Opportunity Abounds with New Lounge

By Bonnie Smith

The new student lounge is finished, and has engulfed much of the traffic roaming the halls of SWOSU-Sayre campus. Terra Goodfellow, a student from Texas, states, “If you come at nine, it’s pretty full in here.”

Whatever the time, students have been noted studying, relaxing, and playing pool during a variety of hours. Performing the above activities are a few of the opportunities for students! The remodeling craze that is going on is a chance for students to win prizes!

A contest is being held for the naming this new lounge in Alexander (pictured at right). A t-shirt is the prize for best name. Additionally, remodeling will begin soon on another area. Of course, this isn’t the first time Sayre has remodeled a sitting area, nor is it the last. Many students remember the remodel of the Lit Pit, at the far end of Mackey Hall. Next in line for a makeover is the seating area across the courtyard from the Lit Pit. Student concepts are requested, and the winning designer will get a $100 gift card from the book store. Ideas for names and/or designs should be turned in to any of the administrative personnel in the new offices. Participation provides a rare opportunity to leave a tangible mark on campus for years to come.

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Calendar

- **April 25** — SGA Spring Fling Fair. 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
- **April 28-30** — Dead Days.
- **May 1-7** — Finals Week
- **May 5** — Graduation Practice: 10:30 at the Sayre High School Auditorium
- **May 9** — Graduation 7 p.m. at the Sayre High School Auditorium

SGA presents A Spring Fair For April

By DeShawna Smyth

I know many students were expecting a Great Gatsby Spring Fling Dance, but this will not happen. We could not get a large enough budget together. But this does not mean we will not be able to have fun!

On April 25 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., an old-time country fair will be held. There will be games, prizes, a cotton candy machine, bobbing for apples, music, and free food! Oh, did I mention there will be a drawing for a 32” Emerson Flat Screen TV! That’s right!

Instructors will be invited to put up some booths and show off their talents. A quilting booth, jams, pies, cupcake/cake decorating, crocheting/knitting and embroidery are just a few suggestions for booths! Come out and join us!
Belinda Graham

By Kathryn Taylor Skelton

Going to college and making good grades is a challenging adventure for anyone, but this student manages to not only attend college classes, but also holds down a very prestigious job.

Belinda Graham is a full time student who is currently taking 15 hours this semester, and back in December she started working for the Sayre Chamber of Commerce as the Executive Director, full time. She not only manages college and a job, but she also is married and holds responsibilities of a household.

Belinda moved to Sayre her sophomore year in high school, and graduated from Sayre in 1989. She is pursuing her Associates in Hospitality, Restaurant, & Gaming Management. She then plans to pursue her Bachelors in Business Management, with a minor in Non-Profit Management. Belinda stated in the interview that it was a very difficult decision deciding to take the job at the chamber.

She said, “I had never considered working while going to college. My plans were to be a full time student, and work a little part time through work-study. But when I was approached and told that Sayre would love to see someone like me become the Director, I thought about it. I then did research on what a Director is and what the position would entail. I then thought long and hard about the hours I knew would be involved and the sacrifice of personal time I would have to make. I also spoke to past Directors and Board members to find out why past Directors had left. I learned the position is a tough one, but that I would be in a position to do so much to help others and have dynamic positive impact on the world around me. That is something I have always had as a goal. I feel like all in life that is truly good is the good we do for others. Although this position was not one I had ever even thought about after graduation, I had hoped to open a bed and breakfast, but I have found I love it and that I am able to do so much good for so many. I love it!”

I have gotten to know Belinda through college, and I can say she is a very intelligent and hardworking person. She gives it her all in every thing she does. Belinda is a great role model for all that are struggling to go to college, plus hold down a full time job.

Ilisa Allen

Meet Ilisa Allen. She is a working professional enrolled in on-line classes at Sayre.

“It is never too late to go for it when it comes to your education and career,” says Allen. “In my professional life, I am the right hand to the Assistant Superintendent at Caddo Kiowa Technology Center in Fort Cobb. I also have the role of Account Custodian for the Dr. Orbra C. Hulsey Scholarship Foundation. It is very humbling to be an advocate for students helping them secure extra financial funding for their goals.”

Ilisa is a 48-year-old wife and mother of three, whose ages range from 25 to 10.

“My eldest is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, the middle is a student at University of Central Oklahoma, and the youngest is 4th grader at Minco Public Schools. I finally have reached a place where I can now start working towards my own goals.” Ilisa is returning to school thirty years after she graduated high school!

“It is a very frightening to take the leap back into school,” she says, but adds, “I truly believe it is never too late to further your education.”

We’re proud to have her as a Bull-dog!
Energy Drinks: How Safe Are They?

By Melissa Myers

Most college students have such rigorous schedules they don’t always get the recommended amount of sleep. That being said, many people turn to something to help them stay awake, usually an energy drink.

Do most students even think about what they are putting into their bodies when they are drinking those, or what the side effects might be? The answer is typically no, they don’t even think about it.

Energy drinks are made from large doses of caffeine. They also generally have other ingredients such as guarana, taurine, carnitine, and ginseng. Soda, such as Coke and Mountain Dew, contain around 34-55 milligrams of caffeine. While energy drinks can contain up to four times that amount, ranging from 75-500 milligrams of caffeine. There are a few energy drinks that claim to have no caffeine and they don’t. Instead, they contain the guarana ingredient which is comparable to caffeine.

Since energy drinks are advertised and sold as nutritional supplements, the FDA does not have to approve them. That also means the FDA doesn’t regulate or limit what is put into the drinks.

In other words, there’s a probability that you have no idea what exactly you are really putting into your body because these companies are not required to make it known to the public.

After knowing all this you may still ask, does that mean these drinks are bad for you? In small doses the answer most health professionals are giving is no. But since these drinks contain such a high amount of caffeine, they can cause anxiety, restlessness, insomnia, tooth decay, high blood pressure, arrhythmia, seizures, hyperglycemia, and death.

It may be a temporary relief from sleep deprivation, but if not controlled and ingested in small amounts, it could cause major problems to your health.
By DeShawna Smyth

You know all those vacation photos you have in a box? Or maybe you have tons on Facebook. Don’t know what to do with them? Well, I can help! This year’s Southwestern Oklahoma State University @ Sayre Student Anthology is on the theme of “Adventures!”

Everyone enrolled at SWOSU @ Sayre is allowed to submit his or her work! And the best part about it? If you are enrolled in either Mrs. Ford’s or Mrs. Haught’s classes, you will receive bonus points for submitting photos, essays, short stories, poems, or art for the 2014 Student Anthology. So gather up those photos and submit them via email to Terry Ford at terry.ford@swosu.edu or Judy Haught at judy.haught@swosu.edu. Additionally, those in Mrs. Ford’s or Mrs. Haught’s classes will be able to submit via CANVAS.

Want something different for lunch?

By Alexis Brown

On this campus, if you don’t want lunch out of a vending machine, you are forced to seek food elsewhere. There are several great places to eat in Sayre.

**Hutch’s**, across the street, offers a wide variety of selections. You have the option of pizza, subway sandwiches, and your typical quick stop food.

**The Pickett Fence** offers lunch specials and sandwiches. **Eagle Alley** offers daily lunch specials, as well as burgers, chicken strips, and donuts in the morning. Both are at the corners of Benton and 4th.

Right on 4th is **Sonic**, which has hundreds of drink combos and has good choices for breakfast and lunch.

Down the road is **The Grill** with a full menu, a daily lunch special, and is a cool place to sit.

Further south of town is **McDonald’s** to get your French fry fix. Do you have an hour or so to kill? If so, dine out at **Denny’s**. It has a full menu that serves breakfast all day (all-u-can-eat pancakes). The smothered cheese fries rock.

### 66 West Fest is April 11-12

By Dylan Scott

The “66 West Fest” is an exciting event to take place all day Friday, April 11th from 11 a.m. to Saturday, April 12 at 9 p.m. on our sister campus in Weatherford.

It will include performances by Brave Combo and Sugar Free Allstars. There will also be several other musical artists from the surrounding area, including SWOSU groups.

Along with the music venue, there will be an art display from artist statewide. This event celebrates art, music, SWOSU, and the tradition of Route 66!

The “66 West Fest” is a free event that will be held in the Pioneer Cellular Event Center on the Weatherford Campus.
**“Walk A Mile In My Shoes” April 12**

By Dylan Scott

“Walk A Mile in My Shoes” is an event to raise awareness for pulmonary hypertension. The event will be at the Oklahoma City Zoo on Saturday, April 12th. The event will start at 8 AM and will end at approximately 10 AM. It is estimated that there will be 400 people there to show their support by walking 1 mile around the Zoo. As the participants walk the mile they will receive paper roses made by the SWOSU art majors. Pulmonary Hypertension is caused by increased pressure in the pulmonary arteries. It has many side effects such as chest pain, loss of breath, and high heart rates. If you are interested in this event you do not have to preregister, just show up and it only cost the entrance fee to the zoo. Also, if you cannot make it to the walk, you can go to joana.hyatt@swosu.edu to help make the roses for the event.

**Gay Marriage in Oklahoma?**

By Elizabeth Varnell

If you support Gay Marriage in Oklahoma, you have your fight cut out for you. Oklahoma has a history of not just looking the other way, but actively seeking to deny rights to homosexual partners. Its anti-sodomy laws stood for nearly a hundred years, and the striking down of those restrictions in 2003 has set off back-and-forth legal battles and public posturing by lawmakers that continues to this day.

Oklahoma doesn’t allow marriage certificates to be issued to same-sex couples, and doesn’t recognize marriage licenses issued to them in other states. Homosexual and some other types of sexual activity had been illegal since 1910, but that law was struck down in 2003 by the United States Supreme Court in Lawrence v Texas.

After that, Oklahoma amended its state constitution with State Question 711 in 2004 asking voters if they wanted to define marriage as only between one man and one woman. The voters said yes, and it stood until ten weeks ago when a U.S. District Court in Bishop vs. United States ruled parts of it unconstitutional. The parts found unconstitutional are part A, defining marriage, and Part C, assigning a misdemeanor charge to anyone issuing a license for different kinds of marriage. But the ruling striking those down is not yet being enforced because the appeal is pending. There’s also a Part B which says Oklahoma won’t respect gay marriage licenses from other states, and that part is not addressed by this decision.

Overall, while it appears that most Oklahomans are still against same-sex unions, the number that favor gay marriage is increasing. In 2004, 75% of the votes for State Question 711 were aligned against them, and only 18% supported gay marriage.

But nine years later in 2013, a Williams Institute study put support for gay marriage at 34% in Oklahoma, which is lower than the national average of 40%, but still higher than it was in 2004. But again in 2013 and 2014, the Oklahoma State Legislature passed a resolution that it “reaffirms its commitment to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman,” although that resolution doesn’t affect any laws or enforcement. It’s just a public statement declaring they’re still against it even though laws and opinion are starting to go the other way, even all the way here in tiny Sayre.
By Elizabeth Varnell

Since 2010, the word “Obamacare” has become more and more common, finally peaking here in 2014. Why are we hearing about it so much more now? Even though the act was passed in 2010, most parts of it have not come into effect until this year. So the question is, what is it and how does it effect ME?

Obamacare came into existence because of our society’s need for a better healthcare system. Prior to the effect of this law, many people fell between the cracks of our healthcare structure. In fact, a large percentage of the population was not even sure how it worked. College students often went without health insurance a lot of the time in particular. Certain people could be turned away from insurers because of preexisting conditions, or the rates would be so high, it would be unaffordable.

The purpose of Obamacare is to provide the entire American population with affordable and effective insurance. This is why the federal government is requiring all of its citizens to be insured. If everyone is insured, more people will stay healthy and go to the doctor when the problems are small, rather than waiting for it to turn into an expensive emergency that cannot be paid off. All insurance plans are now required to provide essential benefits to their customers. Insurers are no longer able to drop customers because of pre-existing conditions, and coverage cannot be denied to chronically sick children. Parents can now cover their children on their insurance until age 26 as well.

However, there are a few drawbacks to this program. If an individual has not enrolled for a health insurance plan by MARCH 31st, they will be issued a non-compliance tax, which can be up to 1% of their income. Also, if a company has more than 50 employees, it is required to offer their full-time employees insurance, or else be charged a hefty fine. Since college students thrive on low paying jobs, this can easily become a problem.

Some companies cannot afford to offer insurance to all of their employees, so the employees must be cut down to part time to avoid the fines. Fast food, restaurants, and retail stores are going down this road in mass exodus. This not only limits the income of a college student, but also forces them to look elsewhere for insurance. If this has happened to you, look toward healthcare.gov, or call their hotline at 1-800-318-2596 for the Healthcare Marketplace. This should give you choices on health care you can enroll in.

April is for Fools and Fun.

By Shelby Baker

One day out of the year, everyone is allowed the chance to pull pranks on friends and family. This day would be April 1st of every year, known as April Fool’s Day.

Some people find April Fool’s Day to be annoying and wish that it would not exist anymore. However, those who participate keep the “holiday” going.

In the past, some jokes have been taken too far and develop into a hoax. The most common April Fool's jokes include the old fashion “Your shoe is untied” and “There is something on your shirt” followed by “Made you look.” SWOSU Sayre student Sydney Street once colored an onion green, giving it the appearance of an apple and gave it to her friend to eat on April Fool’s Day. Sydney’s friend got revenge! As they were out eating dinner, she gave Sydney sugar for her food instead of salt. Yuck!

One sophomore on the Sayre campus got married this April Fools Day. You might think her husband picked April 1st to make some kind of veiled comment on getting married, or maybe she picked it so it would be easy for him to remember their anniversary, but actually this California native chose Tuesday just because she doesn’t have any classes that day; therefore, they could run to Vegas and tie the knot! Although she admits it was fun to see her friends’ reactions when she posted on Facebook that she would be marrying on the 1st.

Of course, many thought it was a joke. But she showed up Wednesday with a new last name.

Hope you had fun on your Fool’s Day.
Earn and Learn—Try Work/Study

By Bonnie Smith

Enjoying the college experience takes time, time many students do not feel they have. Activities and family demand much of their time. Older students with children and spouses will find it even more difficult to stop and “take time to smell the roses”. Conserving some of that time can be accomplished by working where you study. The benefits are enormous to those looking for a part time job on their schedule.

- Flexible hours
- Understanding bosses
- Saves time; can work between classes.
- Saves on gas; no extra travel.
- Friends often stop to say hi.
- Participate in school activities.
- Get paid to study.

Few other jobs could be fit into that infinitesimal time slot before, after, and between classes. Anyone eligible for work study can look for one of these positions. Applying for one of these jobs is easy too. Located on the SWOSU home page, a quick link is located under the jump to drop box. This link will take you to the BullDog job board where assistance is provided in making a professional looking resume. Once a resume is posted, students can be employed and employers can search the resumes looking for students to employ. Industrious students do not stop there. Approaching a perspective employer about a job, and early notification of next semesters schedule, has been used to procure coveted jobs. Start now for next semester. Jobs found on campus may come as a surprise!

Dawgs were “Tough Enough”

By Taylor Scott

Southwestern Oklahoma State University held the Tough Enough to Wear Pink 5K run and walk. This was the sixth run that has been verified by the company, Running in the USA. It was a windy and hilly course; however, runners came out to prove they were “tough enough to wear pink!”

Sponsors and volunteers lined the course, handing out water and cheering on every participant. Runner and Assistant Cross Country Coach Shane Brookshire said, “The course was good, and the only real challenge was the second mile, but it was a slight uphill the whole way. There was quite a bit of downhill and flat in the first and third mile.”

When asked what stood out the most during the race he said, “The most memorable thing was seeing my friend Jennifer take first for the women.” Shane won the overall male prize of $250 and Jennifer Osborn won the overall female prize of $250 as well. That clinched a sweep of the overall winners by the YMCA Running Club. Shane said he is likely to do the race next year and now that he knows the course he’s sure he can break sixteen minutes on it. As competitive as it was, there were more runners than walkers. All of the proceeds went to the American Cancer Society on Saturday March 29th.
Make your own Graduation Announcements and Invitations

By Alicia Crum

Graduation is arriving with quickness! Students, have you thought about invitations and announcements? SWOSU provides students with the option of ordering invitations and announcements from Signature Announcements, Southwestern Oklahoma State return address labels for invitations and announcements, and specialized keepsake announcement covers all for reasonable prices. Here is the link:


As students, money can sometimes be an issue, and if so there is a terrific alternative that many students are leaning toward.

Making your own personalized announcements and invitations can be cheaper, and also put your own unique style into it. There are several different places to go if this is an option for you. Shutterfly.com is an excellent source in designing and ordering your very own invitations and announcements. Also all Walmart and Walgreens stores have a program. Just submit the pictures or template you would like to order, and design away! Good luck, Graduates!

Know the Benefits of Attending a Smaller College

By Jade Watson

Deciding to go to college will be one of the best decisions you can make for your life. This not only tells your future employer you finish what you start, but will also make you a better salary.

Another benefit to going to college is meeting new friends, enjoying campus life, and learning to schedule your time with school, and studying. Some have to work and attend college, which can be very stressful, but will be worth it in the long run.

When I asked Presley Thomas about her career and college choice she said, "SWOSU is close to my home, a smaller university, and the professors are so good about working with you, where larger universities don't even know your name. SWOSU has a friendly, small-town atmosphere." Next year Presley plans on attending Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford in the nursing program. Her inspiration is her cousin Donald. He has a bachelors in nursing and is planning on getting his masters. Presley has worked part time at a hospital since she graduated high school in 2011.

"I like working in the hospital atmosphere the nurses there inspire me to keep going and never give up," she says. "I like to help people and lend a caring, helpful hand and sometimes a smile."

SWOSU offers a student lounge, computer lab, wellness center, library, and a bookstore. Every high school student should really consider going to college and bettering their life, and adults should not fear returning to college either.

Presley Thomas enjoys the smaller university.
Tornado Season Approaches

By Abbey White

As winter is moving out, tornado season is moving in. For us in Oklahoma, tornado safety is a big deal considering we are in tornado alley. Oklahoma has taken some very devastating hits from tornados, one of the biggest being May 20, 2013 in Moore.

We all need to take the time to prepare. When listening to the news, we hear of a tornado “WATCH” or “WARNING,” but do we know what they really mean?

When mentioning we are in a Tornado “Watch” the weatherman is saying that the conditions are favorable for a tornado or severe weather; you need to monitor for tornado activity.

Also, we have more than likely heard “Warning,” which indicates the tornado is imminent; take shelter.

Most have lived in tornado alley so long we know what to do while at home when a tornado is coming, but do we as well know what to do when on campus? Tornado watches and warnings are monitored by a radio in the Dean’s office. Under a “watch” all buildings on the Sayre Campus are notified that the area is under a watch, and all shelters are opened. There are maps provided for tornado shelters on campus for each building. The old business office and all restrooms are just two of the places you would go for safety.

The SWOSU campus has a step of actions to follow as well in the event the sirens should sound.
1) Go to the lowest level inside wall and assume a kneeling position, head down, with hands covering head.
2) Students in unsafe locations at the time will go to designated storm shelters at the direction of the faculty.
3) Wait for all clear signals before returning to the class room.
4) Avoid all large clear-span buildings (gym, cafeteria, etc.) during a tornado. In an outside office, blinds are to be closed on windows and office personnel are to use telephones in an inner office. The radio should be located within hearing distance of office personnel if at all possible. The maps provided for all tornado shelters for each building are posted on the walls. During tornado season, stay aware of the weather signs, safety procedures, and on finding safe shelter during the actual occurrence of one!

Warning Signs that a Tornado May Develop

There are several atmospheric warning signs that precipitate a tornado’s arrival:

- A dark, often greenish, sky
- Wall clouds or an approaching cloud of debris
- Large hail, often in the absence of rain
- Before a tornado strikes, the wind may die down and the air may become very still
- A loud roar similar to a freight train may be heard
- An approaching cloud of debris, even if a funnel is not visible

Spring baseball is here!

By Taylor Scott

Southwestern Oklahoma State University’s baseball and softball teams are in action. Baseball is currently ranked fifth in the GAC standings and softball is ranked eleventh. The teams have been putting up fights against several leading GAC competitors. Come out and support the Dawgs! Coming up on Friday April 11th, the lady dog’s softball team will take on East Central University at home. Then, on Friday April 18th, the baseball team will be hosting a home game against Southeastern Oklahoma State. Go out and show some support.
Term Paper Writing Tips

By Lacy Pryor

Well fellow students, the spring semester is now starting to wind down and you know what that means? It’s term paper time! For many students, just hearing the words “term paper” makes them cringe. So I’ve come up with a few tips that will hopefully help soften the blow.

For starters, it’s important to start your paper with a solid thesis statement. This contains the focus of your paper and tells your reader what the paper will be about. It also helps you as the writer by giving a general outline of the main points you want to get across to the reader.

♦ Keep it simple, you don’t need an enormous subject to work with.
♦ Make it specific. It’s much easier to do research on a narrowly selected subject than a massive idea.
♦ Make sure your idea will work by checking with your professor about the suitability of the thesis. Do a little preliminary research to make sure there’s enough available material on your topic.

Take lots and lots of notes!

Small index cards will be your best friend while writing this monster of a paper. I suggest buying several different colors if your topic has a few separate main ideas. I know it sounds crazy that I am even suggesting that you hand write your notes since everything we own now a days has a keyboard on it, but notecards can’t crash on you virtually erasing all of your hard work and taking a piece of your soul with it. Trust me on this for I experienced the pain of my laptop being stolen this semester. It had all of my research, notes, T.V. shows and every paper I had ever written on it too. So bust out that thing called a pencil and get to writing. Also, it will help you to absorb more of the information and commit it to your memory making it that much easier to write!

♦ Make sure you write down the details of your sources while taking notes. This will make your “works cited” page a breeze.
♦ Try to be as accurate as possible when recording statistics and direct quotes. Not everything you read on the internet is true!
♦ It’s good to have a lot of pertinent quotes when finished but keep in mind that no more than 10-15% of your final draft should be quotes.

Now it’s time to write a rough draft.

♦ Write your rough draft as freely as possible following your outline closely. This is the time to be sloppy and careless with your writing and grammar, so just write a general shorthand version of what you envision for your final draft.
♦ Try to avoid filling your paper with fluff and excessive “wordiness” just to lengthen your paper. Your professor is an English teacher, so give her a little credit and don’t try to fool her with your fancy lingo and babble.
♦ Show some creativity when choosing your topic for Mrs. Ford’s sake! Can you imagine how many papers she has had to grade over the same topic with the same info still having to maintain interest? Don’t just Google the top 10 research topics and choose from there. Choose something that matters to you, something that you’re passionate about. In doing so, it would make writing your paper almost effortless. Trust me, your passion will radiate from the age and in turn draw the reader in.

Finally, if you take nothing else from this article, take this. Please proofread! Even if it is your final draft and spell check gave you an A+, Spell Check and Autocorrect are not sticklers for grammar. I’m actually convinced that autocorrect is going to slowly but surely ruin my life and every single friendship because of his/her crazy assumptions as to what I am trying to say. It’s caused me to offend many, many people with even just the change of one word and inserting it’s psycho babble. My point is not to completely rely on technology writing this paper. This is, however, your one final shot to impress your teacher so go all out and put in some effort!

Having trouble finding new reliable sources? Check this out, www.worldcat.org, a free public catalog of more than a billion (yes a billion) items available from more than 10,000 libraries worldwide! There’s even an app.

It’s okay to actually use a real book for info, too! You know, that thing with all the pages? There are words in there that provide you with accurate information, and you just turn the page to find more! Plus, all that screen time spent staring at your phone/laptop is bad for your eyes and they need a break.

Good luck! And may the odds be forever in your favor.
April is for Autism Awareness

By Alicia Crum

April is National Autism Awareness Month. Many wear a puzzle piece ribbon to show support. According to Wikipedia, Autism is a “disorder of neural development, characterized by impaired and social interaction and verbal and non-verbal communication.” Autism affects information processing in the brain by altering how nerve cells and their synapses connect and organize.

Parents usually notice signs in the first two years of their child’s life. The signs usually develop gradually; however, some children develop normally and then regress. A cure for autism is still unknown, and there are many controversies about the causes of this disorder.

The prevalence of autism is growing, and it often occurs more in boys than girls. The number of people diagnosed with autism has increased dramatically since the 1980’s. The rate of autism is continuing to grow and we have read that they are now saying within 7 years it will be 1 out of every 7 young families will have an autistic child in it. Let’s find that puzzle piece together.

Did You Know That Angels Are Among Us?

Angels are from heaven,  
We already know.  
But where are they at,  
Only God knows.

Sometimes they hide  
And do miracles so great,  
But sometimes their  
Right there in plain sight.

How can we tell  
An angel is beside us?  
Look for the goodness  
And innocence all around.

It may surprise you to find out  
that each one of us has our own,  
One that is there guiding  
And protecting us all day long.

No it is no one you would suspect  
Or even think of;  
However, to know they are all around  
Can give us all a little peace in our heart.

God sent one special angel  
In the form of someone with autism.  
She taught so many how to love  
Without a word to be spoken.

Her angelic innocence  
Is what makes her remarkable.  
Her never ending love and kindness  
Can show anyone how to live.

God sent this angel  
To take care of us all.  
To be the one to follow  
And show us God’s way.

Then one day,  
God decided to bring her home.  
Those of us on earth  
Were heartbroken and sad.

Even though she is no longer  
Here on this earth,  
It gives us peace to know,  
She’s actually watching over us every day of our life.

Now, isn’t it good to know  
Angels are among us,  
Guiding us through  
Till we can be together again someday

-author unknown
CAUGHT ON CAMPUS

From left to right: Anna Leverett utilizes the laptop station in the Alexander building for some study time. Kelsey Brinkley is about to give her multicultural speech over Catholicism in Mrs. Ford’s Intro to Public Speaking. Jamie Whitton evaluates her algebra questions in the McMahan Library. John Mauldin hits the books in Mackey Hall Computer Lab to study for his midterm test. Ben Poindexter utilizes the dry erase turn tables while studying in the new student lounge. Anthony Gallagher takes a break and lounges in the comfortable chairs, while Rowdy Cloud and Adam Pearson go head to head at a game of pool on the new table.

Good, Better, ... Best?

By Chris Trent

Spring is finally here, and with it, the near completion of our new road. The blacktop was finished while the students were on their spring break, and the sidewalks are soon to come.

This is a relief to all the student body as well as the faculty because now they don’t have to walk through the mud, tromping it all throughout the school.

Also, a fresh layer of blacktop was laid on Iowa Street that runs adjacent to the campus’s north side.

Freshly paved Watts St., complete with temporary gravel sidewalks. Photo by student Chris Trent