Enroll Now!

By Blake Cuevas

Enrollment for spring began on Oct 8. The schedule is on the web and the printed version will be in the office of Kim Seymour, the Registrar. Seymour has completed graduation checks for all students with 30+ hours. If students need to know exactly what they need to graduate, they should come by her office. Students should be sure to start enrollment soon; classes are filling up!

Some new courses are on the

(Continued on page 10)

Costume Contest is on “Wicked Wednesday”

The annual fall fun day will be from 9-2 on Wednesday, October 31st in the Patterson Field House.

“Wicked Wednesday,” as the event is being dubbed, will feature music, free food and drinks, gunny sack races, apple bobbing, a pie eating contest, a costume contest, and other fall fun events. The Student Government Association plans and sponsors the event.

The costume contest is a tradition on the Sayre campus and always seems to have great participation from students, as well as faculty and staff. The student body is encouraged to dress up and also to take a second to vote for the costume winners.

SGA President Kayleigh Reed has been telling classmates, “The first place prize will be something worth dressing up for!”

Indeed! First place is a prize of $200, second is $100, and third is $50. Additionally, the pie eating contest will pay $25 to the winner, and the Guestimate Jar will pay $25 for the closest guess.

Those in costume who wish to be judged should register early Friday morning and get a number from Nancy Sanders in the Financial Aid office in the Alexander Building. Students should remember that classes are still being held, so they must work the fun events into their schedule.

To set the mood, see page 5 and 6 for stories of students’ best Halloween memories.

Career Day is Nov. 7th

By Kristin Archer

The Annual Career Day is slated for Nov. 7th. If you want more information about any degrees offered, this is the day to ask questions!

Area high school seniors, along with current SWOSU-Sayre students can attend various program information sessions to help them decide on a college/career path. Guest speakers will be on campus.

Free food and door prizes are available to all who attend. Food will be served in the gym at noon.

Signs will be posted outside of classroom doors from 9 to noon to indicate which educational program is being discussed within. Some classes may be dismissed to accommodate the speakers.
Fred Alsburg traces literary inspiration

With standing room only, Poet Fred Alsburg spoke to a packed room of around 45 students and visitors about the literary influences on his own poetry and how poets influence one another.

Originally from Chicago, Alsburg had written a poem about his time as a taxi driver in the bustling city and characters there that he personified in poetry.

One poem that Alsburg read by Gregory Corso, one of the Beat Generation writers of the Fifties, brought laughter from the crowd. Corso wrote “Marriage,” a humorous meditation on the institution, which is written with all the self-doubt and indecision of “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” by T. S. Elliot.

“I like Alsburg’s poem about snow,” said Gracia Shannon. His imagery of snow “falling like fish food in an aquarium” and people on the streets of Chicago “stepping out of their footsteps” was very memorable.

Alsburg is an instructor on the Weatherford campus and has many poems published in scholarly journals such as The New Yorker, has two books of poetry published.

Dr. Nye speaks of Oklahoma writers

By Julie Olson

On October 10th, the campus of Southwestern in Sayre was buzzing with the many activities of the Literary Festival.

Dr. Jerry Nye, now retired as the head of the Language Arts Department, gave a wonderful presentation on the topic of Oklahoma authors. In his speech, he elaborated on some authors who were his personal favorites, often relating anecdotes derived from personal conversations he had.

Some of these authors included Billie Letts, Ralph Ellison, Woodrow Wilson Rawls, Harold Keith, and S.E. Hinton.

Many members of the community joined the faculty and students to hear guest speakers, attend the Renaissance Fair, view the many storyboards on multiculturalism displayed in Mackey Hall, and witness a play performed at noon in the Bulldog Café Building.

Dr. Mann warms audience with native lore

A native of the Cheyenne tribe, Henrietta Mann is possible one of the most decorated speakers in Oklahoma, but one wouldn’t suspect her world re-nown by her comforting, conversational style of speaking.

As a guest for the literary festival, she spoke to a packed library about the history of Native America through its literature. Her tales of her upbringing showed the values of the native culture. She discussed many of the Creation stories, and explained what they teach about how to live and behave. Because the Creator (Ma’ha’o) spoke things into being, we learn the sacredness of breath and power of words to create or destroy. From the Little Mud Hen, tale, we learn that even the smallest creatures can be of great importance. From proverbs we learn the importance of the hopeful spirit of the women to the tribe. Her conclusion was a touching PowerPoint presentation called “Farewell” set to music.
October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast Cancer is one of the cancers that can be eliminated with early detection. This month is designated to show support for those who are currently fighting and sympathy to those who have been fatally affected by this disease. Breast Cancer Awareness Month is celebrated by wearing pink.

**STATISTICS**

According to the American Cancer Society, any of the following unusual changes in the breast can be a symptom of breast cancer:

- swelling of all or part of the breast
- skin irritation or dimpling
- breast pain
- nipple pain or the nipple turning inward
- redness, scaliness, or thickening of the breast skin
- a discharge other than breast milk
- a lump in the underarm area

**Students Shared Writing with Large Audience**

By Ashley Brewer

A panel of SWOSU students volunteered to be put on the spot regarding their writing. Dr. Jerry Nye, retired Chair of the Language Arts Department in Weatherford, served as moderator and asked the writers questions about their writings during the Literary Festival. Each student read a portion of his or her poetry or writings that had appeared in the SWOSU-Sayre anthology, entitled *What the Heart Doth Know*. Nye asked questions about the effectiveness of conclusions, the allusions to other writings (in one case, a hymn,) and how the poetry connected to personal feelings. The beautiful full-color anthologies are available in the office of Terry Ford, 101 Mackey Hall. The first 50 anthologies were printed free through the humanities grant, and another 50 printed by Spitzer Publishing; therefore, the first book is free, and after that, students may pay $7.00 for any others they wish to purchase for friends or family members.

*Dr. Nye moderated for the student writers (from left), Alicia Moglia, Kaylee Riley, Lindsey Dillon, Sam Maddux, Jaci Alford, Paula Gloria, and Ashley Brewer.*
Students’ works shine down at the Gallery

By Chasity Dyer

Sayre’s Main Street gallery displayed some photos and drawings by students from Southwestern and surrounding high schools. More than 60 photographs were submitted by students for anthologies, produced in conjunction with the literary festival, “Much Ado About Words.” The gallery is located at 112 East Main Street in Sayre.

Some of the photos were from the first anthology published by the SWOSU Language Arts Department called Look Mom, No Tweats. But most of them had been recently submitted for the second anthology called What the Heart Doth Know. Mrs. Judy Haught, Language Art instructor, invited students to take photographs that typified “Western Oklahoma,” which was the theme of this year’s literary festival. The anthology containing all of the accepted photos is available from Mrs. Ford in Mackey 101. One of wind turbines, by student Elizabeth Walker, was selected to appear in all of the promotional material, and one, by student Meagan Thompson, was chosen for the cover of the anthology.

Some of the SWOSU students whose work is on display include Chelsea Miller, Meagan Thompson, Melanie Warnke, Elizabeth Walker, Dani Farell, Kristen Archer, Devon Connell, Jacob Leal, Lindsay Tackett, Chris Trent, Alexander Shuck.

The Red River Arts Society helped sponsor the Literary Festival and this beautiful display at Gallery@112 captures the many artistic photographs taken by SWOSU students in a challenge to capture Western Oklahoma.

Fiction Writers: Scholarship available to TCU

One of Texas Christian University’s most prestigious scholarships, the Sandra Brown Excellence in Literary Fiction Scholarship award, provides full tuition for up to two years, and is a unique opportunity for a community college transfer student. The deadline is Nov. 16, 2012.

Application requires a portfolio of 50 pages of original fiction plus two recommendations. For further information, please consult the website: elf.tcu.edu.

Sandra Brown is a bestselling novelist who has written more than 70 novels, 58 of which have appeared on The New York Times best-seller list.

TCU wishes to inform Sayre students about this opportunity.
Students Share Most Memorial Halloween Stories

By Kristen Archer

Every town has its spooky legends, and every child has a fondest memory of fall—or perhaps a worst nightmare! Students sound off on the “best” of Halloween memories:

“Every year for Halloween my friends and I would drive around scoping out people’s yards for pumpkins, so we could smash them. We had it down to a tee which house we were going to first. Now that I am older and see pumpkin pieces on the street, I think to myself: ‘Those kids need some fun!’” By Paula Gloria

“My favorite Halloween memory is when my kids were younger. My daughter was ten, Brandon was five, and Josh was a baby. We would make caramel apples and then I would get the kids ready to go trick-or-treating. When we got home, it had started to snow. The kids were so excited that they ran outside to catch snowflakes with their tongues. The holiday season had begun.” By Julie Olson

“My most memorable Halloween would have to be when I lived in Illinois. I was in the 2nd grade. My older sister, brother, and youngest sister and I went to our cousin’s house. We all had pillow cases for trick or treat bags. We went to every house in a six-block radius. By the time we all got back, those pillow cases were like a treasure chest. We all dumped the candy in the middle of the living room floor in one big pile. It was a massive amount of candy… I have no idea what my costume was that year. I just remember the mountain of candy.” By Paula Gloria

“‘One Halloween night, a couple friends and I went to the haunted jail. While standing in line, I started getting pretty nervous. Despite my nervousness, we were next, and there was no turning back. Once we got in there, Phase One was the jail cell. I clutched onto my friend Joby, who’s just like my big brother. I figured he would protect me just like he always has, but boy, was I wrong! Through every single phase, we were fighting each other to be the first one out of there. At one point, Joby took a sharp turn, and I ran into a pipe sticking out of the wall. At another, I tripped Joby and he lost his shoe. The whole time we were neck and neck. At the very end, I was so ready to get out of there that I couldn’t hardly stand it. Needless to say I left with a broken shoe and black eye. It was definitely a Halloween I will never forget.” By Paige Graham

“Halloween 2007. My son was ten months old. I had gone to the mall and found myself in the Disney store. Immediately my eye was caught by a little costume. It was a Tigger costume. I couldn’t help myself; I had to get it. The night of Halloween I got my son all dressed up in his costume. He had just started walking on his own, but when I put the Tigger head on, my son started to fall over. He was too top heavy, so the rest of the night he ended up crawling everywhere. The funniest part is, he wanted to stand up so badly, so when he tried to stand, he would just tip over. I laughed the whole night, and still to this day, I enjoy sitting there and looking at pictures of that special Halloween night.” By Jordan McCaistian

“Last year I went as a sloppy, after concert or party version of Jeffree Star, a singer and internet sensation. My makeup was sloppy and raggedy, and my hair was orange and pink. I wore 6-inch gold pumps to the college Costume Contest. Of course, I fell coming into college, but I got up and walked it off.” By Brandon Denton

“My son has to be a Ninja every year. Well, this year I decided we should all be ninjas. So my son, his father and I are all different color ninjas, and we are going to ring the doorbells and then jump out and yell “Hi-yah! Trick or Treat!” By Victoria Brose

“It was all Hallows Eve in 1998. My family and I were getting ready for a night on the town. My sister Jami had decided she wanted to dress up as a baby, and my little brother Tanner, as Johnny Appleseed. I, however, was in my room rummaging through every article of clothing I had and could not come up with an idea for a costume. I was determined to be the coolest kid on the block with the most original costume. It was not going as planned. My mother, with her heart of gold and a temper to boot, was standing in my doorway yelling for me to hurry and get dressed, but I couldn’t because I had absolutely nothing to wear. When I told her this she stopped yelling and, low and behold, started laughing…she was actually laughing at me. So, after a few seconds she calmed down and yelled “I Love Lucy. I Love Lucy was the best show on earth for me at that time, and I never missed an episode.” By Victoria Brose

(Continued on page 6)
Students Share Most Memorial Halloween Stories

(Continued from page 5)

costumes with our parents in tow. My brother as Johnny Appleseed with suspenders and a pot on his head, my sister as a baby in a flannel nightgown and her teddy bear and bottle in hand, and me in my purple housecoat, pink slippers and pink bandana covering my hair with my curly bangs hanging out. I had a feather duster in hand and I looked like I had been rolling around in the fireplace cleaning it out. You know the episode where Lucy Ricardo turn’s her home into a pig sty because Ricky won’t help clean? Well I looked worse.

“Once we were downtown in Elk City, we stopped by all of the shops handing out treats, then participated in the costume in the middle of the street next to the Carnegie Library. My brother won first place in his age group and received fifteen dollars. When the age group for my sister and I was up, we stepped on to the trailer and told everyone what or who we were. I, of course, thought my costume was worth first place and my sister's second. Apparently the judges thought so, too, because not only did I get first place and fifteen dollars, my sister got second and received ten dollars. That Halloween was the most memorable and most fun I have ever had in my life, and it was all thanks to my parents, whom I love so much. By Jessica D. Patterson

“My favorite Halloween memory would be when my girlfriend and I took her nephews trick-or-treating. That night of Halloween, we were walking them up to houses to get candy, when they saw a motionless scarecrow and didn't want to go up to the house. Trisha said that it wasn't real, so she walked up to the house to get the candy while I waited with Braden and Bryson. She walked up very slow and yelled, 'See, its not real!' Then suddenly the scarecrow moved and scared Trisha right out of her shoes as she ran toward us screaming with her eyes watering. We all laughed so hard, and one of the boys said ‘see, Sissy, we told you it was real! You need to listen to us more often!’ That was one of the best nights of my life.” By Monica Ruiz

I have a lot of Halloween memories. But the one that sticks most is when my little brother and I were trick-or-treating. Some big kids came and stole his FULL bag of candy. He started crying, we were just too little to fight back. So we went home and told our family about what had happened. I shared my candy with my brother, but it just was not the same for him. Later that night, a stranger came to the door and gave him his candy back. He said he watched what happened from his house and went and got the candy back from the big kids. We thanked him and it turned out to be an amazing night after all. (Name withheld)

“My favorite time from Halloween is when me and my best friend dressed up as the girl from The Ring. My friend was dressed up as an actual ring, and I was dressed up as the girl. We went to the haunted corn maze in Weatherford, and it was so much fun! The people at the maze were all dressed up in some scary costumes and scared us. The best part was when the chainsaw came out and chased us down. I accidently took a wrong turn and got chased down by myself—that part was pretty scary. I will never forget that Halloween.” By Macey McNaught
Student Interview of the Month: Rachel Ryan

By Julie Olson

All students face stress during their attendance of a university, yet some students are “blessed” with circumstances that make life a non-stop rollercoaster of multitasking in order to keep on track.

She is a busy mom to her son Caleb, a full-time employee as assistant manager of Southgate Apartments, a home-health assistant, and last, but not least, a full-time student. She gives new meaning to the phrase “grace under pressure,” and I am happy to say she has been one of my classmates and my friend for two years.

Please allow me to introduce Rachel Ryan. She was born in Altus, Oklahoma, currently resides in Sayre, and has been a student at Southwestern for two years.

Her goal is to attend nursing school upon graduating, which will enable her to provide a good future for her son. Her favorite color is green, and her favorite food is Chinese. Her sense of humor has always been one of my most favorite things about her. She faces life with such a positive outlook, and always has a kind word to say, no matter the circumstance. She is a member of First Baptist Church in Sayre, and attributes all her ability to maintain such a hectic life to her faith. Spirituality is the central element in all her decisions and choices.

Over theses last two years, we have had many conversations concerning the role conflicts in both our lives, how it is no piece of cake to try and juggle work, school, and parenting. I always walk away from these conversations uplifted and restored, amazed at her shining example of strength and courage. If you haven’t met Rachael yet, you’ll want to soon!

Lit Club is deep into Where the Heart Is

By Ashley Brewer

It’s not too late to join Lit Club which is featuring the Oklahoma writer Billie Letts, author of Where the Heart Is. The lit club thought it would be a nice idea to feature this Oklahoma writer to go along with the Oklahoma focus of this year’s literary festival, held back in the beginning of October. Billie Letts was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a very talented American novelist and educator.

As for this novel about a unmarried teen who gives birth in a Wal-Mart, the Dallas Morning News wrote, “Beautifully written, funny, bittersweet . . . Prize winning writers may have to move over to make room for Billie Letts.” Billie will be receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Center next spring for this novel! Any and all students may join Lit club at any point throughout the semester as the group turns each page of this incredible, endearing, and inspirational book.

Students can earn bonus points by coming to the Lit Club meetings held every Wednesday at 1:00 in the Lit Pit, located in the south end of Mackey Hall. Or, if unable to attend, they may just want to log on to the following website: http://www.swosu.edu/sayre/students/org/litclub.asp. Here they can answer the posted questions about the book to turn in to instructors. So besides getting to read an exceptional book, students get bonus points to add to language arts classes.

Mrs. Judy Haught, instructor, is the sponsor of the club. She found an interesting fact about the book that made her chuckle: When this book was first published, Wal-Mart Corporations were hesitant to carry the book Where the Heart Is. They were afraid it portrayed them in an unfavorable light. And so they refused to do so, and cancelled their orders. This was until Oprah chose this very book for her Book Club—which means huge sales. Then Wal-Mart changed their mind and decided to re-order and carry this feel-good read, after all.
Dear Editor,

I just wanted to send out a very special thanks to the SWOSU Sayre campus staff and faculty. They have touched my heart in a way that I will never forget. I feel that they all deserve a big hug around the neck, and so I just want to share a moment. I found out a couple months ago, very unexpectedly, that my dad has brain cancer. I was devastated. I am, of course, a complete daddy’s girl. I wasn’t sure how things would all pan out when the situation came about. One moment, as far as I knew, my dad was fine, and I was cooking tacos for dinner. The next minute, I was being called to GPRMC Emergency room, and a few hours later, we were traveling to Mercy Hospital in OKC. It all happened so fast, and so did the plans for beginning treatment for my dad. I was scared and wasn’t about to leave my dad’s side. To add to the stress, of course, I was afraid that I would have to drop my classes, and although I didn’t want to, my daddy needed me. Well, okay in truth I guess at that point, I needed to be by him just as much, if not more. I called my teachers, although at that point I didn’t exactly know what to do. I figured I would at least let them know why I wouldn’t be in class that day. All of my teachers said they understood and told me not to worry about class that day, but just to keep in touch. One teacher, bless her heart, said she would call the school counselor for me to let her know what was going on, that she, too, might be able to help me if needed. It was a huge relief at that moment to just be able to go back to my dad’s side and not have to stress over classes that day. I have had to miss a couple classes here and there to take him to the doctor and to be by his side during his surgery. It’s been very stressful and very emotional. I have been so very impressed with the care and concern and responses I have received concerning my classes and my studies. The school counselor, Laura Hawkins, has called and checked on my dad and has asked me several times how things are going and if she could be of any help and has gone out of her way to let my teachers know my situation. I waited a long time after high school to go back to school and to start my college education, and I hold the privilege of being here very high and do not want to take it for granted. So I take my classes seriously. And my teachers have helped me so greatly during this time by letting me fax my homework from the hospital in the city so I wouldn’t have to take a zero for not being able to turn in my work in class. It has meant so much to me. Even the staff in various offices around campus have shown their concern and support. It has just been amazing! I just wanted the students to know that the staff and faculty on this campus are an exceptional group of people! They are willing to work with the students and are willing to help if it is at all possible. As long as you are trying and give as much as you can, they will do the same for you. Thank you to the from the bottom of my heart for helping me to become a better me!

Can you help these kids?

By Ashley Brewer

Are you looking for a job where you can have fun and share exciting and educational experiences with a smart and curious group of little people? Sayre Head start has an amazing opportunity for you. Sayre Head Start is now accepting applications for substitute teachers.

All applicants must pass a background check and drug test. For more information, please contact the Sayre Head start at (580) 928-5417. Sayre Head Start is also looking for volunteers to give just a little of their time to these sweet faces. It will make your day to come spend a little of your time with this wonderful group of smiling faces and inquisitive minds. Help shape our little people; it’s as easy as reading a book or helping with arts and crafts it won’t take much of your time. It will be an experience that will leave you feeling refreshed and smiling.
Much Ado about the Lit Festival!

Folks like Rebecca Ruiz, above, and Carol Waggoner, at right, dressed for the Renaissance Fair, and volunteers like Alexis, Brett, Kayleigh and Chris worked the game booths!

Dr. Jerry Nye was a speaker and a panel moderator.

Gallery@112 had a showing of SWOSU student art.

Melony? of Alpaca Farm in Elk City, demonstrated her spinning and had hand-dyed and hand-spun articles for sale.

Dr. Mann, 78, of the Cheyenne tribe, spoke and had a presentation in the library.
Final Exam Schedule For Fall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your Class Time</th>
<th>Final Exam Time</th>
<th>Final Exam Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 8 a.m. T R class your exam is</td>
<td>8:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 9:30 a.m. T R class your exam is</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 8 a.m. MWF class your exam is</td>
<td>8:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Friday, Dec 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 12 p.m. MWF class your exam is</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Friday, Dec 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 9 a.m. MWF Class your exam is</td>
<td>8:30 – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Monday, Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 1 p.m. MWF class your exam is</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Monday, Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 10 a.m. MWF class your exam is</td>
<td>8:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 11 a.m. T R class your exam is</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 12:30 p.m. T R class your exam is</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you have an 11 a.m. MWF class your exam is</td>
<td>8:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the regular semester, the three days prior to the beginning of finals on Monday (Dec. 10, 11, and 12) are considered “dead days” in that no examinations, quizzes, extracurricular events (other than unscheduled league play-off events) or required field trips are to be scheduled, and no paper or reports be due or presented during these days.

NO EARLY FINALS. Early finals are any final given prior to 8:00 a.m. on the Thursday of finals week.

Night class finals will be on the last scheduled meeting day.

Enroll now . . . Some new classes are offered for Spring

(Continued from page 1)

schedule, such as Seminar in Accounting, on MWF at 10 a.m., taught by Ms. Holly Hernandez. Ms. Renee Bagzis is bringing back the Website Design course. It is from 12:00 to 12:50 p.m. on MWF.

More on-line classes have been added than ever before, but they are filling up fast, and some are already closed. No more night classes will be offered at the Elk City school location.