Valentine’s Day—
The Best & Worst of Times

By Megan Spitz

Perfectly dreamy or totally nightmarish—the students at SWOSU-Sayre shared their Valentine’s Day dramas with The WatchDawg staff. Here is what they said:

“My best Valentine’s Day ever was when both my boys, ages 6 and 10, made me their own special cards and taped candy to them. They both wrote sweet notes to me and drew hearts and colored them. I still have these homemade valentines in my cedar chest with some of their elementary schoolwork.”—Julie Olson.

“The most memorable Valentine’s Day for me was in 2003. I married my best friend of eight years, although he passed away in a car accident two months later. I am reminded every year of the love, friendship and growing we shared. Valentine’s Day for me resembles the strength of heart in beating alone, or beating in pairs the heart is strong and truly STANDS.”—Name withheld.

“My absolute best Valentine’s Day was six years ago and I was working as a CNA at Bell Avenue Nursing Center in Elk City and I wasn’t crazy about my job. I worked a 2-10 shift and could not wait to get home. When I pulled up the driveway, I noticed long stem red roses snaking a trail to the front door of my house. As I entered, there were roses going all through my house. The bathtub was full of bubbles and rose petals with candles lit everywhere, and another trail leading to my bedroom where I found my now husband on one knee with a dozen roses and the prettiest engagement ring I have ever seen. That’s the night he asked me to marry him! Best Valentine’s Day Ever!”—Name withheld (so the guys won’t kill this man for making the rest of them look bad!)

“One year I was working as a floral manager in a grocery store. As you know, for florists it is their busiest day of the year. My husband at the time, had another company send me (Continued on page 9)

Students to be published by Bob Burke

By Julie Olson

An exceptional opportunity is now presenting itself to the students of SWOSU in Sayre. A renowned author has proposed that student essays be published in his next book.

Students in Mrs. Ford’s English Composition II web course have been writing their research papers on noteworthy Western Oklahomans. Mrs. Ford will be selecting 50 essays to be submitted for publication in a new book by Oklahoma author Bob Burke.

Bob Burke, an Oklahoma City attorney, has published over 100 books on famous Oklahomans and Oklahoma history. A native of Broken Bow, Burke has written more historical non-fiction books than anyone else in history! He has a journalism degree from OU and a law degree from OCU. He has won many awards, including three Pulitzer Prize nominations. He is a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame, and Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame.

Last week, Mrs. Ford received a memo from Mr. Burke (Continued on page 7)
Buy a monkey. Buy food. Help your school.

SGA and MLT are selling Valentines

Looking for an inexpensive Valentine gift for your special someone? Look for pink around the campus—pink signs and pink flyers! Not only will your gift be reasonably priced, but you’ll also be helping out one of the campus organizations!

**SGA**—Swing by the Financial Aid Office and see Mr. Kistler or Mrs. Sanders to order a Valentine gift for your sweetheart from the Student Government Association. You have three choices: A Teddy Bear with a Valentine Balloon Bouquet, a Monkey with a Valentine Balloon Bouquet, or an Assortment with Valentine Balloon Bouquet.

There is a limited amount of Teddy Bears and Monkeys, so hurry and place your orders. All the valentines cost $5 each. You can find order forms for the Valentine gift in all the major buildings on campus. Orders will be taken up until Friday, February 11th and they will be ready for pick up Monday, February 14, in the Financial Aid Office. The proceeds from this project will go toward the SGA activity funds.

**MLT**—Does your sweetheart have a sweet tooth? Then sweets from the Medical Lab Technicians club will be just the thing. Popcorn Hearts will cost $10.00. Rice Crispy Hearts will cost $10.00, and the Decadent Chocolate Strawberries will sell for $3.00 each, or three for $8.50, or six for $15.00.

Hot pink flyers are placed in all buildings, or see Roxann Clifton for details. Orders must be submitted to Room 313 in the Conner Building by Thursday, February 10th.

These clubs really appreciate your support, so “shop” locally and save money, too!

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**Literary Anthology planned; Submit entries by March 1**

A Literary Festival slated for April 15th on the SWOSU-Sayre campus will feature a Literary Anthology showcasing talented student writers.

The anthology is currently accepting poetry or essays from Sayre college students. The deadline for submission is March 1st. Please e-mail your submissions as an attachment to Mrs. Ford at terry.ford@swosu.edu.

Writers should speak to their English Composition I or II instructor to see if he or she is offering bonus points to those whose work is accepted.

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**Timed W.A.R.P. offers scholarships for high school juniors**

Tuesday, February 22 has been slated for the 11th annual Timed W.A.R.P.

W.A.R.P. stands for Writing and Research Project. It is a writing competition for high school juniors. The students compete for a college scholarship and get feedback on their writing and research skills. Combined with the many student activities is a workshop for English teachers. The visiting teachers can earn faculty development points while learning about using blogs in the classroom.

The Timed W.A.R.P. contest is a campus-wide effort. All participate in making the event a success. Judy Haught supervises the whole affair, contacting the participating schools and coordinating the event. Dr. Jim James will present the welcome. Holly Hernandez and Deborah Carpenter in charge of the computer labs. Dayna Coker will make certificates, while April Miller provides a library presentation and she and Dianna Mosburg pull together the hospitality room. The pool tournament will be held by Chris Stufflebean. The judges will be Judy Haught, Judy Hicks, Terry Ford, Kim Seymour, and Dr. Jim James.
Biggest Loser Contest in full swing

By Julie Olson

There are several Losers on campus! Yes, the event began on Wednesday, January 19, with 16 contestants weighing in and paying the $15 entry fee. The weigh-ins will be conducted in the weight room of the gym every two weeks for smaller prizes.

This second weigh-in was on a cold, snow-blown day, so only four contestants weighed in, but two of the contestants had lost 7 pounds in the first two weeks! This is an amazing accomplishment.

The prize for the winner of last Wednesday’s weigh-in will be the winners choice of a gift certificate for one hour of free indoor golf from The Back Nine on 3rd Street in Elk City or a gift bag. The winner will be announced at the next weigh-in!

If the contestants would contact Chris Stufflebean and give him a code name or secret number, he will set up the spreadsheet so that all contestants can compare their progress to the others and see where they stand, and still remain anonymous!

The next weigh-ins for smaller prizes will be Feb. 16, and Mar. 2, Mar. 11 (early weigh-in due to Spring Break), Mar. 30, and with the final prize awarded after the weigh-in on April 13th!

If the winner wants to remain anonymous, the newspaper will not print the winner’s name, but if given permission, we will photograph the winner receiving the prize.

Some prizes will be donated by the SGA, thanks to Mr. Ron Kistler, SGA sponsor, and donations are also being sought from local businesses, thanks to the hard work of Debbie Carpenter, instructor, and of Mr. Bill D’Allessandro, Program Director for Hospitality, Restaurant, and Gaming Management.

Stufflebean, who has been sworn to secrecy, will be in charge of recording all weight statistics for this event.

Losses will be based on a percentage so as to give all participants a more “level playing field.”

CALENDAR for Weigh-ins

Wednesday, Feb. 16
Wednesday, Mar. 2
Friday, March 11
(due to Spring Break)
Wednesday, Mar. 30
FINAL: Wednesday, April 13

Educate Yourself about Stalker Awareness, Part II

By Tisha Herndon

The most common type of stalking behavior that victims experienced was unwanted phone calls and messages, according to a Supplemental Victimization Survey.

Here are facts about those that stalk:

- 2/3 of stalkers pursue their victims at least once per week, many daily, using more than one method.
- 78% of stalkers use more than one means of approach.
- Weapons are used to harm or threaten victims in 1 out of 5 cases.
- Almost 1/3 of stalkers have stalked before.

Who is at the greatest risk to be stalked?

- Intimate partner stalkers frequently approach their targets, and their behaviors escalate quickly.
- 76% of intimate partner female victims have been stalked by their intimate partner.
- 67% had been physically abused by their intimate partner.
- 89% of female victims who had been physically assaulted had also been stalked in the 12 months before their murder.
- 79% of abused female victims reported being stalked during the same period that they were abused.
- 54% of female victims reported stalking to police before their stalkers killed them.

Impact of stalking on victims:
- 46% of stalking victims fear not knowing what will happen next.
- 29% of stalking victims fear the stalking will never stop.
- 1 in 8 employed stalking victims lose time from work as a result of their victimization and more than half lose 5 days of work or more.
- 1 in 7 stalking victims move as a result of their victimization.

The prevalence of anxiety, insomnia, social dysfunction, and severe depression is much higher among stalking victims than the general population, especially if the stalking involves being followed or having one’s property destroyed.

If you want to learn more on stalking, go to stalkingawarenessmonth.org. You can find information and take a quiz on stalking and what you can do if you or a loved one is a victim of stalking.
Who Are the Real Heroes?  By Jason Bollinger

We all receive those e-mails that are supporting some cause and asking us to forward them to everyone in our address book. I receive them all the time, and usually I just delete them. Recently, however, I received one that really made me think.

The first line of the e-mail is what really caught my eye. It reads, “You’re a 19-year-old kid. You’re critically wounded and dying in the jungle somewhere in the Central Highlands of Vietnam.” After reading that first line, I just had to read more. The e-mail tells the story of the 19-year-old being injured, caught under enemy fire, and his commanding officer ordering MedEvac helicopters to stop coming in to save lives. The young man is lying there listening to the enemy machine guns when he realizes that he is not getting out alive; his family is twelve thousand miles away and he knows he will never see them again. Then, suddenly, he faintly begins to hear the sound of a helicopter. At first he thinks that he must be delusional, but then he sees the helicopter!

Captain Ed Freeman who is piloting the helicopter is not MedEvac, so it is not his job to rescue injured soldiers, but he heard the radio call and decided to take the risk and try to save the injured men. The Captain dropped the helicopter in under enemy fire and loaded three men at a time onto the helicopter and took them to safety. He came back thirteen more times until all the wounded soldiers were out. No one knew until the mission was over that the Captain had been hit by enemy fire four times in the legs and left arm. Captain Freeman saved the lives of twenty-nine young men that day. Medal of Honor recipient, Captain Ed Freeman, United States Air Force, died recently at the age of 70.

I bet you didn’t hear about this hero’s passing. Instead, what we do hear about from the media is the bickering of Congress over health reform, and the many issues of Oprah and Miley Cyrus.

The e-mail shames the American media for not focusing on the most important things in the country, and I agree. A story about a true American hero is much more important than a story about the stars of Jersey Shore. So, the next time you pick up a tabloid and begin to read, stop and think, “Who are my real heroes?”

Undergraduate women sought for Leadership Institute

By Megan Spitz

It’s that time of year again! SWOSU is looking for qualified Oklahoma undergraduate women for the N.E.W. Leadership Institute, which is to be held May 20-24, 2011. The application deadline is March 11, 2011.

Each year, students participate through a competitive application process. Students are chosen based on numerous factors including, but not limited to: individual leadership potential, maturity, ability to deal with challenges, and capacity to reflect on one’s own personal strengths and weaknesses, special interests, unique characteristics or diverse experiences which contribute to the N.E.W. Leadership learning goals, interest in politics, public service or public policy, and a commitment to participate fully in the N.E.W. Leadership institute.

Oklahoma undergraduate women who are interested, please go to the website and apply online by March 11, 2011. If you would like a copy of the brochure, please contact Lauren Schueler at Lauren.E.Schueler-1@ou.edu or Caitlin Campbell, cccampbell@ou.edu. To learn more, contact Sheryl Lovelady at slovedlady@ou.edu or by phone at 405-325-4934.
Med Tech and Rad Tech are top picks for careers, experts say

Two of the degree programs offered here at Sayre were listed as the top picks for careers.

According to a usnews.com report, healthcare continues to offer excellent opportunities for job seekers. These opportunities are not only for positions that require a medical degree. Occupations such as physical therapist assistant and medical lab technician, which require fewer years of study and offer more moderate salaries, are on this list and are in demand. Many of the occupations on this list rank at the top of the Labor Department’s growth projection for 2008 to 2018.

SWOSU at Sayre offers the opportunity to pursue a career in many of these healthcare professions including medical lab technician, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapist assistant, and radiologic technologist. To pursue a career as a medical lab technician, SWOSU offers a two-year program resulting in an associate in applied science degree. The employment opportunities and placement rates for this program are high, with placement of graduates over the last three years at 90%. Medical lab technicians deal with laboratory tests, procedures, and the use of clinical equipment. Ms. Roxann Clifton is the director of the program.

The OTA and PTA programs are offered cooperatively through SWOSU at Sayre and the Caddo Kiowa Technology Center in Fort Cobb, with general education courses being taught at SWOSU, and all of the technical occupational specialty courses being conducted at the Technology Center.

Sayre also offers a degree in radiologic technology. This is also a two-year program resulting in an associate in applied science degree. A separate application for admission must be completed to pursue a degree in this career. Chris Stufflebean is the director of radiologic technology.

All of these careers, and many more, make the list of the 50 Best Careers of 2011. To find out more, contact the directors of these excellent programs or visit the SWOSU at Sayre website.

Additions to this year’s list include massage therapist and athletic trainer, both rooted in preventative medicine. Veterinarians are also very much in demand.

The U. S. News picks in the healthcare category this year:
- Athletic trainer
- Dental hygienist
- Lab technician
- Massage therapist
- Occupational therapist
- Optometrist
- Physician assistant
- Physical therapist
- Physical therapist assistant
- Radiologic technologist
- Registered nurse
- School psychologist
- Veterinarian

For more career advice, visit U.S. News Careers. Here on the campus, talk to Clifton or Kathy Brooks in the Conner Building about Medical Technology, and Stufflebean or Parker in Mackey Hall about Radiology.
Dear Editor

My name is Joseph Hough. I am currently a student and work study here at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Sayre. I have a concern about our Fitness Center.

First and most important, is the fact that the individuals that attend the fitness center are responsible adults. The largest problem faced with this fitness center, are the hours of operation. There are students here that pay the same tuition and fees that everyone else pays, and cannot get to the fitness center before it closes its doors at 5 p.m. or even at 6 p.m. Some of these students do not get off of work until 5 p.m. Almost every day last week, there were students “kicked out” of the fitness center while still wanting to finish their workouts. Additionally, more students are wanting to use the gym due to the Biggest Loser Contest. There is no other fitness center in town.

In comparison to the fitness center at Weatherford, their hours of operation are Monday-Thursday 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday closes at 9 p.m. Their center is also open on weekends.

While you may believe this is just a complaint letter, I have also thought of ideas that can help resolve this situation so that everyone can get what he or she wants. I do not have knowledge of the legalities that come along with a fitness center, but I do know that the people who come sign the waiver, taking away any responsibility from the school in the event of an injury.

If security is an issue, then rest assured knowing that whoever is the attendant in the center will be responsible for any issues in that area—even though in the year and a half that I have attended this school, there has never been an issue with security in the fitness center, that I know of.

There is only one solution that I can find for this situation other than ignoring the problem, and that would be to delegate authority to an individual, making that person responsible for the well being of the fitness center. I would like to be that person. I would like to suggest keeping the fitness center open on Wednesday and Friday until 7 p.m.

Respectfully,

Joseph Hough

Do you know your Candy Facts?

By Amber Ritchie

This Valentine’s Day, over 36 million heart shaped boxes of chocolate will be sold. On average, men will shell out $130 each on candy, jewelry, cards, flowers, and dates, which is more than double what women will spend (according to about.com).

Though flowers are the most popular gifts during this lovers’ holiday, candy is next on the list, especially chocolate.

Chocolate is a very interesting sweet that has many powers, one of which being a prescription that was advised by doctors in the 1800’s for lovelorn patients to calm their pining. Another interesting fact about chocolate is that it prompts amorous feelings in both men and women.

One person who used this little fact was Casanova, who consumed chocolate instead of champagne to induce romance (Hey, if it worked for Casanova….)

One other candy that is said to be the most popular candy on Valentine’s Day is the Sweetheart candy. These cute little message-bearing hearts have been around since 1902. One more little candy fact: about 8 billion hearts will be produced this year. That’s enough candy to stretch from Rome, Italy, to Valentine, Arizona, twenty times and back again (according to Mahalo.com).

Be sure to get your special someone something sweet and continue the tradition.
By Jason Bollinger

Roses, wine, chocolates, jewelry . . . these are all of the things that you get for Valentine’s Day, and have gotten for the past several years.

Aren’t you tired of giving and receiving the same types of material gifts year after year? This year, give your special someone something unconventional and unexpected.

Valentine’s Day is one of the most commercialized holidays of the year. Advertisements for jewelry and candy fill magazines, newspapers, and television commercials. This year, pay no attention to those advertisements and think of your own creative, unconventional, even inexpensive gift for your loved one.

As a college student, I know that most students do not have a great deal of money to spend on Valentine’s Day gifts. There are a number of unconventional gift ideas that cost little or no money at all. All it takes is a little creativity and imagination. For example, you could burn a CD of his or her favorite songs, make a collage of pictures of you and your loved one, wash his or her car or shovel the drive, dedicate a song to him or her on the radio, paint or draw a picture, or write a song. Also, if your Valentine is a parent, you could babysit the children so that he or she could have a mom or dad’s day out.

When SWOSU-Sayre student Taylor Shockey was asked what the perfect unconventional Valentine’s Day gift for her would be, she replied, “I would love to have a star named after me.” This is a great idea and can be done absolutely free on painterofdreams.com. This website registers the star in your loved one’s name and gives you a certificate to present to your special someone.

Another thing to think about would be something Santa forgot to deliver. Since Valentine’s Day is so soon after Christmas, maybe your loved one didn’t have a Christmas wish granted. Now would be a good time to grant it.

Whatever you choose needs to have taken some thought. One of the worst things a person can do is to give a gift that has no thought or meaning or purpose behind it.

Students in Burke’s book, continued

(Continued from page 1)

Burke also asked that Mrs. Ford write a preface about the project, and that some Western Oklahoma dignitaries be invited to write brief essays about the integrity of the people of Western Oklahoma.

“I am thrilled to work with Bob Burke on this project,” stated Mrs. Ford. “For the students, the opportunity to have their work published makes the writing assignments more meaningful and provides an opportunity for recognition for their hard work. I’m thankful to Senator Tom Ivester of Sayre, who suggested that we propose the project to Mr. Burke.”

Students in Burke’s book, continued

(Continued from page 1)

stating, “I propose that the Western Oklahomans Project become a book.”

He stated that he really liked the essays Mrs. Ford submitted last fall. Some of those persons researched were Walter Merrick, Roger Miller, Justin McBride and Henrietta Mann.

Burke requested additional essays on people like Victor Wickersham, Senator Ed Berrong, U. S. District Judge Tim Leonard, SWOSU basketball legend Kelli Litsch, and Coach Abe Lemons, to name a few.

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Get your team ready for the basketball tournament!

By Becca Sims
We want you!

Think you have what it takes to win a basketball tournament?

SGA is sponsoring a basketball tournament on March 4th-5th in our campus gym.

Teams of 3 can join the tournament for $30. The more teams that sign up, the bigger the cash prize we give away is!

Players must be at least 18 years old and anyone is allowed to participate, even if they do not attend school at the college. You can pick up your sign up form from Nancy in the Financial Aid Office in the Alexander building. She will give you a copy of the rules if you wish, or they will be posted inside the gym.

Times you will play will be posted in the gym or you can call Nancy or we can even text it to your team captain.

There will be a concession stand available during the tournament for food and beverages.

On March 1st . . .

Workshop helps parents and students fill out the FAFSA

By Michael Ambersom

On Tuesday, March 1st SWOSU in Sayre will be having a Financial Aid Workshop to help future students and parents to fill out FAFSA forms to help with federal financial aid.

The workshop will start at 5:30 p.m. and end at 6:30 p.m. It will be in the CAPS building, the smaller building that stands alone on the southeast corner of Watts and Iowa.

The workshop is open to the public, and anyone interested in attending is encouraged to come and participate in the workshop. Also SWOSU will be providing the refreshments.

So parents and prospective students, come by and enjoy refreshment and get help from Ron Kistler and Nancy Sanders with the SWOSU Financial Aid office.

Poetry Corner

By Dayna Hicks

I never know what to tell you.
You reason know why I do the half-crazed
Things that I do.
I don’t know what to tell you.
You ask me why I love you
But the reasoning is too complex to say . . .
That you’re always on my mind
And every step that I take is to bring
Me closer to you my love.
I’m lost in your eyes baby.
Can’t you see? Well I can.
Whenever you smile
It lights up my whole world.
The way I feel is crazy.
I know it’s true.
I’m crazy over you.
You ask me why I straighten my hair.
My answer is you always seem to like it better that way.
You tell me that I’m the only one for you.
You knew what that does to me.
You ask me how I feel. Do I feel it too?
My answer is always gonna be yes!
I don’t understand the way I smile whenever you’re around.
And I’ll never be able to describe completely
The complexity I feel.
The only words that come close are
Yes I Love You.
an arrangement. When I asked him about it, he said that he wanted to surprise me and thought it would be better coming from a different company.”—A. Herndon.

“I actually have two memorable Valentine’s Days. One, my mother and father had sent me balloons attached to a bear to my school, and the second one is kind of funny. This guy that I was dating gave me an empty snuff can as a joke. He did actually follow it by a dozen red roses.”—Unknown.

“For me, Valentine’s Day is one of the most interesting days, sometimes good, sometimes bad, and I must admit sometimes funny but embarrassing. I never really got into Valentine’s Day after the 4th grade. I was not the best looking stud in the herd by far, but I had class. Just between me and you, I was—okay, I’ll admit, and I still am—a hardcore nerd. I had the biggest crush on this girl named Miranda, the most popular girl in our grade. A week before Valentine’s Day, I cleaned the whole house, which by the way I never did unless my momma made me. When she got home, she looked at me and said, “What did you do to get in trouble at school today?” First thought that came to my mind was “Damn, this is gonna be an interesting conversation.” I finally said “Nothing, mom, I just wanted to help out because I love you.” She didn’t buy it.

“What do you want?” I knew I was just gonna have to spill the beans, so I told her about Miranda and how on Valentine’s Day, I came across an awesome idea to ask her to be my girlfriend. I wanted mom to take me to Wal-Mart to buy a teddy bear holding chocolate. Finally on Valentine’s Day, I went to school, and at recess, I was nervous. When I approached her, she was surrounded by a lot of her friends. That’s something I never understand. Why do girls always move in groups? Back to the point though, I called her name and she looked at me and asked, “Who are you?” Let me tell you something that doesn’t help the situation at all, ladies. Trust me. “Aaron. I sit behind you in math.” I held out the bear and asked if she would be my valentine. Well, that’s when her boyfriend came over. I really wish I had known about this before. He didn’t even say anything; he just swung. I blacked out after that. And what did I learn? Well, when ever you ask a girl out and a guy bigger than you looks mad and the only thing you can think is “Oh, s%#,” my best piece of advice is run your tail off, curl up in a ball, or just get ready for the knockout.”—Aaron Malenshek.

“Valentines? I dislike Valentine’s Day just because I have never had one. But I get presents from my mom, which is sad.”—Unknown.

“My favorite Valentine’s Day are all Valentine’s Days. We (my family-kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews) make sugar cookies every year. We have the best time decorating them. We make special ones for our “special” people like grandmas and grandpas. It is a very exciting time!”—Paula.

“I have never had a relationship on Valentine’s Day, so I don’t have any stories to tell. I just sit at home and do the same thing I do every other day.”—Freshman from Sayre.

“I guess I really don’t have a favorite V-day, but to put one down, I guess probably back in elementary, ‘cause it’s about the only time I’ve actually done something.” —Thomas Bunch

“Last year V-day was amazing. It was the first time that I had hung out with my girlfriend and talked about our ex’s all night. Weird, I know but it made us cherish each other even more.”—Alvin Aldez

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day memory was when I was in high school, about 11th grade. The school has a shelf for deliveries for students. My friends and I kept walking past it wondering whose two dozen white roses were there. At lunch I got nosy and went to look, only to find out they were mine! My boyfriend had sent me two dozen of my favorite flower.”—Victoria Brose.

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day was last Valentine’s Day, 2010. It was with my then boyfriend of six months. We went to Oklahoma City and spent the day shopping and just spending time together. He bought me flowers and wrote me a sweet little note of love. Then we went to eat at Olive Garden and after that went to watch Valentine’s Day, the movie at the Warren Theatre. It might not have been amazing or outstanding to anyone else, but to me it was very special and sweet.”—Anonymous

“This Valentine’s Day was by far the very worst. The boyfriend I dumped in November still hadn’t moved on by February. Well, my new boyfriend bought me some earrings, a necklace, a teddy bear and a rose which was so sweet... until my ex showed up with a rose and a giant life-size teddy bear. Talk about annoying! I wanted to die! I finally find a (Continued on page 10)
Best and Worst of Times, cont'd from page 7

(Continued from page 9)

guy that does something sweet for me on Valentine’s Day and my ex has to show him up and ruin it all!” — Anonymous

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day was when I was in middle school. I bought a huge teddy bear for someone and had to carry it on the bus and into the school. It was pretty funny.” — Rick Duran

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day was in second grade. In my class we pulled names to make boxes to hold our valentines. The boy I liked chose my name randomly. He made me the prettiest box, and I always thought he saw my name and pulled it on purpose.” — Name withheld

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day would be the day my brother and sister-in-law got married. They got married on Valentine’s Day of my sixth grade year. I think that made it pretty memorable for me.” — Kenzie Hemingway

“I have never had a Valentine’s Day that sticks out to me in any kind of way. That is mainly due to the fact that I usually ignore the day. I treat it just like any other day.” — Shyanne Mikles

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day was when I was in the fifth grade and one of my friends got me a rose. I came in from the gym, and it was sitting on my desk. It was kind of embarrassing, but it was sweet and he is still my friend to this day.” — Jordan Skelton

“My 9th or 10th grade year in high school, I received so many valentine gifts that it was almost embarrassing! The way Cheyenne use to deliver their valentines was that the senior class could deliver the valentines to each class to each student. Well, two students showed up to deliver the valentines, and they both had these carts full of and I remember thinking, “Wow, we are all getting valentines this year!” Well it turned out that both carts were for me! I was soo embarrassed, and I also felt bad cause I didn’t get anybody anything!” — Liz Terry

“My husband and I have been together for eight and a half years and we have a pact to not buy anything for holidays. We usually just get necessities, so buying extra stuff throughout the year is unnecessary. I do think it is very sweet how some people go above and beyond to surprise their special someone with flowers or presents.” — Ashley Hargrove

“When I was eighteen, my boyfriend proposed to me on Valentine’s Day. He sent me a dozen roses, with a card that said ‘I’ll love you forever if you’ll let me. Marry me.’” I said yes and we’ve been together for thirteen years.” — Page

“The most memorable Valentine’s Day was, of course, when my boyfriend didn’t get me a dang thing or even say ‘Happy Valentine’s Day.’ It wasn’t any better that we were 17, so he had no excuse to not know what the day was. I felt so unloved that day. It was such a horrible day.” — Brittany Hunter

“One of the Valentine’s Days I remember most is when I had cut off a relationship with my boyfriend two days prior, and he went and bought me a huge teddy bear and chocolates in order to buy me back—needless to say, he was girlfriend-less and I had chocolate!” — Unknown

“Last year on Valentine’s Day I bought flowers for two young ladies. Later that day I received a text message, from a number I didn’t know, saying ‘Where are my pretty roses?’ When I asked who this was, the only reply I got was, ‘Your valentine, I thought.’ So this person never revealed their actual identity to me. I guess you could say I was ‘stalked’ for the next four months of my life. I received random texts from this number saying stuff like, ‘You look great in that blue shirt today,’ and it freaked me out that I was being seen by this ‘stalker’ everyday. Finally I was at my graduation party, reading my cards from my family members. My aunt was also the librarian at my high school, so she wrote a long message with my graduation card and labeled it: ‘From: Your Valentine, I thought.’ Finally I found out who was messing with me.” — Joe Manning

“My most memorable Valentine’s Day was two years ago. I had dated a guy for three years, and we had broke up the previous November. I had a new boyfriend and things seemed to be going alright. Well, on Valentine’s Day, I received a gift at school from the former boyfriend. The flowers were very beautiful, among the more beautiful I had ever laid eyes on. The flowers came with a card and a balloon. The card was one of the best chosen cards I have ever received, although the letter inside was what really got my attention. It brought tears to my eyes as he poured out his feelings to me. It was incredibly sweet, and it made the current boyfriend look bad, considering he didn’t get me anything.” — Kim Jones

“After a special dinner in the City, my boyfriend had his father drive over and place theatre tickets in the car for a surprise. They were to the Warren Theatre in Moore, where you are served cocktails in the balcony while you watch the movie. Very cool.” — Megan Dixon

“I do not have a single memory from Valentine’s Day! I guess I try and block it out. Maybe this year I will make new memories for only $5 or $10!” — Liz Terry

Thanks for sharing, SWOSU! Don’t forget, the MLT and SGA want you to make someone’s day, so get out there and make new memories for only $5 or $10!