By B.K. Miller

A problem brought up in the Suggestion box was with students who opt to have grant, loan, and V.A. money refunded to them via the Bulldog Card. It does indeed sound like a good idea to have all your school related finances in one nice little bundle; however, the problem is there are no ATM’s or banks in the Sayre area that deal directly with the bank which provides the card: Higher One out of New Haven, CT. While the Weatherford campus has a Higher One ATM for the campus, Sayre does not. The cards, which were beta-tested in summer of 2009 and went campus-wide that fall, have been giving students headaches. Higher One charges a withdrawal fee of $2.50 at any ATM terminal not partnered with the bank.

When I go to the Love’s, which is the only ATM near my home, I pay $6.00 to withdraw $20.00. So I asked SWOSU officials about it. First I spoke to Sherron Manning, Interim Dean.

Q. Dean Manning, have their been similar fiascos?
A. Yes, I have heard many complaints of outrageous charges students have had to endure. One student was told that the first time the card was used he/she would not be charged so he/she could just withdraw the full amount of the refund on the first time use. The student withdrew an amount needed and was charged over $80.00 for this one time usage. When questioned, a service representative at “Higher One” said this could not be refunded and this was just customary. I have also heard many complaints that the card will let students get overdrawn and then charge a daily fee until a deposit is made to the account to get the balance out of the red. The daily charge for being overdrawn $7.00 and change was $1.75; I saw this statement. The student had to ask the parent to transfer money electronically so that he/she would not be charged the daily fee.

But there is a possibility for light at the end of the tunnel, folks! I spoke with Dr. Blake Sonobe, Senior Vice President & Provost from the Weatherford campus, about the prospect of a Higher One friendly ATM on the Sayre campus and got the following reply:

Q. Dr. Sonobe, our Business Office has sent out a Request for Proposal to area banks and Higher One inviting them to bid on the installation of an ATM on the Sayre Campus. The proposals, if any, are due back in to the Business Office by December 15.
A. I can’t predict how successful we will be, but I hope we will get a reasonable proposal.

Q. Of course, nothing in life is free. Dr. Sonobe, what might be the cost associated with such a move?
A. The cost of installing the ATM will be dependent on the utilities necessary that we will have to install and the level of security the vendor requires. The vendor may also want a say in which building, for security purposes, they would like the machine.

Q. We also hope that is exactly what happens, Dr. Sonobe, and we thank you and wish you Godspeed on this endeavor. No one who is already in the poverty bracket, as most students are, enjoys spending money unnecessarily.

The WatchDawg staff will continue to address this and other issues brought to our attention by students.

Good news! Thanksgiving Break is here. There will be no classes Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of this week. See page 3 for Turkey Day Fun. Hope you have a restful and happy Thanksgiving! You’ll need the rest. Final Exams are coming up. See page 10 for your Finals Schedule.
By Alyssa Brandon

On Nov. 7th, guest speaker Carlos Ramirez opened the minds of Mrs. Haught’s Spanish class to the history and culture of Puebla, Mexico. Carlos Ramirez is the pastor at the First United Methodist Church in Elk City, Oklahoma. He has lived in the United States with his family since 2004. He moved here when he realized it was too hard to get ahead in life while living in Mexico. Where he lived, many people still traded goods for food and whatever else they needed. While they always had what they needed, this system left nothing extra to build on.

There are approximately 5.4 thousand people who live in the city of Puebla. The population is about 90% Catholic and only 5-10% Protestant or Evangelical. In a city where majority of people are Catholic, one might think it would be difficult for someone to switch to the Methodist religion.

Carlos explained that his father’s family is all Catholic, while his mother’s family is Methodist. Carlos grew up Catholic, but in his later teen years he switched religion. His family was very accepting, and while they didn’t share the same beliefs, they did allow him to make up his own mind.

After two years of law school, Carlos decided that was not what he wanted to make a career, and instead went on to seminary to become a pastor.

Puebla was the sight of many battles during the 1800s, but the most famous of these was when the French invaded on May 5, 1862. At this time, the country of Mexico owed money to England, Spain, and France. On May 5, France decided it was time Mexico paid. When the troops invaded, it was raining and all their gunpowder got wet and they soon lost the battle. Since then, the city of Puebla puts on a celebration called Cinco de Mayo (fifth of May). All the schools parade down the streets and there is food and dancing. Mr. Ramirez commented on how he isn’t sure how the holiday became so popular in the states because in Mexico, Puebla is the only city that celebrated on this day. Puebla is a city where the history is rich, but the food is richer. Carlos shared with us a few of his favorite dishes from his home.

Mole poblano originated in Puebla and is a national dish of Mexico. The signature to this dish is a sauce made of a blend of about twenty ingredients, the most prominent being chili and chocolate. Another mouth watering dish is Chiles en nogada. This features poblano chiles stuffed with a mixture of shredded meat, fruits, and spices, then topped with a walnut based cream sauce and pomegranate seeds. This meal displays the colors of the Mexican flag; red, white, and green.

The school system is much poorer than that of ours in the U.S. Mexico does have both public and private schools. Carlos’ mother always taught private school, so that is where Mr. Ramirez received his early education.

It was at school where Carlos learned the English language. Every school has a required uniform. The schools are divided by grade similar to how they are here. 1st–6th grade are in elementary school, 7th–9th are in middle school, and 10th–12th are in high school.

All who were present to Mr. Carlos Ramirez’s speech were sure to have learned a lot. Mrs. Haught’s class, along with SWOSU, would like to thank Mr. Ramirez for taking time out of his schedule to come and share all the information about his home in Mexico.
Turkey Day Fun

By Alyssa Brandon

The turkey is roasting, the family all gathered, and the kids are going crazy!

Sounds like your Thanksgiving Day? Try this easy recipe that’s sure to please everyone’s taste while keeping the little one’s entertained and out of the way.

Oreo Turkey Cookies:

What you will need for each turkey:

2 Oreo Cookies (double stuff works best)
1 Reese’s Miniatures
1 Hershey’s Kiss
7 Candy Corns
1 toothpick
1 tablespoon Vanilla Icing

Directions:

Split one cookie by twisting the two chocolate cookies back and forth to leave the icing on one half. Lay the half with icing down so that the icing is on top. This will be the foundation. Discard other half by eating.

Take the other whole Oreo and stick it on its side vertically in the icing of the foundation. Make sure to place it on the edge of the icing. This will be the cookie you use to build the turkey.

Unwrap the Reese’s Cup, and using the toothpick, lightly cover the bottom of the Reese’s with icing. Place Reese’s on its side, and stick it on front side and bottom of the standing Oreo. This is the turkey’s body.

Unwrap the Hershey’s Kiss. Spread icing on the bottom of the Kiss the same way you did the Reese’s Cup. Turn the Kiss on its side and stick it to the standing Oreo, and on top of the Reese’s. The Kiss serves as the turkey’s head. Add eyes by dotting the kiss with icing.

No turkey is complete without feathers. Finish yours off with Candy Corns. Gently push the white tip of five Candy Corns in the cream across the top of the standing Oreo (add extra icing if necessary to help hold Candy Corns).

For wings, spread a thin layer of icing on one side of the last two Candy Corns. Place one on both sides of the turkey’s body (Reese’s Cup).

It’s the cookie that makes a great table decoration, too.

Jazmin Garcia, 3, is proud to show off the delicious Oreo Turkey Cookie she made with her Aunt Alyssa.
Students Enjoy Politics and Luncheon, at the President Beutler’s Request

Specially selected SWOSU-Sayre students attended a luncheon on Friday, October 23, on the Weatherford campus, at the request of University President Randy Beutler.

Ashley Mendez and Kaci Taylor, both sophomores from Sayre, were the two students chosen by the Sayre faculty and staff. Several students from the Weatherford campus were there, as well. The luncheon was held in the Skyview room, on the second floor of the Student Union.

One of the speakers was Senator Clark Jolley, the author of numerous reforms to Oklahoma government, especially in areas of education and government modernization. Just in the area of education, Sen. Jolley is the principal Senate author of the laws ending social promotion, establishing letter grades for schools and school districts, providing for a better accountability on testing to ensure accuracy of scoring and is a leading advocate of school choice and empowering parents in their children’s education.

Along with Senator Jolley, there was also another senator, a lobbyist and President Randy Beutler.

“We were served a delicious lunch, compliments of the chef of their campus,” stated Kaci Taylor. “While enjoying our lunch, we covered many topics. Politics, activities of the school, why we chose SWOSU, and the great state of Oklahoma were some of the main points. I enjoyed this meeting tremendously. Not only was it nice to be recognized as a student of Sayre-SWOSU, but it was a great experience.”

Senator Clark Jolley

Mrs. Carpenter Leaves SWOSU

By Ashley Brewer

Mrs. Deborah Carpenter, instructor on the Sayre campus, will be leaving SWOSU! Carpenter has been here since the fall semester of 2005. For seven years she has been an instructor for the Computer Science Department. She came here after graduating from SWOSU at Weatherford with a Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Science in 2001. She worked at the Beckham County Sheriff’s Office prior to working here. Later she completed her Master’s Degree.

She and her husband Scott and daughter Carli have moved to South Padre Island, Texas. She is working for Transit Authority for the City of Padre Island, where she takes care of the purchases, accounting, and computerized driving schedules for the bus system. Spring Break will be a busy time, as the public busses run long hours during that three-week period. She has already moved into her new home and begun her job in Padre, but she is still officially an adjunct instructor and is finishing out the semester by way of web-based D2L course instruction.

Mrs. Carpenter has been an awesome instructor and always helpful. She participated in SGA activities, Literary Club, Service Learning, and served on many committees. The faculty and staff threw a beach party for her last Friday in the library. Landry Brewer MC’d the event, teasing Debbie with “Top 10 Reasons We Are NOT Jealous.” She will be missed by all!
RECEPTION HELD TO HONOR STAFF

By Terry Ford

Several important members of the SWOSU-Sayre family were honored at the annual Recognition Reception of the Support Staff Personal Organization (SSPO) held Monday, Nov. 14 in the Bulldog Cafe.

Following a greeting and introduction by Interim Dean Sherron Manning, Dr. Randy Beutler, president of the university, honored several for their contributions to SWOSU. Two women were recognized for 30 years of service—Dianna Mosburg, assistant librarian, and Linda Woodruff, business officer. Honored for 10 years of employment was Earl Bales, network administrator. Also receiving recognition were the ladies who operate the Bulldog Cafe: Marita Kinnemer, Debbie Breeze and Lucia VanZandt. All three are leaving SWOSU after the Christmas Break. Kinnemer and Breeze are retiring, and VanZandt is moving to live near her daughter in Edmond. Kinnemer has worked for SWOSU for eight years, and VanZandt and Breeze each received their 5-year recognition. Also logging in five years is Ron Kistler, financial aid director and sponsor of SGA. Terry Billey was also honored for completing her Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership last summer.

Sayre staff members were present, and those in attendance from Weatherford included President Beutler, Provost Blake Sonobe and members of the Weatherford SSPO were on hand for the celebration.

Beautiful fall decorations of leaves and pumpkins adorned the tables at the ceremony. A banquet of fresh-baked pies presented a harvest feast of flavor, topped off by hot spiced cider.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: LINDA WOODRUFF

By Alyssa Brandon

One night in the Hardie’s Drive-Thru, Sayre’s Superintendent and Jr. College Dean Paul Conner unknowingly started a 30-year legacy when he told our very own Linda Woodruff that she needed to apply for a job at the college. Almost the very next day, Linda was hired as a work study at the Sayre Campus.

She was already attending college at the time, so it was a great opportunity. After putting in a couple of years, Linda transferred to Weatherford and took the job with her. When she was attending the Weatherford campus, she was always good to help out at the Sayre campus on breaks and holidays. She graduated with a teaching degree in Special Education in 1981 and started working for the Sayre Public School system.

The college and the public school were together, but then Sayre Jr. College merged with SWOSU. That same year she returned to the Sayre campus as a full time employee.

Linda has enjoyed many things over the years about this job. When asked what was her favorite, she replied without hesitation, “All the students and people that I have been able to work with.” Another thing she loves is the improvements that have been made to the facility over the years.

She is married to Ronnie Woodruff. She has a son, Justin Woodruff, and daughter-in-law, Jodee. When he was little, Justin was always with his mother at work. He even had his own desk and name plate. She has two grandchildren, as well: Brayson, 6, and Prestyn, 7 months.

Linda is patient, kind, and good-natured. She always participates in school projects and dresses up for the Fall Festival. She and co-worker Susie Campbell enjoy decorating the Business Office as the seasons change. If you ever need to know anything about the early days of the college, Linda is one historian who can tell it all!
Sayre Students Named to Who’s Who

Thirty-four students at Southwestern Oklahoma State University on the Sayre campus have been named to the 2011 edition of Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. The Who’s Who award is one of the biggest academic honors on campus, because the students are selected from the nearly 500 enrolled on campus.

From the list of students who qualify academically, the campus faculty and staff select those who win, based on academic achievements, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for success. The standards are set by the editors of the annual directory. The winners are listed in the box to the left.

Who’s Who Among American Universities

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<th>FULL NAME</th>
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<td>Amick Tabatha Marie</td>
<td>Occupational Therapy Assistant</td>
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<td>Basler Peggy Lynne</td>
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<td>Wood Tiffany Brooke</td>
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Internships Available

Internships are a great way for students to learn how to step out of school and be successful in a full-time working environment. Congressman Frank Lucas is urging all college-aged students in Oklahoma’s Third Congressional District to apply for the spring 2012 internship in his Washington D.C. congressional office.

Working as an intern in the U.S. House of Representatives offers many great learning experiences. Students will assist staff members with general administrative tasks, accompany staffers in committee meetings and events and also give Capitol tours to third congressional district constituents. Interns will also assist staff with legislative and constituent projects. In addition, many colleges offer class credit for the student’s internship.

To apply, please complete the internship application found at www.house.gov/lucas/internships.shtml, and email it to Chelsea.barnett@mail.house.gov, along with your resume, a cover letter and two letters of recommendation. If you have further questions, please contact Chelsea Barnett in Lucas’s Washington D.C. office at (202) 225-5565.
By Alyssa Brandon

On Wednesday, November 9, Mrs. Haught’s Spanish class walked through tropical forests, trekked through deserts, and traveled through time. The adventure began at the Myriad Botanical Gardens, located in the heart of downtown OKC. Their tour guide, Kenton Peters, led the class along the Crystal Bridge while pointing out some of the most interesting species of plants.

The garden is divided into two zones, the first being the Tropical Rain Forest, or Wet Mountain. Plants here are from Amazonia, Central Africa, Southeast Asia and the South Pacific Islands. Below the waterfall, the students got to smell the sweet scent of cocoa given off by the Oncidium Sharry Baby flower, a member of the Orchid family. Myriad Gardens are home to several dozens of species of orchids. As Kenton led the group across the crystal bridge they entered the Dry Tropical Zone, or Dry Mountain. Most of these plants came from South Africa, Madagascar, and Mexico. Plants on this end are only watered during the summer months to imitate their native weather patterns.

As their experience at the gardens came to an end, the students grew hungry and ventured to Chelino’s Mexican Restaurant in Bricktown, as it was a Spanish class trip. Once they had nourishment, the group of students made their way to the Oklahoma History Center. Here they were introduced to an abundance of Oklahoma History. As they entered, the class was greeted by a replica Winnie Mae aircraft. As many already know, the original was owned by Wiley Post. A very helpful volunteer tour guide gave a brief description of all six exhibits, then set the students loose to explore.

They made their way through the award-winning collection of Okie Cartoonists. Works here include, but are not limited to, artists such as Chester Gould, creator of the classic Dick Tracy comic strip. Chester grew up in Pawnee, Oklahoma. As the class continued making their way through history, they caught glimpses of the once beloved show *Hee Haw*. This exhibit celebrates Roy Clark, who was once host of the show, and many of the Oklahoman guests featured on the show, such as Reba McEntire and Roger Miller.

After getting a feel for the life of a Latino family during their immigration to Oklahoma, Mrs. Haught and her class got a chance to relive the birth of the world famous Route 66. The exhibit features one-of-a-kind, brass-era automobiles from the personal collections of Sooner Regional chapter members of the Horseless Carriage Club of America.

The Oklahoma History Center appealed to everyone. The ladies enjoyed “The Return of Elegance: An Evening Wear Collection.” This exhibit features 29 different evening gowns worn by women ranging from the year 1912 to 1985. While the girls browsed, the men ventured across the hall to view the collection of firearms and other weapons.

As the sun began to set, the adventure of Mrs. Haught and her students came to an end. After a quick stop by the gift shop and a final picture, they all began their trek home, taking with them new cultural knowledge and fun memories made with their classmates.
Registrar Kim Seymour, the organizer of Career Day, makes sure the condiments are ready for lunch, and yes, 120 feet of Subway sandwich stretching all the way across the gym was what it took to feed this hungry crowd of visiting students, sponsors, and presenters. Career Day provides the students with the opportunity to visit several different presentations on career choices.

Students from ten area high schools converged on the Sayre campus to meet with instructors, professors, and department chairs of dozens of different degree programs for Career Day.
Brandon Miller is working towards an associate’s degree in general education so that he will have a broad platform from which to choose a higher degree. He enjoys watching his daughter Selena learn and experience new things in our world and seeing a smile on his wife Erica’s face. In his free time, Brandon likes taking long excursions into nature and studying all things “space oriented.”

Alyssa Brandon lives with her soon-to-be husband Richard Duran and their lovely daughter Emma Leigh. They also have their daughter’s cat Feisty who is in fact very lazy. Her favorite ways to spend time is with her family just relaxing and playing at home. Cooking is a passion of hers. She loves experimenting with new recipes. Alyssa is studying to become an Elementary Teacher. “I loved Elementary school so much, now I get to go back and get paid LOL.”

Rebecca Clanahan is studying to be an Occupational Therapy Assistant. She chose this major as a way to help special needs children, gaining a lot of inspiration from her three kids, one of them having special needs. She lives part-time in Burns Flat and part-time in Rocky with her boyfriend, Jason, and his daughter. Her favorite colors are blue and green. In her free time, she enjoys gardening and reading.

Ashley Brewer grew up in Ukiah, California and moved to Sayre in 2000. She is married to CJ Brewer and between them; they have 7 kids, one grandson, and a granddaughter on the way. She loves eating anything that her grandma Judy cooks. Her favorite colors are green and purple. She is majoring in pre-nursing because she loves working with people. She hopes that by finishing school she will be able to encourage her kids to finish school as well.

Kaci Taylor is majoring in Nursing. She has always been interested in the medical field and thinks nursing is wonderfully rewarding. From a large family in Erick, Kaci loves quality family time and helping others. She hopes to one day have a beautiful family of her own.

Mrs. Ford is the sponsor of The WatchDawg. She majored in Journalism at OU, worked as a reporter/photographer for five years, got her masters at SWOSU Weatherford, taught high school for 12 years, and has been at SWOSU Sayre for seven. She has several collections including hats, multi-cultural dolls and vintage books.

Liz Terry grew up in Cheyenne, but now lives in Sayre. She is the oldest of 4 sisters. She loves Mexican food and the color green. She is studying to be a medical lab technician. She chose this because of her love of people. One day she hopes to have a good job to be able to provide for a future family and she hopes to be able to travel the world.

Katie Currell lives in Elk City. She has two older sisters and her favorite color is black. Katie is actively involved in the Red Carpet Community Theatre, and she loves to be in front of an audience. Her main focus while at SWOSU is General Education, for now.

The Few, The Proud:
The Faces Behind the Headlines

Zack White lives in Sayre, where he was born and raised. He enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. He is working on general education while he contemplates what he wants to be when he grows up.
Finals for short courses and night classes will be held during the last regular class session, except for those meeting during Final Exam days.

Thursday, December 8th
- All Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am classes finals will be held 8:30-10:30
- All Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 am classes, finals will be held 10:30 am- 12:30 pm

Friday, December 9th
- All Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00 am classes finals will be held 8:30-10:30
- All Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:00 pm classes finals will be held 10:30 am- 12:30 pm

Monday, December 12th
- All M, W, F 9:00 am classes finals will be held 8:30-10:30.
- All M, W, F, 1:00 pm classes finals will be held 10:30 am- 12:30 pm

Tuesday, December 13th
- All M, W, F 10:00 am classes finals will be held 8:30-10:30.
- All Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 am classes finals will be held 10:30 am- 12:30 pm

Wednesday, December 14th
- All M, W, F 11:00 am classes finals will be held 8:30-10:30.
- All Tuesday, Thursday 12:30 pm classes finals will be held 10:30 am-12:30pm

**All other final exams will be scheduled by the instructor**

Spanish Class has *Fiesta*, makes *Navidad* cards for Honduras

By Liz Terry

Mrs. Haught’s class had a “Fiesta” in Spanish I class on Friday, November 17th.

The members of the class ate tacos, tamales, and other traditional Mexican foods, and they also enjoyed making Christmas cards in the Spanish language. They gathered and donated school supplies.

The cards and school supplies were then sent to a needy school in Honduras, Central America.