Students experience a NASCAR Drive

“Gentleman, start your engines!” Or ladies. Students at Sayre were ready to experience the Ultimate NASCAR Nextel Cup Racing attraction yesterday as the one and only #41 Reed Sorenson Target Dodge driving experience came to campus. The SGA event lasted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., so everyone had an opportunity to take a spin in the Dodge.

The event was held at the Patterson Fieldhouse, with SGA president Paula Howes and others serving up free hot dogs with all the trimmings.

Jennifer Hodge, administrative assistant for Student Financial Services, took the lead in organizing the event, as Ron Kistler, Director, recuperates from surgery.

Students could sit in and race in the same seat as Reed Sorenson, and the car juked and jived for a very realistic simulation.

To say that 21-year-old Reed Sorenson is an accomplished racer, especially for his age, is somewhat of an understatement. Ever since (Continued on page 4)

Tom Worley to Retire

Instructor Tom Worley announced this week that he would be retiring at the end of this semester. It’s hard to imagine that this May will be his final walk down the aisle with ceremonial cap and gown.

After four decades as a teacher, Mr. Worley is finally ready to hang up the Master’s robe for good and spend more time with the grandchildren. He says he’ll keep busy taking care of his rent houses and traveling. He and his wife of over 40 years, Maybelle, have traveled through most of the U.S. and to some foreign countries, but have plenty of places yet to see.

Worley stated, “Since I was privileged to teach during most of the last 40 years, it has been most gratifying to assist young people with their learning. Observing former students’ succeed in their chosen fields of study is most rewarding to me.”

As a youth, Worley once thought about being a minister, but says teaching was just a natural outgrowth of that. Over the last 37 years, he has taught many different subjects and has taught at all levels—elementary, high school, college, and even Vo-tech.

His first job was as a 6th grade teacher and P.E. coach, where he admits, “I never worked so hard in all my life!” In addition to teaching, he has served as City Treasurer, City Councilman, Lion’s Club President, Boy Scout Troop treasurer, Sayre Faculty Association President, and managed to become an ordained minister of the Baptist Church.

He also wrote a handbook for Oklahoma Vo-Tech teachers, served as Curriculum Specialist for a book on Money and Banking, and wrote five chapters of a Small Business Management text book.

“I liked the different fields of study that I had the opportunity to teach,” Worley told The Watch-Dawg. “It’s been interesting, and I really enjoyed it.”
Students Make Gifts for MAMA Project

By Rebecca Rippy

Mrs. Haught and her Spanish class are really working hard to help the people in Honduras. They are sending care packages for the children, which are very needed and appreciated by the ones that get the help.

One Sayre student, Kathy Lampshire, is doing a very special project this time. Instead of just purchasing items, she has crocheted the afghans to send, donating a lot of her precious time for the cause.

MAMA is the name of the special service-learning project for the Spanish II class. Mrs. Haught does this every semester with her Spanish classes. MAMA means Mujeres (Women) Amigas (Friends) Miles Apart.

Although students were assigned to bring certain items, many brought extra. The students seem to enjoy having a baby shower for the babies in Honduras. The students were assigned the following: Lisa Phillips, four cloth diapers; Kim Droke, two shirts; Melissa Pennington, supplied two washcloths; Tina Porter, two gowns or sleepers, Erin Keeton, diaper pins; Casey Elliott, a sweater or sweatshirt; Kathy Lampshire, one blanket. However, the students brought much more, ending up with two large packets, one for a boy and one for a girl, each with far more than the MAMA project was asked to put in. The students were to wrap the gifts in a receiving blanket closed with diaper pins.

The main reason for the MAMA project is to help students learn about Honduras, and to help them translate English to Spanish. This project combines learning with providing services for others, and certainly helps those in Honduras and also lets them know others really care what is happening over there.

Local Business People Visit Campus

Business professionals from the Sayre and Elk City area recently visited the Sayre campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

They were the featured speakers in Dr. Patsy Wootton’s macroeconomics class.

The guest speakers covered relevant topics such as insurance, banking, and the financial market.

Keith Carter of Interbank, Lisa Prentiss of State Farm Insurance Agency, and Robbie Gilbert of Great Plains Investment Professionals shared their knowledge with the SWOSU students.

Carter is the vice president of InterBank. He spoke about the banking industry and answered questions concerning banking issues.

Prentiss is the local State Farm insurance agent. She explained insurance to SWOSU students.

Gilbert, financial consultant at Great Plains Investment Professionals, spoke to the class about investments and stock market behavior.
Students Work With the Vein

By Martha Barber

There’s a new “ARM” on campus in the radiology department.

Chris Stufflebean, Director of Radiology, is very proud to present the new Intravenous Pyelogram (IVP) that was recently purchased for his department. This arm helps the students learn to do venipuncture on patients, which is one of the clinicals’ competency requirements for them to pass their Radiology Certification Examination. According to the “Radiography Didactic and Clinical Competency Requirements” issued by ARRT rules and regulations, candidates must successfully complete coursework addressing the topics listed in the ARRT Content Specification for the examination in Radiology.

Venipuncture is just one of the requirements along with training in CPR, vital signs, sterile and aseptic technique, transfer of patient and care of patient medical equipment.

The IVP was purchased from Armstrong Medical Ind. Inc for $415.00 and is the first new one purchased by SWOSU since 1999.

It is an essential learning tool for our students to complete their training in this field. SWOSU is one of the few colleges in the state to offer this degree in 2 years.

Anyone interested in pursuing a degree in this rewarding and great-paying field is urged to contact Chris Stufflebean or Jess Parker to find out more information.

The State of Kansas vs. Jay Fitzwater, et al

The sas vs. Jay Fitzwater, et al court case was and feathered her.

put her in her place.

Men in the town felt threatened by her strong, independent attitude and thought it their duty to return to her hometown to a young schoolteacher who had sas, was host to a brutal attack on Marlin Fitzwater. In 1911, the fact that she was an educated woman is the prime reason the men of the small town felt threatened enough to attack her. One of the most surprising aspects of the story is that even the women in the town thought the attack was justified.

Mrs. Ford suggested Cane River by Lalita Tademy. The author gave up a lucrative Wall Street job to trace her genealogy. Weaving storytelling with research and family lore, this award-winning historical fiction traces the struggles of the women of Cane River from slavery to freedom.

Mrs. Haught stated, “Oprah has chosen a new book club selection; SWOSU Literary Club has started its second book of the semester; at airports, social functions, and the workplace, people are reading and talking. In the literary field, many women writers come to mind; however, Jane Austen stands out.”

Mrs. Haught made the following recommendation. Jane Austen lived from 1775 to 1817 in England. While all citizens were susceptible to such diseases as tuberculosis and often suffered from malnutrition and poor dental care, women had the added burden of pregnancy every two years. Medical care being practically nonexistent, infant mortality was high. Women also were subject to an unfair legal system that considered them property of their husbands and that did not allow them to inherit property. A woman could literally be put on the street after her husband’s death if her husband’s male heirs did not want to take care of her.

Against this cultural backdrop, Austen composed some of the modern world’s most enduring novels. Austen enlightens her readers by enticing them with stories with which they identify. She created characters and plots that mirrored everyday life. “She...observed that real dramas of life were played out in the world of ordinary people” (Reisman). For instance, in Pride and Prejudice, Austen’s characters misjudge one another, marry for money, and generally have a skewed idea of happiness. In the novel the Bennets have the unfortunate task of finding husbands for five daughters. Once that imperative is at least partially accomplished, they feel a great sense of relief: “the Bennets were speedily pronounced to be the luckiest family in the world...” (Austen 512). But the reader understands the superficiality of that so-called luck because Jane Austen has wittily exposed a flawed society.

“Americans have an affinity for the world of Jane Austen. Last year the movie Pride and Prejudice, a film based on a two-hundred-year-old English novel, was nominated for four academy awards. One might even say that Austen is the mother of American chic lit,” said Mrs. Haught.

* Brand New on store shelves—Self Made Man—One Woman’s Journey into Manhood and Back by Norah Vincent. Disguised as a man, Norah invaded all-male haunts such as strip clubs, a bowling league, a men-only retreat, and even a monastery to tell us what men really think about, talk about and dream about. Are men profoundly different from women? Norah found out...
Employee Spotlight

By Megan Dickson

She’s cute, spunky, athletic, and she knows the whole chemical chart. Yes, our spotlight this edition is SWOSU instructor Tommye Davis.

Tommye Davis graduated from Sayre High School and also from SWOSU at Weatherford. She has been teaching at Sayre since 1990. What Tommye likes about teaching is that she learns something new when she teaches her students. Her favorite subject to teach is Chemistry.

“The thing I like about a small campus is students get more individual help,” says Davis.

Her main hobby is playing volleyball on Thursdays with a special group of gals who have been playing together for years. Sometimes the college students will want to

play the ladies, but beware, these ladies play for keeps. A fan of the Classic Rock, Tommye loves Sixties and Seventies music, and you can hear a few of her CDs when you visit the weightroom.

She has been married to Roger Davis for 25 years. Roger and Tommye have two sons, Cade and Will. Cade is 18 and is a senior at Elk City. He is an outstanding basketball player, and recently he has signed to play basketball for OU where he will be attending college next year. He has just been named to the All Star list as one of the top five players in the state! Will is 14 and attending 8th grade at Elk City. He plays all sports such as football, basketball and baseball.

Before becoming an instructor at Sayre, Tommye’s past jobs included working at an energy system company for one year in Arkansas, and a chemical nuclear weapon plant called Mason and Hanger in Amarillo, Texas, for ten years.

“Mrs. Davis is tough but good,” commented Jessica Mosburg, a former student.

Janice Hodge, Librarian, said, “She always has a positive attitude and is always upbeat.”

Susie Campbell, Administrative Assistant and Adjunct Faculty member, stated, “She is an outstanding teacher and cares about her students.

Kelsey Deal, who took chemistry last year, said, “She’s awesome—always there to help.”

Thanks for all you do, Mrs. Davis, and for not blowing us up in the lab.

Med Tech program honored

The Medical Laboratory Technician Program at Sayre was started way back in 1968. It was the first Associate Degree program of its kind in this state, and some say it was the first one this side of the Mississippi. It was accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES). Accreditation is very important so that students know the program they are entering is valid and meets standards required by the health care industry.

In recognition of 25 years of continuous accreditation, Sayre’s program was recently recognized by the ABHES with a lovely plaque, accepted by Roxann Clifton, Director of Medical Technology, and Dr. Jim James, Dean of the College of Associate and Applied Programs and Sayre Campus.

NASCAR, cont’d from page 1

Reed has been behind the wheel, he has been racing and beating drivers much older than him, many times racers old enough to be his father. So when, at the age of 17, Reed won the coveted American Speed Association Rookie of the Year title in 2003 (the youngest driver to ever win that honor), it was just another giant stepping stone toward a very bright future for the Georgia native.
Retired SWOSU Instructor to lead Alumni Parade

By Melissa Greene

This year’s Alumni Honoree selected to serve as Parade Marshall will be Tommy Jurgensen. Jurgensen, now retired, was a longtime member of Sayre Junior College faculty. He served as Government, American History, Psychology and Sociology teacher as well as a counselor and financial aid director at SJC.

When interviewed by The Sayre Record, Jurgensen said, “It was definitely the best part of my teaching career. It was just my cup of tea. I would call it the defining moments of my career.” Among Jurgensen’s happiest memories of the local college was his own graduation from SJC. He later attended Oklahoma State University where his degree from SJC assisted him. He graduated with a Masters Degree from OSU in 1962.

Jurgensen is known for his jolly outlook on life. He loved to joke and could take a joke, as well. Linda Woodruff in the business office told the following story. Jurgenson once teased a fellow member of the faculty that no one cared about his birthday. She asked him what he wanted for his birthday, and he jokingly replied, “A Belly Dancer.” The faculty actually found a professional belly dancer and surprised him at work with his birthday wish! Photos show other faculty members, like Hubert Pipkin, wiping tears of laughter from their eyes. A very young, innocent, and newly hired Janice Hodge, hid in the back, nervous and unsure of what was about to transpire! But all was on the up and up as the dancer explained the history of the dance and performed for the whole faculty and staff.

Jurgensen has touched many student’s lives in his years of teaching and has truly earned the spotlight as this year’s Alumni Honoree.

The Alumni Parade is at 10 a.m. on Main Street in Sayre this Saturday, April 7th. When you see the Parade Marshall, tell him thanks for all he has done.

The Man Behind the Grin

By Janice Hodge

Tom Jergensen is a man that remains in your heart as well as in your mind. I started to work for SJC May 1985 and knew virtually no one. It was the beginning of the summer and many of the faculty and staff were taking vacation time, so I didn’t get to meet many of them until the fall classes started. However, Tom was one that I saw quite often that summer, and to tell the truth, I was a little intimidated by his stature.

He seemed so stern and aloof. Actually, I was in awe of all of the instructors and probably was a little shy of them.

However, as time passed and I came to know everyone, I found Tom had quite a sense of humor and was full of mischief. He, along with a couple of other co-workers, seemed to always be cooking up something. You just knew to beware. He participated in all of the SGA events, dressing up for Halloween, and cooking hamburgers whenever needed.

I remember one time Tom came into the library dressed as Santa Claus and teased me about my wish list for Christmas.

The campus staff and faculty members were always helping out the students, and Tom was no exception. His generosity was well known around campus.

After the last oil and gas boom in the 80’s, there was a need in the community during the Christmas holiday season to help families that were less fortunate, and some of those people were SJC students. I was amazed at the work that was put forth to provide a Santa Store for people to purchase merchandise with Santa Bucks, and they also received a Holiday food box.

Well, Mr. Jergensen was the one who unselfishly provided the fruit for those baskets.

I remember well the boxes and boxes of apples and oranges and bags of pecans that appeared in the work rooms to be put with the rest of the food. Tom never intended for anyone to know what all he did do for people, but we knew.

When Tom laughed, he just kind-of shook and had a big grin on his face. I often wondered what all he pulled off joke-wise that we didn’t even know about. In keeping with Tom’s sense of humor, at his retirement party a group of staff and faculty members capped off the evening with a rap song written just for him. He loved it. I remember he told me that he never thought he would see the day that I would actually do something like that. Well, when you work here you learn to do a lot!!

Tom’s love for education, his witty humor, and his devotion to his family and community certainly makes him a wonderful choice for this year’s Parade Marshall.
Can Writing Cause Nausea?

By Melissa Greene

You are almost finished with that essay or exam, and it hits you, “I feel sick!” This reaction is more common than you might think. Many students are prone to nausea when they have crammed for a test or essay exam.

Help is on the way! Here are a few tricks that can help you with that anxiety that causes a nauseous feeling. According to expert Peter Elbow, free writing about how you feel can relieve stress and help to put things into true proportion. He also says learn to be prudent about what you do to your writings. Acknowledge that when these feelings hit you, you are often intellectually and emotionally weakened.

“Don’t let yourself engage in taking the whole thing apart and doing a major revision,” says Elbow. “Settle for a quick revision. Don’t let yourself engage in taking the whole thing apart and emotionally weakened.

According to “Coping with the Research Paper” by Richard Profozich, “Many refuse to complete the research paper assignment, even though it is a required component...Even students with solid A or B grades would shy away from it. They just wouldn’t show up for class.” He proposes that students should build on other writing they have done in other assignments, such as definition, cause/effect, and argument. So in other words, students already have the knowledge and skills. Just

Is This Fear Normal?

By Sue Brown

Working in the library makes me notice that, semester after semester, everyone is rushing around looking for sources so they can slap together a research paper. Now, why do we always procrastinate to do every task that we dread to do in the first place? You are given a broad range to pick a topic on and hopefully it is something you might be passionate about. As soon as you’ve decided what your topic is, then you’re ready to go. I know, “What’s the point in all this?” I used to ask that about Algebra. The whole point is that you might learn to write and in turn, speak in complete sentences, instead of “yo” or “What’s going on.” Just kidding, anyway, you are usually allowed two internet sites, so come to the library and print off those. Once you’ve gathered them, draft a summary of the two sources and you’re on the way.

Our library also has a homepage called “SIRS,” which, after typing your subject in, will supply you with gobs of articles from magazines at your fingertips. It gives you the page, volume and date of the article. It also has columns from papers such as The New York Times to the Chicago Tribune with all the information you need to add to your “Works Cited page.” (I think this is the hardest part of the paper. Most people lose several points because they did this part incorrectly.) So now, you’re already ahead on your sources. Sayre’s library is also stocked with the latest and diversified magazines and several back issues as well. The best thing about our library is the staff. Janice and Dianna are the most accommodating people on campus when you need help like this. If Janice doesn’t have what you need in her desk drawer, she’ll get it for you. Both Dianna and Janice are eager to lend a helping hand, (and no, they won’t write your research paper). They are very helpful in locating everything you could possibly need. You are also able to borrow books from the SWOSU Weatherford library which, only
Should the government vaccinate 14-year-old girls for HPV?

By Samantha Garrison

It shouldn’t be an argument whether or not to allow a child to receive a vaccination for cancer. What parent would turn down a cure for a disease that could possibly kill their child? When the Texas governor, Rick Perry, made an executive order to mandate the vaccination Gardasil, many people spoke out against his decision according to USA Today. Perry’s order proved to be controversial throughout the nation between many different groups. The vaccine can be given free since it is covered by most insurance companies according to Merck, the company that created the vaccine, so parents should have no problem with potentially saving their child’s life.

According to Rita Rubin from USA Today, many individuals are not arguing about the vaccine, but rather the fact that it is mandatory for sixth grade girls to receive it. In some minds, since the virus it prevents is sexually transmitted, this is one less reason for the young girls to abstain. Toi LaNel Strong states Mandatory Vaccine for Cancer is Right Step that “the HPV vaccine is not a free pass for young women to engage in sexual activity. It hasn’t been proved to protect against HIV/AIDS or any other sexually transmitted infections.” The decision to become sexually active is a personal choice; it will not be affected by a vaccine.

In his speech, My Orders Protects Life, Governor Rick Perry says that people should not be concerned with the cause of the cancer, but rather the cure that has been found. According to Rick Perry, Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the second most common form of cancer in women, killing 3,700 American women every year and 300,000 worldwide, and waiting to mandate the vaccine is unnecessarily risking women’s lives. He also brings up the facts that parents still have the choice to opt their children out of the vaccine if they are against it for religious or philosophical reasons. Perry ended his argument with “If we could stop lung cancer, would some shy away claiming it might encourage tobacco use?” His argument was very persuasive and supported his decision greatly.

Many other state legislators jumped on board with Texas by proposing laws for mandatory vaccination. The USA Today article, Rush to require Cancer Shot Threatens To Promote Backlash, shows the possibility of the bad consequences since Gardasil has only been approved by the FDA for eight months. There may be side effects that are unknown to the scientists currently and will not come out until many people start receiving the vaccine. Scientists also are not sure how long it is effective in the female system according to USA Today.

“The decision to become sexually active is a personal choice; it will not be affected by a vaccine.”

—Samantha Garrison, Hollis High School

According to the Houston Chronicle, Parry has been linked many times to Merck, the company that created and manufactures Gardasil. He is linked through Women in Government, which is made up of women legislators throughout the country who advocate the vaccine. His mother-in-law is a state director for this group. Merck donated money to his re-election campaign also the Houston Chronicle states. Since this law would help their company by requiring all sixth grade girls to take the vaccine, many use these facts to be reasons to support that he is not looking out for the girls, but rather his political supporters.

Despite various reasons against mandating the vaccine Gardasil to prevent cervical cancer, it is overall a positive cure for an unhealthy cause. It should be mandatory for all female students entering sixth grade if it could potentially save their lives. If the parents still disagree after the debates have occurred, than they can opt their daughter out of the cure. Children should not be denied the right to receive a vaccine to help them live just because adults believe it will be a cause of corruption. Parents should help their children by teaching them to abstain, not by punishing them if they fail to do so. If they truly want what is best for their child then they should save her.
Graduates—Check the spelling of your name in the list at right.

Caps and gowns can be picked up at the campus bookstore between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All students planning to graduate in May need to take care of a little business as soon as possible. The Registrar, Kim Seymour, asks that all students check the spelling of their name in the list below. If this is not how you wish your name to appear on your diploma, please contact her immediately. If your name is not on this list and you are planning to graduate in May of this year, you must contact the Registrar immediately, at 580-928-5533.

Also, Business Office personnel, Linda and Susie, are waiting for you to finish paying off the money owed to the college. If you are planning to graduate, you must settle all accounts in order to get your diploma or be able to transfer. All debts need to be paid before May 11, 2007.

Abshire, Crystal Jan
Atteberry, Brian T
Barber, Martha A.
Bearshield, Kelly Lynn
Biddy, Crystal Dawn Williams
Bond, Cassandra Rosa Heath
Bowden, Tommie Deann
Brantham, Katherine Marie
Breaux, Elizabeth L. Keahby
Brittain, Holli Marschelle Johnson
Broadbent, Vickey Jean
Brown, Stevi Machelle Ann
Nunley
Brown, Susan McLachlan
Burge, Kandi Renea' Hayward
Burns, Latisha Renea
Campbell, Mallory Ashton
Casey, Denise Rae Cummins
Chervenka, Savanna Dawn
Christian, Kristen Beth Packard
Coe, Neesa Marie
Connlin, Kristy Kay
Cookson, Sally Kathleen
Coy, Jayme Lynn
Craig, Kasey Rae
Culver, Michelle Lynn
Cupp, Lela Dawn VanBuskirk
Deal, Kelsey
Delp, Joel Price
Denton, Casey Louise
Dick, Danielle LeAnne
Dodson, Carolyn Joyce Mitchell
Dystart, Justin Wesley
Eaton, Mitzie L.
Elwood, Bonnie Ruth
Estrada, Juan Omar Jr
Farrell, Dana Len
Farrell, Dena Lee
Ferrall, Ricki Jo
Fisher, Tiffany D.
Forgay, Sherry Serena Shaleen
Fuchs, Jennifer Gwen
Galmor, Robert Levy
Garrett, Chelsea K. Dawn
Glodston, Keeley Brooke
Gibson, Bridgette A
Gilliam, Jonathon Kirt
Gladden, Casey Renee Roberts
Gordon, Christopher Gene
Gray, LaVonne I
Gray, Nelva LaNier Newton
Griffin, Krissie Renea
Guthrie, Lakresha Louise
Herndon, Roy Donovan
Hoggatt, Jennifer Ann Coyle
Howes, Paula Janine
Huxman, Branson Tel
Ivey, Dustin Darrell
Jackson, Jason M
Jehns, Andrea Leah
Johnson, Travis Alan
Keahy, Hallie Jewel Stevens
Keathley, Sarah Nicole
Keeton, Erin M
Kennedy, Leslie Marie York
Ketch, Kristin Cole
Kromer, Christopher Douglas
Kusnirnova, Anna
Lack, Laban Ray
Lamar, Candy C Hopkins
Lamar, Lisa Jean Davis
Larsen, Haley Dawn Merrill
Lauffer, Ashley Lisette
Locke, Tyler
Lovelace, Desiree
Lynn, Trisha Danielle
Mackey, Brian Todd
Mackey, Dena Rae
Manney, Jessica Marie
Manning, Gary Dale
Markham, Monty J
McLemore, Erin Elaine
McMurty, Marla Denise
Mohr, Matt Shane
Morrison, Sarah Renee
Nichols, Joy Rochelle Hale
Parke, Jonathan Sean
Petitjohn, Shamba LeAnn Thomas
Pieper, Courtney Nicole Allison
Peirce, Leah Rachelle Mayfield
Porter, Tina Denise Keys
Price II, Terry Vaughn
Querbin, Virgilio Pasa
Reamy, Catherine Colene Cross
Rippy, Rebecca I Spurling
Roberts, Billie Gayle
Schones, Adam R
Seymour, Katie Christine
Shortnacy, Lisa Jo
Silk, Brianne Elizabeth
Simpson, Jennifer Janean Edler
Smith, Dustin S
Talbott, Shavon Marie Willis
Taylor, Jennifer K
Terry, Belenda F Allen
Tignor, Catherine Colene
Wallace, Jessie DeLynn
Werth, Lindsey Nicole
Wilson, Benjamin Jacob
Wilson, Elizabeth Ann

Even though you filed last year, you need to file again and see if you can get more money. The OTAG and the SEOG grants are first come, first serve. The web site for your P.I.N. (if you have forgotten it) is WWW.PIN.ED.GOV. Putting your FAFSA on line is so much quicker. That web sight is WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV. There are work sheets available in the financial aid office just go by and see, and if you need help, just ask.

Turn in your Financial Aid Papers

Rebecca Rippy
Just a quick reminder! You need to get your financial aid information turned in to the college! You may get more money if you hurry, before all the good free stuff is used up! Ron Kistler, Financial Services Director, says if you need assistance, he would be glad to assist you.
Music Therapy—One Beat At A Time

By Martha Barber

Have you ever heard of Music Therapy?

Even if you haven’t, you’ve probably practiced it without knowing what you were doing. Just by hearing a song that reminds you of an old love or a special event in your life, or just by using music to relax and unwind, then you’ve experienced therapy.

Music Therapy is one of the fastest growing therapeutic approaches to helping people deal with stress, pain, disabilities, and life in general.

I am in my third year of schooling to pursue this dream of becoming a Music Therapist, and it has just reinforced my opinion that music really is the “Universal Language.”

I recently attended the Southwestern Region of the American Music Therapy Association, 2007 Spring Conference, in Dallas, TX. The conference had a diverse selection of sessions including Wellness, Psychiatric Disorders and Settings, Geriatrics, Public Schools and Group Empowerment Drumming.

Recently, the music department at SWOSU in Weatherford had the privilege of presenting SWOSU Alumni, Todd Balcom, BT MC, and his Synergy Rhythm Drum Circle for all students. This particular type of music therapy is fast becoming a popular event in schools and businesses to empower the individual to express themselves in rhythm.

Charles C. Middleton, PHR, Small Business Management Coordinator for Great Plains Technology Center stated: “Each time, I have observed good connection in the presentations with an audience that, for the most part, was filled with very experienced presenters and perhaps skeptical about the connection between hand drumming and work. The buzz before the presentation was more than skeptical but the evaluations at the end of the conference put Mr. Balcom’s seminar at the very top of the material presented.”

The concept of hand drumming is gaining acceptance in business training around Oklahoma and Mr. Balcom is the real reason.” Balcom will possibly bring his presentation to the Sayre campus in the fall as an SGA event.

For more information on Todd and Synergy Rhythm you can log on to his web at www.rhythhevents.com. The American Music Therapy Association also has a web site www.musictherapy.org to give a more in depth look at this creative and fascinating new field of health care.

Dr. Wootton Receives Tenure

Eight SWOSU faculty members were awarded promotions, and seven faculty members received tenure at the March meeting of the Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO) Regents.

Dr. Patsy Wootton of the College of Associate and Applied Programs at Sayre, was granted tenure. The changes are effective for the 2007-08 academic year, according to SWOSU President John Hays.

The following faculty members were approved for advancement in rank: From Associate Professor to Professor- Dr. Terry Goforth, Dr. David Hertz, Dr. Scott Long, Dr. James South.

From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor- Dr.

Joel Kendall, Dr. Robbie McCarty, Dr. Edna Pantanian, Dr. Randall Sharp.

In addition to Wootton, the following faculty members were granted tenure—Dr. Jerry Dunn, Dr. Fred Gates, Dr. Sophia Lee, Dr. Robbie McCarty, Dr. Edna Pantanian, Dr. Randall Sharp.
Are You Tough Enough to Wear Pink?

By Rebecca Rippy

Are you tough enough to wear pink? The SWOSU Rodeo team is betting you are.

SWOSU, along with other sponsors, helped to design these bright t-shirts and are selling them to help cancer research.

The shirts are only $10.00 each, and the sizes that are available are from Youth Medium up to Adult 3X.

All the proceeds go to American Cancer Society! Please make checks Payable to SWOSU Foundation.

To place your order, see Dr. Patsy Wootton, Room 103, in Mackey Hall.

You must order by Friday, April 6th.

Blood Donors Give and Give

The campus blood drive was a huge success. The goal was for 45 donations; however, 71 people attended.

Members of SWOSU that donated are the following:


Also Justin Tate, Jennifer Taylor, Jessica Toler, Kristina Wallace, Jessie Wallace, Chloe Whitecrow, Jered Williams, Kevin Williams, Elizabeth Wilson, and Patsy Wootton.

Benefit Bake Sale Planned to Help Toddler

By Rebecca Rippy

SGA is in need of your help once again! A benefit bake sale is planned for Cameron Vincent, the 4-year-old son of Michelle Vincent, who is a student here at SWOSU.

The story of Cameron’s cancer has been featured in past editions of The WatchDawg, when we asked for your help with the blood drive. The response was overwhelming, so we are asking the faithful students to once again find that soft spot in their hearts and help.

The SGA, along with the Fraternal Order of Masons of Erick, is going to sponsor the bake sale. It will start April 23 and will run until April 27. The bake sale will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Mackey Hall, the Alexander Building, and the Conner Building.

If you would like to help with this, please see Jen Hodge, in the financial aid office; Ronnie Duf field, instructor and local Mason; or any SGA member.

Some ways to help include bake a desert or to donate money or even provide some of your time to set at a table and sell the goods. Some examples of good treats would be brownies, Rice Krispy treats, muffins, cookies, maybe even a pie or two.

“Please dig way down in your heart and try to think of how you would feel if your child had a terrible illness that a parent can not cure with just a simple kiss or a hug!” said Martha Bustamante, SGA officer.