presented the fourth annual outstanding adjunct faculty member award to Lindsey Nighswonger, who serves in the Northwestern Division of Nursing.

"From classroom facilitator to leading course labs and clinical experiences, (Nighswonger) has consistently demonstrated excellence and dedication, being instrumental in the successes of her students and in forging new partnerships for Northwestern and the division she serves," Maier said. "She continues to blossom and grow professionally as an educator who embodies kindness, compassion, depth of knowledge, commitment and respect in her interactions with students, patients and colleagues. Her dependability and ever-increasing proficiency in her various teaching roles is a testament to her commitment to learning and professional growth for all."

Lindsey Nighswonger is the recipient of this year's Outstanding Adjunct Faculty member award.

Employees who were honored for their years of service are listed by name and job title:

Five-year service recognition: Dr. KeEra Byrd, assistant professor of nursing; Kennedy Dietz, Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association marketing and communications manager; Miranda Gilliland, maintenance; Rachael Hopkins, Northwestern-Woodward campus coordinator; Kelsey Martin, director of marketing and university relations; Victoriano Muniz Mendoza, maintenance; Jack Staats, instructor of agriculture; Dr. Jonathan

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Continued from page 92

Employees honored...

Thomason, dean of Northwestern-Woodward campus; and Dr. Mark Zadorozny, assistant professor of health and sports science education.

Northwestern's five-year service award recipients are (back row, left to right) Kelsey Martin, Jack Staats, Dr. Mark Zadorozny, Victoriano Muniz Mendoza (front row, left to right) Dr. KeEra Byrd, Miranda Gilliland, Kennedy Dietz and Dr. Jonathan Thomason. Not pictured: Rachael Hopkins.

10-year service recognition: Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, professor of mass communication; Dr. Mariann Braten-Hall, associate professor of education; Charles Korff, groundskeeper; Julie Lehr, Northwestern LASSO academic adviser and student coach; Dr. Jesse Schroeder, assistant professor of communication; Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science; Keith Wear, assistant athletic director for student-athlete health; and Dr. Olivia Yandel, director of the J.R. Holder Wellness Center.

Northwestern's 10-year service award recipients are (back row, left to right) Dr. Jesse Schroeder and Evan Vaverka, (front row, left to right) Dr Kaylene Armstrong, Keith Wear, Julie Lehr and Dr. Olivia Yandel. Not pictured: Chuck Korff.

15-year service recognition: Dr. Mindi Clark, professor of agriculture; Dr. Leslie Collins, chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing and professor of nursing; and Mistie Kline, lecturer of psychology.

Northwestern's 15-year service award recipients are Dr. Mindi Clark (left), Dr. Leslie Collins (center) and Mistie Kline (right).

20-year service recognition: Allen "Skeeter" Bird, Chief Executive Officer of the Northwestern Foundation; Jake Boedecker, director of online services; Anthony "AJ" Johnson, lead custodian for the Northwestern-Enid campus; Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the Northwestern Department of Social Work and professor of social work; and Dr. Eric Schmaltz, chair of the Northwestern Department of Social Sciences and professor of history.

Dr. Steve Maier (left) presents Dr. Mariann Braten Hall (right) her 10-year service award.

25-year service recognition: Eric Tutwiler, maintenance.

30-year-service recognition: Dean Kilgore, maintenance, and Dr. Venkata Moorthy, professor of biology.

35-year service recognition: Angelia Case, academic projects assistant and media specialist, and Dr. Roger Hardaway, professor of history.

Calleb Mosburg, Northwestern vice president for student services and enrollment management, presented service learning awards on behalf of Kaylyn Hansen, director of assessment and institutional effectiveness and academic support, and the Service Learning/Civic Engagement committee.

Those being honored include:

Greatest Student Involvement Award: Xan Perkins, instructor of instrumental music, and the director of Northwestern University Band - given to employees who had the greatest student involvement in a project. The students in University Band prepared and performed 45 minutes of music for an audience of Northwestern students, faculty, staff, administration, and members from the local Alva community as well as several of the surrounding communities. This event, like almost all of the concerts, are open to the public and free to attend.

Greatest Community Impact

Continued to page 94

Continued from page 93

Employees honored...

Award: Dr. Roger Brown, professor of business, and the Business, Society and Government class - given to

Northwestern's 20-year service award recipients are (left to right) Skeeter Bird, Dr. Eric Schmaltz, Jake Boedecker and Dr. Kylene Rehder.

the faculty or staff member whose project impacted their community through beautification, culture, sustainability or other area's that put a community's need first. Students enrolled in the class must volunteer at least five hours of their time working for a non-profit organization or governmental agency that provides services to the community. Students volunteered at: Altus Pets

Eric Tutwiler (right) receives his 25-year service award from Northwestern President Dr. Bo Hannaford (left).

for Life; Bridge2Hope; Forest Home Christian Camp; Marland's Place Foster Care; Northside Inter-Community Agency, Inc.; Nutrition and Senior Citizen Center of Alva; Tornado Alley Bulldog Rescue; the Alva Wesleyan Church Food Bank, and the YMCA. One student volunteered in the construction of a recording studio for a community center in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Steve Maier (left) presents A.J. Johnson. (right) his 20-year service award.

Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Mindi Clark and the General Horticulture class - given to an employee whose commitment to service sets a high standard in Service Learning while promoting the meaning of service learning and civic engagement. The horticulture class worked with students and staff on the Northwestern campus to grow and provide the plants for Campus Beautification. The class also worked with Susan Holliday, Oklahoma State University Extension Educator, to grow plants for the Alva Community Garden.

Applaud Award: Northwestern Department of Social Work, "Primp for Prom" - given to a club/organization that shows the greatest overall effort, participation and hard work. Primp for Prom is an annual spring event held in Woodward for area high school students to pick out a formal dress and accessories at no charge. The event is held each spring at the Woodward High School.

Most Expressive Award: Dr. Bailey Lancaster, assistant professor of psychology, and the Northwestern Psychology Club, "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" - given to a club/organization that had a unique project/event. The Northwestern Psychology Club had a support board where students could write notes of encouragement to those who were impacted by sexual assault. Many filled the board offering support. There was also a news article that was written about sexual assault with further resources provided.

perSERVEring Ranger Award: Ethan Sacket and the Northwestern Scholar Ambassadors (NSA) - given to an organization for its

Northwestern's 30-year service award recipients are Dean Kilgore (left) and Dr. Venkata Moorthy (right).

extraordinary service and serving in multiple community service projects throughout the year. NSA volunteered for numerous community service projects including volunteering at the Bridge2Hope Store setup; Baseball, Hotdogs, Apple Pie; the Northwest Technology Games

Continued to page 95

Continued from page 93

Employees honored...

for Middle Schoolers; Northwestern Employee Christmas Ornaments; Northwestern Thank-A-Thon; Operation Christmas Child Box Making; Trunk or Treat; the Lincoln Elementary Playgroup Painting, and much more.

Maier also presented Retention and Enrollment awards to: Tamara Brown, chair of the Northwestern Communication Department and assistant professor of speech; Dr. Sarah Fry, assistant professor of criminal justice and sociology; Shawna Gilbert, access services librarian and assistant professor of library science; Dr. Shane Hansen, chair of the Northwestern Health and Sports Science Department and assistant professor of health and sports science; Dr. Roxie James, chair of the Northwestern English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department and associate professor of English; Mickey Jordan, director of technical theatre and Herod Hall facilities manager; Dr. Jen Oswald, chair of the Northwestern Division of Education and associate professor of education; Dr. Don Pratt, associate professor of biology; Dr. Taylor Randolph, chair of the Northwestern Psychology Department and assistant professor of psychology; Dr. Mary Riegel, professor of mathematics; Dana Roark, instructor of business; and Dr. Dean Scarbrough, chair of the Northwestern Agriculture Department and professor of agriculture. Collins and Rehder were also recognized.

Bell, on behalf of Tandy Keenan, director of sponsored programs, announced Northwestern received 19 grants, totaling $1.9 million.

Several employees also were recognized during the ceremony for their service to the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council.

At the Enid campus ceremony, employees were recognized for their service. Images from the ceremonies may be found online www.flickr.com/photos/nwosu-rangers/albums.

Northwestern's 35-year service award recipients are Angelia Case (left) and Dr. Roger Hardaway (right).

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Woodward Campus
November 14, 2025

Happy Kindness Day!!!!
November 14th is Kindness Day in Northwestern Oklahoma, and our students have been showing little acts of kindness all week in preparation! From bulking up our campus cabinet for students in need to words of affirmation overheard during study groups in the Commons, our students know how to look out for one another. And today is all about taking that positive energy out into the community!
Dr. Thomason and a handful of students visited our hard-working nurses and staff at the INTEGRIS Health Hospital here in Woodward to give them some sugary goodness as a token of appreciation for their service to the community. Thank you to all our health care workers for keeping us healthy! #kindnessday #bekind #woodwardcampus #payitforward #RRR #NWOSU

NWOSU Soccer
November 16

Congratulations to our two All-GAC Second Team Elie Dang And Christi Mills! #RRR

"Reach Higher: RECONNECT' events held on campuses

Oklahomans who have successfully completed some college coursework, but have not yet finished a college degree had the unique opportunity to submit college admission applications, receive advisement and financial aid counseling, and enroll in college classes with support from knowledgeable staff members during Northwestern's Reach Higher: RECONNECT Event on Tuesday, Nov. 18, in Alva, Enid and Woodward.

Reach Higher: RECONNECT events are a series of coordinated student recruitment opportunities to be held September through December at participating Reach Higher campuses across the state. The primary goals of these events are to increase awareness of the adult-friendly degree completion options available through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Reach Higher initiative and encourage adults who have earned some college credit to successfully complete their degrees.

Each campus location extended its hours on Nov. 18 and worked with students specifically between the hours of 3-6 p.m. for advising or simply to ask questions. A Zoom room was available at all locations if a person coudn't attend in person.

Reach Higher provides degree completion program options for adult learners at participating colleges and universities across the state. Features vary by program and include flexible enrollment periods, online courses, and the opportunity to complete a degree program aligned with Oklahoma's "100 Critical Occupations" list.

For more information about the Reach Higher degree completion initiative, visit www.reachhigherok.org or https://www.nwosu.edu/reach-higher.

Miss Northwestern Oklahoma state University
November 15
Celebrating World Kindness Day in the best way!
I spent the afternoon volunteering to help decorate Alva's town square for Christmas, and it was such a joy to see our community come together to kick off the holiday season.
I also placed a few encouraging sticky notes around town and on campus as a small reminder that kindness goes a long way.
Grateful for a community that cares and excited for all the holiday cheer

NWOSU Ranger Bands
November 15
Thank you, seniors!!

NWOSU Soccer
November 16
Big Congrats to all of our All- GAC Academic Honor Roll!
Taking care of business on and off the field! #RRR

NWOSU Soccer
November 16
Congratulations to our two All-GAC Honorable Mentions
Taylor Annen and Jenna Mills! #RRR

NWOSU Soccer
November 16
Congratulations to our two All-GAC Second Team Elie Dang
And Christi Mills! #RRR

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

NWOSU Ranger Bands
November 17
From the very first day of band camp in August to the final note of our last game day in November, this band showed what heart, family, and hype truly look like.
We survived the heat, the long rehearsals, the early mornings, and every moment brought us closer. Week after week we packed the stands with energy, lifted each other up, and created memories that we'll be talking about for years.
This season wasn't just about playing music; it was about showing up for each other, feeling the crowd roar, laughing until our stomachs hurt, and realizing how lucky we are to be part of something bigger than ourselves.
The 2025 season gave us a family, a purpose, and a story we'll never forget.
"Together we grow, united we ride, Ride Rangers Ride"
#PrideOfTheRangerNation #RMB #NWOSURANGERS
#Memories #BandFamily

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 17
Come visit Mrs. Martin and Dr. Skousen at the University Center for the Enrollment Fair today from 1:00 to 3:00 pm!

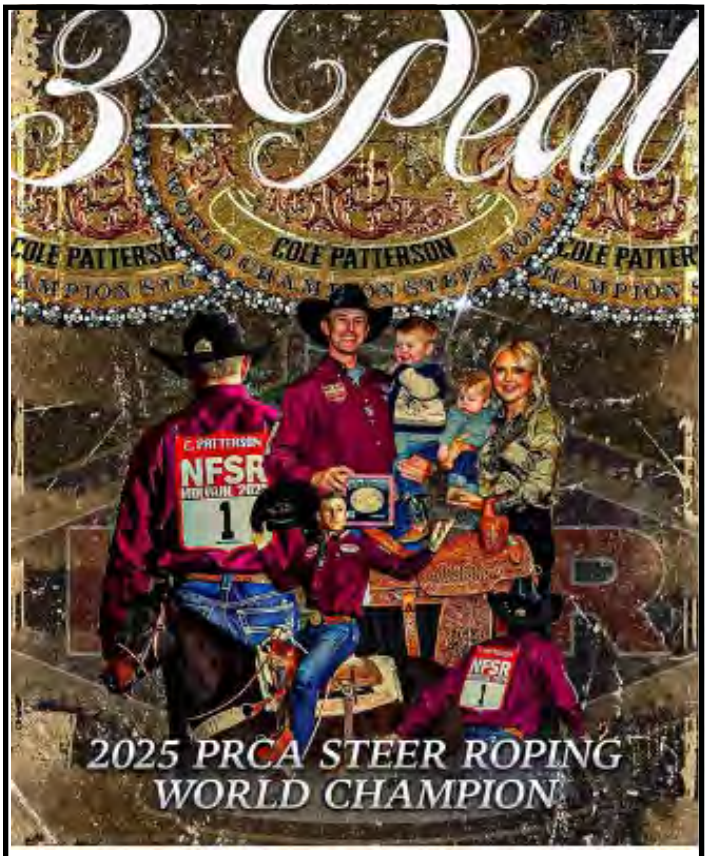
Hansen Chosen for NCAA DII Management Council

The NCAA Division II executive board voted Dr. Shane Hansen, health and sports science department chair, as a Division II Management Council member representing the Great American Conference (GAC). Hansen's four-year term begins in January 2026, and he will represent Northwestern as the only GAC representative on this committee.

Hansen was nominated by Northwestern's President, Dr. Bo Hannaford, and GAC Commissioner Will Prewitt.

"Thank you to Dr. Hannaford and Commissioner Prewitt for this opportunity," Hansen said. "I am truly honored to be selected to represent Northwestern and the Great American Conference on the NCAA Division II Management Council. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn from some of the best leaders in the NCAA, and I am excited to help guide policy and regulations for Division II during this important time. The student-athlete will be at the heart of all decisions that are made through this rapidly changing landscape in the NCAA. I am looking forward to the work we have on management council, and I am thankful for the support of our student-athletes, faculty, and administration here at NWOSU."

The Management Council reports directly to the Executive Board and is charged with recommending administrative policy and regulations that govern the division. The Management Council reviews and acts on recommendations from the Division II committee structure and from Division II representatives to committees with association-wide functions. The council is also responsible for appointing Division II representatives to those committees. Members meet quarterly, including at the annual NCAA Convention.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 17
Congratulations to Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team alumni Cole Patterson on another Steer Roping Championship!
PRCA ProRodeo
November 17
Cole Patterson is your 2025 PRCA Steer Roping World Champion! #WeArePRORODEO

NWOSU Ranger Bands
November 18
Come to Alva's Tuba Christmas Dec. 6th!!! You won't want to miss it!
RSVP to play here:
https://forms.gle/Q5FLkBB3cdHwfBHK7
For more general info go to the Tuba Christmas website:
https://tubachristmas.com/

Fanning selected as 25-26 CWPEP recipient

Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Social Work faculty has named the 2025-26 stipend recipient of the Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program (CWPEP).

James Fanning, a senior social work major from Enid, is the recipient for this academic year.

James Fanning

CWPEP provides funds for students who plan careers in child welfare services in Oklahoma. The stipends are awarded to full-time students majoring in social work and provide money toward educational expenses to participating students.

Students who receive the stipends complete educational internships in child welfare agencies within the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS). Upon graduation, students are assured employment in the participating OKDHS programs.

"I am so grateful to have the opportunity to help society's most vulnerable populations," Fanning said.

CWPEP is a Title IV-E partnership between the University of Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Council.

The University of Oklahoma manages the child welfare consortium with Northwestern along with East Central University and Oral Roberts University. Funding for the educational program is provided by Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, called the Child Welfare Training Program.

"The social work program is proud to administer the CWPEP program and play an essential role in securing and retaining quality social workers in the public child welfare system," said Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the Northwestern Department of Social Work, professor of social work and CWPEP coordinator. "CWPEP at Northwestern has graduated 25 students, resulting in $202,000 awarded in educational assistance."

For more information on Northwestern's Department of Social Work, visit nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-work or contact Rehder at kdrehder@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8135.

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
November 18
"Your Investment = Debt Free Graduates" – Northwestern's 2025 GivingTuesday campaign – begins with a special message from President Bo Hannaford and Northwestern student Emma Curry. Their words remind us of the impact that your investment makes on our students and our greater Northwestern community. Join us this GivingTuesday and help make a difference for our Rangers. From now through December 9, we will be raising funds to support our students' education, their future and ours. To donate, visit https://give.ournorthwestern.org/donate/givingtuesday.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
November 19
We had a great Thanksgiving Feast with our faculty, staff, and students

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 18
Future Rangers in the making!
Tara Owen and her Ranger Connection class brought red and black spirit to Ms. Cecely Franz's kindergarten class at Washington Early Childhood Center this week!
Ms. Franz, a 2017 NWOSU Division of Education graduate, welcomed current Rangers for a morning packed with hands-on activities and Ranger-themed arts and crafts.
From carpet circles to creative table projects, our Rangers spent quality time with future classmates, helping little hands create special take-home crafts. The smiles say it all—this is what Ranger community looks like across generations!
Moments like these show how NWOSU creates connections that reach far beyond campus, building mentorships that strengthen our entire community.
Enrollment for Spring 2026 is open. Learn how to be a Ranger today at www.nwosu.edu
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

NWTV
NOVEMBER 18
NWTV 7 News Nov. 18, 2025

NWOSU Department of Social Work
November 19
Primp for Prom receives the Applaud Award- given to an organization that shows the greatest overall effort, participation & hard work. Primp for Prom is an annual spring event held in Woodward for area high school students to pick out a formal dress & accessories at no charge. #primp4prom

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 20
TwisTed Rodeo
November 19
Steer wrestler Bridger Anderson utilized a steady approach during the PRCA ProRodeo regular season. The end result is his third National Finals Rodeo qualification in six years.
https://twistedrodeo.com/ #AHInc @korralsupply @cinchjeans @smilesforjakemovement #SmilesForJake #StayHooked #GoldenHarvest @huwa.enterprises #DiamondSPerformanceHorses #HepperRanch

Franz named Fall 2025 'Teach Like a Ranger' Honoree

Cecely Franz's journey into teaching began long before she stepped into her first classroom.

"Ever since I was a little kid, I just wanted to be a teacher," she recalls. "I played teacher, I played school."

Growing up surrounded by family members who were educators, Franz found herself naturally drawn to the profession, inspired by the great teachers who shaped her own education.

Cecely Franz interacts with her kindergarten students during class at Washington Early Childhood Education Center.

A proud Northwestern Oklahoma State University alumna, she earned bachelor's degrees in both Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education in 2017, followed by her master's degree in education as a Reading Specialist in 2019.

Today, Franz brings that lifelong passion to her kindergarten classroom at Washington Early Childhood Center (WECC) in Alva.

"From the moment Ms. Franz began teaching for me at Lincoln eight years ago, she's been a star," said Madison Williams, principal at Washington. "Her students don't just learn; they belong. She has a way of making learning fun and engaging while still keeping up with the paperwork, committees, and extra duties that come her way."

After spending eight years teaching fourth grade, Franz made a bold move to teach kindergarten.

"I was ready for a change, ready to try something new," Franz said. "I wouldn't know if I liked something different if I didn't step out of my comfort zone and try something different."

The transition to kindergarten proved to be exactly what she needed.

"I ended up loving it, just like I loved fourth grade," she said.

Williams said Franz's transition went incredibly smoothly.

"For anyone walking into her classroom, it would be impossible to tell she's new to kindergarten—because she teaches with such natural grace and confidence," Williams said. "She is always eager to learn and constantly seeks ways to grow."

Franz's classroom is filled with creative learning experiences, from guessing games to innovative uses of letter cards. When asked where she finds her inspiration, Franz is quick to credit her colleagues.

"My team is awesome," Franz said. "They share so many different ideas and different things."

She also draws inspiration from observing other educators, both in person and through social media platforms.

"I take a lot of influence from my team and other great teachers that I see trying new things," she said.

After watching a teacher play the game HedbanzTM with students, Franz adapted the concept for her own letter recognition activities—demonstrating her ability to transform good ideas into practical classroom applications.

For first-year teachers, Franz offers grounded, practical advice.

"Ask for help when you need it," she said. "Be willing to understand that things aren't going to go the way that you expect the first time."

She encourages new teachers to reflect on lessons that don't go as planned and use those experiences to better meet their students' needs.

To those considering the teaching profession, Franz's message is clear: "Go for it."

She recommends finding inspiring teachers to talk with, observing in various classrooms, and volunteering to gain experience with different grade levels.

"The more teachers that you see teaching, that's how you get ideas, that's how you feel comfortable being up in front of students," Franz said.

Reflecting on her preparation for teaching, she credits her time at Northwestern as foundational to her success.

"I would not have been nearly as prepared for what I do as a teacher if it weren't for the Northwestern education program and all the amazing teachers that I had," Franz said.

Franz's commitment to the teaching profession extends beyond her own classroom. For the past two summers, she has served as an adjunct instructor for the Northwest-

Continued to page 102

Continued from page 101

Franz named...

ern Division of Education, teaching methods courses in the Para to Degree program.

By sharing her expertise and real-world classroom experience with aspiring teachers, Franz helps shape the next generation of educators while maintaining her connection to Northwestern.

"Cecely's enthusiasm and passion for teaching inspire everyone around her," said Dr. Jen Oswald, chair of the Northwestern Division of Education and associate professor of education, who had the privilege of teaching Franz during her time at Northwestern.

Franz embodies what it means to "Teach Like a Ranger"—bringing passion, innovation, collaboration, and a commitment to continuous growth to everything she does.

"She truly cares for her students, and that genuine love for others shines through in everything she does," Oswald said. "We are incredibly proud of her and the remarkable career she is building."

Oswald said Franz's students are fortunate to learn from an educator who still carries the same enthusiasm for teaching that she had as a child playing school, now refined by years of experience and a dedication to excellence.

"Ms. Franz isn't a great teacher simply because of experience," Williams said. "She's a great teacher because of the love, care, and dedication she models and builds every single day in her classroom. I am so very grateful to have her at Washington and proud to be her administrator."

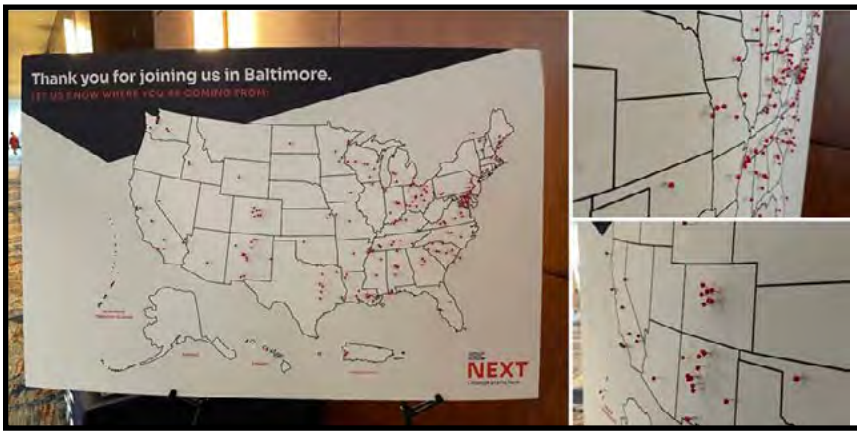
Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 20
The NWOSU Nursing program has been busy recruiting, and Dr. Mahieu had a great time representing us at the Fairview College & Career Fair on November 19! Dozens of high school students stopped by to explore their futures in healthcare, and it was such a joy to see their excitement and curiosity.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 20
Congrats on all your successes since graduating from #NWOSU with two degrees (biology and chemistry) in May 2013. We are #RangerProud!
NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
INTEGRIS Health Cancer Institute
November 19
INTEGRIS Health Cancer Institute is proud to welcome Clay Reed, M.D., to our amazing oncology team!
Dr. Reed joins us with extensive experience in immunotherapy and thoracic oncology as well as expertise from numerous world experts in clinical hematology and oncology. As a native Oklahoman, he is enthusiastic about expanding state-of-the art cancer care to his home state. He is passionate about individualized patient care and believes there is no one-size-fits-all in cancer treatments.
"Creating a personalized treatment plan and thinking outside of the box are a must for providing patients with the best care possible."
His areas of interest include lung cancer, medical oncology and hematology. He is now accepting new patients. To learn more, call 877-811-4246 or visit our website.
https://bit.ly/4pfH8vZ

Steven Maier
November 20
Great experience presenting at #CCANext2025! Full room and wonderful conversations!! Northwestern Oklahoma State University
CCANext Complete College America

Complete College America
November 20
Over the past few days at #CCANext2025, we've hosted over 60 breakout sessions, each one designed to dive deep into the issues shaping student success across higher education. These sessions brought together practitioners, policymakers, and partners to share bold ideas, scalable strategies, and real-world solutions aligned with CCA's pillars of transformation.
Now it's your turn! What's one key idea, takeaway or challenge your're bringing back from a breakout session!

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
November 20
The Psychology Club in Alva was recently honored with the "Most Expressive Award" for their efforts during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. This award recognizes a club or organization that creates a unique project or event to raise awareness and support.
The Psychology Club, along with Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT), organized a support board, where students could write notes of encouragement to those impacted by sexual assault. Many students contributed messages of solidarity and hope. The club also painted windows as a visible display of support and shared a news article on sexual assault that included helpful resources for students and the community.
The award highlights the club's commitment to fostering awareness, empathy, and support for survivors on campus. Thank you to SWAT for joining alongside us for this project to support survivors.
#NWOSUPsycClub #RideRangersRide #nwosurangers



Steve Maier
November 20
We were the Oklahoma delegates this year! Here's birdseye view, a look east, and a look west! Calleb Mosburg, James Bell, Steven Maier. Northwestern Oklahoma State University
#CCANext2025 Complete College America

It's good that they recognize people from time to time for what each has done to better the community."

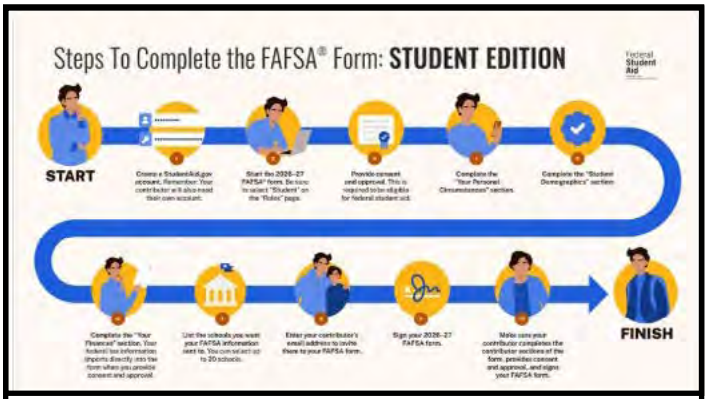
COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Mackie inducted into Oklahoma Hall of Fame

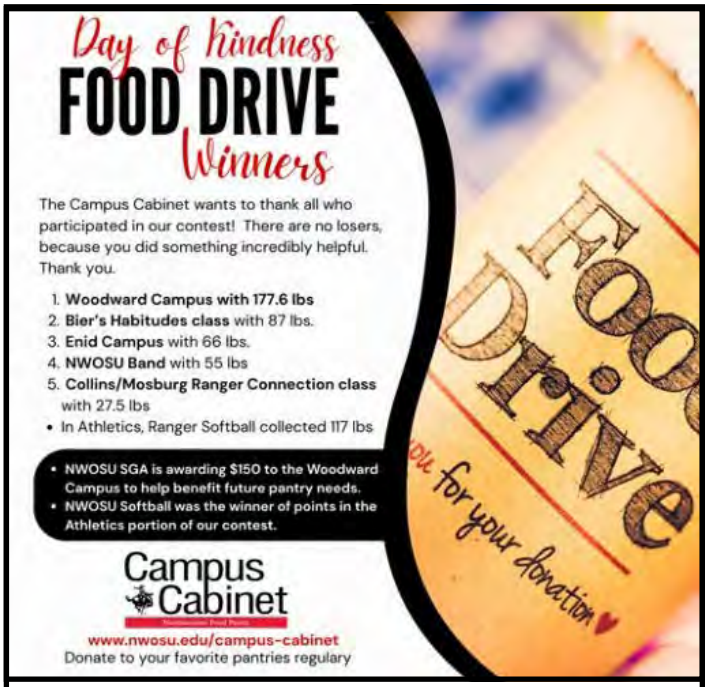
ENID, Okla. — Enid community leader Bert Mackie was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame — the state's highest honor — during the 98th annual induction ceremony Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025, in the Arvest Convention Center in Tulsa.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 21
Congrats to Bert Mackie, longtime supporter of Northwestern, on his induction to the Oklahoma Hall of Fame!
#NWOSU #RRR

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 25
Federal Student Aid
November 21
Did you know the 2026–27 FAFSA form is now live? Submit your form today!
Make sure you're prepared by knowing the steps. Then, head to www.fafsa.gov to get started.



Campus Cabinet
November 24
We are so proud to announce the winners of our first Day of Kindness Food Drive Contest.
The Campus Cabinet wants to thank all who participated in our contest! There are no losers, because you did something incredibly helpful. Thank you.
1. Woodward Campus with 177.6 lbs
2. Bier's Habitudes class with 87 lbs.
3. Enid Campus with 66 lbs.
4. NWOSU Band with 55 lbs
5. Collins/Mosburg Ranger Connection class with 27.5 lbs
- In Athletics, Ranger Softball collected 117 lbs
NWOSU SGA is awarding $150 to the Woodward Campus to help benefit future pantry needs.
NWOSU Softball was the winner of points in the Athletics portion of our contest.
www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet
Donate to your favorite pantries regularly.

NWOSU Division of Education
November 24
Congratulations to Mary Kate Foster and Brianda Diaz, this year's Guthrie Scottish Rite recipients!

Annual Holiday Gala held Dec. 4 at 7 in Herod Hall

The Fine Arts Department welcomed everyone to its annual Holiday Gala at Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall on Thursday, Dec. 4.

"This long-standing seasonal tradition brought together students, faculty, guest artists and young singers for an evening of festive music and celebration," said Kane Bradley, instructor of music and director of choral studies.

This year's choir program featured a varied collection of holiday favorites and choral masterworks. Audiences heard timeless classics such as "The First Noel," "We Three Kings" and "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," along with international selections including André Thomas' spirited "African Noel" and the Renaissance work "O Magnum Mysterium" by Tomás Luis de Victoria. Additional highlights included Alfred Burt's beloved carols "Caroling, Caroling" and "Christ in the Stranger's Guise," as well as lively arrangements of traditional seasonal tunes.

Guest instrumentalists joined the choirs throughout the evening, adding unique color and texture to the performances.

Northwestern's Symphonic Band presented a joyful program of seasonal favorites. Audience members heard "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," Leroy Anderson's iconic "Sleigh Ride," and fresh arrangements of beloved carols such as "Jingle Bells," "O Christmas Tree," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," "O Holy Night," and many more.

In addition to the Symphonic Band, the Holiday Gala showcased a variety of ensembles from the instrumental music program, highlighting the talent and hard work of Northwestern's music students.

A featured jazz combo performed, adding a spirited and stylish twist to the evening's lineup.

"The annual Holiday Gala has become a cherished tradition for both the campus and the surrounding communities," said Alexander Perkins, instructor of instrumental music and director of bands.

The Gala concluded with a special collaborative finale: "Child's Prayer," originally performed by the band Chicago, presented by the combined Northwestern choirs, guest instrumentalists and a children's chorus.

Immediately following the concert, guests were invited to gather on the lawn of Herod Hall, where a decorated Christmas tree was lighted for the Northwestern holiday season and warm drinks were served.

For more information about the Holiday Gala or music programs, contact Bradley at (580) 327-8692 or jkbradley@nwosu.edu, Perkins at (580) 327-8191 or ag-perkins@nwosu.edu, or visit the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts online at www.nwosu.edu/fine-arts.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 24

Ranger Research Day highlighted the academic excellence, professionalism, and curiosity of our senior nursing students. After a semester of developing PICOT questions, appraising evidence, and translating research into practice, their scholarship was proudly on display — and it earned well-deserved recognition.

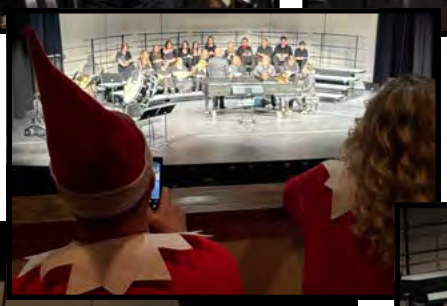
- 1st Place – Nursing; Tatum Brown, Lainey Coley & Shyanna Stopp, "Effect of Prenatal Education on Postpartum Depression"
- 2nd Place – Nursing; Tricia Collins, Nancy Klippenstein & Baleigh Stewart, "Dexmedetomidine vs. Opioids in Labor Analgesia"
- 3rd Place – Nursing; Marcus Bueno, Tejune Kim & Evan Silva, "The Effects of Parental Health Literacy on Overall Child Health"
- Honorable Mention – Nursing; Sarah Decker, Danae Vendetti & Daphne Zevallos de McCaslin, "The Effectiveness of Aromatherapy in Prevention of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting"

Their work reflects the heart of professional nursing through inquiry, evidence-based practice, and a commitment to improving patient outcomes. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and cannot wait to see the impact they will make in the profession.

#NWOSU #RangerNurses #NursingResearch #FutureRN

Christmas Gala - In Photos

Xan Perkins, above, visits with the crowd during the band's portion of the Holiday Gala.



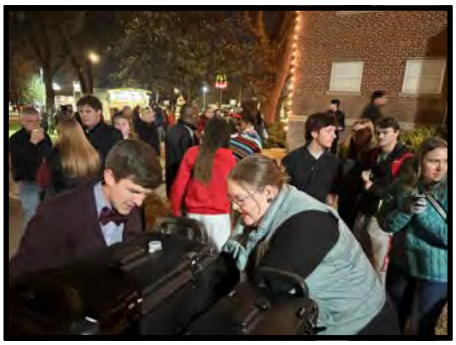
The elves on the shelf (left) had a great time at the Holiday gala. Thanks for coming!

University choir performs with assistance from guest musicians.

Max Ridgway accompanies the Singers.

The concert finale concluded with a special collaborative song: "Child's Prayer," with the combined Northwestern choirs, guest instrumentalists and a children's chorus.

1, 2, 3... let's light the tree!



Hot chocolate and apple cider were served outside as the Christmas tree was lighted.

Inaugural Red Dirt Review Art Contest, Exhibition Dec. 1-12

Nearly 200 entries were received from high school artists in the region for the inaugural Red Dirt Review High School Art Contest and Exhibition, organized by the Northwestern Visual Arts program.

Of the entries received, nearly 80 works of art were accepted to be displayed in the Gallery Sophia in Jesse Dunn 218 Dec. 1-12. The gallery was open to the public Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with other hours by appointment.

An opening reception took place Dec. 5 with winners and prizes for each category being announced. Social media posts showing art pieces were also planned by the program.

Thomas Cornell, assistant professor of visual arts, said that there was some "phenomenal artwork from around the region" on display.

Cornell explained that after visiting with others in the region, it was realized there was no high school art show specifically for northwest Oklahoma students, so it was decided to start one at Northwestern.

Public, private and home-schooled students in grades 9-12 were able to submit entries in the categories of painting, ceramics, drawing, sculpture, photography and mixed media/other. There was no entry fee.

Questions about the art show or the visual arts program should be directed to Cornell at (580) 327-8111 or tacornell@nwosu.edu. Additional program information available at www.nwosu.edu/visualarts.

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
November 25
Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum
November 24
Today we celebrate 100 #JourneyofHope visits! We shared our story at Northwestern in Alva. Thank you to Les Cummings, Dr. Camisa Stewart, Susan Winchester, Glenn Billings, Dr. Bo Hannaford and Phillip Burrow for stepping up to help and share your stories. #BeTheLight

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
November 25
Some of our junior nursing students took "World Kindness Day" to heart and delivered some kindness to the Northern Oklahoma Humane Society in Ponca City. Proud of these future nurses for showing up with compassion in action!

Northwestern Jazz Ensemble give concert Dec. 2

Northwestern jazz ensemble members presented their free fall semester concert on Dec. 2 in Fellers Family Auditorium in Herod Hall.

The program showcased a wide spectrum of jazz styles, under the direction of Xan Perkins, director of bands and instructor of instrumental music, offering something for listeners of all ages.

Audience members heard classic jazz standards such as "Fly Me to the Moon" and Sonny Rollins's "Doxy," along with the funk-driven energy of "Chameleon" and music by Bob Mintzer and John Brown's band, The J.B.'s.

Adding even more variety to the evening, the concert highlighted music inspired by the New Orleans Second Line brass band tradition—bringing the unmistakable groove, spirit and celebration of New Orleans to the Fellers Family stage.

Northwestern students performing in the jazz ensemble included:

Alto sax: Kacie Setzer, Fairview senior majoring in instrumental music education.

Bass: John Jones, Arapahoe freshman majoring in agriculture.

Drums: Chris Perez, Laverne senior majoring in instrumental music education.

Tenor sax: Jade Campbell, Woodward senior majoring in instrumental music education.

Trombone: Edan Chasteen, Okeene freshman majoring in mathematics; Sam Grimes, Enid junior majoring in instrumental music education; Ethan Rigdon, Beaver freshman majoring in vocal performance; and John Snyder, Oklahoma City senior majoring in instrumental music education.

Trumpet: Robert Farmer, Poteau freshman majoring in biology; Destiny Vaughan, Laverne freshman majoring in instrumental music education; and Hadley Weathers, Ringwood junior majoring in media and communication.

"This performance gave students the opportunity to share the work they have put in throughout the semester," Perkins said. "It offered the community a chance to enjoy a vibrant, family-friendly musical experience at no cost."

For more information about upcoming performances and the instrumental and music education program, contact Perkins at agperkins@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8191 or visit the Reichenberger Department of Fine Arts online at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/fine-arts/bands-and-instrumental-music.

Northwestern's Second Line Band gives the audience a taste of New Orleans inspired music during the Jazz concert.

Artemis Hillman runs the sound board while the Northwestern Jazz Ensemble presents its fall concert.

Northwestern's Jazz Ensemble makes a fun entrance into the Fellers Family Auditorium at the beginning of its concert on Dec. 2.

Northwestern Ranger Research Day celebrates 20 years

The 20th annual Ranger Research Day took place Nov. 21 in the J.W. Martin Library on the Northwestern-Alva campus.

Graduate and undergraduate students created poster presentations of academic research papers conducted in one of their classes.

Reagan Hiner, a senior psychology major from Alva, and Paige Bailey, a senior psychology major from Enid, tied for Best Overall Project out of 31 projects entered by 50 participants.

Winners with classification, hometown, research project name and sponsor include:

History: First place: M'Cheila Rader, an American Studies graduate student from Alva, "Restoring Women's History in Public Spaces: The Role of Public Historians in Education and Interpretation;" Second Place: Elizabeth Terbush, an American Studies graduate student from Woodward, "George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate;" Third Place: Heatherene Merrill, an American Studies graduate student from Enid, "From Ashes to Archives: Oral Tradition as Historical Evidence of the Tulsa Race Massacre."

All winning entries were sponsored by Jana Pittman, instructor of history.

Biology: First place: Ko Brooks, a senior biology and chemistry major from Alva, "Prevalence of Hookworms in Northwest Oklahoma and Effects of Habitation on Infection," sponsored by Dr. Nicholus Ledbetter, assistant professor of biology.

Chemistry: First place: CeCelia (Garringer) Vandiver, a senior biology major from Enid, "Progress Towards Green Pericyclic Reactions;" Second Place: Amanda Lane, a senior chemistry major from Oklahoma City, and Alaina Pierce, a junior biology and chemistry major from Alva, "Study of Iodine Distribution and Concentrations in Western Oklahoma Brine Waters and Recycling of Used Chloroform."

Both entries were sponsored by Dr. Adam Alber, assistant professor of chemistry.

English: First place: Ashland Crites, a senior English education major from Hennessey, "Memory as Resistance in Monique Truong's 'Bitter in the Mouth,'" sponsored by Dr. Christina Xan, assistant professor of English.

Reagan Hiner (left), a senior psychology major from Alva, and Paige Bailey (right), a senior psychology major from Enid, tied for Best Overall Project and first place in the Psychology category at the 20th annual Ranger Research Day at Northwestern on Nov. 21 in the J.W. Martin Library.

Nursing: First place: Tatum Brown, a senior nursing major from Woodward, Lainey Coley, a senior nursing major from Medicine Lodge, Kansas, and Shyanna Stopp, a senior nursing major from Park Hill, "Effects of Prenatal Education on Postpartum Depression;" Second place: Baleigh Stewart, a senior nursing major from Lahoma, Patricia Collins, a senior nursing major from Waukomis, and Nancy Klippenstein, a senior nursing major from Burlington, "In Pregnant Women in Labor, How Does the Use of Dexmedetomidine Compared to Traditional Opioids for Epidural Analgesia Affect Maternal and Fetal Adverse Effects During Labor?" Third place: Tejune Kim, a senior nursing major from Norman, Evan Silva, a senior nursing major from Ringwood, and Marcus Bueno, a senior nursing major from Clarkdale, Arizona, "The Effects of Parental Health Literacy on Overall Child Health;" Honorable mention: Sarah Decker, a senior nursing major from Meno, Danae Vendetti, a senior nursing major from Enid, and Daphne Zevallos De McCaslin, a senior nursing major from Enid, "The Effectiveness of Aromatherapy in Prevention of Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting."

All winning entries were sponsored by Dr. Heidi Ritchie, Bachelor of Science in Nursing programs director and assistant professor of nursing.

Psychology: First place and overall winner (Tie): Regan Hiner, senior psychology major from Alva, "Exploring the Relationship Between Social Media Use and Body Comparison Behaviors: Implications of Self-Image and Mental Health," and Paige Bailey, senior psychology major from Enid, "In-

Continued to page 110

Continued from page 109

Northwestern Ranger Research...

terpersonal Relationship Quality Influencing Well-Being;" Second place: John Hofferber, a senior psychology major from Ponca City, "The Impact of Digital Notification Frequency on Decision Fatigue, Stress, and Cognitive Strain in the Workplace;" Third place: Summya Adigun, a senior psychology major from Hugoton, Kansas, "Is Social Media Hurting Our Love Lives?" Honorable mention: Halie Shirley, a senior psychology major from Braman, "Holistic Medicine as a Treatment for Substance Abuse."

Dr. Taylor Randolph, chair of the Northwestern Department of Psychology and assistant professor of psychology, sponsored all psychology award winners, and Taylor Phillips, instructor of psychology, sponsored the second place winner.

All presenters are encouraged to attend Oklahoma Research Day on Friday, Feb. 27, 2026, at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

The mission of Oklahoma Research Day is to promote cross-campus and cross-disciplinary research and scholarly work among all institutions of higher learning in the state. In doing so, the event seeks to encourage networking among scholars and the exchange of ideas among those studying and researching in their respective academic disciplines.

For more information on Ranger Research Day, contact Dr. Shawn Holliday, associate dean of Northwestern Graduate Studies, at spholliday@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8589. A list of all entries is available in the abstract book at www.nwosu.edu/ranger-research-day.

NWOSU
Division of Education
November 25
Congratulations on your hard work! Dr. Derek Trabuc

NWOSU Theatre
November 28
Horrors of waiting are over! THANK GOODNESS!
What an end to a year-long wait.
Castle Players Club had a blast seeing Wicked For Good!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Woodward Campus
November 25
As we get closer to the Holiday season, we are more grateful than EVER for our community partners who have recently donated to our Campus Cabinet to make it easier to reach our students facing food disparity!
Thank you to Invenergy!!! And all those who gave during our recent food drive!! #sothankful
#campuslife #campuscabinet #tistheseason #ofgiving #woodwardcommunity #woodwardcampus #NWOSU

Inaugural class of Reichenberger Legacy Scholars announced

The Department of Social Sciences is excited to announce the inaugural class of the Donovan Reichenberger Legacy Scholar Program.

The 2025-2026 class of Reichenberger Legacy Scholars are: Jacob Arnold, a junior history major from Enid; Ava Carr, a senior history major from Tuttle; Channing Dillinger, a freshman agriculture major from Hugoton, Kansas; and Keegan Logsdon, a sophomore political science major from Alva.

"We are proud to welcome these students as the Reichenberger Scholar inaugural class and look forward to working with them in the spring of 2026," said Dr. Eric Schmaltz, Northwestern Department of Social Sciences chair and professor of history and global studies.

The program provides students with real-world exposure to ideas and concepts covered in traditional classroom study via travel and first-hand experience at historic sites. All travel expenses are covered by the Reichenberger Legacy Scholar Endowment.

For this initial installment of the Legacy Scholar Program, the theme of the program will be "Ancient America: Exploring America's Pre-Columbian World."

These four students will consider the rise and fall of ancient American Indian civilizations by reading about and considering archaeological sites such as Spiro Mounds in eastern Oklahoma.

"I am honored to be one of the inaugural recipients," Arnold said. "I am looking forward to enriching my knowledge of history."

Students will study the complexity and accomplishments of these ancient American societies and consider why they eventually ceased to exist. Students will gain an appreciation for the idea of conservation of historic and cultural resources and study the politics of preservation of these sites.

The trip for this session of the program is planned for Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Collinsville, Illinois, in April 2026.

For information on the Reichenberger Legacy Scholar Program, contact Schmaltz at ejschmaltz@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8526 or visit the Northwestern Department of Social Services online at www.nwosu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/social-sciences.

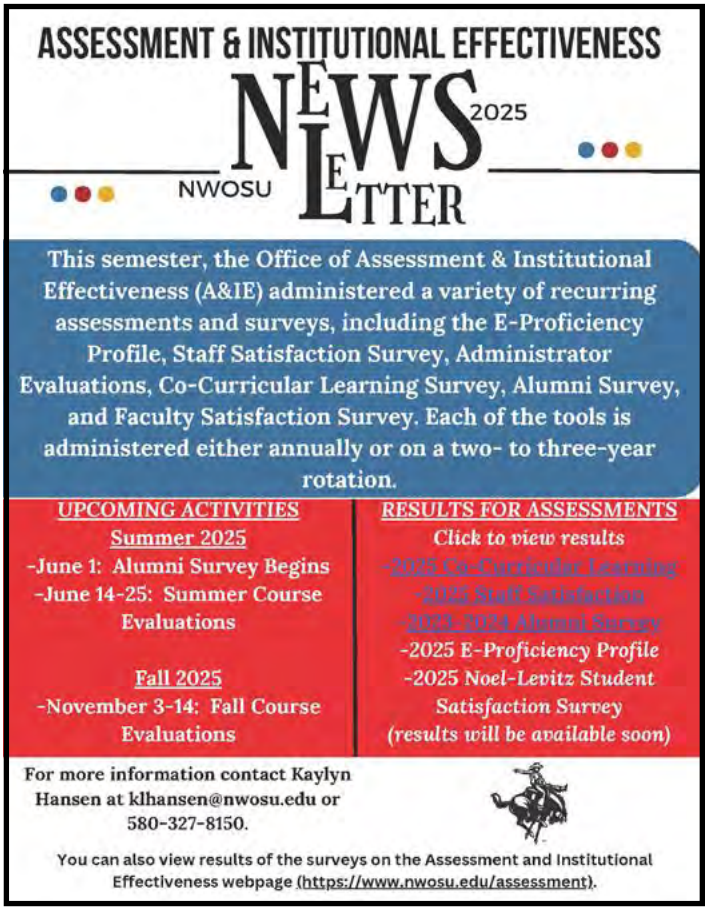
Jacob Arnold

Ava Carr

Channing Dillinger

Keegan Logsdon

If you haven't already, do make a trip out to the northwest corner of the Jesse Dunn building to check out the monument dedicated to the Castle on Hill. It has wonderful history listed.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 7
It's almost time to celebrate our Rangers!
Fall Commencement at Northwestern Oklahoma State University is Sunday, Dec. 7, at 2:30 p.m. NWOSU alumnus Thad Dilbeck will deliver the commencement address. Dilbeck played quarterback and wide receiver for the Ranger football team, playing on two Oklahoma Intercollegiate Conference Champion teams in 1986 and 1989. He earned two degrees from Northwestern and has served over 25 years as a teacher, coach and administrator.
A reception honoring the graduates will immediately follow the ceremony in the Student Center Commons area.
Can't attend in person? Watch the live stream on the Northwestern Athletics YouTube channel: www.YouTube.com/NWOSURangers
Read the full list of graduates: https://bit.ly/4pECFTK
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

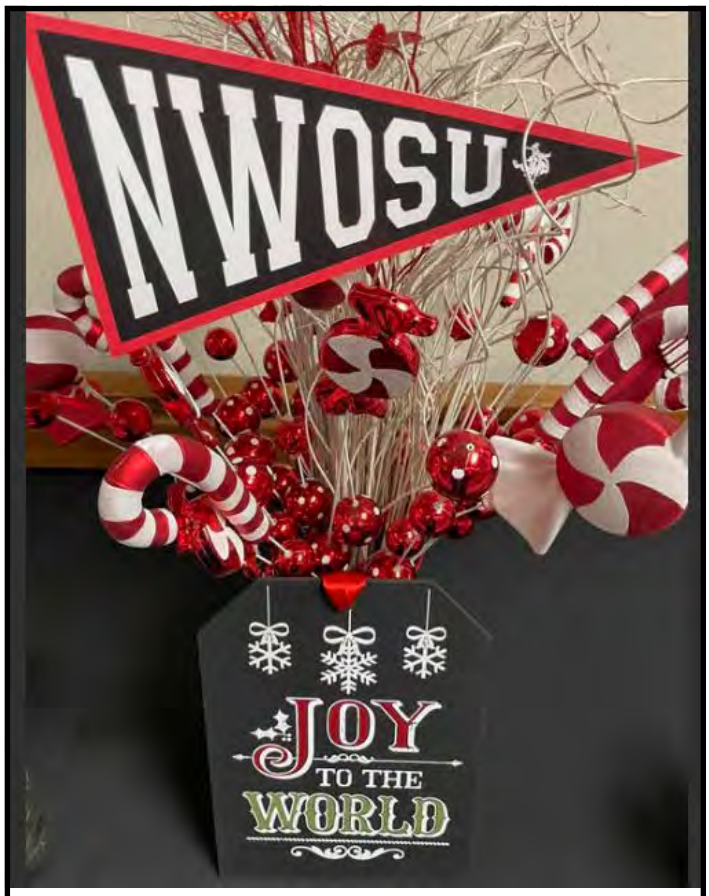
Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 2
I've had the sweetest time being involved in the Little Miss Merry Christmas Pageant! We held our rehearsal yesterday, and I loved helping the girls learn their walk pattern and opening number dance. A huge thank-you to Alva Beer Co. for letting us use their building so we could stay warm in the freezing temperatures—such a kind and generous gesture! I can't wait for the pageant this weekend in Alva as part of our Christmas festivities!

NWOSU Division of Education
December 2
Mary Kate Foster is wrapping up her student teaching journey in Dodge City, Kansas. Mary Kate has been teaching a variety of Physical Education classes, including Racquet & Net Sports, Women's Fitness, and Traditional and Adaptive Physical Education (PE). She also recently became a certified instructor with the Archery in Schools Program. Way to go! We can't wait to see the impact you make!

NWOSU Division of Education
December 2
Mary Terrel is having a fantastic experience educating young learners in Burlington under the guidance of Mrs. Teresa Sims. Ms. Terrel's enthusiasm and determination are sure to make her a difference maker in the lives of her students.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
December 3
Our Christmas Wreaths look great! Please vote for your favorite by liking the picture. The wreath with the most likes by Tuesday Dec. 9th will be the winner.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
December 5
Enid Campus TREASURE HUNT!
"The semester grows merry as snowflakes appear, and halls fill with cheer at this time of year. Upstairs where students gather with glee, a red N hides softly within a small tree."



Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
December 5
"The semester grows merry as snowflakes appear, and halls fill with cheer at this time of year. Upstairs where students gather with glee, a red N hides softly within a small tree."

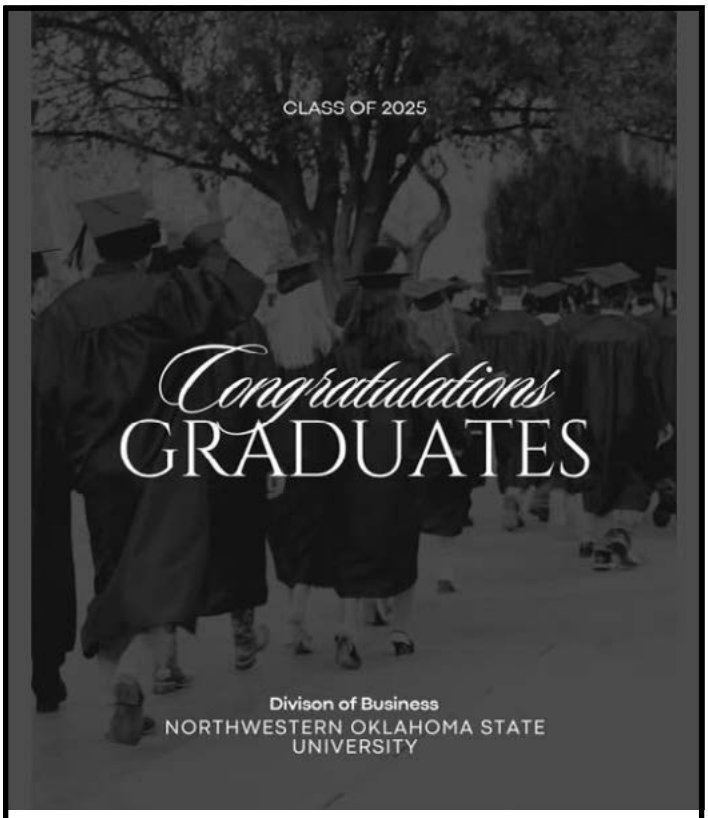
NWOSU Division of Education
December 7
Congratulations to all our fall graduates! We are so very proud of you!

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
December 7
Congrats to those graduating this afternoon! Congratulations to everyone crossing the stage this afternoon — including our amazing Psychology graduates, both undergrad and grad! Your hard work, dedication, and passion for understanding people will take you far.
Go out and make an impact! #RangerPride #RideRangersRide #NWOSURangers

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 7
Congratulations to our Fall graduates!
Even though graduation looked a little different this year, your hard work and resilience made the day just as meaningful. We're proud of you! #NWOSURangers

Link to Live FB Video - https://www.facebook.com/nwosu.rangers/videos/2678559649172604
Link to NWOSU YouTube Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPRUrS_s_3o
Link to NWOSU Athletics Youtube Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSuXIE1xlYU

Miss Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 8
The Miss Merry Christmas Pageant was an absolute blast, and celebrating the season here in Alva feels straight out of a Hallmark movie — full of joy, community, and more Christmas cheer than you could ever imagine.
I had so much fun participating in all of Alva's holiday activities, and I'm endlessly grateful to be part of a community that pours so much love into making this time of year truly magical.
And getting the privilege to ride in the Christmas parade this year? It was a dream come true and a moment I'll never forget.
Thank you, Alva, for reminding me what the holiday season is all about: joy, togetherness, and a little bit of Christmas magic everywhere you look.
#MissNorthwestern #MissMerryChristmas #AlvaOK #HallmarkHoliday #ChristmasParade #HolidayMagic #CommunityLove



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Business
December 8
Congratulations to all of our fall 2025 Division of Business graduates!! #RRR

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 9
TwisTed Rodeo
December 9
Steer wrestler Jd Struxness has made some adjustments to his team for multiple reasons, and it's paying off. He placed for the third time during Monday's fifth round of the @PRCA_ProRodeo NFR. https://twistedrodeo.com/2025/12/09/struxness-has-a-swagger-at-nfr/
Kathryn Coleman
@purplewaveauction @ariatinternational @4startrailers @westernlegacyco @equinity_ @unbeetablefeeds @arenatrailersales

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
December 9
Your GAC Offensive POTW is Catyn Graham!!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
December 9
Our NWOSU Division of Nursing is buzzing with excitement as we prepare to celebrate 40 incredible years of nursing excellence this Friday evening! And trust us… you're going to love what's waiting for you at the silent auction.
Every beautifully crafted item, every hand-picked basket, every piece of art, and every NWOSU-themed treasure you see here has been generously donated to help support one special cause: our NWOSU Nursing Alumni Association. All proceeds go directly back into strengthening the legacy, and the future, of our program.
From handmade décor…
to gift baskets packed with local favorites…
to nursing-inspired artwork…
to one-of-a-kind Ranger spirit pieces…
…there's truly something for everyone. And yes, bidding wars with your colleagues and friends are absolutely encouraged. Friendly competition is healthy, right?
Join us for an unforgettable evening of celebration, community, gratitude, and a whole lot of Ranger pride.

Ranger Athletics
December 10
After breaking the indoor school record in the high jump with a 1.99m, Jeremiah Anderson is your GAC Field AOTW

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
December 10
The nursing faculty and staff gathered last week to celebrate Dean, our longtime maintenance superhero at Carter Hall on the NWOSU Alva campus.
Dean has kept our classrooms, labs, and hallways running smoothly with a level of dedication that sets the bar sky-high. His work has supported every student, faculty member, and visitor who stepped into Carter Hall, often before we even knew something needed fixing.
We'll miss him more than words can capture, but we're so grateful for the years he's spent caring for this building and all of us in it.
At the celebration, Dean told us he might take a couple of days to rest…and then he'll get right back to work with projects at his house. He's one of the most hardworking people we know, and the university is better because of him.
Happy retirement, Dean! Thank you for your dedication, your kindness, and the countless ways you cared for us.
Enjoy your well-earned rest!

Campus Cabinet-NWOSU
December 10
From absolutely all of us, from set up to take down and every bit in between, we Thank YOU for your support of our event during the Bring Christmas Home event. We were so happy to serve you and your families. We enjoyed every one of you who came through to have your pictures taken, who waited on and coaxed the little ones into smiles, the shoppers of all sizes, the patient parents, grands and caretakers who brought all the littles in for their big moments. Thank you for taking the time to make these memories for all of us. We hope to see you again next year!!

And, an extra shout-out to our amazing Chamber of Commerce and especially the co-directors for ALL THEY DID. So many things we'll never know that were done to benefit this event. Thank you soooo much!

To Holder Drug for your sponsorship and support to bring a free photo taken and printed to all who came – Incredible Thanks to You! Alva State Bank – you gave every family a gift in itself with the free jump drives for photos to be saved on.

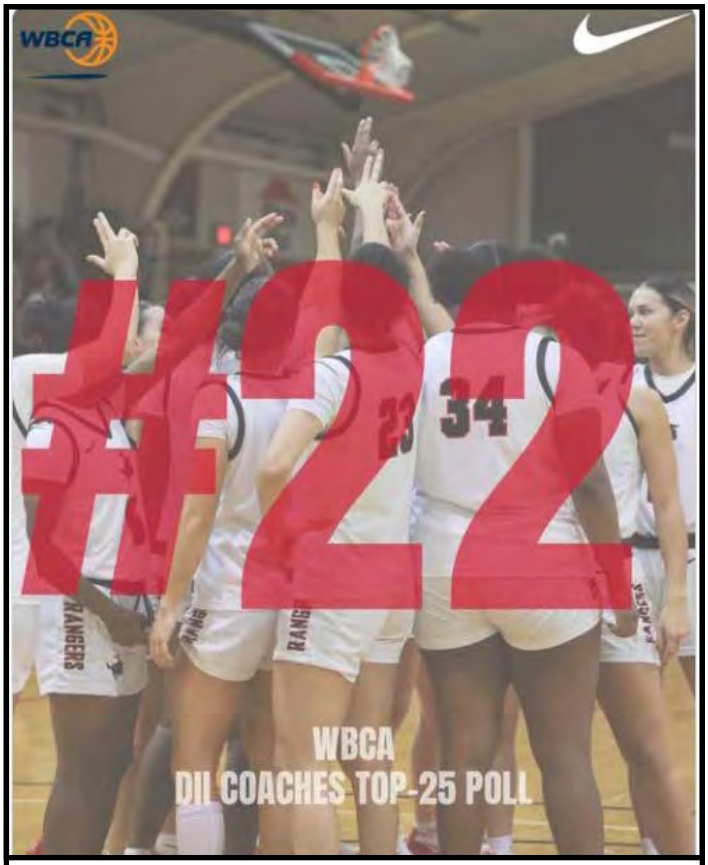
A big thanks goes to Dr. Ken Brown and The Runnymede Alva for allowing us to have this event in a space as amazing as it is!

Events like this are the result of teamwork. What a great team we have!!

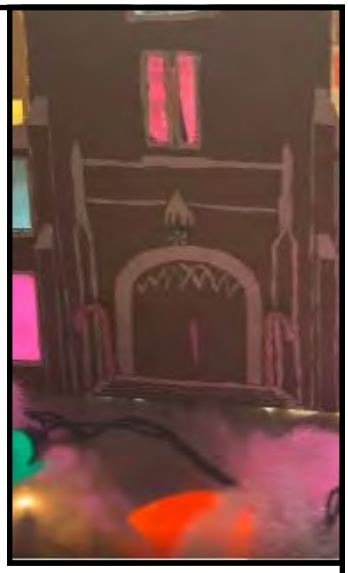
Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
December 10
Our Rural Health Department can help you with Marketplace Health Insurance! Give Sarah a call, or come by her office here on the Enid campus and visit with her.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
December 10
Jerry Partridge Named Head Coach of Northwestern Football.



Northwestern Lady Ranger Basketball
Dec. 9
Hello, Top 25!



NWOSU Theatre
December 10 & 12
2025 Theatre Production Final part 1 & 2. Theatre students created the NWOSU Alva Campus in cardboard "gingerbread!"
Each student was assigned a building on campus to study then reproduce in gingerbread style in a few hours.
#nwosutheatre #nwosufinearts #castleplayersclub #nwosu #nwosurangers #gingerbread #sleighride

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus
December 10
Our Christmas Wreath Contest is complete! Fowler Early Childhood won the Facebook voting contest with 147 votes. NWOSU's Front Office Crew won the Money Jar vote with $15.50 in their jar. A total of $34.50 was raised for the local United Way! Thank you all for participating and for decorating our Commons with these beautiful wreaths for the season.

NWOSU Department of Social Work
December 11
We invite you to view our Fall 2025 Newsletter!

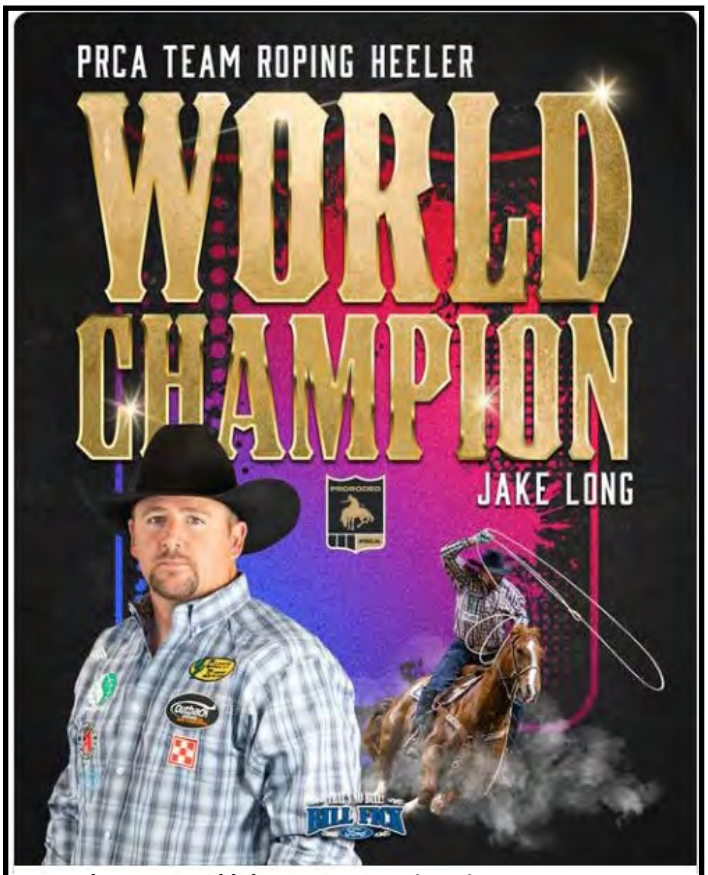
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
December 11
Your #22 ranked Lady Rangers will be back at HOME tomorrow!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 11
Congratulations to all our Fall 2025 graduates!
The NWOSU Division of Education Pinning Ceremony and Fall Commencement photos are available to view and download. These moments capture the pride, joy, and accomplishment of our newest Rangers as they begin the next chapter of their journey. From heartfelt family celebrations to the camaraderie shared with classmates, these images tell the story of hard work, dedication, and success.
View and download photos: http://www.flickr.com/
See the complete graduate list: https://bit.ly/4pECFTK
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
December 12
The 2025 GivingTuesday campaign came to an end on December 8, with $196,000 raised. These dollars will make a large impact on Northwestern students through the significant support from scholarships. Thank you to all of our donors!

NWOSU Division of Education
December 13
Future educators in Dr. Foster's Children's Literature class ended the semester on a high note with a fun and festive book exchange. So proud of all their hard work this semester! Enjoy your well-deserved break!

Campus Cabinet-NWOSU
December 15
Because we had so much fun helping kiddos (big and small) with happy things at the "Bring Christmas Home" event we wanted to share some of the photos we got at First Friday, Photos with Santa event and the Holiday Store!
Please feel free to share yours if you got some! =]
Happy Holidays! And THANK YOU to all our helpers!!



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 15
Congratulations to Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team alumnus Jake Long, your 2025 PRCA ProRodeo World Champion Heeler!
#RideRangersRide | #NFR2025

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
December 15
Seeing double? You're not alone. These two have caused more than a few double-takes on campus. On the left is Dr. Shane Hansen, '08, Chair of the Health and Sports Science Department and assistant professor of health and sports science education. On the right is Alexander (Xan) Perkins, instructor of instrumental music and director of bands. While their expertise comes from different fields, both bring energy and excellence to the Northwestern community.

NWOSU Alva Psychology Club
December 15
It's officially Christmas break! Enjoy your time with family and friends, and may Santa bring you everything on your list. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
See you back on campus for the first day of classes on January 12th!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 15
Congratulations to Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team alumni Cole Patterson and Jake Long, 2025 PRCA ProRodeo World Champions!
PRCA ProRodeo
December 14
Congratulations to all of the 2025 PRCA World Champions! All of these outstanding athletes get to take home a brand new Polaris Off Road! #WeArePRORODEO

Northwestern Lady Ranger Basketball
December 17
Up 3 spots to 19!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Business
December 16
Merry Christmas to you and your family! From: The Division of Business

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Division of Nursing
December 16
What an unforgettable evening celebrating 40 years of nursing excellence at NWOSU.
It was truly an honor to gather with alumni, friends, students, and faculty to celebrate the legacy of this program and the impact it has had over the last four decades. The support this program continues to receive is invaluable, and it meant so much to take time to reflect on where we've been while also looking ahead to the future of nursing at NWOSU.
These are just a few of our favorite moments from the evening, but all of the photos can be viewed here: https://www.flickr.com/photos/nwosu-rangers/with/54986712768
#NWOSU #RangerNurses

Ranger Athletics
December 18
DOWN GOES SNU! DOWN GOES SNU!!! MIKEY HAWKINS WINS IT AT THE BUZZER TO UPSET THE #3 TEAM IN THE NATION!! #RRR

NWOSU Division of Education
December 18
Wishing you a restful break and the happiest of holidays!
From all of us to you!

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NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
December 18
We invite you to join us for the Northwestern Sports Hall of Fame honoring athletic excellence and tradition. On January 31, 2026, four Rangers will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.
For more information and to RSVP: https://ournorthwestern.org/get-involved/events-programs/sports-hall-of-fame

7 Northwestern employees earn doctoral degrees

Seven Northwestern Oklahoma State University employees earned their doctoral degrees this past year.

They are: Melissa Brown, graduate studies enrollment and retention coordinator; Summer Foster, early childhood education program coordinator and instructor of education; Bailey Lancaster, assistant professor of psychology; Christopher Neu, instructor of psychology; Heidi Ritchie, assistant professor nursing; Derek Trabuc, instructor of education; and Olivia Yandel, director of the J.R. Holder Wellness Center.

Dr. Melissa Brown

Brown graduated with her Doctor of Education in Leadership and Higher Education from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, on Dec. 12.

Dr. Melissa Brown (right) and her husband Dr. Roger Brown (left) take a photo at the St. Edward's University graduation ceremony in Austin, Texas, on Dec. 12.

She is a Northwestern alumna, graduating with her Bachelor of Arts in History in 2017 and her Master of Education in Adult Education and Management in 2019.

"My degree and research contribute to Northwestern's success by supporting my current role as graduate enrollment and retention coordinator. This role ensures that our graduate students receive the necessary support to achieve their goals."

Her dissertation is titled, "'Why We Stay, Why We Leave': Women's Voices in the M.Ed. Journey of Motivation and Persistence," examining the barriers to completion and motivational factors influencing persistence among women enrolled in the Master of Education program at a public regional university in the South-Central United States.

Findings revealed that participants frequently encountered challenges in balancing full-time employment, family obligations and financial pressures. Despite these barriers, intrinsic motivation, opportunities for professional advancement and strong support networks from family, peers and faculty were key factors promoting persistence and program completion.

The study's findings confirm the applicability of Vincent Tinto's theoretical framework to graduate education, highlighting that social and academic integration are crucial for student retention. Results underscore the importance of institutional efforts to enhance financial support, foster faculty engagement, and provide flexible program structures that accommodate nontraditional students.

"I am deeply grateful for the support I received at Northwestern, which has shaped my academic journey," Brown said. "I will continue to serve the university in various capacities, as well as conduct research in leadership, higher education, and retention."

Dr. Summer Foster

Foster graduated with her Doctor of Education in Education Administration and Leadership from Southern Nazarene University on Dec. 6.

She also holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with an emphasis on Speech Language Pathology from Fort Hays State University and a Master of Education in School Counseling from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Her dissertation is titled, "Exploring Educator's Experiences Implementing an Elementary Social-Emotional Curriculum: A Case Study."

This qualitative case study explored the experiences and perspectives of educators across two elementary schools regarding the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) program implementation process.

Many schools nationwide have implemented SEL programs, recognizing the vital role schools play in supporting children and the importance of social-emotional skills for learning. Schools invest resources in SEL to boost student well-being and academic achievement. While SEL programs are designed to build student resilience, implementation success varies among schools. The findings showed that while educators highly value SEL, their enthusiasm alone is not enough for successful school-wide change.

Dr. Summer Foster (right) celebrates with her daughter Mary Kate Foster (left). Dr. Foster graduated with a Doctor of Education in Education Administration and Leadership from Southern Nazarene University on Dec. 6, and Mary Kate graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education from Northwestern on Dec. 7.

Four main themes emerged: SEL

Continued to page 123

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7 Northwestern employees...

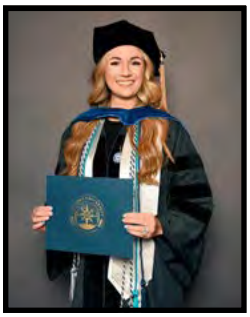
is complex; educators are driven by necessity; there is a disconnect between school goals and outside realities; and missing components prevent transformation. These systemic deficiencies were found to prevent a successful complex change, even when educators had high motivation and consensus for the initiative.

For her work, the Oklahoma Education Journal published an opinion editorial Foster authored in its October 2025 edition. It is available at oej.scholasticahq.com/section/5370-guest-commentary.

"I will use my degree to equip my future educators with evidence-based SEL models to effectively manage classrooms and teach their future students the durable skills of resilience, collaboration and self-management necessary for success in society and employment," Foster said.

Dr. Bailey Lancaster

Lancaster earned her Doctor of General Psychology with an emphasis in Performance Psychology from National University in July.



Dr. Bailey Lancaster poses with her degree after her graduation from National University in San Diego, California.

She is also a Northwestern alumna, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Sports Science Education in 2015 and a Master of Counseling Psychology in 2017.

"This doctoral degree has expanded my ability to connect performance psychology with counselor wellness, particularly in addressing burnout," Lancaster said. "The mental health crisis in Oklahoma, the U.S. and worldwide demands counselors who are not only clinically skilled but personally resilient. By integrating recovery science and performance research into counselor training, I help graduate students understand that sustainable practice depends on maintaining their own mental and physical health through rest, balance, and boundaries."

Her dissertation is titled, "Managing Midnight Miles: A Qualitative Descriptive Single-Case Study on Sleep Strategies Among United States Ultra-Marathon Runners."

This qualitative descriptive single-case study explored how U.S. ultra-marathon runners perceive the role of sleep and sleep insufficiency in their physical, psychological and social well-being.

Fifteen participants completed semi-structured virtual interviews and the findings revealed nine major themes related to how athletes optimize recovery, regulate emotions and maintain performance despite chronic fatigue and life demands.

Guided by the biopsychosocial model, the research demonstrated that high performers - whether athletes, counselors or educators - face similar challenges: balancing recovery, relationships and identity under sustained pressure.

"As a counselor, educator, mother and wife, I've seen firsthand how easy it is to neglect rest and recovery in the service of others," Lancaster said. "My research helped me understand that we can't pour from an empty cup. Counselors must prioritize boundaries, rest, and recovery to reduce burnout and sustainably support others."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2023, nearly one in three adults in the U.S. do not get the sleep they need, a statistic that deeply resonates with those in the helping professions.

"Sleep isn't just a biological need—it's an ethical responsibility for those in helping professions," Lancaster said. "If we want to address the mental health crisis, we must start by ensuring the well-being of the professionals serving others."

Dr. Christopher Neu

Neu graduated with his Doctor of Philosophy in Marriage and Family Therapy from Brigham Young University this December.

Dr. Christopher Neu and his family pose for a photo at his graduation from Brigham Young University.

He previously earned a Bachelor of Science in Family Studies from Brigham Young in April 2018 and graduated with a Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in December 2021.

"My doctoral degree emphasizes advanced systemic theory, outcome and process research, and statistics, which strengthens my ability to help all of our students at Northwestern see how rigorous inquiry can explain and improve relational and

Continued to page 124

Continued from page 122

7 Northwestern employees...

psychological processes," Neu said. "I want students to engage directly with research by asking meaningful questions, working with data, and connecting findings to everyday problems so they can appreciate how evidence, not opinion, should guide practice and policy."

His dissertation is titled, "Physiological Activation Patterns of a Neurodiverse Couple in Relational Therapy."

This four-session clinical study investigated the connection between Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) status and autonomic responses to negative facial expressions from partners and therapists in couple therapy.

Research on ADHD individuals in romantic relationships suggests significant relational dissatisfaction. Polyvagal theory explains these challenges, and predicts decreased parasympathetic nervous system (PNS) activation and increased sympathetic nervous system (SNS) activation in response to threats. Because ADHD is characterized by emotion dysregulation and rejection sensitivity, relational challenges may stem from elevated SNS and dampened PNS activity.

Using a single-case design, physiologic markers of SNS activity and PNS activity were examined. The findings support that ADHD-related regulatory challenges may interfere with the couple therapy process.

Neu said this degree supports his goal of creating a learning environment where majors in psychology, counseling and related fields become confident, research-informed thinkers who use data and theory to understand people, relationships and systems in ethically responsible ways.

Dr. Heidi Ritchie

Ritchie graduated with her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Education from the University of Northern Colorado in May.

She previously earned a diploma in Nursing from Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1996. She then went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 1998 and a Master of Science with emphasis in Nursing Education from the University of Northern Colorado in 2003.

Dr. Heidi Ritchie stops for photo at her graduation from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado.

"As a registered nurse with almost 30 years of clinical experience, I believe it is vital that we continue to improve nursing education," Ritchie said. "Further research here in Oklahoma is needed to help us understand how to best prepare our nursing students to thrive and continue to be leaders in clinical practice."

Her dissertation is titled, "Exploration of Disorienting Dilemmas New Registered Nurses Experience in Clinical Situations."

Eighteen new graduate Registered Nurses from the United States with greater than six months and less than two years of experience were interviewed. By initial and focused coding, five concepts were identified. Based upon these five concepts, a theoretical model was developed to represent the experience new graduate registered nurses described when confronted with a disorienting dilemma.

Findings indicate that disorienting dilemmas were "red stop light" experiences for 13 of these new registered nurses. The disorienting dilemma caused them to stop, assess the situation and then decide how to proceed.

When new graduate Registered Nurses perceived they were able to successfully navigate the disorienting dilemma and resolve the situation, they were able to see it as a growth process. However, some were unable to resolve the disorienting dilemma and left bedside clinical practice, changed from night shift to day shift, moved from full-time to part-time, or refused to work with other registered nurses due to the outcome of the dilemma.

"My goal is to conduct further research studies regarding disorienting dilemmas to examine their impact on all clinical nurses as a means to improve nurse retention at the bedside and improve clinical practice," Ritchie said. "This research will be used to help bridge the gap between nursing education and practice."

Ritchie plans to develop tools and simulation experiences to assist nursing students with understanding the dilemmas they may encounter in practice and learn how to suc-

Continued to page 125

Continued from page 122

7 Northwestern employees...

cessfully navigate them.

Dr. Derek Trabuc

Trabuc graduated with his Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from the American College of Education in Indianapolis, Indiana, this December.

Dr. Derek Trabuc

He holds two degrees from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas, including a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, which he received in May 2004, and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership, which he received in December 2009.

His dissertation is titled, "Inclusion of Autistic Students and Educator Preparation: Qualitative Case Study," a descriptive case study to identify the perceptions of educators when instructing students with autism in the general education classroom.

"This degree helps me provide future teachers with new and practical knowledge to help them be successful in a diverse classroom," Trabuc said.

Dr. Olivia Yandel

Yandel graduated with her Doctor of Education in Administration and Leadership from Southern Nazarene University on Dec. 6.

Yandel is a Northwestern alumna, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Health and Sports Science in 2014 and a Master's in Adult Education and Sports Administration in 2016.

Her dissertation is titled, "The Impact of Student Engagement in First-Year College Students: A Case Study."

The findings from this qualitative case study have highlighted how multidimensional student engagement can be and the role student engagement plays in shaping first-year students' personal trajectories.

The research identified that student engagement is not a one-size-fits-all approach, and there appears to be a disconnect between students and institutions on what defines student engagement.

Additionally, the findings of this study confirm that social media serves as a primary channel for student engagement information. The participants rely heavily on friends' invitations and digital platforms as primary ways to decide to participate in events. Institutions can no longer rely solely on traditional communication channels to promote their student engagement opportunities.

However, to effectively foster engagement, universities must strategically utilize digital platforms to meet students where they are. Institutions should intentionally cultivate and utilize positive peer-to-peer influence and construct ways to build a sense of belonging amongst first-year students. A student's emotional well-being is vital in the first year and student engagement can be greatly impacted by this.

Dr. Olivia Yandel poses with her degree at her graduation from Southern Nazarene University in Bethany on Dec. 6.

Finally, the importance of student engagement is not merely an outcome, it is a catalyst that propels personal development within first-year students. When universities create a culture of belonging, engagement naturally follows.

"I performed my study at a small, public four-year university and found the findings to be extremely beneficial to the future of student engagement at colleges like Northwestern," Yandel said. "With the information from this study, universities can better serve the first-year student population by identifying the needs and desires of these students. We can find ways to increase engagement across the board, but also assist with increasing retention rates, thus leading to higher graduation rates from these students."

The study found the importance of informal support networks, such as the relationships and trust built between students and their peers, faculty and staff, therefore universities have the capability to use this information to cultivate a culture of acceptance and belonging.

"For me, this study was extremely eye-opening to the importance of building camaraderie on our campus," Yandel said. "As the wellness center director and lecturer, I take for granted the chances to connect with students on a personal level. I hope to be more mindful about reaching out to students and connecting with them, not just on a professional level, but on a personal level as well."

For information about Northwestern, visit www.nwosu.edu.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 18
Oklahoma high school seniors: you can get college tuition covered.
Oklahoma's Promise is a scholarship program that pays your college or technology center tuition when you meet income, academic, and conduct requirements—but you must apply by December 31, 2025.
Applications must be electronically submitted or post-marked by this deadline.
Spring enrollment at Northwestern is also open for high school juniors and seniors interested in concurrent enrollment.
Nearly 60% of Northwestern graduates finish with zero debt.
Apply for Oklahoma's Promise: www.okpromise.org
Learn about concurrent enrollment: www.nwosu.edu/apply-for-admission/concurrent-students
Questions? Call (580) 327-1700.
#RideRangersRide #NWOSU #NWOSURangers #OKHigherEdWorks

Northwestern™
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics
December 24
Every bucket from Kira Bass's DOMINANT 28 points 11 rebounds performance which earned her the GAC Offensive Player of the Week!!

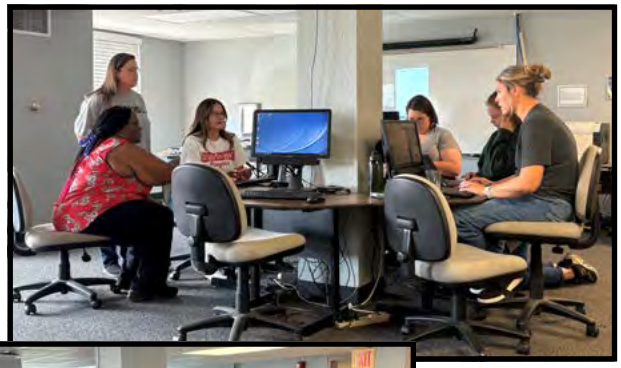
NWOSU Soccer
December 22
Incredibly proud of our athletes for excelling on and off the field. Team GPA of 3.53 this semester. #RRR

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 24
Congratulations to Taylor Munsell - Rodeo Athlete your 2025 Breakaway World Champion!
That's Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team alumni PRCA ProRodeo World Champs this year!
Northwestern Oklahoma State University Athletics | NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association
#RideRangersRide
https://www.facebook.com/reel/867909225723804

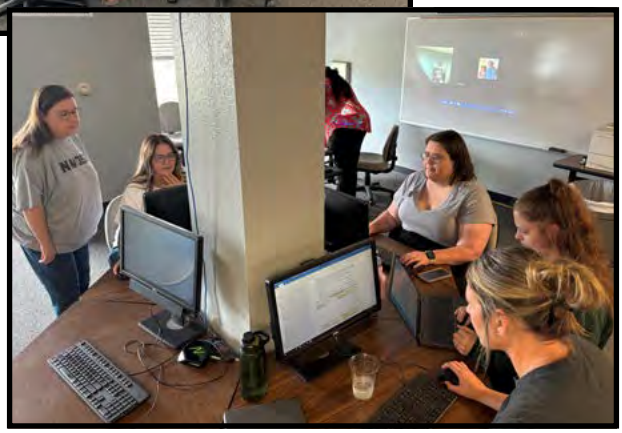
Learning about accessibility; workshops held

Above and top right: Countdown to Compliance Workshop presented by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education was well attended on the Northwester campus on Oct. 12. After this workshop, hands-on campus sessions were planned and held in Vinson Hall and Shockley Hall.

Right: Dr. Roxie James facilitated the Countdown to Compliance Workshop.



The Accessbility Committee held and hands-on workshop in Vinson Hall on Oct. 3 to help employees with questions.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University
December 25
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to our Ranger Family.