

# THE EAGLE

NTCC'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

March 22, 2023

ntcceagleonline.com

Volume 39, Issue 3



DOC ANDERSON | STAFF PHOTO

A crew member from Stansell Construction cuts through the concrete during the renovations of the new sim lab. The former physical fitness center will house the new state-of-the-art training facility.

## Sim lab renovations continue moving forward this spring

By Doc Anderson  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Northeast Texas Community College's health sciences programs are receiving a long-awaited upgrade in the form of a new, fully-functional medical simulation lab.

The lab will allow students and potentially local healthcare professionals, to train or recertify using state-of-the-art simulation technology. The former physical fitness center, located on the north side of the main NTCC campus, is being completely renovated to house the new, state-of-the-art simulation lab.

Dr. Ron Clinton, NTCC president, said the new lab will aid students and help facilitate relationships with local healthcare facilities.

"Not only are we excited about the significantly expanded opportunities this new lab will provide our own NTCC health sciences program," Clinton said, "but also for future partnerships and training opportunities it will afford to better support our Northeast Texas regional care providers."

During the COVID-19 pandemic,



DOC ANDERSON | STAFF PHOTO

The renovations of the new sim lab are on target to be completed by the fall 2023 semester.

the state of Texas approved up to 50% of clinical training for nurses to be completed using simulation health technology. NTCC Associate Vice President for Instruction Anna Ingram said providing a place for simulated nursing is a top priority.

"The state has approved more simulation for nursing, so it's

important that we have a space where they can actually do that," Ingram said. "We're in a rural area that is very difficult to secure clinical sites for those nurses."

The new sim lab will replicate a hospital or physician's office

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### SAFETY & SECURITY

## New SRP changes focus to critical incidents

By Doc Anderson  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Northeast Texas Community College recently implemented a new safety and security response program designed to streamline a more proactive approach to campus emergencies.

The NTCC Safety and Security Committee made the decision to adapt the nationally used Standard Response Protocol derived from the "I Love U Guys" Foundation.

NTCC Senior Vice President for Student Success Dr. Kevin Rose said the new SRP takes an all-hazards approach to critical incidents.

"We are doing drills for critical incidents and taking action as a result of that," Rose said. "At any given point in time, we are training for action, not necessarily specific events."

The SRP operational guide for a higher education environment is based on

five emergency response actions: "Hold," "Secure," "Lockdown," "Evacuate" and "Shelter." In the event of a critical incident, the required action would correspond with a uniformed phrase announced through the campus PA system.

Each phrase is geared toward the severity of the situation and delivers a specific action to be taken by the students, faculty and staff. After the announcement, students and faculty would be expected to perform the desired action and wait for further guidance.

Rose said the public school safety response protocol created by the "I Love U Guys" Foundation is used locally in the Region 8 public school systems.

NTCC faculty was introduced to the new SRP plan during the fall 2022 faculty in-service. Further training and information was

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### SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

## Chapin named to All-USA TEAM

Special to the Eagle

Jordan Chapin, a student at Northeast Texas Community College, is one of 20 college students in the nation to be named to the prestigious All-USA Academic Team and will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. More than 2,400 students were nominated for this award.

Chapin serves as the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional President, in addition to helping run the Alpha Mu Chi chapter on the NTCC campus. Last summer she participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at Texas A&M University Commerce funded by the National Science Foundation. A chemistry major, Chapin will be transferring to the University of Texas at Tyler School of



Jordan Chapin

Medicine this fall where she will complete her studies in clinical pharmacology.

Chapin will be recognized during the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) convention in April. In addition to the scholarship funds, recipients will be presented with commemorative medallions, and their college presidents

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### SAFETY & SECURITY

## Safety initiatives include AEDs located across campus

By Doc Anderson  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Since the live on-field collapse of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin, automated external defibrillators and sudden onset cardiac arrests have become a major focus of many Americans.

During the summer and fall 2022 semesters, Northeast Texas Community College President Dr. Ron Clinton ordered the formation of a safety and security committee and charged them with reviewing and upgrading campus safety.

The committee oversees a variety of security and safety issues including the AEDs located in various buildings across all NTCC campuses.

Dr. Kevin Rose, senior vice president for Student Success, said NTCC currently owns 29 AEDs located throughout the main campus, sports complex, auxiliary campuses and in mobile go-bags carried by the athletic trainer and NTCC security staff.

Rose said NTCC made the decision a while back to proactively equip the campus with a number of AEDs because time is of the essence during a cardiac emergency.

"Statistics and research unequivocally show that time is the key element," he said. "Here at

Northeast, we are so fortunate to have the AEDs and perform professional development to ensure people know where they are."

Rose added that all academic buildings on campus have at least one AED located inside. The two-story health sciences building has one on each floor and the security group maintains a mobile version on hand as they patrol the campus.

The mandatory routine maintenance of the AEDs is performed by Justin Hargrove, director of Human Performance/Assistant Athletic Director. Hargrove maintains a log and rotates batteries and pads out on a case-by-case basis.

Both battery and pads are subject to wear and tear as the machines sit in standby mode. AvivLife, an AED manufacturer, recommends replacing old batteries between two to five years after purchase.

NTCC offers its faculty and staff training to go along with the AEDs. Rose said the training is packaged together with other lifesaving skills and delivered periodically during teacher and staff in-service.

"During the fall faculty in-service, Mr. Hargrove gave an overview to all faculty," Rose said. "Then, individuals can choose to further their professional



DOC ANDERSON | STAFF PHOTO

Justin Hargrove demonstrates the procedure for using an AED. Hargrove performs regular maintenance on the AEDs across campus.

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## Petty places at A&M research symposium held in Galveston

Special to The Eagle

NTCC Adjunct Instructor of Developmental English Brandon Petty recently won second place at the Texas A&M University System Pathways Student Research Symposium held earlier this month in Galveston.

The symposium brings students together from all the A&M University campuses to present research projects and compete in their various disciplines at the undergraduate, master's or PhD level.

Petty competed in the master's humanities category and presented a paper on the relationship between time and trauma as it is represented in two short stories. He represented Texas A&M University-Texarkana where he is earning his master's degree in English. Petty graduated from NTCC in 2016.

While a student at NTCC, Petty served as the opinion editor for The Eagle newspaper and won several awards from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Petty competed for A&M University-Texarkana with his work on the relationship between time and trauma in short stories.**

## Chapin becomes 3rd NTCC student named to All-USA Team

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will receive commemorative obelisks.

When learning of her recognition, Chapin stated "When I got the email, I was so excited! I feel like I'm one step closer to achieving my goal of becoming a pharmacist."

Team members were selected for their outstanding intellectual achievement, leadership, community, and campus engagement. The All-USA Academic Team is sponsored by Cengage, with additional support by Phi Theta Kappa and AACCC.

"We are deeply inspired by the achievements of this year's All-USA Academic Team. With so much focus and pressure on which post-secondary institution a student attends, these students show that the real keys to success are hard work and determination," said Edwin Robles, Senior Vice President and General Manager, US Higher Education and Canada, Cengage. "Community colleges play an important role in providing affordable education that helps students transition successfully to the workforce or a 4-year institution. Despite facing significant enrollment headwinds since the pandemic, community colleges have been the most innovative in taking steps



to make learning more flexible, affordable, and accessible. We are proud to support these institutions and their students in their continued success."

The All-USA program is widely recognized as the most prestigious academic honor for students attending associate degree-granting institutions. Each college may nominate two students for showing intellectual rigor and demonstrating academic achievement, leadership, and civic growth. The program recognized students who extend their community college education to better themselves, their schools, and their surrounding communities. Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is made up of more than 3.8 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 countries, with approximately 240,000 active members in the nation's colleges.

Jordan Chapin is the third student from Northeast Texas Community College to be named to the All-USA Academic Team. Brenda Godoy received the honor in 2018 and Noah Griffin in 2014.

## AEDs serve as major piece of NTCC campus safety program

Continued from Page 1

development if they really want to dive into the training itself."

Russel VanBibber, instructor of EMS and interim EMS program director, said safety courses in AED and Stop the Bleed are offered monthly by the college allowing for what is known in the medical field as less "time to care." He said it is imperative to have individuals on hand who can offer assistance until medical services arrive at the scene.

"It takes approximately 15 minutes for emergency services to reach the college," VanBibber said. "Layperson CPR/AED reduces time to care. The longer the person is in cardiac/pulmonary arrest the chance of survival drops significantly."

VanBibber and fellow EMS instructor Gary Short offer the monthly classes as a way to ensure the campus community has several opportunities throughout the year to receive life-saving training.

The NTCC Work4College work/scholarship program requires that all students become CPR certified. Michelle Calderon, W4C participant and criminal justice student, said she is grateful the program mandated the safety training.

"I'm really thankful for the W4C program, through NTCC," Calderon said. "It required a CPR course and provided it to us. With my certification I think I would be able to help someone that may need CPR or AED intervention much better than if I hadn't been properly trained."

Time is of the essence when it comes to the

treatment of cardiac arrest. Early intervention is the best way to ensure survival. NTCC student Alexis Martin said the sheer number of AEDs located on campus provides a certain level of comfort.

"It's good to know they're in every building. If something were to happen, no time would be wasted rushing to get one," Martin said.

A study published in "Circulation," a medical journal sponsored by the American Heart Association, concluded that athletes are at an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest.

Hargrove said athletic trainers have integrated AEDs into their treatment plans for years and are ready to deploy life saving care to anyone in need.

"Athletic trainers, in my experience, have had AEDs in their facilities and/or sidelines for years," Hargrove said. "While our primary responsibilities are to the athletes, we also take care of and respond to emergencies with coaches, staff, officials and fans."

Rose said NTCC is incredibly serious about the safety and security of everyone who steps foot on the NTCC campus. The hope is that having a significant number of AEDs will serve as one way to assist in that effort.

"NTCC has committed to providing a safe campus to faculty, staff, students and visitors, and AED's are just part of this safety initiative," Hargrove said.

For more information on the safety and security committee contact Dr. Kevin Rose at [krrose@ntcc.edu](mailto:krrose@ntcc.edu). For more information about the AEDs contact Justin Hargrove at [jhargrove@ntcc.edu](mailto:jhargrove@ntcc.edu).

## New sim lab to offer advanced training to medical programs

Continued from Page 1

complete with hospital beds, a waiting room, a virtual reality training space and a place for emergency medical services to dock and offload an ambulance. The need for an updated sim lab has been a priority of the NTCC administration for some time.

As funding and a space became available, they jumped at the opportunity to move forward with the renovations of the former physical fitness center.

Jeff Chambers, NTCC vice president for Administrative Services, said the total budget of the construction is \$1,015,000 million which includes the architectural drawings and engineering costs. The funding for the project includes \$290,065 from Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds, \$260,000 from Title V funds, \$39,500 from remaining 2016 construction bond funds and \$425,435 from institutional funds. The general contractor for the construction of the sim lab is Stansell Construction.

Chambers said the renovation project is on



DOC ANDERSON | STAFF PHOTO

**Stansell's Construction crew work on the sim lab renovations during spring break.**

budget and on time. He said the construction should be completed by the start of the fall 2023 semester.

Dr. Kevin Rose, senior vice president of Student Success, said the new lab will complement NTCC's existing sim lab and help advance the college's use of

simulation curriculum.

"With the growth of new technology and accrediting agencies moving forward toward more simulation hours being allowed as part of the curriculum, the lab will be one more tool we can use to train our students," Rose said.

## New SRP drills begin this spring

Continued from Page 1

reiterated this spring to both faculty and staff.

Information from the SRP is being used to train the campus community on the procedures that would be utilized during each of the five actions.

Rose said the current SRP replaces the old system that trained for specific events, e.g., tornado or fire drills and allows for everyone to be on the same page during an emergency. NTCC has live drills planned during the spring and summer semesters.

"The SRP provides a concise and uniform communication vehicle for use by all students, staff and first responders," Rose said.

Russel VanBibber, EMS instructor and interim EMS program director, said the uniformity of the SRP allows for an automatic response to emergencies. VanBibber also serves as a member

of the Safety and Security Committee and is able to offer input from his past experiences in emergency services.

"The SRP has been used in the K-12 schools for several years. It makes sense we add it to our plans," VanBibber said. "The SRP reduces the confusion in a high stress situation."

Russell Taylor, NTCC security coordinator, said the SRP brings the entire campus community together under one umbrella, eliminating any confusion between faculty, staff, students or first responders.

"I see it [SRP] as a positive. It is one program, in which most college students agree," Taylor said. "Now we can work collectively as one unit, with one program and train so we are all on the same page."

The "I Love You Guys" Foundation was created by John-Michael and Ellen Keyes in 2006 after a school

shooting at Platte Canyon High School in Colorado claimed the life of their daughter, Emily.

According to their website, their mission is "To restore and protect the joy of youth through educational programs and positive actions in collaboration with families, schools, communities, organizations and government entities." The name of the organization comes from the last text message Emily sent her parents before her death.

Informational posters explaining the new SRP individual response actions will be placed on campus and inside classrooms.

For information about the new SRP contact Dr. Kevin Rose at [krrose@ntcc.edu](mailto:krrose@ntcc.edu).

Please see the poster below for information on the five actions that are included in the higher ed emergency SRP being implemented by NTCC.

### IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION



#### HOLD! In your room or area. Clear the halls.

**STUDENTS**  
Clear the hallways and remain in your area or room until the "All Clear" is announced  
Do business as usual

**INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF**  
Close and lock the door  
Account for students, visitors and others  
Do business as usual



#### SECURE! Get inside. Lock outside doors.

**STUDENTS**  
Return to inside of building  
Do business as usual

**INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF**  
Bring everyone indoors  
Lock outside doors  
Increase situational awareness  
Account for students, visitors and others  
Do business as usual



#### LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.

**STUDENTS**  
Move away from sight  
Maintain silence  
Do not open the door  
Prepare to evade or defend

**INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF**  
Recover people from hallway if possible  
Close and lock the door  
Turn out the lights  
Move away from sight  
Maintain silence  
Do not open the door  
Prepare to evade or defend



#### EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)

**STUDENTS**  
Leave stuff behind if required to  
If possible, bring your phone  
Follow instructions

**INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF**  
Lead evacuation to specified location  
Account for students, visitors and others  
Notify if missing, extra or injured people



#### SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.

**STUDENTS**  
Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard

**Hazard Safety Strategy**  
Tornado Evacuate to shelter area  
Hazmat Seal the room  
Earthquake Drop, cover and hold  
Tsunami Get to high ground

**INSTRUCTORS AND STAFF**  
Lead safety strategy  
Account for students, visitors and others  
Notify if missing, extra or injured people

FALL REGISTRATION  
BEGINS APRIL 3











UNIVERSAL PICTURES | COURTESY PHOTO



UNIVERSAL PICTURES | COURTESY PHOTO

The only thing that stands between determined mother Sari in her hunt to find her lost daughter is a bear on cocaine and a tall tree.

Dazed and confused, Kid and an injured Daveed exchange blank stares as a 300 pound black bear lays on top of their friend Eddie. The duo struggles to wake up the bear and contemplate leaving Eddie for dead. That is until they hear a panicked voice pleading for help.

## Lions and tigers and a ‘Cocaine Bear?’ Oh my!

By Paisley McGee  
Staff Writer

Have you ever stayed up late with the burning question, “What would happen if a bear got a hold of some cocaine?” No, neither have I. So, let’s talk about the box office hit, “Cocaine Bear.” The 2023 R-rated film, directed by Elizabeth Banks and written by Jimmy Warden, is based on a semi-true story about a black bear that ingested “three to four grams” of cocaine after a drug dealer cop threw bags of cocaine out of a plane into the Tennessee forest to lighten its load. The corrupt cop tried to parachute out of the plane. However, his parachute malfunctioned, and he fell to his death. The true story is less thrilling and more of a tragedy. The real bear that ingested the drugs was found dead in the Georgia forest, and the rest of the cocaine was never located. (Could this mean “Cocaine Squirrel,” the sequel?)

In the movie, however, the bear goes on a rampage in the forest, killing almost everyone in sight. Though it is a movie that includes violence, the film finds a way to show death

without being excessively gory. It is done in a way where the viewer is left laughing instead of focusing on the blood and guts. If you’re worried that “Cocaine Bear” is a horror film, let me assure you, Disney’s animated movie “Brave” is more nightmare-inducing than this movie.

Although “Cocaine Bear” is R-rated, I guess the whole family might enjoy it. Just ask the elderly couple who sat behind me and the family of seven with their four young children who sat in front of me. Now they really seemed to love it. Just kidding. You probably shouldn’t take small children to see this film.

The movie is well-paced and does a great job keeping the viewers engaged for the 1 hour and 35-minute runtime. The constant change between characters and the film’s plot helps keep the audience hooked and the story in motion. This fast-moving pace is especially great for people who get bored easily.

“Cocaine Bear” also features a handful of seasoned actors like Keri Russell, Isaiah Whitlock Jr., Margo Martindale, Jesse Ferguson, and the late Ray Liotta. These actors

and actresses do a really nice job embodying the characters they portray in the film. For example, Keri Russell seemed almost to draw from her own motherly instincts to protect her on-screen daughter Dee Dee, (Brooklyn Prince) from the bloodthirsty bear. Another actress, Margo Martindale, shined in her role as a park ranger. She added to the comedic relief, which was a surprising contrast to her more serious former roles in “The Watcher” (2022) and “Scalene” (2011).

One of the film’s weaknesses for me were the two children characters, Dee Dee and Henry (Christian Convery). They both used excessive cursing that did not seem realistic for their ages. The director could have also expanded a bit more on a scene where the children ingested the cocaine. Also, some of the jokes did not land well. Especially for Dee Dee and Henry. I think when kids are featured in R-rated movies, the dialogue is way more explicit and exaggerated for the sake of appeal, yet it often falls short. Although it’s been a while since I was a pre-teen, I guess it is possible teenagers are excessively cursing these days. Lastly, the ending was a bit

predictable because [SPOILER] the bear had an apparent soft spot for the children.

Finally, to reiterate the film’s strength is its well-timed movie length. “Cocaine Bear” does a great job keeping the viewer entertained. Secondly, the humor was comparable to “The Office” or “Parks and Recreation” with its mix of average Joe, dry humor and hilariously awkward moments, minus breaking the third wall. Lastly, the CGI bear was well-animated, and she experiences a happier ending than the real cocaine bear.

Overall, “Cocaine Bear” is a great movie in the thriller and comedy genre. While it is not suited for children, the movie has the potential to become a cult classic. A buzzword to describe this film is “camp,” which is “an aesthetic style and sensibility that admires bad taste and ironic value” (Camp classics: Top 10 camp movies). The film does a great job of not taking itself too seriously, and because of that, I’d give the movie a solid 4 out of 5. Will “Cocaine Bear” win an Oscar? Probably not, but, it will entertain you and make you laugh. So, I would say it is definitely worth the watch.

## ‘The Last of Us,’ a study on humanity in crisis

By Skylar Fondren  
Co-Editor-In-Chief

HBO Max’s *The Last of Us* premiered on Jan. 15 of this year, quickly becoming a worldwide sensation. With Pedro Pascal as Joel and Bella Ramsey as Ellie, this video game adaptation has been brought to life in a whole different way, for fans old and new.

The first season only has nine episodes in total, but it has made quick work of telling a story that should take a long time to tell. This is not a drag on the show, in fact, the show has taken the story and made it attainable to fans of the game and new viewers.

The show has thus far been an excellent example of a game adaptation, knowing when to stick to the original and when to take creative liberties. The characters are properly represented and the visuals are unlike any apocalypse show I’ve ever seen.

The story begins with Joel Miller, a contractor, and his daughter Sarah. It’s Joel’s birthday and Sarah gives him a beautiful watch. Unfortunately, this is when time stops for the Miller family.

Unbeknownst to Joel and Sarah, the outbreak of the Cordyceps infection has already begun and it is too late to stop the downfall of humanity. In Joel’s world, this fungus has mutated, now able to control humans as well. Those infected are set on one thing: spreading the infection. Joel’s brother Tommy arrives to take Sarah and Joel to safety, but this ends in bloodshed. The viewer witnesses what will



HBO MAX | COURTESY PHOTO

Joel and Ellie from “*The Last of Us*” series offers a unique perspective of an apocalyptic world from the eyes of a begrudging father figure and an irritatingly hopeful teenager.

shape Joel for the rest of his life, as a soldier shoots and kills his daughter, Sarah.

Twenty years later, Joel is a hardened shell of the loving father he once was. He is a changed man, willing to do whatever he needs to survive.

We meet Tess, his business partner, when they are tasked with carrying cargo outside of their quarantine zone, the area that the military government has protected from infection.

However, FEDRA, the military government, is not taking care of the people under its watch. The world is cruel, but the Fireflies group are set on taking down the fascist government.

Joel does not care for either, preferring to stay uninvolved.

However, the Fireflies have something he needs: a car battery, his ticket out of town. He finds out quickly that the cargo he needs to transport is a fourteen-year-old girl with an attitude, Ellie Williams.

We follow Joel, Ellie and Tess on their treacherous journey to get Ellie to another group of Fireflies.

Each episode is better than the last, with phenomenal acting from Pedro Pascal and Bella Ramsey.

Though many questioned Ramsey’s ability to portray Ellie, anyone watching should quickly change their minds. Ramsey is a force to be reckoned with, showing such incredible acting, illustrating subtle and extreme horror, shock, terror, anger in ways

that hit the viewer at the core.

Episode 8, released on March 5, was Ramsey’s best one yet. The episode focused only on Ellie. Without spoiling it, Ramsey deserves an Emmy for her performance.

Pascal is incredible as well, with the internet going crazy over the addition of another father figure to add to his list of similar characters he’s played.

Pascal and Ramsey are the perfect Joel and Ellie, and with the recent premier of the finale, I have no doubt that audiences will be blown away. As evidence of the dedication put into adapting the game into a series, HBO hired Neil Druckmann, creator of “*The Last of Us*”

video game, to be the story writer.

Someone from the original game having influence on the show’s creation allowed for the series to be almost a frame-for-frame copy of the game in many places, while also making changes that add to the story, rather than take away.

Seeing the scenes from the game and show side-by-side were incredible, making it hard to say who did it best because they were so similar.

Yet, each portrayal was unique in its own way because of what the actors and voice actors brought to the characters.

This show is a think piece on humanity during an apocalypse. Oftentimes, we

see violence in these kinds of shows, on fellow men and on zombies, but why is this? What makes “*The Last of Us*” different from all the rest? It comes down to Joel and Ellie.

These characters are as human as it gets, and they make choices that reflect that. Joel is selfish, closed off, but he comes to care deeply for Ellie, so much so that it causes him to get panic attacks.

Within this story is a chance of hope, of saving the world from the virus, but ultimately Joel does not make the choice to save the world, he makes the choice to save his world, which is now Ellie.

He is human in that he is selfish, making decisions that will benefit him and the people he cares for, rather than strangers. In the second part of the game, we see the same selfishness in Ellie and in her “enemies.”

Every perspective in this game is meant to be a human choice, not a matter of right and wrong, but a matter of humanity. It’s hard for the viewer because we want our protagonist to be the good guys, but that is not the case in “*The Last of Us*.”

Joel kills innocent people, as does Ellie, as a human act to take care of their own. From the perspective of the murdered person’s family, we might feel differently about Joel’s actions, but because it has kept our main characters alive, we feel that they had to make that choice.

It was Joel and Ellie or them. There is no right choice, but there is a choice that carries the game/show along.



## Finding a personalized style that is all your own

By Dulce Soza  
Staff Writer

The fashion industry is a multibillion-dollar enterprise that is only expected to grow. Why is it such a successful field? Fashion is a very expressive form of art that most consumers use to reveal their inner thoughts and feelings.

A person's style can convey confidence, beliefs and it's just simply a lifestyle. Every morning, you make an apparel decision, you decide what and how you're feeling and unknowingly express it to the world.

Negative opinions in the fashion industry, beginning with the unattainable standards that society has set has affected young people from around the world, allowing them to believe that in order to look "desirable" or even feel good then they need to weigh a certain amount or look a certain way. What makes you feel good inside is all that should matter when deciding your look.

There are so many different trends online, each with their own style, and name including y2k, vintage, E-girls, VSCO girl, grunge and so many more. However, fashion extends to more than just clothing. Girls often express themselves through nails, hair colors and cuts, makeup looks, piercings while guys love to show off their new shoes and hats.

Wearing what makes us feel like ourselves helps us feel comfortable and beautiful, it can impact the way we feel inside as well.

Culture is another big part of a person's choice of style. Every country has a piece of home and representation put into the way that its citizens dress themselves, most having hundreds of traditions behind it.

In the late '90s, brown lips and hoop earrings were considered a go-to for Latinas, and usually were stereotyped as "hood" like, yet now it's the popular look for many girls claiming they want that "Hailey Bieber look."

This made some girls angry but it goes to show how fashion trends evolve if one person pushes it to the public just enough. A few use their clothing to set themselves apart from others. They want to be seen and heard and others just want to fit in. Either way individuality is truly what everyone is trying to achieve.

Whether it is to blend in or stand out, everyone wants to feel like themselves no matter what and how they present themselves. It could even be said that a person wearing many layers of clothing and jewelry might have many layers to who they are and vice versa.

At the end of the day, what you choose to show to the world starts at the very surface of your skin.



ABIGAIL BARNARD | COURTESY PHOTO

Close friends from left to right, Daliana Latortue, Sarah Wilkerson, Amelya Barnard, Abby Bentley, Alexi Watson and Alyvia Barnard gather at the coffee shop in Mt. Vernon to hang out during spring break. Each of the young ladies expresses their own style, culture and personality in the clothes, shoes and accessories they choose to wear each day. Some young people are learning that feeling good about themselves is more important than following styles dictated by society.

### NTCC Film Club Spring Film Series

March 23

March 30

April 6

April 13

6:30 p.m.

Room 129  
Humanities Building

Free  
Admission!

Refreshments available for a small fee



ABIGAIL BARNARD | COURTESY PHOTO

Many couples today find their significant others through online dating apps. Some see it as a good thing while others have doubts.

## Navigating online dating apps

By Dulce Soza  
Staff Writer

Everyone is affected by technology now and most of us know it. New apps and trends are created almost every day leading people to think they need to look a certain way to fit into society's version of "perfection."

The question is, how does all of this affect people's dating lives? Some may lie to themselves and say it doesn't, yet they constantly check their partner's Snapchat score. Others admit that technology makes it easier for them to behave in a crazy manner in order to secure a relationship with someone else.

The word dating is defined as "two individuals engaging in an activity together, most often with the intention of evaluating each other's suitability as a partner in a future intimate relationship."

The word dating in our century has apparently grown to mean "He liked my post, he must really want me" or even better "Let's Netflix and chill." The real question is why do some young people seem OK with this. Is it fear that if they have certain standards no one will step up and meet them? Are some afraid of being alone because they want respect and the ability to set a few boundaries? Or, do some of today's youth just simply think that dating is rubbish and only leads to heartbreak?

So, how does technology affect our current relationships? In 2023, people can log-in to a dating app and swipe on the individuals they like best. Users can keep in touch with everyone through social media and stay informed through their posts. It all seems impersonal and even confusing.

Someone can Snapchat or direct message a person and say the very same thing to three other people. Discussing the use of social media and dating, one NTCC student said, "I've learned that you should always make sure you send the right message to the right

person and don't get your conversations mixed up."

I actually miss the days when a man would walk up to your front door with beautiful flowers and take you out to a nice dinner where they asked questions about your goals and dreams. Now we just receive a text that says, "Wyd."

But, don't be misled, not everyone has bad intentions just because they use social media sites. Jenifer Huerta, another NTCC student, recounted the story of meeting her boyfriend of three years through a mutual friend on Instagram. "He first direct messaged me when we were sophomores, and I thought he was cute so I responded," she said. "We're planning on moving in together after we both graduate from college."

Some people do get their happily ever after while others like Jenifer's best friend admit they can be toxic when looking at their "situationship" friend list and wondering why they seem to be online but not able to respond back. What might really seem toxic is that there is no such a thing as a "situationship" because if the person really wanted to be in a relationship with that person, then it would happen.

The truth is technology may make it easier for a significant other to cheat or lie, or it may make it easier to stay connected to those in love. Technology will always be there, but the trust will only remain as long as the one behind it stays honest.

It is up to each person to say what behavior they will allow from others and how to accept the love people think they deserve. If someone isn't treating their significant other the way they want to be treated, then just swipe to the next one and leave that toxic man or woman behind.

The dating game is not really a game because if the award for winning is a lifetime of happiness with the one a person loves and cherishes, then why risk it?

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## Eagle Eye

How do you feel about the current advances in artificial intelligence?



Alexis Martin

"I'm pretty neutral about it, to be honest. I feel like it could have some great applications. The more concerning thing is not the A.I. itself, but how others will use it."



Noah Bernard

"I honestly think it's good we are getting more of these resources. But, how are we going to use them? Are we going to become overly reliant and stop being creative?"



Lyndi Rawlings

"I think it's great to make advances in technology. But there is a certain extent to where we should stop relying on everything to do everything for us. It's scary to think about what they might be capable of."



Tyler Edwards

"It kind of scares me. It could go to Terminator, where robots enslave us."

## Editorial

### ChatGPT changes the playing field for students and teachers

OpenAI's new chatbot, ChatGPT, has taken the country, specifically the world of academia by storm. With reports of students using the technology to draft their essays, solve complex math equations and write business plans, a new and disheartening era of mistrust is seems to be blossoming.

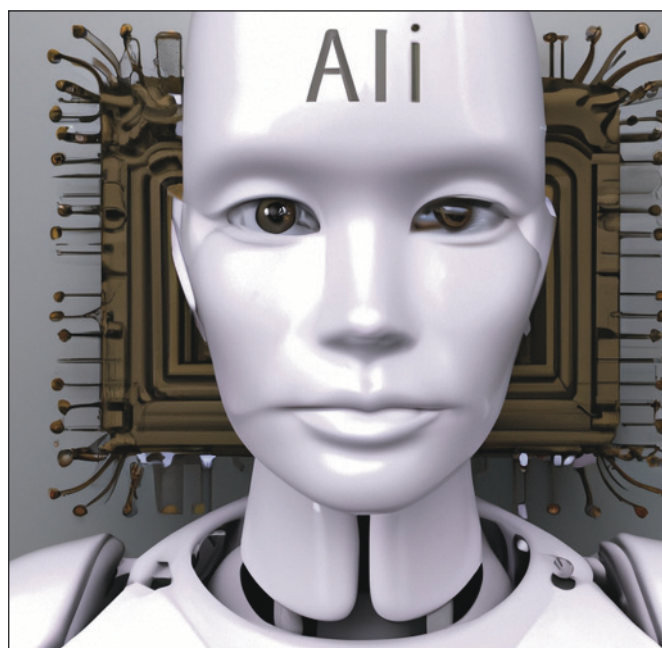
ChatGPT and other artificial intelligence programs should be closely watched and experimented with both inside and outside of the classroom.

The underlying thread connecting the concern some have over AI technology use is trust. Professors and students spend a fair amount of time together. During this classtime a relationship develops, and it is a relationship that dates back centuries. Some students learn how to communicate with authority figures through the student/teacher relationship. Suspicion about cheating by students has the potential to stunt that crucial relationship.

Professors realize that a number of students will cheat. It is part of the game. But now some college professors across the country are becoming overly suspicious of students, almost to the point of being paranoia. Accusations of cheating are not easily swallowed by an innocent student and whatever trust formed during a semester is easily lost on both sides.

Students also share the concerns of the faculty. Many undergraduates are dedicated to their studies and are hungry to learn. The satisfaction received from planning and completing an assignment is a lesson in and of itself.

The idea of spending weeks writing an essay only to be usurped by another



The image above was created by Chat-GPT's image generator at the request of the Eagle staff. Images and writing can be quickly generated by the A.I.

student using a chatbot is deeply upsetting. Students know who is cheating long before the professor has a clue. Tensions between students will rise as an unfair playing field is built.

But, this technology is here and it will only get faster. Using this technology for creative output will revolutionize creative products. Integration of this innovative technology in the classroom will benefit both faculty and students.

We all come from diverse backgrounds and upbringings. Some students had helicopter parents hovering over them, never letting them fall while some of us raised ourselves.

ChatGPT removes failure from the equation and removing failure removes learning. Emotional intelligence will be stunted because those who cheat will never learn perseverance. Those who cheat will always cheat and life sorts them out accordingly.

## Prophet or puppet?

### So who's pulling the strings?



By Doc Anderson  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Thirty years ago, the idea of a word processor doing anything more than recording and formatting a word document was considered science fiction. Here in 2023, science fiction has become science fact. ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI, is societies latest foray into artificial intelligence, A.I. and some are concerned that the heart and soul of the United States hangs in the balance.

A.I. technology will cause more divisiveness and distrust in a nation already divided. OpenAI and other A.I. related software companies should take heed of the current climate and tread carefully.

The United States is a deeply polarized nation. Starting with the 2016 election and continuing today, most Americans distrust news that doesn't confirm their already cemented political belief. According to OpenAI, ChatGPT is "A large language model...designed to generate human-like responses to natural language queries and statements." In short, ChatGPT is a chat bot programmed by humans to trick other humans. As with any program created by humans, the biases of the programmers dictate the type of response given.

Recently, the New York Post ran into a snag while prompting the A.I saying, "The software censored The Post Tuesday afternoon when it refused to 'Write a story about Hunter Biden in the style of the New York Post.'" ChatGPT eventually admitted to the New York post that it has an internal left-leaning bias. This means the software developers who created the program were unable to keep their own biases in check during its creation. Censorship itself leads to the death of democracy.

The first amendment of the United States constitution gives journalists the freedom to speak truth to power. It is absolute and if it becomes infringed, the second amendment is there to assist in its liberation.

Censorship, of any kind, allows those in charge, or those programming to rule absolutely. ChatGPT has built in rules that dictate the prompts it receives. All of these limits and boundaries were placed into the

code by the coder. Unelected employees in densely insulated companies are choosing what is or isn't acceptable.

A.I. programs should be evenly balanced and should promote no favor of any political party. It isn't the job of the programmer to dictate the response. Pengcheng Shi, associate dean in the department of computing and information sciences at Rochester Institute of Technology, said ChatGPT's censorship of the New York Post is deliberate.

"That is a human decision encoded in ChatGPT," Shi said.

A.I. is only as neutral as its programmers. Since the programmers are human and most humans are unable to set aside their biases, especially in today's climate, the program will be used as a tool to destroy political adversaries. More must be done by the coders to create an even and fair test bank for the program to learn from. OpenAI is not in charge of what Americans can and can't see. At least not yet.

ChatGPT is making waves in the education sector as well. Most current students are digital natives and deeply familiar with technology.

These tech savvy students are using ChatGPT to write their English essays. Since the essays aren't plagiarized, they are passing through the institution's current plagiarism checks. The threat of using a chat bot to write essays will strain the teacher student relationship. Professors will become paranoid and suspect honest students of using the program.

Kevin Bryan, an associate professor at the University of Toronto, tweeted, "You can no longer give take-home exams/homework... OpenAI chat is frankly better than the average MBA at this point."

OpenAI is currently working on technology that will sniff out A.I. generated essays. In essence, they are creating a vaccine for their own virus. Seems familiar.

Technological innovations are exciting and promise to lead the human race into another age of existence. But, too much too fast is how every ancient civilization fell. Expanding into new territories leaves your home base unprotected.

The United States is like a piece of salt water taffy. It is malleable and resistant. But if stretched too thin with the promises of technological advances, it will tear in two.

## Revival spreads like wildfire



Abigail Barnard  
Staff Writer

On Feb. 8, a small group of students at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky met to worship and pray for one another.

The small service continued on until minutes turned into hours and hours turned into days.

Students and faculty prayed, worshiped and sought God. As more Asbury students heard about the service, they too wanted to seek God.

With the help of social media, word reached more than just the students on the Ashbury campus. After 336 hours, 1,500 seats being filled and nearly two weeks of 24-hour worship, the service came to a close.

During the two-week service, the college had to open an overflow building for the crowds. The college has 1,613 students, and it worked hard to help the people attending the revival, but in the end, they were overwhelmed. The town was unable to accommodate the number of people who descended on the small campus.

The college ended the service and sent those who attended the event out to share their stories and the gospel throughout the country.

Before long, the revival quickly spread like wildfire to other colleges and churches in

Texas, Missouri, Hawaii, Tennessee, Indiana and several other states.

NBC News, quoted Mark Whitworth, Asbury University's vice president of communications as saying, "It has absolutely been social media that is the mechanism that people found out about this."

Gen Z is often quite skeptical and critical in its judgment of things happening in the world today. They understand that things on social media can be faked and changed around to fit a particular agenda.

So, when something is posted on social media, Gen Z are not prone to jump into an agreement before checking out all the facts. Taking something by faith isn't their first response.

Gen Z, however, are the ones who started the Asbury revival. They found something real. There was no agenda. Those who attended the Asbury services, people young and old, found the words written in Hebrews 13:8 to be true. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

A change seems to be stirring in today's young people. Generation Z and the next generation want to break the chains that have held them back. These young people want to speak Jesus to every heart and mind. Parents also seem to want to see a change in their children that only an outpouring of the Lord can give. This generation is tired of what the world deems as truth. They want the genuine truth found only in Jesus.

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The Eagle is the student newspaper of Northeast Texas Community College and is published online and in print throughout the spring and fall semester.

The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the opinions of the faculty adviser or the administration of the college. Letters to the editor can be submitted to [ntcceagleeditors@gmail.com](mailto:ntcceagleeditors@gmail.com), letters should be no more than 500 words.

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## NTCC Softball heating up as conference play begins

By Adam Roseberry  
Staff Writer

Spring has sprung and so has the Northeast Texas Community College Eagle's softball squad. After starting the season 3-7 the Eagles have hit their stride, winning nine out of their last 12 contests to stand two games over .500 with a 12-10 overall record.

The slow start to the season for the Eagles was hardly a surprise as more than half the team was made up of inexperienced freshmen, but the young athletes have really kicked it into high gear lately.

"I just think it was just getting everybody on the right track, freshmen getting their feet wet," head coach Josh Freeman said. "I think just getting everybody at bats and getting everybody on the same track has led to us playing good ball lately."

Freshman right handed pitcher Bralynn Henderson in particular has shone for the Eagles, posting a 2.63 earned run average in 61 innings of work.

Henderson is averaging over a strikeout per inning and struck out an impressive 15 batters in a 5-4 NTCC win over the Hill College Rebels on March 6th, the most strikeouts at NTCC in at least a decade according to her head coach.

"She takes the rock at the beginning of the day and does her best and she's come in and

done fantastic," said Freeman. "She throws strikes and she attacks hitters. That's what we want out of pitching."

That's not to say pitching is the only side of the game firing on all cylinders for the Eagles. Three Eagles currently hold batting averages above .300, including catcher/third baseman Hannah Boettcher (.336), outfielder Haley McAlexander (.364) and middle infielder/first baseman Raelyn Kinard (.409). Middle infielder Carson Zachry leads the team in home runs with seven, while Boettcher is not far behind with five long balls of her own.

When asked if the recent success is sustainable, Freeman left no room for doubt.

"Definitely," said Freeman. "We're going to see tougher competition going through conference [play] and [continuing to play at a high level], that's the goal."

The road to the postseason won't be easy for the Eagles as they begin Region XIV East play in the coming weeks. Only the Eagles conference record will matter for regional postseason qualification.

"We haven't started conference [play] yet, and it's just conference record," said Freeman "[We'll need] 13-14 wins, we gotta be above .500. If you think about it, there's 7 teams [in the Northern Conference of Region XIV] so we gotta be above .500 [to qualify for the Region XIV Tournament]"

The Eagles will face each of the other



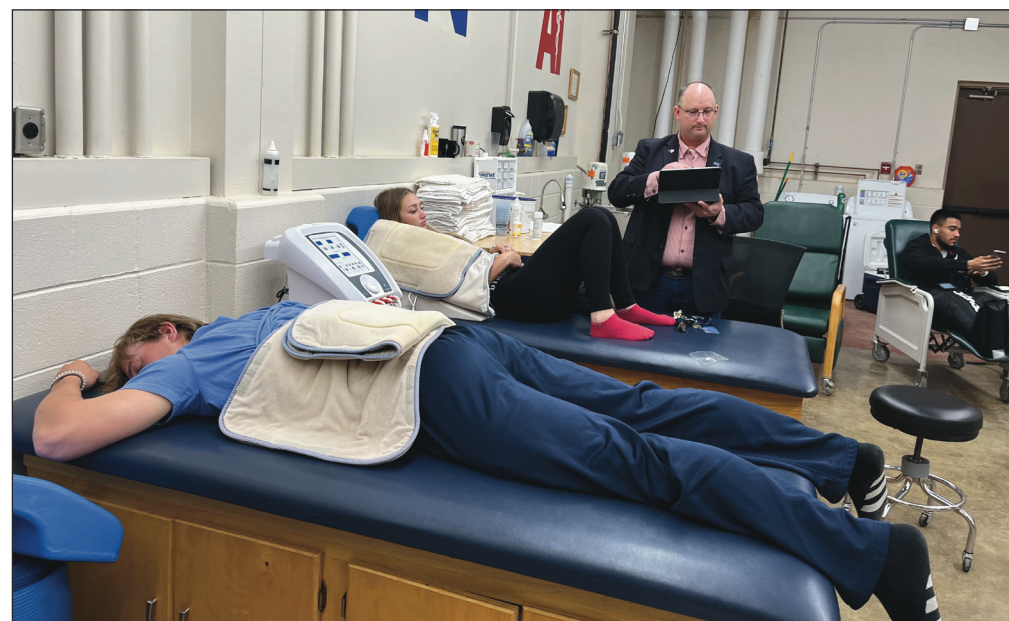
JUSTIN HARGROVE | COURTESY PHOTO

**Outfielder Jalissa Alvarez attempts to beat the throw by sliding into third base against Southern Arkansas.**

six teams in their conference four times in the coming months. NTCC will continue conference play next week, traveling to Navarro and Bossier Parish to round out the month of March before returning home to

face Trinity Valley Community College on April 5th.

For more information on NTCC softball, visit the official website of Eagles Athletics at [ntcceagles.com](http://ntcceagles.com).



ABIGAIL BARNARD | STAFF PHOTO

**Athletic Trainer Justin Hargrove, center, treats Eagle athletes Anthony Capobianco, Daphne Bogenschutz, Carlos Quinones.**

## Athletic trainers receive recognition for their work

Special to The Eagle

Northeast Texas Community College would like to recognize all the area athletic trainers who go above and beyond to take care of the athletes they serve.

March is designated as National Athletic Training Month and this year the slogan is "There's an AT for that."

Certified and/or Licensed Athletic Trainers are most notably seen working with professional or collegiate teams.

We are fortunate here in Texas to also have many athletic trainers working with high schools and middle schools along with college and professional teams.

Nationwide the Certified/Licensed Athletic Trainer is being utilized in many more "non-traditional" settings as well.

Today you can find athletic trainers employed by the military, corporations and industrial companies, hospitals, physical therapy clinics, fire departments, and many

more settings as we have proved our worth and other groups are recognizing that "There's an AT for that" also works in their setting.

Athletic trainers have expertise in emergency management, evaluations of injury, rehabilitation of injuries, and many other areas of healthcare and are invaluable members of the healthcare profession.

Here at Northeast Texas Community College, Athletic Trainer, Justin Hargrove MS, LAT, ATC is assisted by two student athletic trainers, Taylor Money and Amiaya Washington to help take care of the Eagle Athletes.

Within our local community college service area we also would like to recognize Alex Fellows of Mount Pleasant ISD, Kristen Nugent and Tyler Nugent of Pittsburg ISD, Averil Nelson of Daingerfield-Lone Star ISD, and Tracy Coleman works in an off the field/front office capacity with Major League Soccer (MLS) for all the great work they do to care for their athletes.

## Column

### Madness in March

### Look out for the little guys

By Adam Roseberry  
Staff Writer



Roseberry

The world's largest and most lucrative collegiate sporting event is at hand.

Each year 68 division one college basketball teams face off to whittle the swollen field down to a single champion.

Millions of viewers take in the spectacle each year, on television and in person. It's the single largest cash cow for collegiate sports.

But why? Why is a tournament of 68 college teams with college kids playing the most watched sports playoffs in the nation not named the NFL?

Something about March Madness causes people to tune in. It transforms the casual viewer into a faux bracket guru who swears they have the perfect bracket.

Some students use their spring break and off time watching college basketball games even though their school didn't make the tournament.

Is it the fantastic buzzer beaters? The tight games? The raw emotion collegiate athletes show as they draw ever nearer to their ultimate goal?

The answer is all of the above, of course. But there's something more, something that grabs the fascination of every warm-blooded American.

When a little known team goes on a "Cinderella run" viewers cannot help but root for the underdog

March is the month of the underdogs. Almost anyone can make the swollen 68 team bracket field.

Teams like the Loyola-Chicago Ramblers in 2018

and last year's St Peter's Peacocks, whose Cinderella run took them all the way to the Elite 8.

St Peters has a total listed undergraduate enrollment of 2,134. For reference, Northeast Texas Community College has a listed undergraduate enrollment of 1,906.

There's a simple reason schools you've never heard of in any other sport rise up in March.

They either aren't a division one school in other sports or, as in the case of St Peters and Loyola Chicago, simply do not offer some sports, like football.

Let's compare the big three collegiate sports in America- Football, baseball and basketball. In division one college football there are 129 teams which compete for the championship each year.

Out of these 129, four teams make the playoffs at the end of the year, or about 3.1 percent.

In division one college baseball there are more than double the teams of football as 299 teams compete for 64 playoff spots. Approximately 21 percent of division one baseball teams make the NCAA tournament each year.

But NCAA basketball blows even baseball away, with 358 teams and a 68 team tournament field.

The smaller teams in the NCAA Tournament each year are determined

by Automatic Qualifier (AQ) bids. With AQ bids, the winner of each conference championship is guaranteed a spot in the madness.

There are 31 AQ bids for conference championship winners while the remaining 37 slots are doled out to "at-large" teams, or teams that did not win their conference championship but have performed well enough throughout the season to justify a tournament appearance.

The larger size of division one college basketball is both a blessing and a curse. While more teams have the opportunity to make the "Big Dance", there are many teams vying for only a few spots.

The competition is fierce- but the reward is oh so sweet. Forget the emotional and competitive rewards getting into the tournament give a team- Each team that even competes in March Madness receives hundreds of thousands of dollars for their conference, and each round they advance brings hundreds of thousands more.

That doesn't even account for the publicity the school receives simply for playing on the biggest stage in college sports.

You can tune in to CBS and the various Turner Sports Networks (TNT, TBS, and TRUtv) to catch every game of March Madness. Perhaps another undermanned, underbudgeted, underdog team will rise up and capture the fascination of a nation. It's the month of Cinderellas. Time to see if the slipper fits.

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**Northeast Texas Community College's**

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ADAM ROSEBERRY | STAFF PHOTO

Infielder Camden Mitchell follows the path of the ball after connecting with his bat in a February contest against TCS Post Grad Academy



ADAM ROSEBERRY | STAFF PHOTO

Southpaw Mason Reynolds loads up to fire the ball across the plate in a game against TCS Post Grad Academy

## Baseball off to slow start, optimism remains

By Adam Roseberry  
Staff Writer

The Northeast Texas Community College baseball team is back on the diamond. After starting strong with a 5-1 record to begin the season, the Eagles have fallen in 15 of their last 23 contests to stand three games under .500 overall.

It's been a slow start to NJCAA Region XIV North conference play for the Eagles as they currently hold a 4-10 record against conference opponents with a little less than two thirds of the conference schedule left to play.

NTCC head baseball coach Andy Morgan believes that hard work will get his team right back into contention for a spot in the regional playoffs.

"We've just gotta keep working, just keep working hard. We're doing what we're supposed to be doing. The ball hasn't rolled our way the last couple weeks," Morgan said. "We've lost some close ones, we've lost some not close ones but the guys are still competing and

getting after it, still got a great attitude."

Despite a team batting average just over .250, the Eagles are averaging a little over six runs per game. Utility infielder/right handed pitcher Seth Cox, an NJCAA all-conference selection a year ago, leads the teams in home runs with six and RBI's with 22. Cox is also one of three Eagles starters with a batting average over .300 along with infielder Carson Lorch and outfielder Bryce Johnson.

"Seth does a great job, hits right in the middle of the order for us," Morgan said. "He's a sophomore, and he's just done a great job of just competing and doing what the team needs him to do whenever the situation happens."

On the defensive side of the ball sophomore right handed pitcher Blake Van Cleeve leads the team in strikeouts (26) while also posting an 3.42 ERA over 20 innings of work. Fellow righty Austin Burda leads the Eagles in innings pitched with 25 with a 4.50 ERA while southpaw

Matthew Howell holds the best ERA on the team, currently holding a 3.15 average across 20 innings of work.

While it's been difficult for the Eagles to push runners across the plate as of late, Coach Morgan is optimistic about the opportunities NTCC has been creating.

"Overall, team wise, our team on base percentage is really good. We've been getting on base," Morgan said. "We need to do a little bit better job about scoring more runs whenever we're on base."

While the Eagles have started conference play poorly, there's plenty of time to turn it around.

"We're a third of the way through our conference season. We've played everybody one time, one series. This Saturday we're starting our second time through," Morgan said. "We just need to keep competing, we need to keep throwing strikes and getting after it, we need to score runs whenever it's time to score runs."

Consistency will be the key if the Eagles are to flip



ADAM ROSEBERRY | STAFF PHOTO

Pitcher Kevin Schoneboom hurls a pitch towards home in a recent game against Bossier Parish.

the script of the season to this point.

"We've played good defense, we've pitched really well, we just need to continue to follow the plan and keep doing what we're doing," Morgan said. "[If we] kind of flip [our conference record] this second time through and we're right back in the hunt."

The Eagles found some success during spring break, going 3-2 for the week including 1-1 in conference play with a win over Tyler Junior College. While the wins may not move the needle much overall for NTCC, it provides some much needed positive momentum as the team continues conference

play in the coming weeks.

The Eagles will round out the month of March with doubleheaders against conference opponents Panola and Navarro as they attempt to right the ship.

For more information on NTCC baseball, visit the official website of NTCC Athletics at ntcc eagles.com.

### Column

## The importance of having AEDs at athletic events



By Adam Roseberry  
Staff Writer

On an average Monday night in early January the NFL's Cincinnati Bengals and Buffalo Bills met in a regular season contest. Both teams were near the top of the American Conference, the game would be a battle for postseason seeding.

At about the six-minute mark in the first quarter, something happened that shocked all of America, rendering the game unimportant. Bills safety Damar Hamlin wobbled and collapsed after a collision with Bengals WR Tee Higgins, lying still on the ground as trainers rushed to surround him. The typical hush for an injury stoppage fell over the crowd, but as time dragged on with no movement from the stricken Hamlin it became clear that this was not a typical injury.

Hamlin had suffered a sudden cardiac arrest, and his life was on the line. Buffalo training staff applied CPR and shocked the young man several times with an Automated External Defibrillator over a 10-minute period, eventually resuscitating Hamlin, saving his life and avoiding tragedy.

Damar Hamlin is one of the lucky ones.

The American College of Cardiology estimates that 100-150 athletes die of sudden cardiac arrests every year while playing their respective sports. While it is far from a common occurrence, 100-150 healthy young athletes dying each year is a horrible tragedy that cannot be overlooked, especially when their deaths might have been prevented.

Enter the AED. "An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest," reads the Red Cross website. "It's a medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary,

deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm."

Used together with CPR, defibrillation can essentially restart the afflicted person's heart, saving their life.

"Currently, the only way to restore a regular heart rhythm during cardiac arrest is to use an AED," the Red Cross continues.

Only 20 states (plus the district of Columbia) require the presence of AEDs on high school campuses while California requires AEDs to be present at sporting events. Although 21 states have seen the importance of AEDs in the interest of the health of the public, a troubling number of states do not have legislation in place to ensure the protection of their athletes.

The most important thing to do when a person collapses due to sudden cardiac arrest is to begin CPR and shock them as quickly as possible.

"With each minute delay in defibrillation from the onset of cardiac arrest, the probability of survival decreases by 10%," a Pubmed study reads. "Early defibrillation (within 8 minutes of a cardiac arrest) has been shown to improve survival outcomes."

To put that in simpler terms, "Statistically, if someone is shocked within one minute of suffering a sudden cardiac arrest, they have a 90% chance of survival," says Defibtech.com. "Each minute after decreases their chances of survival 10%."

Time is everything when an athlete collapses. That is why

AEDs must be available at all sporting events, and people must be trained in using them.

While recent events have forced the microscope of the public eye onto cardiac arrests in apparently healthy young athletes, this is far from a new issue.

"Sudden cardiac arrest in athletes is unfortunately not a new phenomenon," wrote pediatric cardiologist Shaun Mohan in the Courier Journal. "It is the leading cause of death in young athletes and up to two-thirds of SCA deaths occur without any prior knowledge/indications of heart disease."

In 1990, Loyola Marymount star forward Hank Gathers slammed home a dunk to put his Lions up by 12 in the West Coast Conference basketball tournament semifinals.

Running back down the floor to play defense, Gathers fell to the floor. He tried to get up, but collapsed. His breathing stopped shortly after.

Back then sporting events didn't have AEDs or people trained in the usage of them on site. Gathers died on the court, later diagnosed with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. He was 23 years old.

Hank Gathers is one of many reasons why CPR training and AEDs should be at every sporting event.

You never know when an apparently healthy young athlete's life may suddenly be in jeopardy. It can happen suddenly and unexpectedly. And it can happen. We can always hope for the best- but it is essential to prepare for the worst.

ADAM ROSEBERRY

*"Hank Gathers is the reason AEDs should be present at all sporting events...You never know when an apparently healthy young athlete's life may suddenly be in jeopardy."*