

Local has 'mammoth' discovery

By **BETHANY SYZEMORE**
Student Writer

Spring break is a time intended for relaxation, but for one Alva farmer, it was a time to call on an excavation of a nearly 10,000 year old mammoth.

In a recount from the landowner, he said that the mammoth was discovered while a group of county workers were gathering gravel off the farmer's land.

The landowner asked that we leave out his name and the exact location of the discovery in order to protect the property.

The bulldozer operator, the man said, called the landowner to see if he had any insight regarding the findings. The farmer had an idea to what this could be because 25 years prior to this discovery, a family member had found a hip bone that had belonged to a mammoth.

Upon his first reaction, the landowner did not know what to do being that it was spring break. He then decided to call a team of archeologists from Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma to get their advice. According to the archeologists, this has been the third known mammoth excavation so far in the state of Oklahoma.

The excavation confirmed the landowner's expectation and uncovered that it was a mammoth's head that was discovered. The team only dug

approximately two feet to uncover the skull, and unfortunately, the skull disintegrated when one archeologist attempted to lift it from the ground.

The mammoth found was said to be a younger Columbian mammoth, according to the archeologists.

To ensure the condition of the teeth, the archeologists placed foam around each of them. As they were not able to excavate the skull as a whole like they would have preferred, they covered the tusk in spray foam so it could be taken from the ground carefully.

The tusk was given to the landowner, though the archeology team took the rest of the remains for further research.

One of the archeologists on this excavation was Dr. Lee Bement, from the University of Oklahoma. Bement said that he was called out for an excavation for a mammoth in a gravel pit. He said he believes that this mammoth was a female and that it most likely died of natural causes.

Bement also said the Columbian mammoths are the ones most prevalent in this area because they are the breed that most commonly lived on grasslands.

Another person present for the excavation was Northwestern biology professor, Dr. Steve Thompson. Thompson said he has never been to or witnessed an excavation. Thompson is in charge of the museum of natural



Photos by Nick Villalobos

Dr. Lee Bement, archeologist from the University of Oklahoma, points out where the nearly 10,000-year-old, Columbian mammoth's jaw bone is during its excavation on Thursday.

history on campus and he said he was happy to have seen and learned about this one right in the back yard. He said he hopes to get something in the museum of this excavation.

The remains the archeologists gathered are going to go to Oklahoma State University to continue analyzing on all the discoveries that still to be made on the mammoth's remains, and a display is to be set up at the Oklahoma State University.



Carlos Cordova, professor in the department of geology at Oklahoma State University, holds a piece of jaw bone from the mammoth.



Roughly a four to five foot long mammoth skull, minus the tusk, was excavated. The skull disintegrated, unfortunately, after an attempt to move it.



Tom Cox (LEFT) with Oklahoma State University as well as Cordova (RIGHT) and Bement (TOP) prepare to transport a recovered tooth.

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NORTHWESTERN NEWS

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Letters must be turned in by noon on Tuesday to the News office in JDA232. Letters via e-mail are acceptable as long as they follow the rules stated above and can be sent to nwnews@nwsu.edu. Please limit submissions to no more than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to condense or edit any letter for grammar, libel and space limitations. All letters submitted may not be used.

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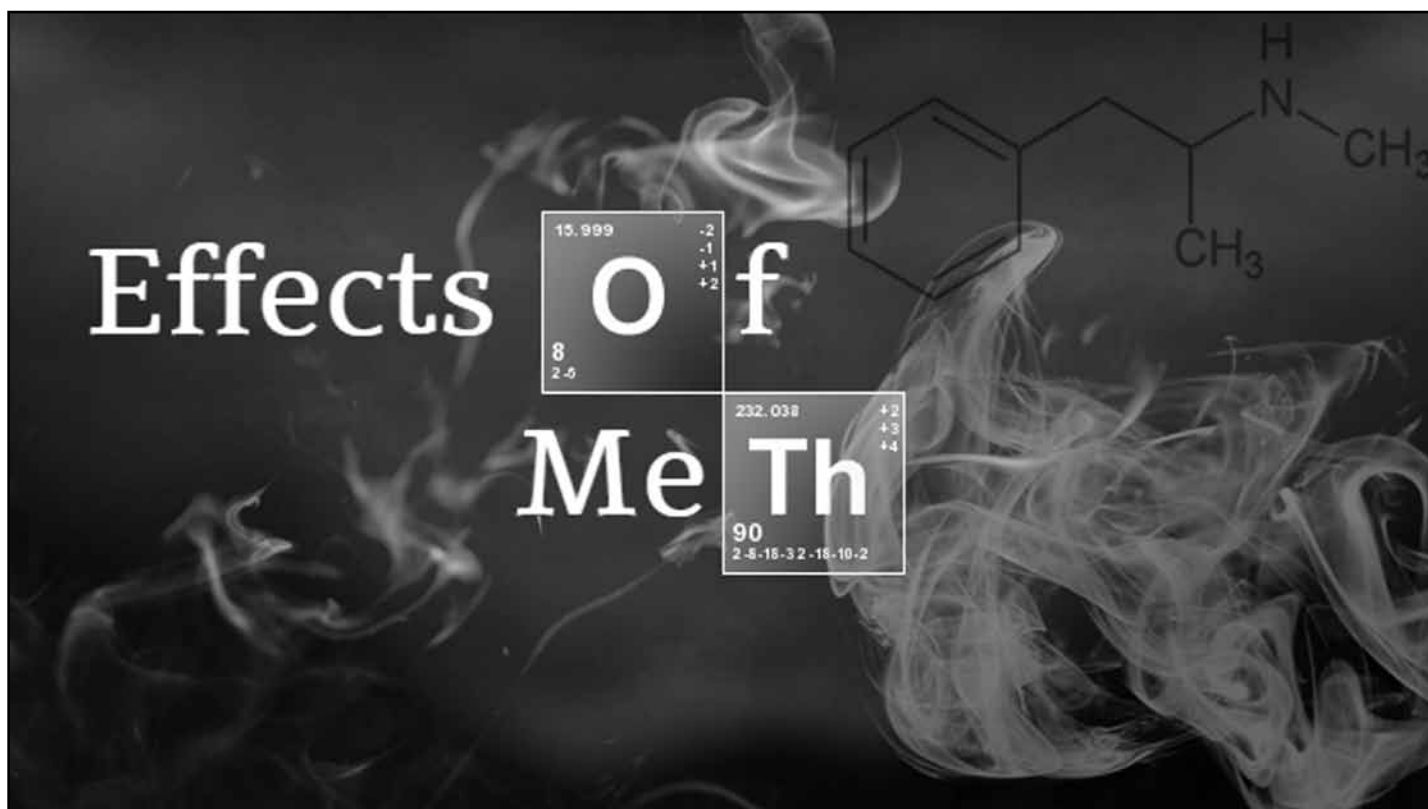
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MISSION STATEMENT

Northwestern Oklahoma State University provides quality educational and cultural opportunities to learners with diverse needs by cultivating ethical leadership, critical thinking, and fiscal responsibility.

Opinion



Graphic by Charles Boldes

This week, the Northwestern News decided to take a look into the effects of meth as part of a new three week series titled 'Effects of (Insert Drug Here.)'

As of 2015, Oklahoma ranked ninth in the nation for meth production with 436 meth labs in the top 10 States with the Most Meth Labs poll, according to realclearpolitics.com. This was nearly half of the amount in 2012, in which Oklahoma had totaled 830 meth labs within its state borders.

Leading the states in the poll was the Hoosier state of Indiana. They had an astounding 1,797 reported meth labs within its borders in 2015.

In February, KOCO Oklahoma City reported on federal authorities dismantling a major meth trafficking operation at a home in southwestern Oklahoma City.

Then, just earlier this month, FOX 25 reported that the Oklahoma Police Department arrested one person after being found with eight ounces of heroin, three ounces of meth, as well as several other illegal possessions.

As a result of these heinous crimes, as well as numerous other accounts of the use of meth throughout the state, we decided it's time to take an in-depth look at meth by first discussing what it is composed of and then looking at its long-term and short-term physical and psychological effects on the user.

According to drugfreeworld.org, meth, or methamphetamine, consist of several dangerous and potent chemicals. Users of the drug oftentimes mix various forms of amphetamines or derivatives (hard drugs or chemicals) with other chemicals.

A few examples of the dangerous chemicals that meth users combine include battery acid, lantern fuel and antifreeze for a car. With chemicals like those, the

effects, you might imagine, are quite extensive to one's health.

Starting with the short term physical effects, meth users experience loss of appetite, an increased heart rate, disturbed sleep patterns, nausea and convulsions. As a result of the loss of appetite, meth users also experience severe, unhealthy weight loss.

Next, looking at the long term physical effects, meth users experience permanent damage to blood vessels, liver, kidneys and lungs. They are also more prone to infectious diseases and severe tooth decay. Users also tend to appear to have excessively aged in only a matter of months taking meth.

Along with the physical effects, users experience severe psychological effects as well.

Starting with the short term psychological effects of meth, users experience cases of panic, psychosis, hallucinations, bizarre, erratic and violent behavior.

Then, finally looking at the long term effects of meth, users experience disorientation, apathy, psychosis, depression and strong psychological dependence.

Users also tend to lash out in severe mood swings and oftentimes suffer from memory gaps.

In an anonymous interview with one of our fellow staff members, they told us about how their family was affected by meth.

"I had an older brother as well as an older sister who actually took it," they said. "Neither one of them have been the same since making that decision to try it either."

They said both their sister and brother started expressing signs of heavy drug use.

"My sister and brother were dropping in their weight extremely fast," they said. "Also, they became really produc-

tive around their houses which was weird because they were usually the laziest of us kids."

"Neither I, nor my parents, knew what exactly was going on with them and it remained that way until one day I was out playing in the backyard and I happened upon one of their empty meth containers that my brother used and tried to hide," they said.

"Once I found that, I didn't touch it or anything," they said. "I just went to my parents and told them about it and they handled it from there."

"My sister though, we didn't find out that she was on it until she collapsed into convulsions one night at her house and almost died right in front of her kids," they said. "That was a bad deal and still to this day, the effects of it can be seen in my family as my sister's family is all split up with each of her kids - my nieces and nephews - all living in other places."

Unlike the unfortunate outcome of their sister, their brother managed to turn his life around after the birth of his fourth child.

"After my parents handled that whole drug situation with my brother, he sobered up, straightened up and actually went back to his previous wife and remarried her just a few years after the birth of his third son," they said. "He completely changed his life in a positive way after he quit meth and instead of being someone that I couldn't look up when I was growing up, he actually became a shining example of redemption."

"My sister on the other hand, she has taken larger strides on the road to recovery, but just not at the pace in which my brother has," they said. "My parents and I always keep her in our thoughts and prayers, not just for her sake, but for her kids' as well."

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Opinion

Writer defends sacrifices made by all journalists

By **JORDAN McLEMORE**
Columnist

Most opinions are just that: an opinion over a topic that you might like or hate. I came across an interesting one the other day while scrolling through my Twitter feed. Oh yes, Twitter, where people go to voice the opinions they are too scared to say in person. This individual said something that bothered me, and I should have said something to counter his ignorant tweet. He said that he had “zero sympathy for the American journalists who went into ISIS held Syria and got his head chopped off.” I’ll give you a minute to process that.

Okay, let’s move on. There are so many things that come to mind when I read that. First, how cold of a person do you have to be to not have sympathy for a person who gets beheaded, regardless of the reason? Beheading is such an ancient practice, and it is bewildering that it is still something that happens around the world



Photo provided

today. Then, for someone to say that kind of nonsense just baffled me.

Second is this, that journalist was doing his job. How do we know anything that is going on around the world without the tireless efforts of some of the bravest people out there, journalists? Yes, he knew the risks but decided that knowledge is power and to do what he loves, which is reporting the news. Maybe I am biased because I am a “journalist,” and I believe that everyone has the right to know what is going on and to be

able to go to their job every day without repercussions of harm. So what if his job wasn’t in a typical office?

The third thing I thought of was that apparently people don’t respect the journalism field very much if they think that their efforts don’t demand sympathy for giving them knowledge that otherwise they wouldn’t have gotten. Obviously it isn’t for everyone. Heck, I’ve been studying it for the past three and a half years and I’m still not sure if it’s for me. But I would never state such an opinion on a public forum, such as a teacher dying in a school shooting deserving it. If they didn’t want that to happen, why did they become a teacher?

Today, tragedy is a way of life. CNN reports are always coming up on my phone about another bombing, shooting or other awful thing happening. Please, don’t make light of it just because you don’t agree with it. What is going on around the world could just as easily happen here, in our quiet serene Alva.

Writer ponders potential solution to budget issues

By **JORDAN EVANS**
Columnist

President of the University of Oklahoma, David Boren, stated Monday that the penny sales tax to increase funds for Oklahoma education will be on the November ballot. This would be a one cent on the dollar sales tax that is expected to generate \$615 million per year for education funding. Of this, \$125 million will go to higher education, and \$378 million will be used to provide pay raises for teachers. The real question is if this is the best move for Oklahoma.

If this tax goes into effect, Oklahoma will have the highest combined state and local tax rate in the nation. This type of increase is especially harmful for people in the lower pay range. A small increase like this reduces the amount these individuals have for every-day essentials, such as food, clothing and shelter. That being said, the importance of education outweighs the harm that comes from a tax increase.

The state of education in Oklahoma is inexcusable. We are experiencing a huge teacher shortage due to the low salary level and the lack of organized standards. Oklahoma City



Photo provided

Public Schools recently laid off over 200 employees because they did not receive the necessary funds to pay them. Our universities are having to cut programs to stay afloat. The impact of an additional \$615 million would not reverse this damage, but it could provide relief while our lawmakers find a sustainable solution.

Looking at the state of our legislature, it is clear that Oklahoma needs to invest in education. We must elect leaders who have a plan to progress Oklahoma toward a diverse and sustainable economy. Leaders who hold high moral values. Leaders who understand the issues Oklahomans are facing and can provide a path to a better future.

Student reflects on recent attacks

By **CHRIS AGBOLA**
Columnist

Brussels and Paris, domestically Ferguson, Missouri and San Bernardino, California. Does it ring a bell now what the talking point is when these cities are discussed? Few words are breaking news, and the hashtag #prayfor with the cities name attached spread across social media. The act of terrorism or violence is a world canker that is annihilating the foundations of society. The concept of gregariousness hasn’t

been threatened and questionable more in any time period of world history than the current 21st century dispensation.

The question now is, how did we get here? In as much as various answers could provide a root cause, I’m of the opinion that society hatched this dilemma. I know you reading this right now disagree with me. Don’t worry; we’d be on the same page in a jiffy. If we link terrorism to advancement in technology, the assertion will be unfounded because it is individuals who utilize technology as a channel to cause pain to others.

The society existed before the tech age. Isn’t it interesting that it is the same society that sought ideas to make life easier which resulted in advancements?

Another purported cause of terrorism is religion. Even though a particular group of individuals with a belief system seem to be spearheading the acts of terror, it is imperative to take into cognizance the bigger picture. Not all folks of that religion perpetuate the crimes but a select few who belong to a sect. The cache to the religion game however is that, it is easier to point fingers when one is

not associated with the issue. On the contrary, it becomes a slippery course of pursuit, which thrives on denial when an individual is involved. Violence and terrorism arises from a nurture perspective more than anything else. Here’s what I mean. The chance of an individual to pose a threat to his or her nation is dependent on the environment in which he or she was raised. That’s where society comes to play and is vital in altering a seemingly insurmountable plight. Here’s more evidence to my claim.

To begin with, bigotry is a trait people learn based on where they grow up. A growing child who is taught that the opinions of others should not be regarded grows up with such mentality. In times of adversity or when he or she feels ill treated, harm instead of forgiveness comes to mind first because their character fuels negativity from the onset. Intolerance of others is part of the socialization process of a neonate. If a child is taught to respect what others believe or say, I think he or she grows up tolerating others. Society has a role in shaping which individuals become.

Furthermore, narcissism is a genesis for pursuing societal dilapidation later in ones life. People learn from infancy the concept of self-love and confidence, which is not a bad thing because inferiority complex does not auger well. However, thinking of others as less valuable serves as the basis for concern. Regardless

of race, history, societal class, religion or influence, everyone is equally relevant and deserves to be treated as such. When the mindset of certain groups is more superior to others is indoctrinated and propagated in a society, potential threats are honed. This is where society could teach that, self-love is important but selflessness is a virtue.

In addition, the avenue for helping those with psychological needs instead of prejudicing or ignoring determines what decisions they make. On most occasions, individuals engaged in the acts of terrorism are studied to feel the need for revenge based on previous life experiences, feel ignored by society or are going through some form of psychological problem. Society could reach out more to such people instead of assuming they would heal or get better. It is another way terrorism and violence be curbed. Some of the perpetrators do not possess jobs in order to fend for themselves. As a result, anything that offers financial benefits is pursued. Training them with the necessary skill set could aid in the process.

The memories and scars from 9/11 and other attacks where the innocent were taken still lingers in the lives of many families, schools, churches and work places. Addressing this now provides a better world to live in. A statement couldn’t be made about how serious this is than the attack at the national Capitol on Monday.



THE ACHE FELT 'ROUND THE WORLD...

What's Up!

April 2016

Friday - 1



- April Fools' Day!
- Festival of Cultures:
- Student Center Ballroom - 6:30 p.m.
- English Writing Marathon:
- Graceful Arts: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday - 7

- **Spring 2016 Career & Internship Fair**
Student Center - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Bubble Soccer**
Intramural Field - 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday - 9

- **Alpha Sigma Alpha 100th anniversary**
Student Center Ballroom
1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Sunday - 10

- **National Siblings Day**
Show appreciation for your sibling.
If you don't have one, appreciate your best friend who is like a sibling

Wednesday - 13

- **Freshman Connection**
Student Center Ballroom, Ranger & Wyatt
6:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday 14 - Saturday 16

- **Theater Production**
Herod Hall
Thursday & Friday - 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Saturday - 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Thursday - 14

- **International Moment of Laughter day**
Make someone laugh!
Well, try at least.

Thursday - 21

- **Bahama Breakaway**
Downtown Alva - on the square
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday - 15

- **Division of Business Award Ceremony**
Student Center - Ranger Room
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- **National Titanic Remembrance Day**



Tuesday - 26 & Wednesday - 27

- **OBI Blood Drive - Alva**
Student Center - Ranger Room & Wyatt Room
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.



King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13						14	
15			16						17	
			18			19		20		
21	22	23				24				
25			26		27	28			29	30
31			32	33		34	35			
36			37	38		39	40			
		41		42	43	44				
45	46				47					
48			49		50			51	52	53
54			55					56		
57			58					59		

ACROSS

1 Binge
4 San —, Calif.
9 Write in the margins
12 Time of your life?
13 — Saxon
14 Raw rock
15 India's movie industry
17 Meadow
18 "The — Daba Honey-moon"
19 Zigzag on skis
21 Agile
24 Alluring
25 Commotion
26 Banned bug spray
28 Not intoxicated
31 — podrida
33 Knight's address
35 Protuberance
36 Alabama city
38 Apiece
40 Literary collection
41 Sweet potatoes
43 Chaste
45 Archaeologist's relic
47 Greek H

DOWN

1 Poke
2 Past
3 Toothpaste type
4 Convertible couch
5 To the center
6 Id counter-part
7 Lip cosmetic
8 A bunch
9 Dinghy's cousin
10 Cream-filled treat
11 Squad
16 Science workshop
20 Nerve cell process
21 Neighbor of Cambodia
22 Not working type
23 Model who co-starred in "Las Vegas"
27 Gratuity
29 Writer Ferber
30 Authentic
32 You love (Lat.)
34 Party animal
37 In the thick of
39 Confirm a password, perhaps
42 Laziness
44 Bando of baseball
45 Crazes
46 Hodgepodge
50 Shelter
51 Sprite
52 By way of
53 Hostel

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Holder Drug



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International Astronomy Day April 28



Friday - 29

- **Arbor Day**
Plant a tree
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Saturday - 30

- **Spring Reunion Pinning & Awards Ceremony**
Student Center - Ranger Room: 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
- **Spring Reunion Dinner**
Student Center Ballroom
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

News

International students to bring cultural entertainment to Alva

By **JORDAN McLEMORE**
News Editor

Culture, food and performances from different countries will be showcased by international students at Northwestern.

The event will be held on Friday, April 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. The annual Festival of Cultures is open to students, and staff of Northwestern, as well as the public.

This event will bring together international students that attend Northwestern, as well as the employees and members of the community. They will share food and information about their home countries.

Tickets to the event are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students (with a student ID) and children under 12. Children under three are free. The community is encouraged to come to

this event to embrace the cultures that will be shown. The international students will perform their songs, and dances from their home countries. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

Countries that will be represented in this event include Nepal, Mexico, Ghana, Nigeria and more.

In a press release issued by University Relations, Becca Cook, international academic adviser, said "I look forward to seeing the native dances, viewing informative presentations, and eating the different foods that our students have worked hard to put together for this event."

The event is sponsored by the International Student Association

For more information, contact international student advisor Rebecca Cook at (580) 327-8435 or by email at rlcook@nwosu.edu.

Art show winners announced

For the second year in a row, the Best of Show honor on the student side in the annual Northwestern Oklahoma State University Art Society Art Show has been awarded to a watercolor painting by Shania Schoonmaker, Longdale sophomore.

The painting, titled "Painted War Horse," has earned Schoonmaker a \$75 prize, along with \$50 as the Visual Arts division winner, and \$15 for first place in the watercolor category.

This painting will be among more than 100 other winning pieces of visual art, artisan crafts and photographs that will be on display at the annual "Winner's Show" during the First Friday Art Walk Friday, April 1, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Runnymede Hotel. Patrons will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite piece for a People's Choice Award.

The Best of Show ribbon in the non-student area for current and retired Northwestern employees and alumni has been awarded to 2007 alumna Lavanya Jaganathan, who sent her artwork in from Chicago. Her photograph, titled "Lake Michigan," also was named the Photography Division winner and first in



Art Society treasurer, Megan Metcalf, placed the student area Best of Show ribbon on a watercolor painting titled "Painted War Horse" by Shania Schoonmaker.

the Black and White photography category.

Taking the top votes for the People's Choice Award and a \$50 prize is Megan Garnett, Alva junior, for a drawing titled "Cam." This piece also placed second in the drawing category, earning her a \$5 prize.

The 13th annual NWOSU Art Society Art Show had entries from Northwestern students and alumni, as well as current and

retired employees of the university. Students earned prize money and ribbons for their winning pieces while the non-student winners earned ribbons only.

A complete listing of all winners in every category is available on the Art Society web page at www.nwosu.edu/nas-art-show-winners.

"I'm so excited for all of our winning pieces," Angelia Case, Art Society sponsor, said. "The judges once again had a difficult time selecting the top pieces and went back and forth in discussions several times throughout the evening of judging. They were very impressed with the talent in all areas of the show. I also want to thank everyone who took the time to sign our guestbook, provide comments and vote for our People's Choice winner. Thirty-eight of the pieces earned votes from their peers, and the artists should be very proud.

"We take your comments and suggestions seriously," Case added. "We made some changes to this year's show based on comments and suggestions from last year. As always, if you have ideas, please let us know."

Artists may pick up their winning pieces at the Runnymede at the close of the downtown show Friday. Prize money earned at the on-campus show also will be available at the Runnymede.

Artists who have not picked up their artwork from the on-campus show or winners' show, should contact Case to make arrangements at (580) 327-8577, arcase@nwosu.edu or stop by her office in Fine Arts 211.

Anyone with questions or wanting to learn more about the Art Society should contact Case. For those interested in more information about the Visual Arts program at Northwestern, please contact Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art, at (580) 327-8108 or krlarson@nwosu.edu.



The overall People's Choice winner in the 13th annual NWOSU Art Society Art Show went to a drawing titled "Cam" by Megan Garnett.



Art Society president, Amanda Metcalf, hung the non-student Best of Show ribbon on a black and white photo titled "Lake Michigan" by NWOSU alumna Lavanya Jaganathan.

Two students join honor society

Two Northwestern Oklahoma State University students were inducted into a national Hispanic honor society Friday, March 25, on the Alva campus during an initiation ceremony.

Chandler Steckbeck, Enid junior majoring in English, and Abubakar-Sadik Malik, Accra, Ghana, senior majoring in biology, are now members of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate

Hispanic Society.

"This society recognizes students for their efforts in the study of the Spanish language," Dr. Francisco Martinez, professor of Spanish, said. "Our chapter is Psi Sigma."

Active members receive support at the national level through exclusive awards and scholarships that are given annually. To receive that honor, students must have a

minimum of 3.00 GPA and have completed three semesters of Spanish.

The ceremony was conducted by Martinez and Dr. Claudia Young, associate professor of Spanish.

To learn more about this honor society or the university's Spanish program, please contact Martinez at (580) 327-8466 or fjmartinez@nwosu.edu.

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Qualifications:

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- CPR and Red Cross Lifeguard Certification.
- Knowledge of principles and techniques of aquatic programs and swim instruction.
- Knowledge of laws, codes and regulations.

Applications are available at 415 4th street Alva, OK and will be accepted until postions are filled

News

Huge fire continues to burn

By **RACHEL EMERSON**
Asst. News Editor

A fire that started in Woods county is still burning over a week later.

The fire started in Woods county on Tuesday, March 22, and made its way north into Kansas, effecting three counties total.

The fire is being called the Anderson Creek fire. So far, the fire has burned close to 400,000 acres of land, as well as livestock and property.

According to the Oklahoma Forestry Services, the portion of the fire in Woods County, Oklahoma is reported to be 85% contained. The containment in Kansas is being reported as 81% contained in Barber County and 90% in Comanche County.

The fire was reported as one of

the largest that the state of Kansas has ever experienced.

Fire fighting crews traveled from around the state to assist in containing the fire.

Firefighters saw a little bit of relief when Oklahoma weather offered rain and snow last Sunday. Unfortunately, it didn't help enough, as the fire is still burning.

In a press release issued on Monday by the office of Oklahoma Governor, Mary Fallin issued a State of Emergency for Woods County.

The order is in effect for 30 days, but can be extended if needed. Under the order, state agencies can make emergency purchases and acquisitions needed to expedite the delivery of resources to local jurisdictions.

For updates on the status of the fire, visit the Oklahoma Forestry Services website at www.forestry.ok.gov, or find them on Facebook.



Photo by Katie Lackey

A fire that started in Woods County, Okla. is being called the Anderson Creek fire and has been burning since Tuesday, March 22. The fire has ruined close to 400,000 acres of land.



Photo by Rachel Emerson

Fire crews make their way to the location of a fire burning north of Alva. Firefighters from all over the states of Oklahoma and Kansas, were called to assist in fighting the fire in northwest Oklahoma.



Photo by Charles Boldes

Smoke from the fire was able to be seen from Alva. Alva residents could also smell the fire.



Photo by Katie Lackey

Local landowners lost land, livestock and property in the fire.

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Dr. Troy L. Smith & Dr. Callie Mosburg



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Campus club works to help community



Volunteers from the Northwestern Secular Student Alliance were busy painting and fixing up a house in Alva on March 26th. Every year, the club takes on a community service project. This year, they chose to paint and fix a house for an Alva community member.



Photos by Osamu Sakamoto

Secular Student Alliance members work to repair the house of an Alva community member as part of an annual community service project.

Sports

Quest for softball glory begins

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Sports Editor

The last intramural sport of the year kicked off this past week with multiple teams taking the softball field for the first time.

An always popular sport offered by the intramural program at Northwestern, softball provides guys and girls both an opportunity to get on the field at the same time and compete with each other.

This year 14 teams have signed up for competition, making the “battle for a t-shirt” even more competitive than usual.

Many students just enjoy getting out and playing in a friendly environment. “Growing up baseball has always been my favorite sport, so being a guy who can’t play at a high level anymore I really enjoy getting out there and playing,” junior



Photo by Brody Nichols

The Slingin Sluggers and the Jagerbombers play against each other during the first week of intramural softball competition.

mass communications major Patrick Inkpen said.

Junior agricultural education major Clayton Davidson enjoys playing softball because it, “Brings me back a lot of memories from playing baseball since i was a young kid.”

Others however take the competition a little bit more seriously. Graduate baseball assistant Clayton Garcia and team No Glove No Love are back this year after taking the championship last year. Garcia said, “It means a lot coming into this

new season as defending champions knowing everyone’s coming for you.”

As with many teams, No Glove No Love will feature many new faces that haven’t been a part of intramural softball yet. Even with the many new faces, Garcia along with many other serious softballers maintain that the goal is always the same. “My team knows my expectations and they all have the same expectation of walking away with another t-shirt and the title,” said Garcia.

No matter what the reason, intramural softball always seems to be one of the favorite sports of the intramural year.

This year in particular that interest has definitely peaked with record numbers of teams ready to square off.

Even if it is just for fun and games, a little friendly competition never hurt anybody. As reward for that competition the t-shirt given to champion is one of the most sought

after rewards in intramural sports.

That road to the championship game began last week with many teams impressing in their first few outings of the season. Dylan Hatchel’s Sex on the Beach squad along with Manuel Gallo’s Smack a Pitch team both started out the season with undefeated 2-0 records during the first week of competition.

A team that has surprised many also jumped out to an undefeated beginning to the season. The Hitmen, led by intramural regular Don Holly, surprised many by jumping out with two wins early on in the season.

Games take place at the Alva Recreational Center on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings usually beginning at 6 p.m. with games lasting all the way until 10 p.m.

Any Northwestern students are encouraged to come out and watch their favorite teams battle it out for the glory of softball champions.



Photo by Clarissa Wiley

Northwestern junior Trevor Montgomery prepares for the lifting competition inside the wellness center.

Wellness center to host annual lifting competition

By COOPER STANLEY
Student Reporter

The J.R Holder wellness center is holding a strength competition, contestants taking part in the competition on April 16th will bench, squat, and deadlift.

The strength competition will consist of bench press, squat, and deadlift. Each competitor will have three attempts at each of these lifts to attempt a max lift; the heaviest

weight completed in each lift will be added towards an overall weight lifted total that will determine the winner. The competition will be broken down into weight classes to ensure that the competition is fair.

The registration cost for the strength competition is ten dollars. All who enter the competition will receive a free strength competition shirt.

For those that are interested in entering the contest the registration deadline is April 11th. Registration will be done at the wellness center desk.

Final two match-ups set, Hield, Sooners prepared

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Sports Editor

After two weeks of buzzer beaters, last second comebacks, and a swarm of “buddy baskets,” the final four teams have finally emerged.

The college basketball final four teams have advanced through their respective regions and will face off on Friday, April 2 in Houston, Texas. Oklahoma and Villanova will square off in the first game followed by North Carolina and Syracuse later in the evening.

The game between Oklahoma and Villanova has been established this week in the sporting world as a game of Oklahoma superstar Buddy Hield versus Villanova’s team that prides themselves on a “team” philosophy. However after watching Oklahoma quite frankly dominate the competition throughout the tournament, stats may show that the philosophy of shutting down Hield may not be the recipe for a Villanova victory.

Hield’s worst scoring performance came in the Sweet 16 against

Texas A&M, which also happened to be in many people’s opinion the best game Oklahoma has played yet, winning 77-63. Hield scored 17 points, but it was the efforts from fellow guard Jordan Woodard and forwards Khadeem Lattin and Ryan Spangler that showed the rest of the tournament field that slowing down Hield doesn’t mean a victory will come any easier. Woodard, Lattin and Spangler all three reached double digits in the game and Oklahoma seemingly cruised past an Aggie team that many predicted would present the Sooners with issues.

So even if “Buddy buckets” don’t come raining down like they have in games against Virginia Commonwealth and most recently last weekend’s contest against Oregon, expect Oklahoma to still present a tough test for the Wildcats.

On the other side of the bracket, the surprising Syracuse Orange will take on the enormously talented North Carolina Tarheels in a game that is expected to be the classic pure talent versus gritty, grind it out style match-up. The Tarheels will feature

a superstar of their own in Brice Johnson, who leads the Tarheels with 21 points a game to go along with 9 rebounds a contest.

Syracuse surprised many by defeating Dayton in the first round, much less advancing all the way to the final four. Head coach Jim Boeheim’s patented 2-3 zone defense will look to continue to harass the Tar Heels, just as it has in the previous tournament games for the Orange.

That 2-3 zone has held opponents to an average of 55 points a game in the tournament. North Carolina on the other hand, has used their flashy athleticism and high-temp offense to average 89 points a game throughout the tournament.

So with the match-ups clear for the two games, Hield versus a group of individuals with a team mentality and a flashy offense versus a gritty defense, there are no questions regarding how the teams stack up against each other. The big question is, how will those match-ups and game plans play out during a time when match-ups and game plans often get thrown to the curb as soon as the game tips-off?

Graphic by Charles Boldes

Sports

Rangers take two from Storm

By RYAN SHUMAKER
Sports Editor

On the year anniversary of former Ranger baseball player Britten Shuck's tragic passing, the Rangers defeated Southern Nazarene with some emotionally fueled performances.

The Rangers won the series 2-1 behind some strong pitching performances for the Rangers hurlers. The outstanding pitching began in the first game when right-hander Pat Delano threw a complete game three hitter to kick off the series.

The Rangers were able to provide just enough run support for Delano to earn the victory, 4-0. The game started out a little sketchy as Delano hit the first two batters that stepped up to the plate, but settled down and escaped the early troubles unharmed.

The scoring for the Rangers began in the bottom of the second when shortstop Xyruse Martinez hit a homerun deep over the left field fence to give the Rangers a 1-0 lead. In the very next inning a Cooper Stanley double would send home senior Thomas Bess, catcher Jacob



Photos by Osamu Sakamoto

Catcher Jacob Long put together a solid weekend at the plate, which included this blast over the left field wall.

Long and second baseman Christian Hammerl to provide three more runs for the Rangers.

Four runs were plenty enough for Delano to take control of the game. Delano produced just four strike outs, but relied on stellar defensive play to ensure the outs needed.

Sophomore Matt Bickford took to the mound and provided the second quality start for the Rangers of the weekend, leading to a 7-6 victory. Bickford went seven innings without allowing an earned run while also only allowing two walks throughout

his outing.

Long started off the scoring with a homer in the fourth inning, which turned out to be the only run for either team until action picked up in the eighth. An error would allow a Crimson Storm runner to get home, and then a weak grounder through the left side of the infield would allow the second unearned run of the inning to score.

Reliever Dakota Stanek came on in relief for Bickford with two outs left in the eighth and after a wild pitch put yet another runner in scoring posi-

tion, but finally ended the nightmare of an inning with a groundout. The Rangers were quick to respond in the bottom half of the inning however with an RBI double for Martinez i followed by a two-RBI double from first baseman Alex Adams.

In the top of the inning three straight singles for the Crimson Storm prompted the Rangers to turn toward the bullpen and brought out usual starter Robert Lawhon in relief of Stanek. Another single tied the game up at four runs apiece.

A sac fly and yet another single

would give the Crimson Storm a two-run lead headed into the bottom half of the inning. Left fielder Colton Krokroskia led off the inning with a single and after a sac bunt from Garrett Douglas, Long was hit a pitch which loaded the bases for Bess. Bess came through with a walk-off triple setting up the Rangers for their first sweep of the season.

A sweep would not be the case however, as the Rangers bats would suddenly go cold in the second game of the doubleheader leading to a 5-0 loss. Lawhon came back out after picking up the win in the first game of the day and put together an overall solid outing going five innings and allowing three runs while striking out seven Crimson Storm batters.

Despite solid performances from Bess and Krokroskia yet again, the Rangers left all eight runners on base throughout the game and were unable to provide any support for Lawhon. The Black-and-Red also took on Newman University and lost 13-5 on Tuesday evening.

The next series will be against Ouachita Baptist on April 1-2 at Myers Stadium. First pitch is set for 6 p.m. Friday and 12 p.m. for the first game of the doubleheader Saturday.



Pitcher Matt Bickford shows off his defensive skills with a spectacular snag on a chopper back up to the mound during Saturday's first game.



Ranger baseball came together to honor their fallen teammate Britten Shuck and defeated the Storm.

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Features

Oklahoma shakes, rattles, rolls

Earthquakes shake Oklahoma

By SAVANNAH TILLMAN & NATALIE SACKET
Student Writers

Oklahoma, where the wind comes sweeping down the plain, the land of twisters, is now being called the Earthquake Capital of America.

Since 2014, Oklahomans have become accustomed to the shakes of earthquakes. There have been reports every day of earthquakes; however, most are not high enough in magnitude to be felt. According to earthquaketrack.com, there have been over 2,808 earthquakes with a 3+ magnitude in the last two years. This is a tremendous increase, as 2013 only had 109.

With the rise in number of earthquakes, many Oklahomans are concerned about what could be causing them. Predicting where they will strike has been an obstacle in itself. Scientists can only tell where they have occurred and if one was a foreshock, main shock or aftershock. In order to discuss what the cause of these ground moving shakes are, we must know what exactly could be classified as an earthquake.

USGS.gov tells us the earth consists of four major layers: inner core, outer core, mantle and crust. The crust and mantle are like puzzle pieces that are constantly in movement. They are known as tectonic plates, and their edges are called the plate boundaries. They are made of many faults, and the earthquakes occur at these faults lines. The edges of the plates get stuck together, due to the rough edges, and the rest of the plate continues to move. When the edges finally unstick, all

the stored up energy releases seismic waves causing the shaking we feel.

Fault lines are being discovered constantly. Oklahoma has long-dormant fault lines that run underneath the state. So what has awakened them? The rise in the oil and gas industry in the last few years has given speculations that the hydraulic fracking is the culprit.

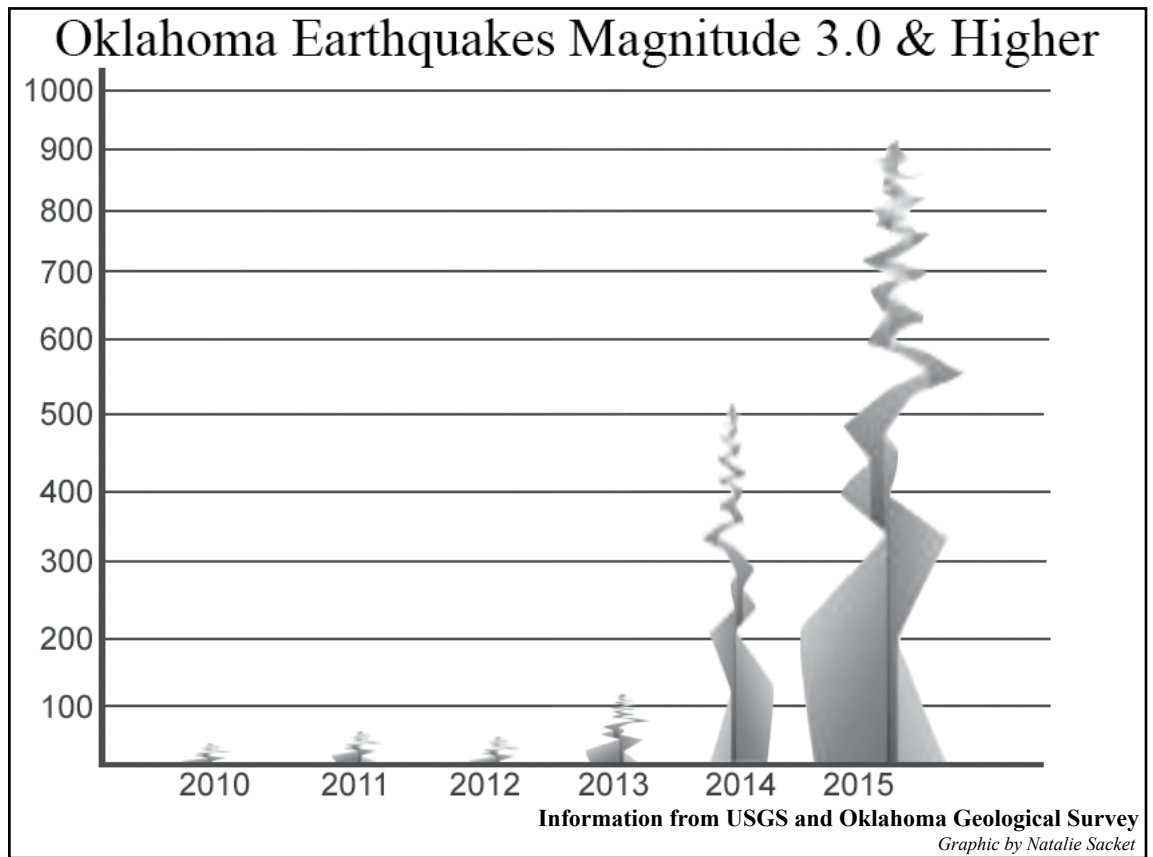
Fracking is used in 60-80 percent of wells in the United States.

Fracfocus.org says, "It allows for the recovery of oil and natural gas from formations that geologists once believed were impossible to produce."

The process of fracking has four steps. According to fracfocus.org, after they drill the hole, thousands of gallons of water are mixed with hydrochloric acid. This cleans out the debris left in the hole. Step two involves filling the wellbore with slick water solution, which helps get rid of bacteria and prepares for placement. The third step consists of using water and proppant material (fine mesh sand or ceramic) to "prop" open the hole. The final stage is the flushing stage, where a volume of fresh water is pumped into the hole and removes excess proppant.

The process of extracting oil and gas from the ground is useful in maintaining the supply, but the process is harmful to the earth.

USGS.org attributes "some" of the earthquakes to this process. The chemicals are harmful to not only the earth, but the people who inhale them. Fracking creates pressure that could have potentially shifted the fault lines and awakened the plates from their dormant state. Despite its



harmful effects, there have been few initiatives to decrease the practice, because many places like Oklahoma rely on the oil and gas industry.

Kim Hatfield, president of Crawley Petroleum, says, "A lot of people say we just need the earth to stop shaking, and I understand that; but, the fact of the matter is that without the ability to dispose of wastewater, we cannot produce oil and gas in the state of Oklahoma, and this is our lifeblood."

Many Oklahomans believe fracking is to blame; however, others are not so sure.

Bernie Thorne, an Alva resident,

says, "It's a part of Mother Nature's work."

Individuals like Thorne believe it's nature-made, not man made. Thorne recalls around 30 years ago, fracking was being practiced down in southern Texas. The difference in the outcome, however, was Texas wasn't experiencing the earthquakes Oklahoma is now. In the Dakotas, where much of Central North America's oil and gas is located, do not experience the higher magnitude and frequent quakes. Is it possible that nature is just taking its course?

Nature has a way of being unpredictable. Oklahoma has experienced

erratic weather, like twisters in the fall and 90 degree weather in January. Scientists have compiled research to try to pin point a cause, however, are baffled by no direct links. Despite the causes, Oklahomans wonder if the magnitude of the quakes will get higher. The state has begun preparing themselves for future quakes of higher magnitude. Earthquake insurance is becoming a bigger purchase, and the state has developed organizations for disaster relief and maintaining structures in the event of an earthquake. Many theories have been discussed, but without factual evidence, Oklahomans will continue to theorize.

April Fools' Day is coming

By SELENA ESTRADA
Student Writer

As many might be preparing pranks for "All Fools' Day," or better known as, April Fools' Day, some might wonder how this pranking holiday originated.

It is suspected that April Fools' Day has been around since 1582. However, April Fools' ex-

act origin is unknown.

April Fools' used to last more than one day. Back in 1563, the Council of Trent ordered to switch the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. In 1582, which was when it was said April Fools' was originated, France switched the calendars. Some people didn't realize that the new year was moved to January 1 and still celebrated through the time period of the

last week of March through April 1. This time period was mainly about jokes and pranks for many. Another time April Fools' lasted more the one day was during the 18th Century in Scotland. April Fools' lasted two days during this time in Scotland.

There are a couple other theories which April Fools' is believed to be linked to. One idea is Hilaria, an ancient festival that was celebrated in Rome towards the end of March. During this festival, people would dress up in costumes.

Another idea that is believed to be linked to April Fools' is the vernal equinox. The vernal equinox is basically the first day of spring, and people believed that Mother Nature would play jokes with crazy unpredictable weather. This sounds familiar, as lately we have certainly had crazy, unpredictable weather.

The exact origin on April Fools' may not be known, but now you know a few ideas of how it may have been originated.

Wife of mayor talks about her life in Alva

By JOSELYN GONZALES
Student Writer

You see her Monday through Friday at Community Bank, working the drive thru window. She always greets customers with a smile, and says "hello" and "have a good day" to each one.

She never would have thought that 10 years ago, living in Little Rock, Ark., she would one day be the wife to the mayor of Alva, Okla.

Lisa Parker and her husband, Kelly Parker, are both from Alva. They graduated from Alva High School and were living in Alva when they met. Two years after getting married, they decided to move to Little Rock. Kelly got a job opportunity there, so they decided to pack up and move.

They lived in Arkansas for

six years, where their daughter was born. After six years, they decided it was time to come back home, to be closer to family.

Parker said her husband was debating for a while whether to run for mayor or not. After being encouraged by people in the Alva community and friends, he decided to give it a shot. Parker said she told him to go for it.

"Just do it honey," she said.

Parker and her husband have two children. They have Lauren, who is 14 years old, and Cade, who is 9 years old. Parker said the kids are doing well with their dad being mayor.

She said, "Cade loves that his dad is mayor."

Parker believes her husband is doing a good job being mayor. She said "he handles it all pretty well." Parker will continue to be a supportive wife and help Kelly in any way she can.

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Features

Grab a crayon Coloring isn't just for kids

By NICK VILLALOBOS
Editor-in-Chief

Coloring books have been said to be just for kids, but as of late, their popularity has grown to further reaching audiences.

A new trend has made it to the lime light recently: adult coloring books. Adult coloring books have differentiated themselves from regular children books by including more detailed designs amongst their pages.

First word of these coloring books came out through social media sites. Pinterest and Facebook have led the way in sparking the popularity of these books.

According to the article Adult Coloring Books Become Popular, posted on CBS8.com, the adult coloring book craze for the San Diego, California area took off in an arts and craft store in 2014.

Since the craze hit in San Diego, the store manager, Pence Hodges, has had trouble keeping the books on the shelves.

Why have these adult coloring books become so popular though?

Northern Oklahoma College freshmen, general education major

and user of adult coloring books, Courtney Emerson said she didn't think students at the NOC campus thought it was an all too popular activity, but then again, they never actually took the time to sit down and color in one.

"They would see that it provides a great opportunity to relax and remove the worries from everyday stresses," she said.

Around Alva, these books have not quite reached the feat in popularity that they have in San Francisco, but it has still caused a buzz amongst individuals.

"I like to color because it is a good time killer," said Catherine Goris, Northwestern senior agriculture major and rodeo member. "For me it clears my mind and makes me not focus on whatever is stressing me out at that time."

In a blog post by Bookmasters, it backed what both Emerson and Goris had to say about them being solid stress relief hobbies. They also added it brings adults back to their childhood and that it serves as a solid excuse to get away from technology.

Director of visual arts and assistant professor of Fine Arts at Northwestern, Kyle Larson, said these adult coloring books provide

a sense of stress relief because of the use of guidelines.

With the added guidelines and the use of color, he said, a sense of comfort can be had because as "any artist will say, going into a blank canvas can be stressful."

Larson also said the coloring of these books is welcoming and that it can be compared to the trend of popping bubble wrap. "It is cathartic," Larson said, meaning it provides psychological relief for a person.

If these coloring books have been considered a great source of stress relief though, why haven't students made the attempt to use them?

One reason might be because people find them not all too popular, like Emerson said. Another reason may be because of what the blog post by Bookmasters said: it might be that technology has served in place of more creative, artistic hobbies such as the coloring books.

But whatever the case may be, Larson said, whatever can help relieve stress for students is a good thing and that activities like these adult coloring books could help in meditation for the students by giving them a sense of disconnection from the outside world.



Graphic by Natalie Sacket

Be informed about feminism to accurately celebrate Women's History Month

By NATALIE SACKET
Feature Editor

Today is the last day in a marvelous month: Women's History Month.

It is a month earned by thousands of women who have fought impossible odds and crushing expectations in order to achieve the unimaginable. It is about the women who have made significant contributions to society. However, it is also a month surrounded by spite and controversy. In present day, conversations about women's rights bring controversy, and the word "feminism" has become a

negative one. If you are one of the individuals who believes feminism is now a negative social movement, I encourage you to continue reading. If you are offended by the fight for gender equality and think of me as another "raging feminist killjoy," I encourage you to continue reading. I do not intend to change your mind, I only hope to educate and shine some light on the misconceptions that many people have about feminism and a right for female empowerment.

First wave feminists fought for basic rights like an ability to vote, own property and receive an education. Second wave feminists furthered educational equality and fought for equal pay and reproductive rights. Currently, we are in the third wave of feminism, although some argue that our culture has begun to move onto a fourth wave. The third wave focuses on activism and inclusion. As feminism has tended to focus on upper-class, white feminist movements, the third wave encourages the inclusion of all people, regardless of race, income, sexual identity, ethnicity or gender.

There are several misconceptions regarding feminism. For one, all feminists are not opposed to women being mothers and wives. Feminists encourage mothers and wives; they just believe this is not the only role of a woman or a required one. Feminism is about choice, where a woman can decide to pursue a career, have

a family or, imagine this, both. The misconception lies in that feminists are portrayed as being anti-family.

Feminists are also incorrectly portrayed as being "man haters." Feminism is about equality between men and women. In no way does it argue for female domination. Many people question feminist movements in presenting the question: "If women and men are equal, why should women be allowed to advocate for more rights of females?" (There IS

an International Ben's Day, by the way: Nov. 19). For those who have always been privileged, a growth in equality may feel like an infringement on your rights because it takes away from your privilege.

For those who have always been privileged, a growth in equality may feel like an infringement on your rights because it takes away from your privilege. I recently read an excellent analogy portraying this concept: when racing in Mario Kart, those in first place don't get blue shells and lightning because they're already in the front; they don't need help at the moment.

There is also incessant questioning as to whether or not the feminist movement is still necessary. Dr. Kathryn Lane, a professor of English, has extensive studies in feminist culture and answers this inquiry quite well.


"The media would have us believe that because a television attorney wears short skirts and hallucinates about babies that we, as a society, have moved "beyond" the feminist movement," Lane said. "When women aren't being killed for attempting to attend school, when women and children aren't being beaten in their homes, when women aren't being raped for enjoying their rights as human beings, then the feminist movement will be over. Until then, the battle wages on."

And so, on the battle wages. Months such as Women's History Month remind us of the sacrifices that have been made so that women have an equal right to vote, receive an education, write a feature in a university paper. Feminism is about equality, between genders, races, sexualities, ethnicities; I hope that is a movement everyone would be proud to be part of.

What celebs do you admire?


By CHRISTINA MUNSTER
Student Writer

Everyone has someone they look up to or want to be. In a recent campus survey, I asked various students around campus who their favorite celebrity role model is and why.




Jana Centoni Sampson
Junior

"Sherri Cervi. She's influential in rodeo, and even with changing times, she has managed to remain herself. She's always classy in how she handles all situations, whether they are good or bad. She's an amazing competitor."



Brady Hanley
Freshman

"Tiger Woods, because he is the best at what he does."




Willow Gahr
Senior

"Ken Jeong. He's already got a doctorate in like cardiology or something like that. I think it's a huge deal knowing he's already done something with his life and is now acting for fun."



Lacy Kilgore
Senior

"Reba McEntire. She keeps a great image of herself and is an inspirational person. She has a background of being a girl with a dream and made her dreams become a reality."



Marshall Whitley
Freshman

"Kendrick Lamar. Best rapper right now. Super lyrically talented and culturally relevant. Doesn't just rap about stupid stuff and has actual meaning to his stuff."

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Entertainment

'Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice' Film introduces Justice League

By **TRENTON JUDD & NATALIE SACKET**
Columnists

Trenton: 4 out of 5



Has DC finally ignited a cinematic universe that will be able to compete with Marvel's?

"Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" is definitely a solid building block, mainly due to the opening credits, the musical score and a few strong character portrayals.

To start things off, "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" is the sequel to "Man of Steel." The film begins with a great visual telling of Batman's origin story. After this flashback, we are immediately thrown into the past events of "Man of Steel," and we are able to follow Bruce Wayne/Batman, played by Ben Affleck, as he drives through a crumbling Metropolis in order to save his employees.

Batman hates Superman (Henry Cavill) for the destruction, and Superman is marked as a vigilante with too much power. A villain by the name of Lex Luthor, played by Jesse Eisenberg, has emerged with plans to develop a preemptive weapon to attack Superman. As I said earlier, the opening for this movie was very



Photo by Osamu Sakamoto, Graphic by Natalie Sacket

well filmed, and I felt that it gave us the better view of the Crime Alley origin story.

This film's musical score was extremely well done in terms of keeping the mood, making the action feel bigger and making each character look even more powerful in their actions.

The best performance in this film was Jesse Eisenberg's Lex Luthor due to how invested he appeared to be within the character, and I also tend to thoroughly enjoy villain performances set to classical music. This is definitely a unique characterization of Lex Luthor, but it still very much feels appropriate for the character in the realm of this new universe that DC has created. Ben Affleck did a great job at making the Batman character his own, and

he still managed to play Batman familiar enough to where we as the audience can innately believe that he is Batman.

Even though this movie has a lot of good points, it is not perfect due to the overtones of overused allegories, inconsistencies with the cinematography and many of the characters were lacking some much needed character development.

Bottom Line: "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" is an entertaining movie and a good building block for DC's cinematic universe. Despite the flaws, this movie has the positives of this movie definitely outweigh the negatives and Jesse Eisenberg's performance as Lex Luthor is definitely worth the price of admission.

Natalie: 4 out of 5



"Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice" has swooped into theaters, sparing no enemies or expenses in its making.

Perhaps the most important battle with the release of this film is not the one between Batman and Superman; it is a battle between the Marvel and DC film franchises. Marvel has done exceptionally well with their Avengers films, and has made over a dozen films in the past decade for its flashy heroes. DC has entered the game a bit late, with "Man of Steel" (2013) as an introductory film about Superman. Now, they have released "Batman v. Superman" as the film setting the tone of the franchise. Unfortunately, many are not reacting well to DC's films so far. Opposing the family-friendly, comedy/drama Avengers series, the Justice League's films have been quite dark, both visually and in tone. Marvel balances between intense drama and comedy, while DC is sad, dark, depressing throughout. Though this was perhaps intentional in an attempt to distinguish themselves from the Marvel universe, critics are *just not liking* DC. If you want to see Ben Affleck's heart breaking reaction to this news, just Google "Sad Affleck." It'll break your heart (though not as much as bad reviews breaks Affleck's).

Personally, I found "Batman v. Superman" to be thoroughly entertaining. It has a good mix of

plot building and action, and I was immersed in the film entirely.

Yes, this film is dark. It largely lacks any amount of hope. The heroes are flawed, bitter and hurting. There are 9/11-type attacks on government buildings, mass shootings and a manipulative sociopath. I, weirdly, enjoy darker films, so I found "Batman v. Superman" intriguing. However, I feel as though the content might be a bit dark for any children.

Visually, this film is stunning. The cinematography was exceptional, and several of the visuals, I found, to be the best part of the film.

Ben Affleck and Henry Cavill did a fantastic job as Batman and Superman. Gal Gadot has a breakthrough performance as Wonderwoman, and I'm greatly looking forward to her Wonderwoman movie, releasing in 2017. Perhaps the highlight performance of this film, for me, was Jesse Eisenberg, as the disturbed Lex Luthor.

My only issue with this film lies in its character motivations. With the exception of Lex (who is intentionally supposed to have erratic actions), I found the characters to have flawed motivations and a lack of depth. I also was not pleased with the ending, which you'll understand when you go watch this film (which you definitely should).

Bottom Line: I would ignore sites like Rotten Tomatoes in regards to "Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice." It is a great film and a good stepping stone for the rest of the franchise.

'The Walking Dead' Zombies stagger toward finale

By **NICK VILLALOBOS**
Editor-in-Chief

WARNING: SPOILERS IF YOU HAVE NOT KEPT UP WITH SEASON SIX OF 'THE WALKING DEAD.'

Sunday, 'The Walking Dead' will

conclude its most exhilarating season to date: season six.

In January, the series returned in a dramatic fashion for the second half. As the 13.7 million viewers, according to tvline.com, tuned into the mid-season premiere, they watched as Rick and the group led Alexandria into a bigger and scarier world full of not

just the recurring walkers, but a new found threat in the Saviors.

Last week's episode, 'East,' marked the beginning of the next horrible chapter with the Saviors.

In the episode, Daryl, Glenn, Michonne and Rosita get captured by Dwight and the Saviors. Also, Carol went missing in the aftermath of her

run-in with Saviors during her attempt to flee Alexandria. Then once word of Carol running away reaches Rick and the rest of Alexandria, he, along with Morgan, takes it upon themselves to go out and find her.

Unfortunately, their efforts in the episode were unsuccessful, as they found only where she was attacked on the road by the Saviors and then fled off into the countryside. They did manage to find a new interesting character that wore bullet proof armor and rode a horse (Nod to the Kingdom in the comic books) also, but not Carol. So as a result, Morgan takes it upon himself to search for Carol, without the help of Rick. He decides to search for her because of the guilt he feels for knocking her unconscious earlier in the season.

Everything that took place in 'East' though was just build up for the 90 minute season finale, 'Last Day on Earth.'

in preparation for the Sunday finale.

In the season finale, expect the unexpected. For avid fans of the

comic book, they would remember this episode as part of the 'Something to Fear' storyline. It was and is still considered today to be the biggest moment ever in the comic books because it was the moment that Rick and the group lose one of their closes members of the group; Glenn. He dies at the hands of Negan, the psycho leader of the Saviors, as a result of all the Savior deaths that Rick and the group tallied up in the weeks prior.

So far in the TV series though, Daryl has been the guy that looks like he is going to replace the role of Glenn in the comic books. He has gotten softer personality wise and he is also less aware of deciding whether or not a person is good whenever he is out recruiting people for Alexandria.

Could it be a famous 'Walking Dead' red herring though, and could it still be Glenn who meets his fate at the hands of Negan? Or would the executive producers really kill off the most beloved character in the show's six year history, Daryl?

Tune in at 8 p.m. Sunday on AMC to find out.

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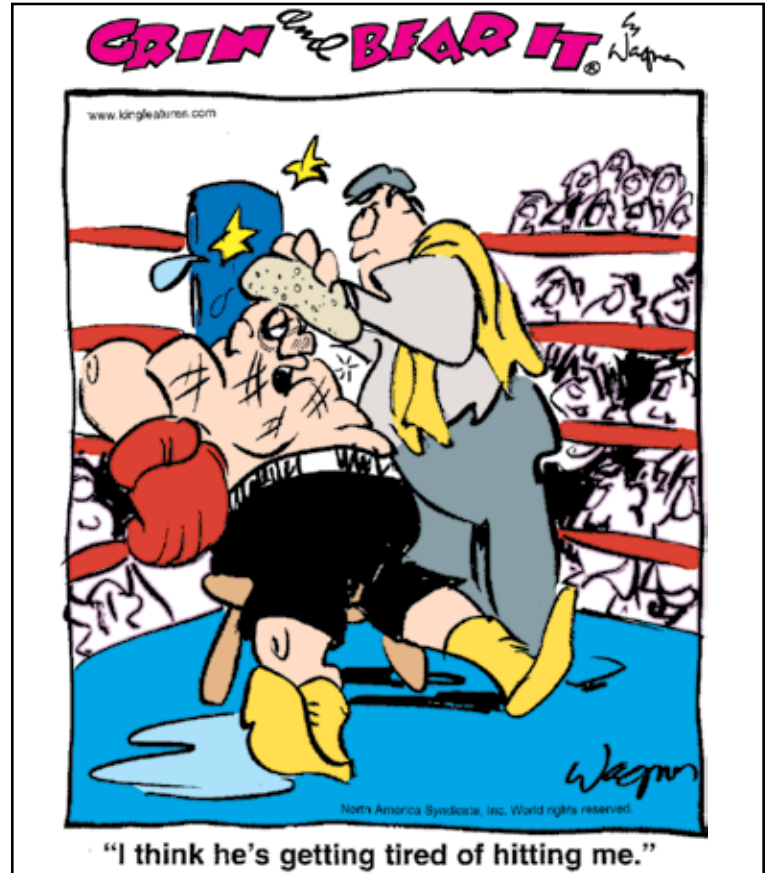
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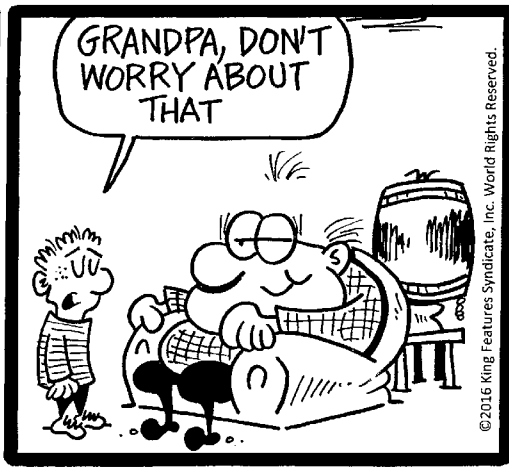
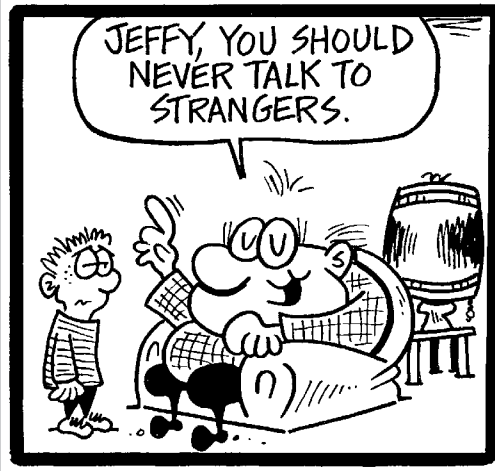
Feature photo of the week



Photo by Michael Collins



The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

King Crossword
 Answers
 Solution time: 21 mins.

J	A	G		D	I	E	G	O		J	O	T		
A	G	E		A	N	G	L	O		O	R	E		
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