SGA hosts Fantastic Fall Festival this Friday

By Candise Warren

The Fall festivities will begin around 11 a.m. on Friday, October 31 and events will be held in or around the gym.

The Costume Contest has a theme this year. In order to enter the contest, your costume must follow an entertainment theme. TV, movies, music and cartoons are only a few of the choices for entrants. Prizes for the costume contest will be Wal-Mart gift cards in the amount of $100.00 for first place, $75.00 for second place and $50.00 for third place.

There will be a Treasure Hunt and the prize for it will be a Wii. The hints and clues for this will range from grammatical to mathematical and even trivia.

The SGA will be serving Hallo-Weenies (with chili, of course). There will be sauerkraut and all the fixings available, as well as pop, chips and cookies.

Other attractions will include: Karaoke, 3-legged and wheelbarrow races, and a hot dog eating contest. Random prizes will be awarded for these events.

There will also be a pumpkin carving contest, but the students will need to carve their pumpkins prior to the festival and be prepared to present them the day of the festivities. They must be hand carved and not painted.

Keep your eyes open, as the SGA will be selling t-shirts to commemorate the event. See any SGA member to order yours today.

9th Annual SWOSU Career Day is Wednesday

SWOSU at Sayre will host its 9th annual Career Day on Wednesday, November 5, 2008. Sixteen area high schools will be on campus with their seniors. Current SWOSU-Sayre student volunteers are needed to act as tour guides for these visiting students. Please see Registrar Kim Seymour to volunteer or call 928-5533. You can help a lot or for as little as 15 minutes, and don’t forget to add volunteering to your resume.

“These volunteers are a really big part of what makes this day successful,” stated Seymour.

The day’s activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a welcome for the students, followed by tours of the Sayre campus, given by currently enrolled SWOSU students.

Representatives from the Sayre and Weatherford campuses will present twenty minute presentations on fourteen different academic programs.

Immediately following the sessions, a 120-foot submarine sandwich will be served. All college students are invited to eat for free in the gymnasium with our guests.

This is an effort by SWOSU to make area high schoolers aware of academic programs and career opportunities available through the university as they consider options after graduation.
Winners of 2008-09 Who’s Who Have Been Posted

By Kristine Roed

The results of the Who’s Who ballots are in! The winners of the prestigious award are listed at left.

Requirements to be a nominee for 2009 Who’s Who are as follows: You must have at least a 3.0 GPA, must be a full time student, and you must be eligible for graduation May 2009.

According to Registrar Kim Seymour, the process of selecting a Who’s Who candidate begins with the faculty and staff compiling a list of students that meet the requirements and then voting for 35 deserving candidates.

The number of candidates depends on the population of the school.

Congratulations to the Winners!

Aldez, Kenneth
Blevins, Cyndy
Brown, Stevi
Burrell, Serena
Bustin, Blake
Campbell, Clifford
Chaparroa, Karla
Chase, Amanda
Cook, Chase
Early, Jennie
Giblet, Amy
Gordon, Christy
Gregory, Vicky
Haskins, Jessica
Henry, Lane
Holloway, Tiffiny
Johnson, Kelly
Lamar, Lisa
Maddox, Julie
Margerum, Shannon
Parkhurst, Jason
Payne, Kelsey
Pierce, Jarrod
Reeves, Keeley
Riley, Lauren
Roberts, Karen
Robinson, Joseph
Sheffield, Valerie
Sims, Donnie
Smith, Melissa
Stephens, Sarah
Thomas, Sharon
Villa, Teresa
Warren, Candise
Yandall, Ashley

NEED CASH?

Of course all college students can use extra cash! Here is your chance to win some serious money. The Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency Test is offering $20.00 just for your participation and the top cash prizes are much bigger. There are many categories of prizes including $300.00 for the highest score in critical thinking, reading, writing essay, and writing skills. Money is being awarded for second place through fifth place in every category. Almost $3,000.00 in money will be awarded. Wow! This could help pay for a semester of classes, a car payment or whatever one may chose. This contest is open to juniors meeting eligibility requirements. To register please call: 580-774-7084. Hurry! The dates to test are October 20-31.

“ReachHigher” help available

ReachHigher is Oklahoma’s flexible, affordable degree completion program for working adults who want to finish their college degree through online courses.

Part II, By Ben Mauldin,
Things You Should Know About ReachHigher:
1. You can enroll any time.
2. Classes are offered five times a year.
3. Classes last eight weeks and most assignments are online.
4. Qualified students are placed in classes with their peers, where they can share class experiences with other working adults.
5. Upon graduation you will be awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in organizational leadership.
6. The curriculum was created with the help of Oklahoma’s businesses to meet their needs.
7. This degree prepares students for success in government, nonprofit, corporate or industrial careers.
8. You will build your knowledge and skills in areas such as organizational behavior, ethics, interpersonal skills, management, finance and communication.
9. You can choose which university will award your degree from the eight public universities offering the program.
10. The curriculum is approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Oklahoma public universities, are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
By Ben Mauldin

Voting is one of the most important experiences that you will take part in during your lifetime. Yes, I know you might be thinking, “Why should I vote, it doesn’t count.” I would like to let you know, that now more than ever, your vote is needed. The people need to be heard. From the Financial crises of the last few weeks and days, to Iraq and Afghanistan, people are asking questions. The candidates are trying to answer them as best as they can.

If you want to find out how to vote contact the Beckham County Election Board at 580-928-3314 or go to the building located behind the Courthouse. The hours are from 9:00 -200 Monday through Friday. If you have any questions please either mail a note to the Election Board office to: Secretary, Beckham County Election Board, Courthouse Annex, Sayre, OK 73662-0639. You can find out what precinct you’re in and lots of other important information.

IF you are not registered to vote, the due date has passed, but it will be processed and you will be able to vote in the next election, whenever it may be. So, remember, whether or not you vote or you do or do not like the presidential candidates, make sure they know that American’s want their voice HEARD!!

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Student wants Pickens for President

By Kasie Gatlin

Last paper, I told you about the Pickens Plan, and now I’ll tell you what I learned about the man.

Born right here in Oklahoma, Thomas Boone Pickens has changed the way we think about our resources. Pickens started working early in life, at age 11 he was a paperboy. This turned in to his expanding quickly by acquisition, which he used later in life. During the oil boom in Texas in the 1930’s, Thomas and his family moved to Amarillo. He attended Texas A&M and graduated from Oklahoma State University majoring in Geology.

Since then, T. Boone has been creating companies, making money, and trying to help with the energy crisis. Pickens said he has stopped giving to political campaigns and renounced his previous Republican affiliation in his drive “to focus the nation's attention on the need for immediate, drastic action on energy.”

I wish that he would run for President of the United States! He would save our economy and fight harder to stop our independence on global warming.

So come on, everyone, let’s start a “write-in” campaign and write his name on the ballot. We can’t wait four more years!

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EVER WONDER WHY?

By Tom Warren

Did you ever wonder why sale prices end in an odd number?

In 1857, Melville Stone started his own newspaper. He worked his way up from carrier to publisher of the Chicago Daily News. When he first started the newspaper, it was one cent.

Circulation went up at first, then leveled off. Then his sales started to decline. When he started looking into why fewer people were buying his paper, he found out that it didn’t have anything to do with the quality of his paper. Pennies were beginning to be in short supply and he had to do something.

Stone traveled to the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia and brought about the transfer of barrels of pennies to Chicago. The problem was how to get pennies into circulation. He convinced merchants have “odd price sales,” where they would sell their goods for a penny under the regular price.

That was the answer.

People had pennies again, and his newspaper was selling again. That is the story of why things cost “$6.99, or $15.99,” instead of $7.00, or $16.00.

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Tom Warren is a columnist and staff writer for The WatchDawg.
Jeff Corwin tells “Totally Exotic Tales”

By Shannon Eslinger

Emmy winner Jeff Corwin will be performing at 7:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center on the SWOSU Weatherford Campus November 3, 2008. It will be a lot of fun and admission is free.

Jeff Corwin has been working for the conservation of endangered species and ecosystems around the world since he was a teenager. Animal Planet audience’s best know Corwin as the host of The Jeff Corwin Experience, one of the most popular shows on cable television, and he can be seen on Corwin’s Quest.

Enjoy his program titled Tales from the Field with Jeff Corwin, featuring exotic animals. Audience members will be called on stage to interact with the animals and Corwin during the show.

Help PBL: Donate toys for tots

By Michelle Butler

Are you looking for a way to help your community? This year’s PBL Club is sponsoring “Toys For Tots.” The PBL members are gladly accepting donations of new unwrapped toys. If you are interested in helping, please take your toys to Mackey Hall Room 103 to Mrs. Hernandez.

You can also contact Hernandez at (580) 928 5533 ext. 153. The deadline for this activity is Thursday, October 30th.

Speech class learns from Presidential Debates

The Introduction to Public Speaking class has been observing the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Debates as part of a class assignment.

They were asked to observe mannerisms, gestures, colors, language and catch phrases—not only what the candidates said, but how they said it.

“I would venture to say that Obama is a much more eloquent speaker,” stated Cody Stallings, who added that he learned from this assignment that when people are giving speeches, “it would serve them well to keep their cool” and try not to show negative emotions.”

Danielle Bennet replied, “I have learned that political speech-givers use elegant words. Using better words makes a person look smarter. Also, the backgrounds and colors can make a difference.”

Students did research on colors and and their meanings. They discovered studies that say what emotions are attached to different colors. The candidates often wear combinations of red, white, or blue.

Speakers often use symbols (such as the American flag) in the background to affect audiences.

Sarah Brower replied “I gained a lot of insight on ways to address topics that I would not be prepared for. I watched the candidates switch to the topic that they were more knowledgeable on.”

Gene Hartman replied, “I learned that speaking to the audience is good and making eye contact with the opponent does make a difference.”

Caleb Dixon said, “I have learned that the debates are interesting.”
SGA Has Big Plans For Your Time
Famished? Friday morning feast available . . .

By Candise Warren

Get your wallets out and help the SGA raise some money. On Friday, October 24, 2008 the SGA began the first of their Famished Fridays bake sales. They are offering breakfast-type treats and hot drinks. The prices range from $.50 to $1.00. The first sale was a great success, but they are hoping that once word gets out, future ones will be even better.

Also in the planning stages is a fundraiser that will help keep you warm too. The SGA is putting together a sale of SWOSU-Sayre apparel. They are very excited about this because most of the SWOSU wearables only say SWOSU, not SWOSU-Sayre.

The proceeds from the SGA fundraisers will pay for future events and other SGA projects.

The SGA also wants your ideas and opinions, and they need your nominations for the Thanksgiving basket and Holiday baskets they plan on giving to SWOSU students.

The SGA would also like to show their appreciation to our local veterans. There will be a poster (or more than one if needed) available for students to sign showing their appreciation. It will then be presented on Veteran’s Day to a local VFW chapter.

Last, but certainly not least, the SGA is looking for ideas as to how more pride in SWOSU-Sayre can be fired up among the student body.

If you would like to attend a meeting, the SGA has a lunch meeting on Fridays at 12:00 noon in SAB 139 (Mr. Froneberger’s normal classroom).

Please come and enjoy lunch with them as they plan future events.

Win Breaking Dawn from the library

Come to the SWOSU library to check out the collection of “Books with Bite” in celebration of Teen Read Week, Oct. 13-31st.

Guess the number of fangs in the cauldron and you could win a copy of Breaking Dawn by Stephanie Meyer. It’s the newest edition in the ever-popular Twilight Saga series.

Everyone gets a free guess, but for every item you check out, you get an additional guess.

Drawing will be held Friday.
Movies that will give you the most scream for your money

By Sarah Stephens

So now the days of dressing up as a bride or ghost and begging candy off strangers has passed, for most college students anyway, which leaves only one other option for Halloween Night; watching scary movies into the wee hours of the morning. Of course scary movies can be enjoyed any time of the year, but Halloween just makes them so much better. Who wants to watch a zombie eat flesh around Christmas? It just isn’t right.

The WatchDawg polled SWOSU students and staff to see what were the Top Five Scariest Flix and the results were, well terrifying.

In 5th place on the SWOSU list was Disturbia starring Shia LeBeouf. Disturbia is a good starter scary movie. Disturbia was the first scary movie that this chicken journalist ever saw on the big screen. And it was well worth it. The movie does a great job of giving you those startling moments, that either make you jump or scream out loud, followed by some sort of comic relief.

Fourth place was given to Wrong Turn directed by Rob Schmidt. This movie is not for the faint of heart and includes enough gore, guts, and blood to keep your stomach turning for weeks.

Third place was awarded to Halloween directed by Rob Zombie. And with a name like Rob Zombie you should be able to put together a decent horror flix. A couple of votes were cast for the original, but most like the new version better.

Our runner up on the list was the original… The Exorcist starring Linda Blair. This movie is truly terrifying. And even though it was produced in the ’70s it will remain a classic for years to come.

And the number one movie that terrified the most SWOSU students was, drum roll please….. Hostel. It is a disturbing movie of torture and helplessness. Yet, it is not overdone or unbelievable, which is probably the scariest part. However, the reputation of the movie has far preceded it, and this chicken of a writer has not dared watched it for fear of too many sleepless nights.

Everyone had an opinion, of course, and some of the other top mentioned films were: Poltergeist, Amityville Horror, Carrie, Pet Cemetery, The Hills Have Eyes, Saw (all of the series), Tourista, Prom Night, It, Shutter, The Shining, Nightmare on Elm Street, Christine, Kujo, and Alien.

Some students were too tough to admit any movie had ever scared them, while others claimed they were too chicken to ever watch a scary movie. But, regardless, we all know that SWOSU students are awesomely special; here are a few quotes that were given along with the results:

When asked what movie scared him, Matt Shefferd instantly replied, "JUNO," (which, in case you don’t know, is about an underage girl getting pregnant.)

One instructor said "Deliverance. I paddle faster when I hear 'Dueling Banjos.'"

"The original JAWS scared me to death as a child, but then we would take friends to see it, and laugh at them when they jumped out of their seat," said Mrs. Ford.

Student Carrie Myers said she loved the Halloween series so much, that she dreamed about it while pregnant--and she named her son Michael Myers. Not surprising, considering that she was in fact named by her own mother after the Stephen King thriller, Carrie, released back in 1974. Apparently being a horror fan runs in the family.

One person wrote, "I still can't stand to read that scripture 'God is in his Holy Temple' thanks to that creepy old man who chanted it in Poltergeist."

"The Little Mermaid," stated Clayton Thompson, "What if she had dried out?"

Kelsey Ackley responded with enthusiasm, "Charolette's Web—I CANNOT watch spiders, even with my kid! Oh, and also BUGS!"

"The Wizard of Oz because those monkeys gave me nightmares for weeks," said Ashley Luttmer.

So this Halloween when you and your friends get together for a Fright Night be sure and check the SWOSU’s Top Five Scariest Flix, they are sure to get your heart racing.