SHERRON MANNING NAMED DEAN AT SAYRE

By Kaci Taylor

Sherron Manning has been named Dean of the College of Associate and Applied Sciences on the SWOSU-Sayre campus, announced Dr. Blake Sonobe, Senior Vice President and Provost.

Manning had been serving as interim dean since this past September. Students may know her as director of counseling and assessment at the Sayre campus, a job she has held since 2004.

Prior to her employment at SWOSU, she was a science teacher (biology, chemistry, physics, computer science) at Erick High School for 10 years and a science teacher at Altus Junior High School for one year.

Manning has both a B.S. in Secondary Natural Science Education and a Master of Education in School Counseling from SWOSU.

She and her husband, Gary Manning, both graduated from Sayre High School, and all three of their sons Josh, Joe, and Jarrod are Sayre alumni, with their youngest, Jarrod being a senior this year. Sherron has been active on prom committees and president of the All Sports Club. Her husband is a banker at Great Plains and he is active in many civic organizations.

Since Manning has been interim dean, she has overseen many upgrades to the facilities, including fresh paint, new carpet, new Smartboards, and other equipment. The updates to the Bulldog café are being followed by a new look for the Lit Pit, a commons area in Mackey Hall. She has worked to connect the community to the college by holding seminars and classes for the public here on campus, and has worked with the Strategic Planning facilitators for the future of the campus.

Faculty and staff will welcome her aboard with a get-together in April 19 at 2 p.m. in the Bulldog Café.

ON APRIL 6, MINERAL RIGHTS EXPLAINED

A seminar entitled “Legal Aspects of Mineral Rights” will be held for mineral owners and interested parties in Western Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Sayre.

The public is invited and encouraged to attend. It will be held April 6 from 6-8 p.m. at the Sayre Public Schools Auditorium in Sayre. Senator Ivester will be the speaker.

For additional information, please contact the SWOSU Office of Continuing Education at (580) 774-7012, Terry Billeley at (580)-928-5533 extension 106, or osp@swosu.edu.

Ivester was born and raised in Sayre, Oklahoma. He was the Val- edictorian of his Senior Class, attended TCU to obtain a Bachelor’s degree, and received his law degree from OU. Senator Ivester enlisted and served active duty in the Army. He has been an Officer at a Panama Refugee Camp, became a Paratrooper at Fort Bragg, and has a Jump Master Status.

After 911, he served in Afghanistan and is currently a LT. Colonel in the Oklahoma National Guard. He was a Commander of the 2nd Battalion, 189th Regiment: October 10, 2010.

Ivester continues to serve with his father and uncle in a small town practice that his grandfather started in 1927. His late grandfather Al Ivester was also a senator from 1935-1939.

Ivester serves on many committees in the Oklahoma State Senate. He attended the NCSL Leadership Institute in October 2007 at the request of Senate President Pro Tempore Mike Morgan. He also attended the State Legislative Leaders Foundation in July 2008 at the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Business from a nomination by President Pro Tempore Mike Morgan. He served as assistant Democratic Floor Leader 2009, attended the Toll Fellows Leadership Program September in 2009, and became the Democratic Caucus Chair in 2011.
Graduation is May 11! Hey, procrastinators: you need to get your caps and gowns ordered! Check your e-mail for instructions, fill out the form, and the bookstore will have your order ready for you. The Follet Bookstore is located next to the Bulldog Café in the southwest corner of campus.

All of you who plan to graduate (December, May or Summer) should check the list on this page to make sure your name is on it. If you don’t see your name, contact Registrar Kim Seymour. You must apply for graduation.

Graduation is at 7 p.m. in the Sayre High School auditorium, and a reception will follow in the Bulldog Café.

**Associate in Science Degrees**

**General Business**
- Rachel Carter
- Nacole Majors
- Amy Parker
- Jason Parkhurst
- Khelsea Risinger
- Jessica Roark
- Mellisa Tripp

**Pre-Nursing**
- Tamela Price

**Computer Science**
- Michael Brinkley
- Audry Gragg
- Jeff Roland
- Robert Sanchez

**Criminal Justice**
- Megan Region
- Lary Sales

**Associate in Applied Science Degrees**

**Medical Laboratory Technician**
- Cally Daughtery
- Heather Gauntt
- Amanda Low
- Julie Rhodes
- Jennifer Wynn

**General Studies**
- Erica Baker
- Alyssa Brandon
- Dustin Burpo
- Glen Calvert
- Stella Collins
- Bobby Cornelsen
- Karli Davis
- Kimberly Digby
- Richard Duran
- Charlotte Fuller
- Jamie Greer
- Sara Hathaway
- Jan Hay
- Rachel Hendrix
- Keisha Holmes
- Brittney Hunter
- Cheryl Irwin
- Kathy Jones
- Angela Kent
- Morgan McDowell
- Janessa McKinnon
- Ashley Mendez
- Brandon Miller
- Jason Montgomery
- Matthew Nichols
- Carly Nguyen
- DeeDee Owens
- David Perez
- James Racadio
- Bryant Region
- Tanesha Reyes
- Jennifer Sheffield
- Taylor Shockey
- Amy Stinson
- Kaci Taylor
- Taylor Verkler
- Zack White

**Occupation Therapy Assistant**
- Tabatha Amick
- Peggy Basler
- Harli Brunson
- Kimberly Findley
- Philinda Galzote
- Cassie Greenwood
- Cassidy Guice
- Christine Kneedler
- Kristine Lamino
- Adam Ramirez Jr
- Kiley Sheperd
- Bryan Swietek
- Toya Vogt
- Tiffany Wood

**Criminal Justice AAS**
- Cynthia Morgan

**Radiologic Technology**
- Ashley Anderson
- Laura Beck
- Tera Cheaney
- Ashley Dunn
- Tiffany Herbst
- Paul Mordi
- Anna Rojo
- Sara Schneberger
- Amanda Smith
- Cassondra Sottile
- Michael Tidmore

**Physical Therapist Assistant**
- Stacey Case
- Staci Crume
- Tyler Dysart
- Dustin Hamm
- Kevin Kinnaird
- Aaron McDonald
- Katy Marney
- Andrea Overstreet
- Shana Stephenson
- Chaya Taylor
- Meredith Thornbrough
- Kristopher Tucker
- Freddy Vargas
- Jennifer Wright

Graduation practice is 10:30 a.m. on May 9.
Ericks High School students took top honors at the recent Timed Writing and Research Project (WARP) competition held at the Sayre campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

Justin Reed won the contest and a $600 scholarship. Erick High School classmate Sean Kofax won second place and a $500 scholarship, while Kelsey Brinkley of Erick and Alexis Colen of Merritt High School tied for third place and each won a $400 scholarship.

Twenty students from area high schools participated in the Timed WARP, according to Judy Haught, language and literature instructor at SWOSU-Sayre. The event allows high school juniors to display their creative writing talents.

Read the winning essay in full on page 9.

BANDS ANNOUNCED FOR SWOSU Palooza

"Raps and Chaps" is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 7 p.m., in the SWOSU Wellness Center on the Weatherford campus.

This year’s event will pair country music stars and hip-hop artists. The lineup includes Stoney LaRue, Curtis & Luckey, Josh Sallee, and Delvin Sirleaf.

Headlining is country icon Stoney LaRue. A leader in the Red Dirt music movement, LaRue recently released his second studio album, "Velvet." The album peaked at 15 on the Billboard Country Music Chart.

Curtis & Luckey blend country and rock ‘n’ roll in their unique style of songwriting. In 2011, C & L opened for superstars like The Band Perry, Pat Green, Easton Corbin and Joe Nichols.

Josh Sallee is a rising star in the hip-hop industry. The young Oklahoman is hard at work on his newest project, “Probable Flaws.” Sallee has collaborated with all stars like Mac Miller, Cyhi da Prynce, DJ Green Lantern, J.U.S.T.I.C.E. League, Chip the Ripper, and MC Hammer.

The opening artist is SWOSU’s own Delvin Sirleaf. The 21-year-old singer hails from Oklahoma City. This past year of 2011 was a busy one for Sirleaf as he won a contest with MTV & Pacsun to attend the MTV VMAs in Los Angeles and was a finalist for B.E.T.’s “Blaze the Stage.” Sirleaf’s debut EP, “Waiting for Boarding” is available on iTunes.

Tickets for SWOSUPalooza are $10 for SWOSU students who purchase in advance, $15 for the general public, and $15 for everyone at the door the night of the show. Entertainment will start at 7 p.m. that night. Ticket locations will be announced soon, but the SWOSU PR & Marketing Office and SWOSU Business Office will have tickets.

SWOSUPalooza is a project of the SWOSU Student Government Association. For more information, contact Maria Ortega at ortegamd@student.swosu.edu or Blaine Boyd at boydb@student.swosu.edu.

writers welcome! Plan now for Lit Festival

Calling all writers! If you have published a book, you are invited to attend the Literary Festival as a vender, a member of a panel discussion, or as a presenter! Mark October 10th, 2012, on your calendar as the proposed date of the 2nd annual literary festival on the Sayre Campus.

Now in the planning stages, the festival is to be called, “Much Ado About Words: A Festival of Literary Proportions.”

In addition to workshops with celebrated authors, the festival will feature a panel discussion by student writers, vender’s booths, and the presentation of our 2nd annual volume of student anthology—featuring writings and photography of Sayre students only!

To be considered for inclusion, all poets and writers on the campus may submit poems, essays or photographs to their English Composition instructors.

Any students whose writings were featured in last year’s anthology are invited to sign up to lead the panel discussion. Contact Terry Ford at SMH 101 or email at terry.ford@swosu.edu.

Sayre Language Arts instructor Judy Haught has been working closely with Dr. Lori Gwyn of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs to provide extra funding for the event.
**SWOSU Attracts**

By Rebecca Clanahan

When you step on the SWOSU campus, the first things you might notice are the clean parking lots, all of the buildings, and even the buffalo that proudly stands at the entrance. If you visit while classes are in session, you will find lots of cars in the parking lots and students walking all over campus as they venture to their next class, head to the library to study or even congregate in groups visiting with friends.

The common view of a college freshman is a youthful high school graduate. However, if you look closely you will find that 37 percent of the students on the SWOSU campus are mothers, fathers and even grandparents. People who work full-time jobs and take care of families have made the jump back into college, squeezing college classes into an already packed schedule in an attempt to earn a degree and work in the occupation they have always dreamed of.

According to a USA Today story that quoted the National Center for Educational Statistics, about half of today’s students are financially independent; 49 percent are enrolled part-time; 38 percent work full-time; and 27 percent have dependents of their own. Almost half—12 million—attend two-year community colleges rather than four-year schools.

**A New Way of Life**

**Sara Morgan**

Meet Sara Morgan, a native of Mexico and a mother of three. Eight years ago, she made the difficult decision to move her little family to the states after the loss of her husband. With no knowledge of the English language, she watched cartoons with her kids, learning the confusing language from the captions on television.

Making the decision to take college classes here was easy for Sara. She came to Oklahoma with a year of college under her belt. She was studying law while in Mexico. When asked about her struggles with her classes this semester, she said “understanding the meanings and pronunciations of words is most difficult.” She also feels like she doesn’t always express herself fully in her classes.

Sara hasn’t officially declared a major yet, but is just taking classes for fun and working on her English skills.

**College Takes a Backseat**

**Officer Tommy Stevens**

Another student juggling a stressful class load with an even more stressful job is Tommy Stevens. As the chief of police and only member of the Erick Police Department, Tommy’s days are usually packed full with his duties as a police officer. He has trained several other officers in recent months, only to have them move on to other jobs as soon as training is complete. Several have left for the lucrative oil field jobs.

Taking time to put school first just is not an option at this time. He first began missing class due to a rape case in Erick. Some of his teachers were understanding of his absences because of the importance of his job. But now, due to the shortage of officers, he has missed a great deal of school. If Tommy quits his job now, the city of Erick will lose its police department forever, leaving only the county sheriff’s department at Sayre to keep an eye on the small community.

Getting to class, and sometimes staying in class, is a challenge for this family man. Many times, his trek to SWOSU is interrupted by a phone call, calling him back to Erick to work. On the occasions he actually makes it to class, he doesn’t always get to stay. Getting called back to Erick is a very common occurrence.

Tommy is working toward a degree in parks and recreation management. He has been married to his wife, Anisa, for 21 years and they have two children ages 6 and 8. Tommy completed 21 years overseas in the United States Navy. After retiring, he returned home and enrolled full-time at SWOSU. All though keeping up in his classes is extremely difficult and often requires large amounts of make-up work, Tommy says, “I believe hard work and determination, along with continuing education will lead to better opportunities, and not limit one's self to what is directly in front of them.”

**Never to Late to Realize a Dream**

**Paula Gloria**

Working to make a dream a reality is just one of the motivations that Paula Gloria has for attending school. She dreams of one day owning and operating her own campground, complete with cabins and R.V. hook-ups. While she hasn’t made up her mind if she wants to make that a reality just yet, she keeps busy in school by working towards an associate degree in general education.

As a child growing up, Paula’s dad instilled in her how important education is. She lives by a beloved quote from her dad: “You can never be too smart.” Paula made the decision to begin taking college classes in her late 40’s when she lost her job as an administrative assistant. When she began the hunt for a new job, she discovered that her certificates from Vo-Tech were a great thing to have, but they just weren’t enough when other applicants had college degrees.

(Continued on page 5)
Facing Different Challenges with Skill

(Continued from page 4)

Tackling college classes later in life has been difficult for Paula. She says "My brain does not work as good or as fast as it used to." Add in the stress of co-parenting her grandchildren that live with her, and she has a difficult time focusing on her homework and studying. Although school work is difficult with little ones under foot, she greatly enjoys having the grandkids around and wouldn’t change any part of her routine for the world!

Her advice to younger students: “Do it while you are young and take it seriously and save every penny that you can.” She gives this advice based on her own life experiences, urging others not to be quitters. She quit high school during her junior year, returned and then quit again, earning her general equivalency diploma 10 years later. While she may feel like a quitter, she has proven she is a fighter.

A Better Life For the Baby
Alyssa Brandon and Rick Duran

This young couple had always intended to go to college. After graduating high school, Alyssa Brandon and Rick Duran decided to take a year off before continuing their education. During that time, the two planned on relaxing, having fun and deciding what direction in life they would take next.

Alyssa was glad she took some time for herself, because while attending SWOSU in Sayre for her first semester, she and Rick, her boyfriend of a year and a half, found out they were going to have a baby. In July 2010, they had a beautiful daughter, Emma Leigh Duran. Without missing a beat, both new parents started school that following semester. When asked why they decided to continue school after having Emma, Alyssa replied, “Before I gave birth to my daughter, I was going to school for myself, but now I go so that I can give my daughter everything she needs.” Rick said he wanted to be able to provide for his family and knew he had to expand his education to get where he wanted to be in life.

The two student parents also work outside the home, Rick at a construction company working full time, and Alyssa at a restaurant working part time. They typically wait until Emma is in bed for the night before sitting down to a night of homework. During the first two years the couple signed up for the same class schedule, which proved to be very beneficial. This way, if one had to miss class, the other was there to pick up the work. Rick suggested that more people partner up like this. “It was a lifesaver for us in several situations.”

Being a working parent while trying to get a degree fills every day with endless to-do lists. Rick and Alyssa both agree that they wouldn’t have it any other way. “Our daughter is our inspiration for all we do, and having her has made us better people.”

Both will graduate with their associate degrees this May. They are excited to see where their education takes them and what the future holds for their family.

Searching For Enlightenment
B.K. Miller

Meet B.K. Miller, also known as Brandon Miller. Born and raised in Oklahoma City, he followed his mother when she moved to western Oklahoma to care for her ailing mother. Gaining custody of his daughter, Selena, has taken him back and forth from Oklahoma City to here, but ultimately family has been the deciding factor for him to remain in western Oklahoma to raise his growing family and continue his education.

Choosing to attend class at SWOSU at Sayre seemed to be the perfect place to get back into college classes. Brandon went to college straight out of high school in 2001 but soon dropped out. When he made the decision to go back, he had to overcome a bad transcript that resulted from the not-so-well-thought-out decision to drop out without withdrawing properly. When asked what has been the biggest struggle that has come from being out of school so long, Brandon replied, “I think that might have actually helped with wanting to know what I wanted out of life. It was difficult, especially with math, trying to relearn the fundamentals and language of mathematics after 12 years without formal education.”

Brandon got married in August and he and his wife, Erica, are expecting a baby boy ‘Apollo’ in June. Brandon currently maintains a home for him and his daughter in western Oklahoma, while his wife maintains their home in Oklahoma City while she finishes college there. Brandon travels to Oklahoma City every weekend and usually one night a week to spend time with his wife. The couple has plans to move to Weatherford this summer where Brandon will begin working toward his bachelor’s degree in engineering physics/music theory on the SWOSU Weatherford campus.

Brandon had words of high praise about SWOSU at Sayre campus “Being a ‘city kid,’ I came here with very little expectations about SWOSU Sayre, about the academic programs and toward someone with different life philosophies and goals. The professors at SWOSU have really shown a willingness to be understanding and work with someone who has an unusual situation.”

Today’s “non-traditional” students face unique challenges, but bring special skill sets to the table—skills they have honed over the years or due to extra responsibilities. Far from being alone, they make up a growing portion of the students here on the Sayre campus.
**Librarian Displays Book Crafts**

By Karli Davis

The library is not only the home of books, it’s a home of book crafts. Librarian April Miller has done several neat decorations made from books. There are garlands of leaves made from pages of books. She has done accordion folds in various shapes. Her most recent and time-consuming project was making purses out of books.

Mrs. Miller had the entire project materials laid out and ready to go for the teachers as they arrived, thanks to a helpful crew, consisting of Dianna Mosburg, Terry Ford, Judy Haught, and Brittney Tripp. The English teachers arriving for Timed W.A.R.P. played trivia games about books, then were given their materials to glue up their purses. One of the English teachers was male, but he was a good sport and made one as a gift for someone.

Many crafts came from the Internet site CountryLiving.com, but the library also has a book called the *Repurposed Library* by Lisa Occhinti, which includes many crafty ideas: shelves out of books, lampshades out of book pages, a spatula holder out of a cook book, picture frame books, and a book as a frame for a mirror. If you are interested in book crafts, visit the O.H. McMahan Library.

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**SWOSU Enters Local Chili Cook-off**

SWOSU was represented in a delicious way at Sayre’s Main Street Chili Cook-off. It was held Monday, March 26 at the Beckham County Activity Barn.

Serving up a tasty recipe called “Smokey Joe’s Southwestern Chili” was Bill D’Alessandro, the director of the Hotel, Restaurant and Gaming management degree program at SWOSU/Sayre.

Although Bill’s chili didn’t win the prize, its yummy uniqueness did not go without notice by all the patrons! Made of pork shoulder instead of ground beef, it featured olive oil, cilantro, cumin, chipotle peppers, enchilada sauce, dark beer and black beans!

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SWOSU instructor Bill D’Alessandro serves Southwestern Chili to Sayre resident, Troy Ford.
By Ashley Brewer

The Introduction to Speaking class has been studying the effects of our dress upon our first impressions. This raised the question: How do we rate? Should we mess with the dress on campus?

“You can’t judge a book by its cover.” Sounds good, doesn’t it? Then, there is a second quote which may be more realistic, particularly when you are making your mark in a professional setting.

“You never get a second chance to make a first impression.” Whether fair or not, we humans make judgments about everyone we meet within the first several seconds of an introduction. We believe that we can reach solid conclusions about a person based on his or her smile, clothing, handshake, and accent.

Appearances—are they important? Some say yes, others say no. Where does our campus fall on this matter of opinion? How do our students rate our faculty and each other? In public opinion on our campus, does how we dress define us and is our dress appropriate?

Here are some local students’ opinions, gathered in an anonymous survey.

- “I like the way the teachers dress. It’s very hip and up to date, but not crazy that they are trying to keep up with the kids. They always look relaxed but very nice.”
- “I definitely do not feel that the reputation of SWOSU is hindered by the way the faculty dresses. I feel that the faculty does not overdress or underdress. In my opinion, the faculty for the most part, dresses casually. In my opinion, casual dress sets a more relaxing environment. As far as the students’ dress, it has been for the most part well! As long as I don’t see a guy’s underwear because his pants are hanging too low or a young lady with her butt checks hanging out, I’m not offended. So far on our campus, I have not seen any of that. So far, so good!”
- “I think that at the Sayre Campus, the faculty and staff dress very well. They all look professional, and they stand out from the students, which I believe is important.”
- “I think the faculty all dress casual-professional. I am glad that they do not try to dress over-the-top fancy. It makes me as a student more comfortable. As far as the students’ dress, some try to dress hip. I am not one of those students.”
- “I like how the Sayre SWOSU faculty dresses. To me, it’s a step above casual, so it’s more like casual-dressy. I like it because it feels more relaxed. The students dress casual for the most part. A few dress really nice, which is okay, but I’m more of a casual dress person, especially waking up early for school!”
- “The students put a lot of energy, surprisingly, into what they wear. I think that outward appearance is mostly what people care about right now. I think that the students that come only on Tuesday and Thursday dress a little nicer. I guess because they are here fewer days.”
- “I think it is important for the faculty to dress their best, which I feel that they do. I think it is important because it encourages others.”
- “I think the faculty dress is too uptight. They look like they’re going to church every day of the week. There’s nothing wrong with being comfortable; in fact, it might improve the mood.”

Teachers are judged by students, administrators and parents by the way they dress. While some schools allow their teachers to dress more casually, others may impose a dress code. Either way, teachers must dress professionally when they go to school. When teachers dress for success, they gain respect from administrators and set a positive example for their students. Students, too, should consider people can’t keep from making assumptions about them by the way they dress.
By Dayna Hicks

The Bobbsey Twins, Nancy Drew, and Sherlock Holmes came off the shelf where they were collecting dust to be on display for students and visitors to SWOSU.

Language Arts instructors Terry Ford and Judy Haught displayed their unique collections of antique books in the middle of Mackey Hall.

When asked about how they got started collecting antique books, Mrs. Ford had this to say: “A dear friend of mine, Barbara Craig, gave me a spelling book from 1860. I loved it so much, that I began finding more at garage sales and book stores.”

Mrs. Haught says, “I collect antique books for two reasons: first of all, I love books, and second, I love items from the past because they give me a glimpse of a different time and place.”

Collecting antique books is special, and in this case, something common between two close friends.

Mrs. Haught’s favorite antique book was actually a gift from Mrs. Ford herself—The Bobbsey Twins by Laura Lee Hope, published in 1904. She’s loved those books ever since the fourth grade. She laughs and adds that in case you were wondering, she was not in the fourth grade in 1904.

Whether it’s for the love of all things old; or finding treasures that you never knew you cared about, collecting antique books is worthy of your time.

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SWOSU Goes to Shamrock

By Dayna Hicks

On Saturday, March 17th, SWOSU traveled to Texas for the Shamrock St. Patrick’s Day parade. We were number 21 as we lined up to take our position. This year, the crowd was bigger than Shamrock has seen in years. The floats were beautifully crafted as they made their way down the crowded street. There was everything from middle-aged belly dancers, to mules being rode downtown. All in all, it was a great day.

Dayna Hicks drove the Bulldog sign down Main Street!
Winning Essay: Books into Movies

By Justin Reed
WARP winner, Erick High School

From the wizarding world of Harry Potter to the great Olympian god in the Lightening Thief; youth fiction books are commonly being portrayed as movies, die-hard fans are not fully pleased with what the Hollywood industry has done to their favorite books. From leaving out crucial details to adding non-existing plots, Hollywood directors change to make the story more exciting. Also, when reading the reader actually has to use his/her head to make the novel exciting.

Books, on their own, have a unique appeal. Literature enthusiasts say reading “enhances empathy, imagination and the ability to concentrate deeply” (“Harry Potter and the Future of Reading”). When reading a book it activates the imagination, to make pictures of the characters, settings, and actions in the novel. With movies, however, it shows you what you should be thinking and doesn’t leave anything for the imagination. Such as when I thought of the gods, while reading The Lightning Thief, I thought they would be glowing and normal size when I went to see the movie, the gods were 15 feet tall and did not glow. And when the adaption comes out, sometimes “the movie suffers and did not glow. And when the adaption comes out, sometimes “the movie suffers by taking itself a little too seriously. It’s not just that it’s a lot less funny than the books. It’s also a lot less fun,” said Michael O’Sullivan of the Washington Post about The Lightening Thief.

Although there are many bad things about the movies; there are also good things too. The movies also put into perspective the entirety of the book, while your imagination can only do so much. Another good thing about movies; is that it doesn’t take weeks to get through them. Also movies help the publishing industry as well as the movie industry. When The Lightning Thief was first advertised, thousands were bought in the weeks before and after the release.

Movies, in their attempt to be under 3 ½ hours long, cut many important details in the books and sometimes, even change the entirety of the plot. Such as The Lightning Thief, the screen writers left our key people, such as the god Ares (The main antagonist in the book) and his daughter Clarisse. Most of this is due to under-funding and result in the movies being much worse.

Although some of the movies made out of books are bad not all are. The Blind Side and Moneyball, both written by Michael Lewis, are great movies. As Philip French puts it “The scenes between the wheeling-and-dealing manager and his awkwardly nerdish young counselor are superbly handled, and the picture is consistently exciting and highly intelligent” (French). The reason these two books have turned into great movies is because of great actors like Sandra Bullock and Brad Pitt as the head characters.

So in conclusion, books are the overall better format. Books that are turned into movies often have crucial details missing and dramatic scenes added before they are released. Although most book-movies are incorrect there are some that include all the content of the book. Movies are better for the fast paced world that we live in, but the classic novel will forever be a keepsake in the common American household.

Works Cited


Phillip French. Rev. of Moneyball by Bennet Miller. The Observer. 26 Nov. 2011

Dreadlocks win March Madness 3-on-3 Tourney

The March Madness 3-on-3 basketball tournament was held Saturday with five teams showing up to beat the 8 a.m. fog and play for the prize of sportsmanship and $75.00. The tourney culminated at noon with the championship game.

The winning team was “Dreadlocks” with Landon Whinery, Jered Williams, and Joe Harbert. Whinery pulled off the “two-peat,” as he was also the baller who rounded up last year’s winning team.

The second place team was “SM Energy” with Brandon Riffe, Blain Flowers, and Trystin Fry.

The court looked like a Who’s...