

the  
**VISTA**

**WCO**



April 2, 2015

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A member of the Asian American Student Association advertises Sushi Rolling Night while dressed as a panda. Sushi Rolling Night will be on Thursday, April 2 in the Nigh Ballrooms from 6 to 8 p.m. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

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## Advertise with the Vista:

The Vista is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters, and once weekly during the summer. In all issues, The Vista has opportunities for both classified, online and print ads.

## Email your questions to:

[ucovista.advertising@gmail.com](mailto:ucovista.advertising@gmail.com)

The Vista is published as a newspaper and public forum by UCO students, semiweekly during the academic year except exam and holiday periods, and only on Wednesdays during the summer, at the University of Central Oklahoma. The issue price is free for the first copy and \$1 for each additional copy obtained.

## EDITORIALS

Opinion columns, editorial cartoons, reviews and commentaries represent the views of the writer or artist and not necessarily the views of The Vista Editorial Board, the Department of Mass Communication, UCO or the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges. The Vista is not an official medium of expression for the Regents or UCO.

## LETTERS

The Vista encourages letters to the editor. Letters should address issues and ideas, not personalities. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, with a maximum of 250 words, and must include the author's printed name, title, major, classification and phone number. Letters are subject to editing for libel, clarity and space, or to eliminate statements of questionable taste. The Vista reserves the right not to publish submitted letters.

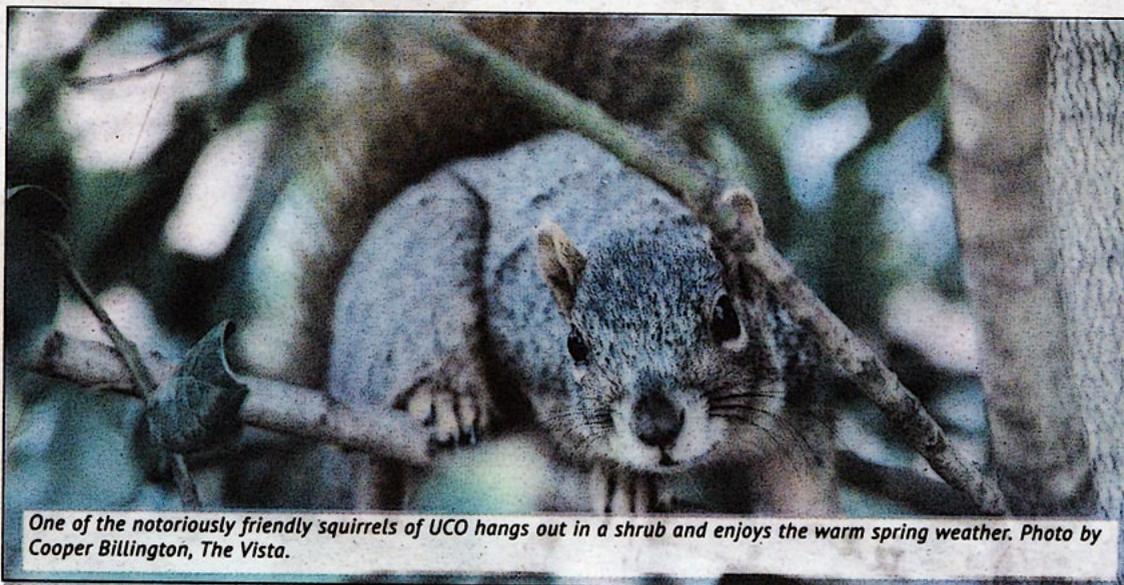
## Address letters to:

Editor, The Vista, 100 N. University Dr., Edmond, OK 73034-5209, or deliver in person to the editor in the Communications Building, Room 131. Letters can be emailed to [vistauco@gmail.com](mailto:vistauco@gmail.com).

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## ON THE COVER

As warm weather returns to campus, hints of Spring are popping up all around UCO. From leaves budding on the trees to the loud ping coming from a softball bat as it hits the ball, signs of Spring are showing themselves on campus. Photos by Cooper Bilington/ Photo Illustration by Daltyn Moeckel.



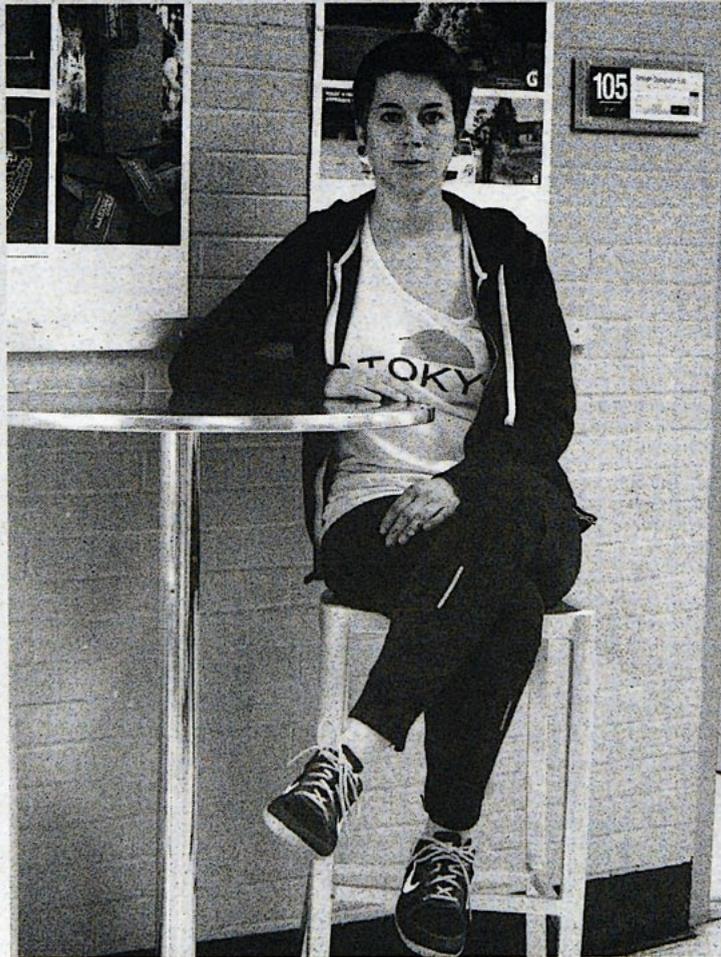
One of the notoriously friendly squirrels of UCO hangs out in a shrub and enjoys the warm spring weather. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.

# STREETS OF OKLAHOMA

E Ayers St

"The saddest moment of my life was the time between when one of my friends killed himself and then my parents' house was in the 2013 Moore tornado. It was the home and neighborhood I grew up in. Plaza Towers is the elementary school I went to, that's where the seven kids died. So basically in 30 minutes my entire childhood got blown away."

- Lyndsey Hansen,  
Sophomore

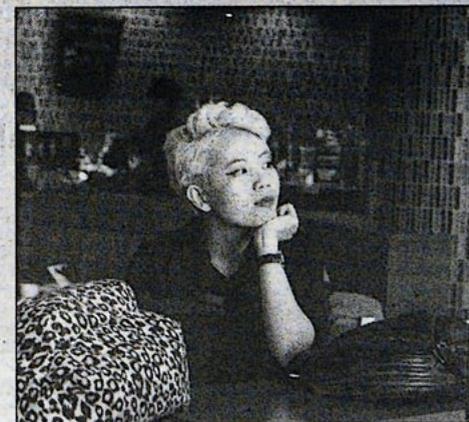


E Ayers St



"My life in three words:  
blessed, exciting, Jordans."

- Madison Hamilton,  
Sophomore



"Growing up my parents  
always taught me 'money  
works your sweat and  
blood.'"

-Phuong Billington,  
Senior

## WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?

Each week The Vista will be looking around campus for people that have a story to tell. We're going out on the streets of UCO and showcasing what makes our slice of Central Oklahoma such a unique and special place to live and learn.

# Spring has officially sprung on campus



Photos by Ryan Naeve and Cooper Billington, The Vista.



# UCO holds Middle-Eastern women and the effects of ISIS discussion



Ariana Muse

anamarie93

Staff Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma hosted Senam Mohamad, a Syrian Kurdish women's rights activist, who held the discussion "Middle Eastern Women and the Effect of ISIS." The event took place in the Nigh University Center's Constitution Hall on March 25, with a reception that followed in the hall.

"On the fourth of March I came; it's the first time for me to be in the United States. I am happy to be here," said Mohamad.

Mohamad's goal and purpose that she has been working towards for the past 20 years, is to build a safer and more democratic system in Rojava and the rest of Syria. She is a member of the Kurdish High Council in Rojava and co-president of the People's Council of Western Kurdistan.

She talked about Rojava, where she is from, which is a region of northern and northeastern Syria also known as Western Kurdistan. She also spoke about the three cantons, country subdivisions, that are separate from the rest of the country and how there are 3 million Kurds living in these areas.

Kurdistan consists of parts of southeastern Turkey, western Iran and northern Iraq, however, Rojava is not an independent state. Certain parts of this area are in conflict with ISIS, the Islamic State group.

Mohamad spoke about what



In this photo, a member of an elite unit of women Kurdish Peshmerga fighters trains in Sulaimaniyah, 160 miles northeast of Baghdad, Iraq. (AP)

is going on in Syria in regards to ISIS.

"We need weapons for the people to fight ISIS," said Mohamad.

In Syria many women have become soldiers and stepped up to defend their country. There are many different groups of people like women, Kurds, Syrians and Arabs that are all coexisting together and ruling together equally and balanced.

"If you want to support: sup-

port with weapons to fight ISIS, support the rebuilding of Kobani ... they are fighting on behalf of everyone in the world. We have to support the people who are really fighting ISIS on the ground in these regions," said Mohamad according to the Edmond Sun.

She thanked the U.S. and the other countries involved, because she said that each of them played an important role in the liberation of Kobani. She also asked Amer-

icans to please raise our voices to support the Kurds.

Mohamad left us with the question and challenge to help and do something about this problem, and the trials that the Kurdish people are enduring while ISIS plows through. She went on to say that it is very important for the students here to be supporting the Kurdish students in Syria.

"The American students must be also related to what's happen-

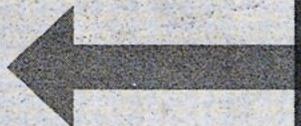
ing [to] the other young people in the world and especially in the Kurdish people. The Kurdish students, they are still now without any education because of the conflict, because of the attacking of ISIS against our people," said Mohamad.

A reception followed the event and many familiar faces, such as UCO President Don Betz who introduced Mohamad, appeared as well.

# Could you use \$50?

Follow these steps to enter our giveaway and you could be \$50 richer!

 **1. Follow @TheVista1903 on twitter!**

**2. Tag us in your next tweet!** 

**Two winners will be notified via twitter.**

**That's all! We will tweet you back to let you know you have been entered.**

**Random giveaway will take place April 28th - May 1st!**

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*Vista promotion Contest rules:*

*1. No purchase necessary to be eligible to enter giveaway 2. Contest is open to all UCO students, faculty and staff 3. All followers of @TheVista1903 on Twitter are eligible to win the \$50 prepaid debit card. Winners are voided from further entries until promotion is completed. 4. All students associated with The Vista, UCentral Media, UCentral Radio are not eligible to win 5. Winners will be notified via private message Twitter 6. Winners must pick up their prize in the Vista Newsroom (Mass Communications building, Room 131 within 24 hours of notification) 7. Odds of winning depend on total number of @TheVista1903 followers at the time of the giveaway 8. The Vista, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to disqualify any person for tampering with the entry process*

# TEDxUCO is looking for presenters to spread ideas and start conversations



**Austin Rabon**  
@ TheRabon

Contributing Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma is giving students, faculty, staff, alumni and community leaders the opportunity to tell their stories and share what they are passionate about.

On September 25, 2015 UCO will be hosting a TEDxUCO Conference.

Dr. Robert Epstein, chair for the event said, "The TEDxUCO conference is designed to spread ideas and create conversations."

TEDxUCO is looking for people who would like to share their ideas and what they are passionate about. These things can include a transformative learning experience, science

discoveries or business ideas being created.

Any ideas are welcome; the only things that will not be allowed are religious or political topics, and the only requirement is that there is passion behind the story or idea.

Visit the online registration form to submit a proposal for TEDxUCO. Detailed instructions are included in the form, but the maximum length of a TEDxUCO talk is 18 minutes, though talks can be shorter. You must upload a YouTube video of yourself doing a five minute excerpt of your talk as part of the proposal process.

The TEDxUCO committee is looking to find two to four students, about six faculty members, and alumni students and community leaders.

TEDx's theme is Out on a Limb, taken from Will Rogers' famous saying, "You've got to go out on a limb sometimes because that's where the fruit is."

Your presentation should connect somehow to the theme. "We're doing this to give people a platform and the ability to talk about what they are most passionate about,"

Epstein said.

The TEDx Program is designed to help communities, organizations and individuals to spark conversation and connection through local TED-like experience.

At TEDx events, a screening of TED Talks videos or a combination of live presenters and TED Talks videos sparks deep conversation and connections among people there.

Although speakers are wanted, it is not strictly limited to speakers. The TEDxUCO event is also looking for people with different talents such as music or dance.

"UCO has a lot of amazing people. I know people in the ACM program, forensic science program, business program or any other area at UCO has something interesting to share," Epstein said.

Watch the 20 most viewed TEDx presentations to get an idea of the kinds of TEDx talks that are highly rated and widely watched.



A 2011 TEDxBloomington talk by Charlie Todd of Improv Everywhere has gotten nearly 1.4 million views on ted.com; in 2012 he was invited to TED, the organization's annual national conference. (AP File Photo)



Lauren  
Capraro

Staff Writer @ laurencapraro

# OKC's best kept culinary secrets: local restaurants you might have not heard of yet

## 1. Big Truck Tacos

What started out as a food truck has grown into one of the most talked about taco shops in Oklahoma City. Located in the thriving Uptown District, Big Truck Tacos has an incredibly unique atmosphere and fantastic food.

They have taco options such as marinated tilapia, hickory smoked tongue and borracho chicken. The taco shop also serves breakfast tacos and burritos from 7:30 to 10:45 a.m.

The casual restaurant has indoor and outdoor seating, and is also open until midnight on the weekends.

*Big Truck Tacos: 530 NW 23rd OKC, OK 73103*

## 2. Joey's Pizzeria

Heading to a play at the Civic Center or an OKC Thunder Game? One of Film Row's hidden gems, Joey's Pizzeria, does not disappoint. They have a variety of specialty pizzas including their Chicken Ranchero and Southwestern BBQ.

If you're not up to a whole pizza, Joey's also sells their delicious pizza by the slice-- made fresh to order. The characteristics that make this pizzeria stand out among others is their perfectly buttery crust and fresh ingredients.

Joey's Pizzeria offers dine in, to-go, delivery and catering.

*Joey's Pizzeria: 700 W Sheridan Ave OKC, OK 73102*

Oklahoma City is most known for Bricktown and the Thunder basketball team, but there are several local favorites hidden among the inner city. Here are a few urban restaurants that are sure to please any foodie's appetite.



Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.

### 3. Cuppie's and Joe

Craving something a little sweeter? Cuppies and Joe is the place for you.

The coffee shop is located inside a house, and is the coziest coffee shop ever encountered. The incredibly comfortable oversized couches and mismatched wooden tables make this coffee shop feel more like home.

Aside from their locally grown coffee, they have a variety of unique cookies, cupcakes, pies, and brownies made fresh daily. Follow them on Instagram for daily updates to have you salivating in no time.

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*Cuppies and Joe: 727 NW 23rd OKC, OK 73103*

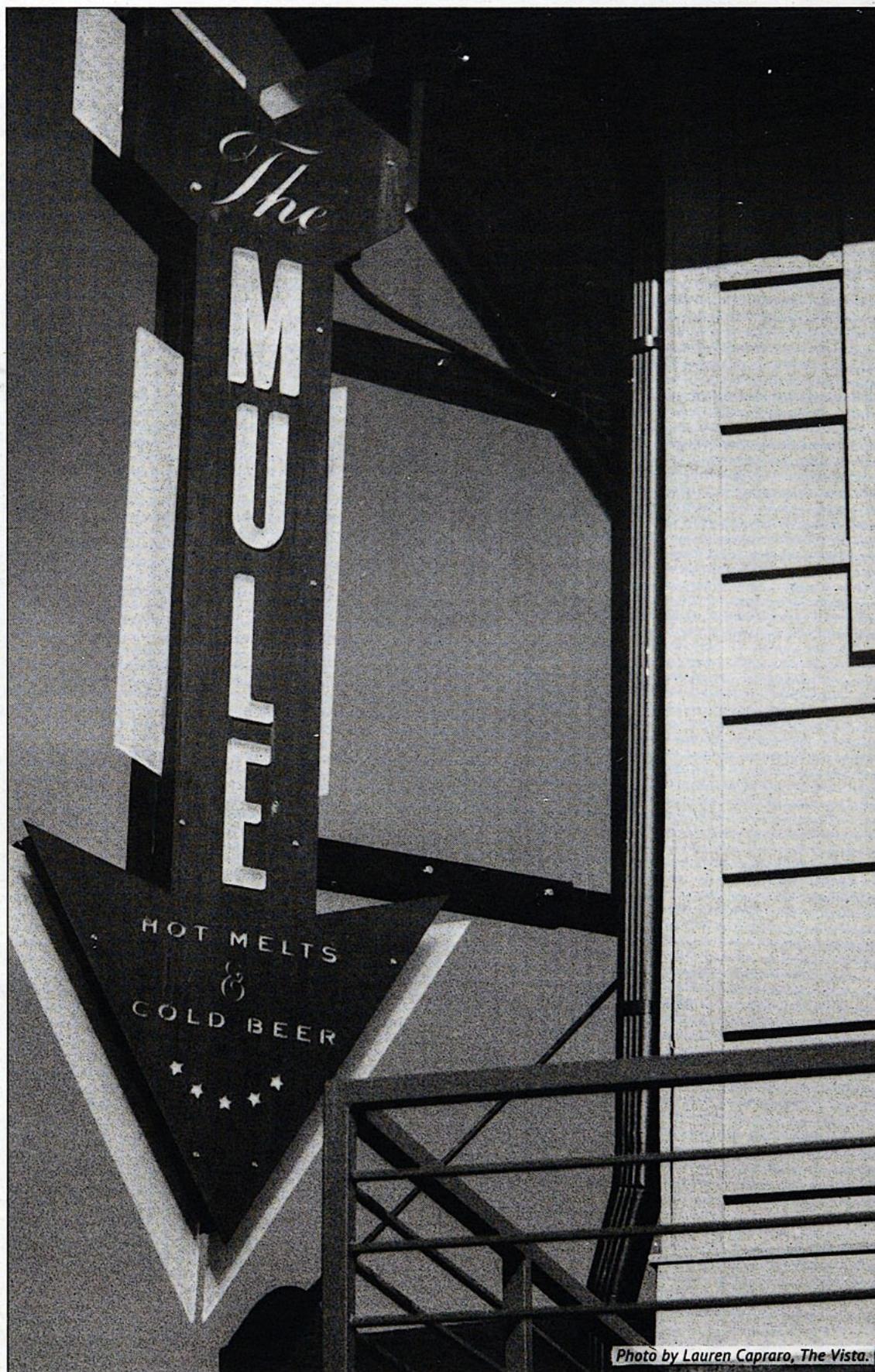
### 4. The Mule

Next time you visit OKC's eccentric Plaza District, check out The Mule. This gourmet sandwich restaurant is rated No. 14 out of No. 1444 on Oklahoma City TripAdvisor, and is nestled among several local shops such as Collected Thread and Tree & Leaf Clothing.

The Mule offers salads and appetizers, but their main attraction is their sandwiches. One of their crowd favorites, the Macaroni Pony, has chipotle BBQ pulled pork and gourmet macaroni and cheese piled high on jalapeño cornbread.

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*The Mule: 1630 N Blackwelder OKC, OK 73106*



*Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.*

# New app promises to bring musicians back to music



**Erick Perry**  
@erickperry9fo

Contributing Writer

The first-ever artist owned global music entertainment platform, TIDAL, was officially launched Monday evening generating an extensive amount of buzz throughout the internet world.

TIDAL defines itself as "the first music streaming service that combines the best High Fidelity sound quality, High Definition music videos and expertly Curated Editorial."

Jay-Z bought the company for a reported \$56 million earlier this year, before recruiting a team of high-profile musicians for an official relaunch.

The relaunch of the service involves a collaboration of musicians such as Rihanna, Jason Aldean, Madonna, Kanye West, Arcade Fire, Beyonce' and more.

"You can't make it to what we've accomplished without having that love of music be the foundation. I think this is one of the things that sets us aside from someone that's a [technology] company, that's selling advertisement or selling hardware. Right now they're writing the story for us. We need to write the story for ourselves," Jay-Z told the musicians during a roundtable discussion.

The service is similar to that of Spotify, however, it's capable of streaming high quality 16-bit FLAC, or Free Lossless Audio Codec, audio files.

FLAC audio files are similar to MP3s, but have the ability to compress audio without losing quality.

Therefore, the quality of the music produced when recorded will remain non-manipulated when streaming.

TIDAL also offers the ability to offline your music so that you can continue streaming without the convenience of internet-data services or Wi-Fi.

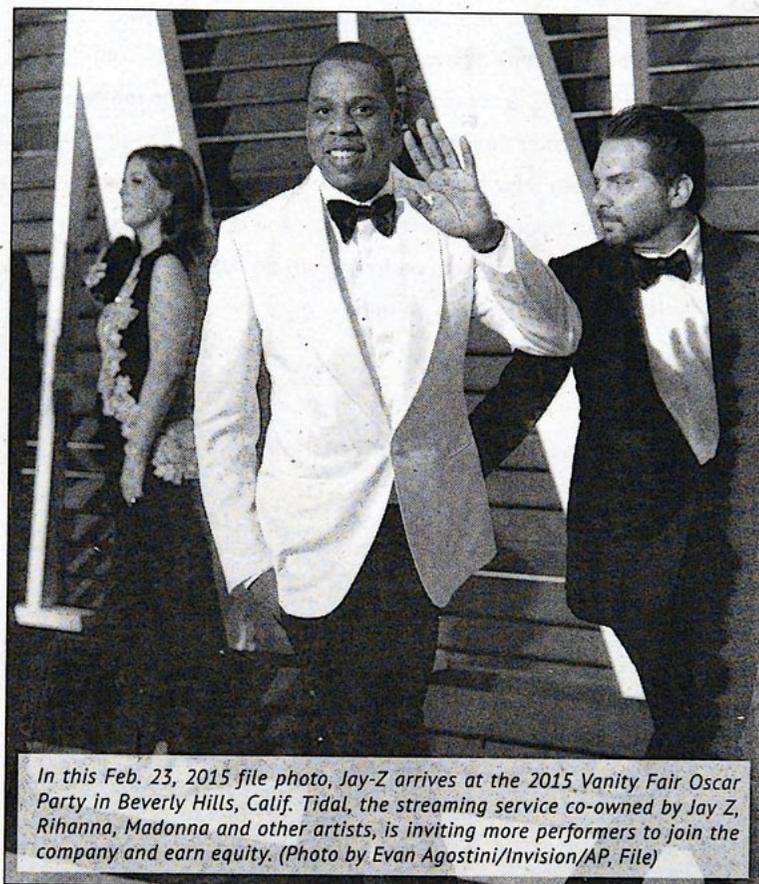
Singer-songwriter, Alicia Keys served as a spokeswoman for the service at a recent conference saying, "Our goal is simple. We want to create a better service and a better experience for both fans and artists."

Several musicians have turned their social media profile pictures blue in efforts to promote the newly relaunched network.

Popstar Taylor Swift has also declared that she will be taking her music to TIDAL. The singer's opinion on rival platform, Spotify, became well known in an interview with Time Magazine on the service's free, advertisement heavy model, saying it degraded music. She claimed "there should be an inherent value placed on art."

Unlike rival streaming giants like Spotify and Pandora, TIDAL is a subscription based platform. The streaming site costs \$9.99 a month; the same price as premium accounts on rival platforms.

The service was originally launched in the United States by Scandinavian company Aspiro in 2014.



In this Feb. 23, 2015 file photo, Jay-Z arrives at the 2015 Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif. Tidal, the streaming service co-owned by Jay Z, Rihanna, Madonna and other artists, is inviting more performers to join the company and earn equity. (Photo by Evan Agostini/Invision/AP, File)

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# Modest Mouse set to be strangers in OKC



**Rebekah Murphy**

@ rebekahfm18

Contributing Writer

Modest Mouse is coming to Oklahoma City in April after the band recently released the album "Strangers to Ourselves." They had been under the radar for eight years before the release.

The new album has reached No. 1 on the Alternative Billboard chart along with No. 2 on iTunes All Genres and No.1 on iTunes Alternative charts.

Sammy Butler, College Marketing Representative, said she cannot wait for the concert. Butler spoke highly of Isaac Brock, the lead singer of Modest Mouse.

Based off YouTube live videos, Butler exclaimed that he is great live and the audience will be blown away.

She expects the band to play mostly from their newly released album and maybe some older hits. Butler also said the entire album, along with commentary by Brock, can be found on Spotify.

Speaking directly about Brock, she said he has a true personality of creativity. He is full of passion and totally behind his music she said.

Besides writing most of the music, he stays involved with the artwork and process.

Modest Mouse will be performing at the Diamond Ballroom April 24. Butler will be there making a video for the band.

She will be videoing fans before and after the concert. She explained that she will be asking questions about what they expect and how they felt after the concert.

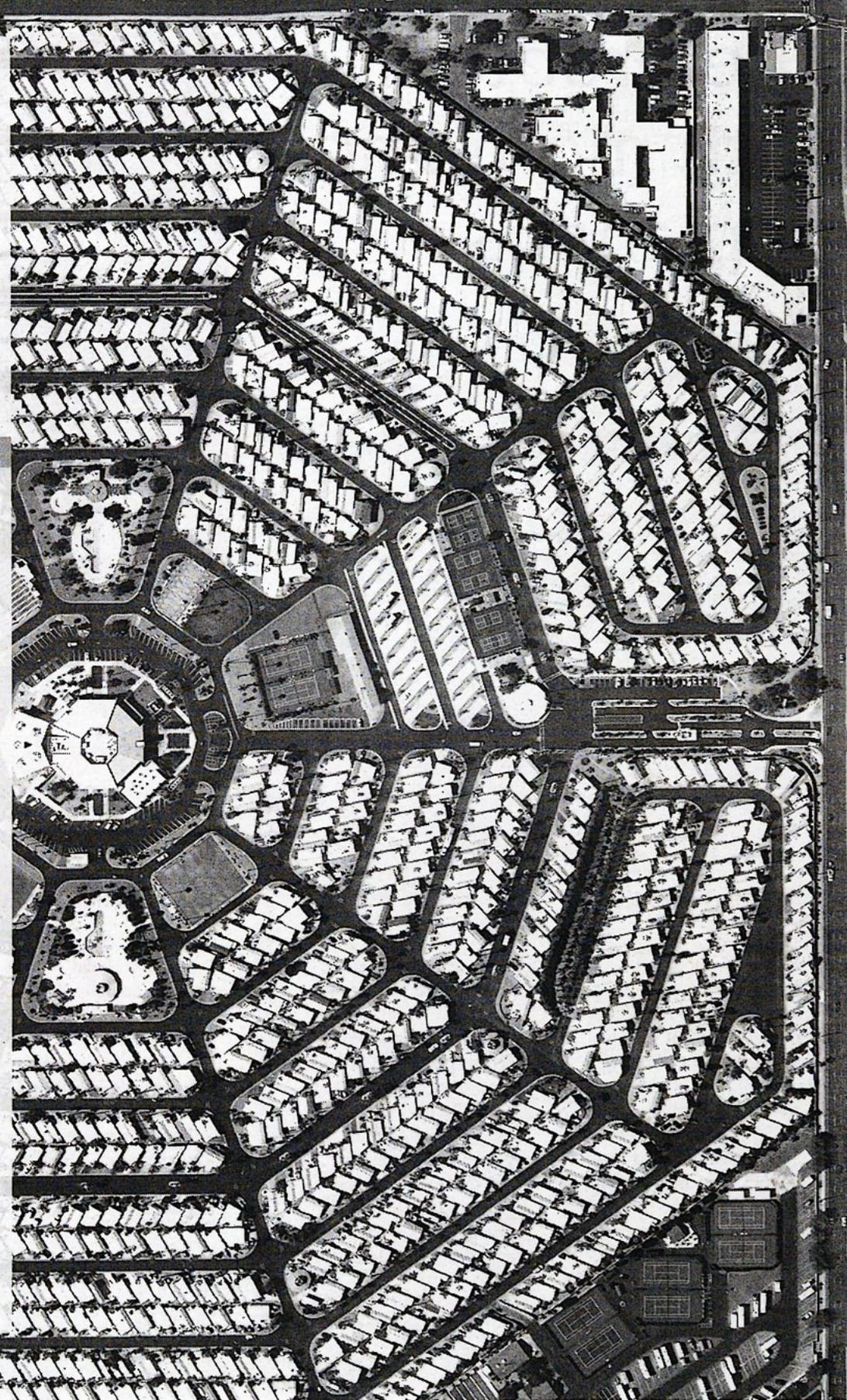
This is a cool experience, she said, because the video will go to the label. After the label views it, the band will get to watch what their fans thought of the performance.

Besides videoing, Butler will be handing out free posters; she wanted students to know so they can look for her, be part of the video and receive a poster.

Concerning the album, Butler described some of her personal favorite songs. She thought "Lampshades" is a great, classic Modest Mouse sound, whereas "Best Room" is a bit different.

Butler describes it as a really good jam and believes it is unique because of the unique artistic approach the band takes. Although she said these are her some of her favorites, she will stand by the statement that the entire album is amazing.

*This image released by Epic Records shows the CD cover for "Strangers to Ourselves," by Modest Mouse. (AP Photo/Epic Records)*



# The problem with mom and pop shops

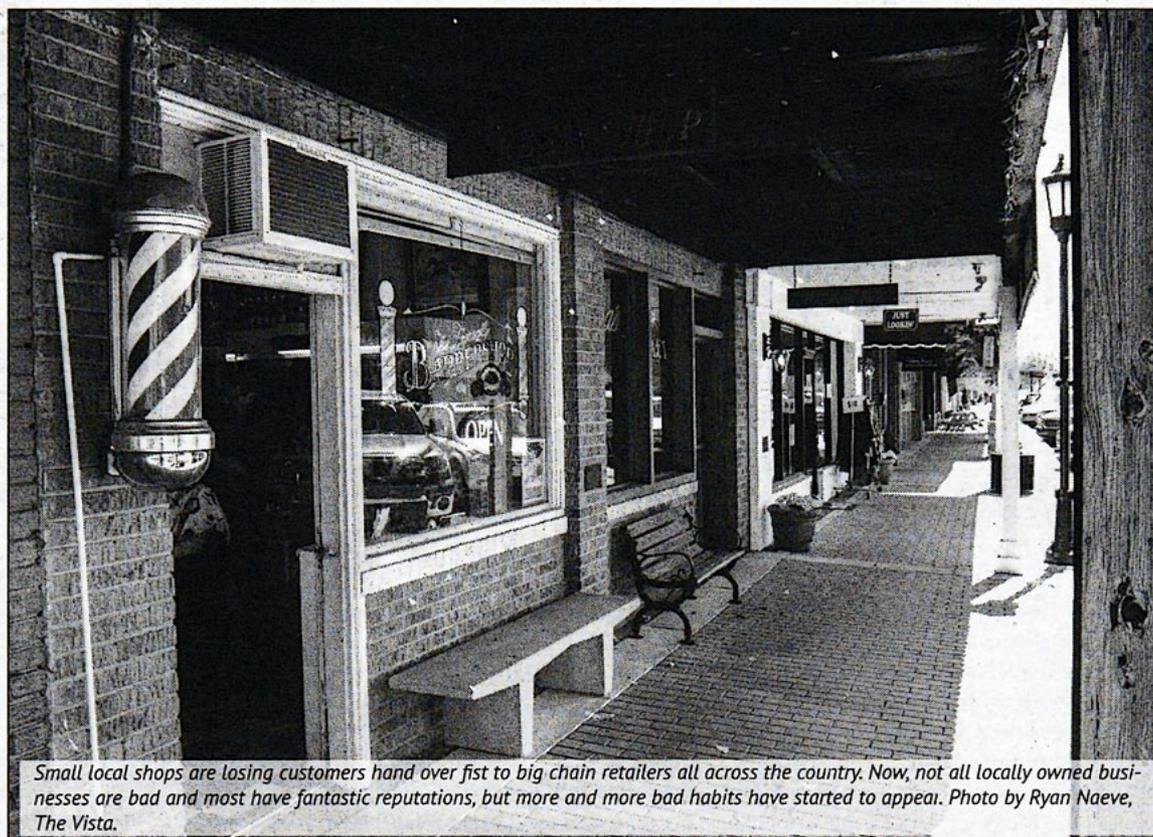


Adam Ropp

Staff Writer

Before all the criticism comes flying in that I'm a cooperate elitist, it should be noted that I'm self-employed and understand the circumstances of running your own business, but as of late I'm starting to notice more and more issues with shopping at small, local stores.

Sure, not all small stores are like this, but they better start finding ways to be more appealing among the convenience, quality and price of buying over the Internet and shopping at mega stores.



Small local shops are losing customers hand over fist to big chain retailers all across the country. Now, not all locally owned businesses are bad and most have fantastic reputations, but more and more bad habits have started to appear. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

# 1

## Product Quality

Maybe if you didn't charge \$12 for a tube of toothpaste with dust all over the box I'd shop at your store. Sometimes it's that simple.

I could already buy something 25 percent cheaper at a chain superstore, and now I can buy something online for literally half the price without the complimentary dusty box and expired date.

# 2

## Store Hours

Apparently the elderly, unemployed and five-year-olds must be sufficient enough demographics for self-owned stores because most have the hours of 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.-- you know the same set of hours where you're at your own job.

You'll also find the annoying randomness of "Be back in two hours" posted on the front door.

# 3

## Customer Service

You get what you get at a mom and pop shop. If you receive friendly service than good for you.

However, receive a snide remark and you'll find yourself with nobody to complain to, because chances are the rude cashier is also the manager, accountant and custodian.

# 4

## Hypocritical

One of the most annoying arguments made by local businesses is that super chains ruin small stores, when in fact mom and pop stores did this to each other before the super chains arrived, equivalent to the school bully getting a taste of their own medicine.

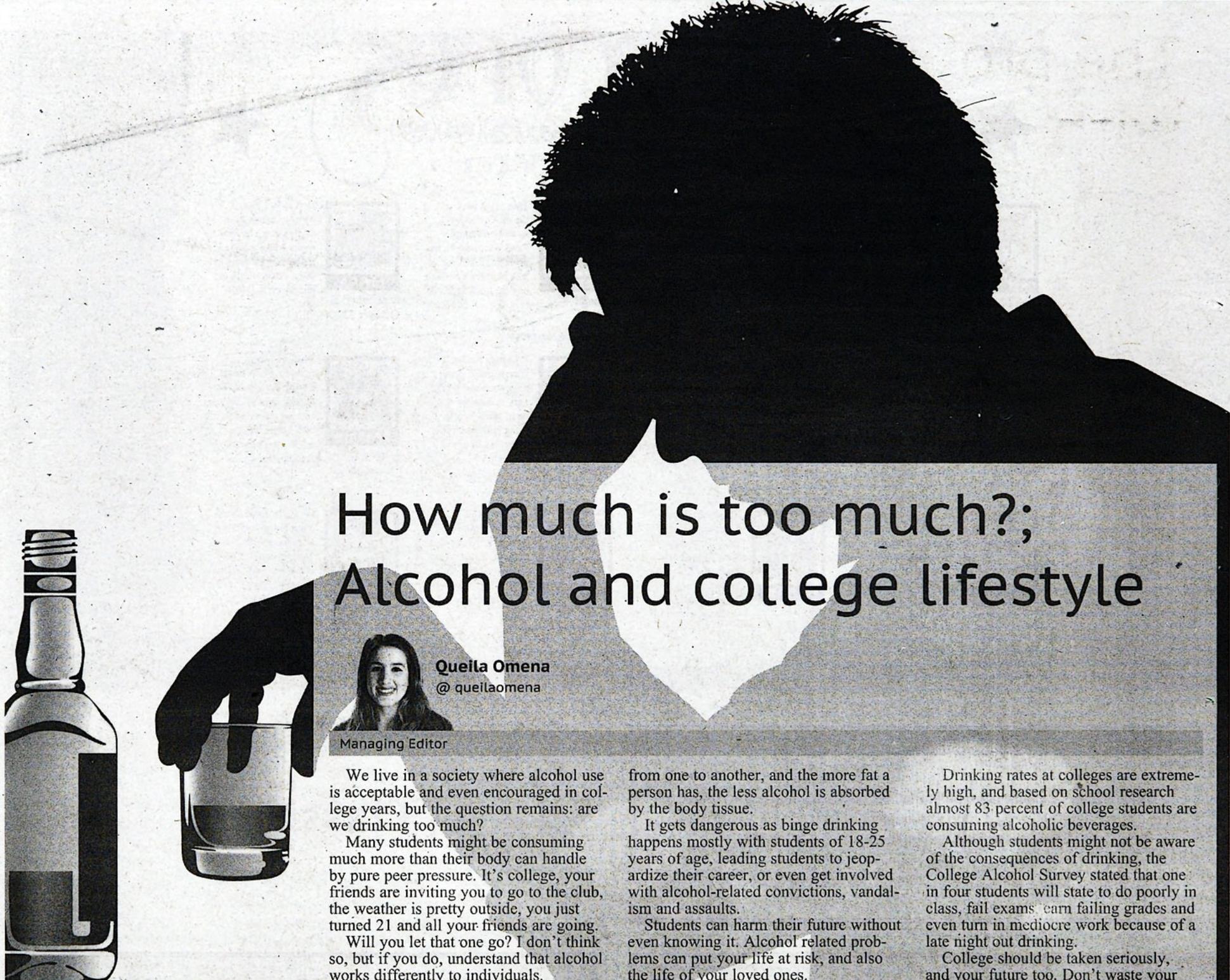
Now the school bully complains about being hit and would also like for everyone else to forget about his or her awful actions before the new kid even arrived.

# 5

## Return Policy

With a superstore you cannot only return an item because it's damaged, but because you simply didn't like it. This comes in handy for me because sometimes my dachshunds' new T-shirts seem like great fits, but not so much when he tries them on at home.

At a mom and pop shop you could open the merchandise right in front of the register after purchase, watch the merchandise fall apart in your hands and still be lucky to get a refund.



## How much is too much?; Alcohol and college lifestyle



**Queila Omena**  
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

We live in a society where alcohol use is acceptable and even encouraged in college years, but the question remains: are we drinking too much?

Many students might be consuming much more than their body can handle by pure peer pressure. It's college, your friends are inviting you to go to the club, the weather is pretty outside, you just turned 21 and all your friends are going.

Will you let that one go? I don't think so, but if you do, understand that alcohol works differently to individuals.

Alcohol has shown to work differently according to gender, age, weight and height, food consumed before drinking, carbonation, tolerance, mood and even physical condition.

Don't think you will get the same effects as your buddy, if you guys consumed the same amount. Body fat varies

from one to another, and the more fat a person has, the less alcohol is absorbed by the body tissue.

It gets dangerous as binge drinking happens mostly with students of 18-25 years of age, leading students to jeopardize their career, or even get involved with alcohol-related convictions, vandalism and assaults.

Students can harm their future without even knowing it. Alcohol related problems can put your life at risk, and also the life of your loved ones.

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), low-risk drinking means no more than four drinks on one day for men, and no more than three drinks per day for women. Alcohol consumed over this limit is already considered at-risk drinking.

Drinking rates at colleges are extremely high, and based on school research almost 83 percent of college students are consuming alcoholic beverages.

Although students might not be aware of the consequences of drinking, the College Alcohol Survey stated that one in four students will state to do poorly in class, fail exams, earn failing grades and even turn in mediocre work because of a late night out drinking.

College should be taken seriously, and your future too. Don't waste your wonderful college years with awful hangovers.

You don't deserve to go to a morning quiz while your head is about to explode due to the heavy drinking you did the night before. School comes first.

Be smart about your drinking, and enjoy college while you can.

*Image used with permission from creativeoutlet.com*

# HOROSCOPES

April 2015 — Week 1



**CAPRICORN**  
December 22–  
January 19

Snap out of it, Capricorn. It's time to face reality and look for a long-term solution to your situation. You're pinning your hopes on something that will never be.



**ARIES**  
March 21–  
April 19

Oh, boy, Aries. Once again, you've put all of your eggs in one basket, and it may not end well. A senior makes a fuss. Back them up. They are right.



**CANCER**  
June 22–  
July 22

Things get tense at the office this week as work piles up. Keep your nose to the grindstone, Cancer. The hunt for a bargain begins. Look high and low.



**LIBRA**  
September 23–  
October 22

Hop to it, Libra. Time is running out to organize a holiday to-do. Make a list, grab some pals and get busy. A question goes unanswered. Don't pry.



**AQUARIUS**  
January 20–  
February 18

True, Aquarius. A loved one is in crisis, but that doesn't mean you can help them. They may need professional help. The number crunching comes to an end.



**TAURUS**  
April 20–  
May 20

Financial issues persist. Cutting corners will help, Taurus, but it will not resolve the matter entirely. You need a new source of revenue, and you need it now.



**LEO**  
July 23–  
August 22

Whispers among friends make you nervous. Take it easy, Leo. A surprise could be in store. Sparks fly at home with the discovery of an old love letter.



**SCORPIO**  
October 23–  
November 21

Wish no more, Scorpio. Plans made some time ago finally see the light of day and get off with a bang. Big changes are in store at work. Anticipation mounts.



**PISCES**  
February 19–  
March 20

Relax, Pisces. A senior will make their way through the maze eventually. It is just going to take time. Leave them be and let them figure it out on their own.



**GEMINI**  
May 21–  
June 21

Uh-uh-uh, Gemini. You don't want to jump the gun this time. Slow down and get the facts before you make any moves. An acquaintance makes an announcement.



**VIRGO**  
August 23–  
September 22

Really, Virgo. Do you really think you have time for another activity? Learn to say no and mean it. A project finally gets the green light at work.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
November 22–  
December 21

Oh yeah, Sagittarius. Your home could use a spruce-up, and hiring a professional is not out of the question. A party brings old friends together.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

BFF Performance Shoe store (NW OKC) is now accepting applications from College students for part-time employment. 15-20 hrs. per week. Evenings and Saturdays. No retail experience needed. Call 608-0404.

## Classifieds

Are you looking for a fast paced environment? A place where you can grow and advance your hospitality career! If you are, than Kd's Southern Cuisine is the place for you. We are now looking for motivated, professional employees to join our team.

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# VISTA SPORTS



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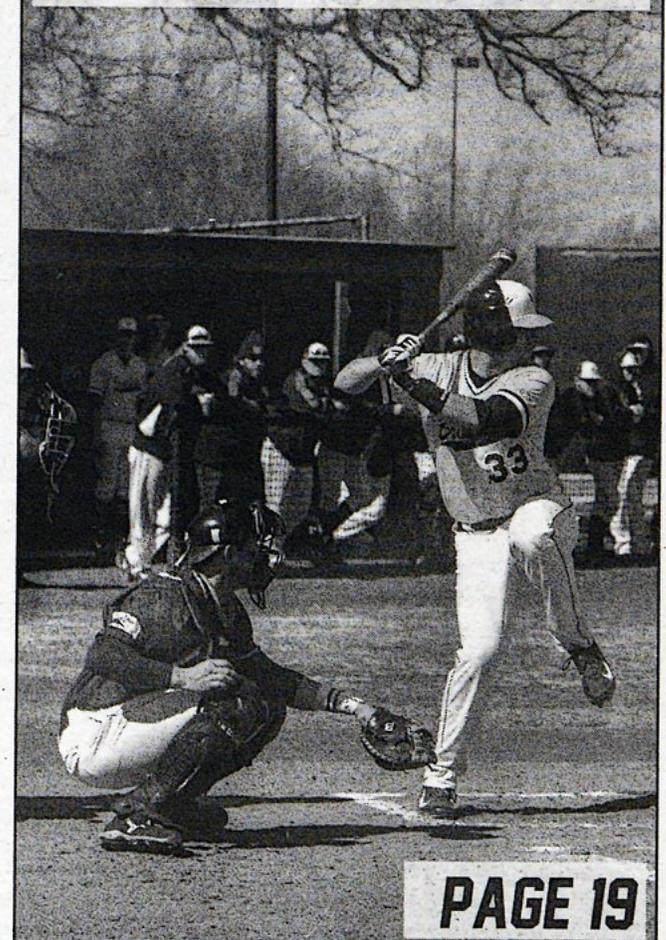
DURANT GOES UNDER THE KNIFE FOR A THIRD TIME THIS SEASON

## TRACK FLOURISHES AT OBU INVITATIONAL



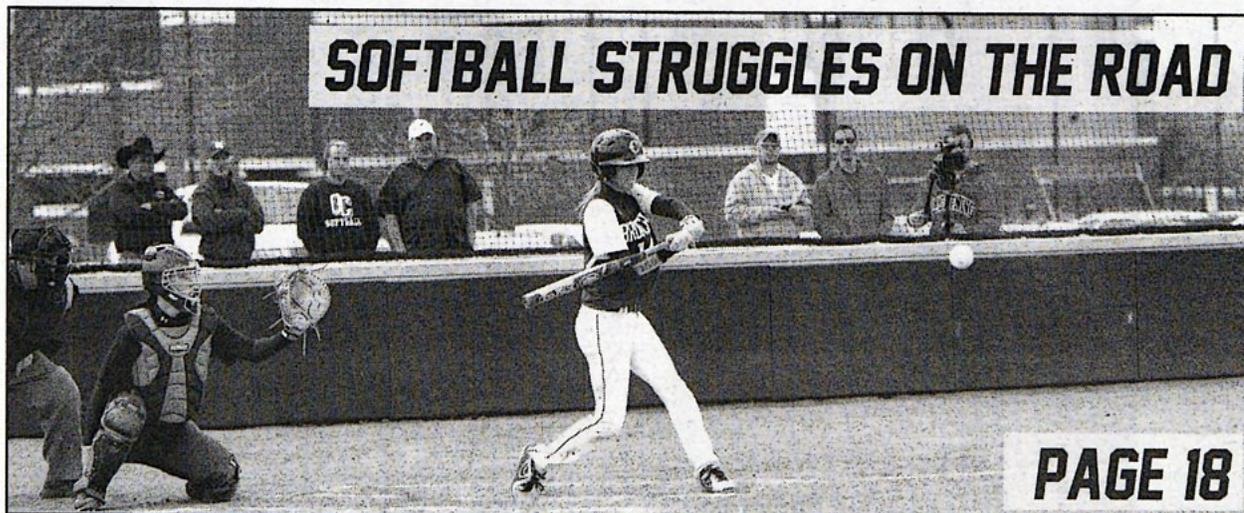
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## BRONCHO BASEBALL BREAKS LOSING STREAK



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## SOFTBALL STRUGGLES ON THE ROAD



PAGE 18

# Durant has third surgery of the season

**AP** @AP

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Thunder star Kevin Durant had bone graft surgery Tuesday for a fracture in his right foot, and the team expects he'll return to basketball activities in four to six months.

The Thunder said in a statement that Durant had surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York, with team medical personnel present.

The league's reigning MVP had the third operation on his foot. The first procedure was last October, and he returned to play in December with some pain.

A screw rubbing against another bone was removed in February, and Durant was expected to return in one or two weeks. The pain persisted, and Durant consulted three foot and ankle specialists. They agreed to the bone graft surgery after it was determined pain was from the rubbing, plus regression in the initial break.

Durant appeared in just 27 games this season, averaging 25.4 points, 6.6 rebounds and 4.1 assists.

Thunder coach Scott Brooks said Durant has been like an assistant coach throughout the ordeal. He has been animated and involved on the sideline.

"It hasn't been easy on KD, but he has really established himself as a better leader than ever, because when you're not playing,

it's hard to stay locked in and engaged on the team," Brooks said. "But he has done a great job of continuing to communicate with our guys and help our guys along."

Oklahoma City is in position to reach the playoffs without Durant. Heading into Tuesday night's games, the Thunder led New Orleans by 2 1/2 games in the race for the No. 8 spot in the Western Conference standings with 10 games left.

Brooks said he'll need Durant to motivate the team from the sideline.

"He knows the league as well as anybody on our team," Brooks said. "He knows the players' tendencies as well as anybody on our team. He has to continue to relay those messages to the guys that are out there playing, because he wants nothing but success for our guys, and that's what leaders do."

The injuries continue to pile up for the Thunder. Brooks said forward Serge Ibaka (right knee surgery), guard Andre Roberson (left ankle sprain) and forward Nick Collison (left ankle sprain) are out for Wednesday's game against Dallas. Ibaka isn't expected back during the regular season.

Guard Dion Waiters has soreness in his left foot. He sat out Tuesday's practice, but he's expected to play Wednesday.



Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant, center, celebrates after a Thunder basket against Atlanta Hawks during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Friday, March 20, 2015. Oklahoma City won 123-115. (AP Photo/Alonzo Adams)

# Track & Field flourish at OBU Invitational



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Contributing Writer



The University of Central Oklahoma's women's track and field showed up huge this last weekend in Shawnee at the Oklahoma Baptist Invitational. It was a collective effort by the Bronchos, with UCO having top-eight placers in 14 individual events.

This has been a common occurrence for the Bronchos this season as they get contributions from all different events. It's not only the track where the Bronchos have been shining, but the field individuals have been holding their own as well.

Sophomore Savannah Waters placed second in the Discus by throwing an incredible distance of 135-5.

The Bronchos were led early by Senior Alayna McGee with won the 200-meter dash. McGee also led off on UCO's 1,600-meter relay to capture the event.

The Bronchos showed up nicely in 200-meter dash with claiming first and third. McGee's time in the 200-meter was 25.12, and Juanna Lewis, who took third, ran a time of 25.42.

Great performances by McGee and Lewis early in the day set the tone for the rest of the day for the Bronchos.

McGee kept on having a great

day when she led the 400-meter relay, which the Bronchos got runner-up. McGee, Lewis, Berryman and Ashlyn Carroll set a school record in the 400-meter relay with a time of 47.43.

This was a great accomplishment, and it just kept the momentum going for the Bronchos. Katie Cease placed third in the 800-meter dash, and Audrey Price placed second in the Triple Jump.

Erika Guerrero and Carroll both had provisional qualifying standards for the NCAA Division II national meet. Pole Vaulting was the event Guerrero qualified in, and Carroll qualified in the Hepthalon.

The OBU Invitational was a great day for the Bronchos all-around. They had some outstanding individual performances, but the key to their success was the team events-- where they excelled.

The Bronchos will be traveling to Emporia, Kansas to participate in the Emporia State Relays. With the momentum they got from the OBU Invitational, this will be a good test to see how they can keep their good performances going.

The event will be Saturday April 4 at 11 a.m.

*Top left: Colby Holder throws hammer at an indoor meet earlier this season in Norman. The Bronchos are now in outdoor track season. Photo by Brandi Melton, The Vista.*

*Bottom left: Ashley Hughes runs hurdles at an indoor track meet earlier this season. A freshman from Altus, Hughes does multiple events for Central Oklahoma Track and Field. Photo by Brandi Melton, The Vista.*

# Central Softball struggles on the road; looks to improve at home this weekend

## BRONCHO SOFTBALL



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The University of Central Oklahoma Softball team lost three of four over the weekend, dropping to 22-11 on the season. Their conference record also took a hit dropping them to 8-4.

Having not played a home game since March 8, the Bronchos played four more road games against Nebraska-Kearney and Fort Hays State.

A Friday doubleheader against Nebraska Kearney began with an 8-6 loss to the 9-20 Lopers.

The second game was packed with drama as the Bronchos were leading 5-1 heading into the last at bat for Kearney.

A lead off hit followed by two walks set up a huge grand slam to tie the game up at five a piece. After another walk and sacrifice bunt, the Lopers were in position to win the game with a runner in scoring position with two outs.

The Lopers were able to capitalize on the opportunity with a walk-off single to stun the Bronchos.

After the comeback loss, UCO had to travel from Kearney, Nebraska to Hays, Kansas for the second doubleheader in as many days against the Fort Hays State Tigers.

The Bronchos dropped the first game 2-3

in their second consecutive walk-off loss. Bringing their losing streak to a season high three games and making the last game of the weekend a very important one.

Kelsey Berlin stepped up in a big way in the second game by throwing a three hitter and only allowing a single run for the entire contest. Berlin struck out seven, and walked five in her 121 pitch performance.

The Bronchos snapped their three game losing streak with a 4-1 victory.

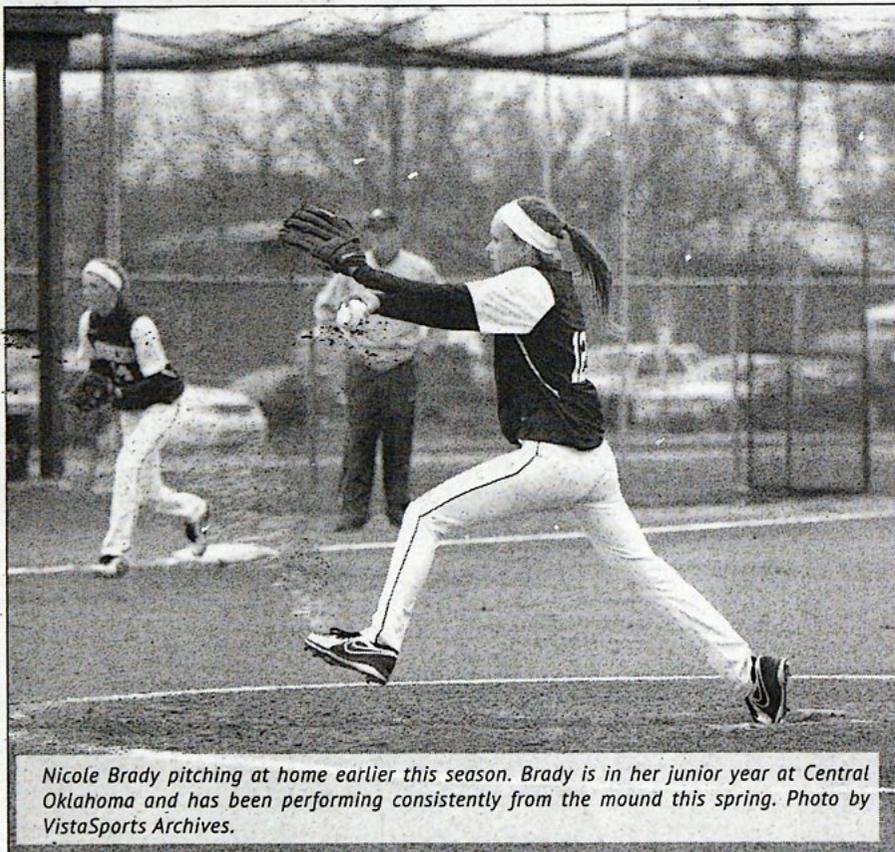
Sophomore Ashleigh Tramel was huge in the second game also, going 2-3 with three RBIs and a huge home run. She also made plays in the field catching a foul ball in a

diving effort.

Tramel's home run gave the Bronchos a 1-0 lead in the second. That lead was increased to two after Shelby Carel's RBI triple in the fourth.

UCO scored again the next inning off a two-out double from Tramel brought two more in. Berlin never allowed the Tigers to get any momentum and UCO got a big win.

The Bronchos continue their long road trip on Tuesday in Lawton against Cameron University.



Nicole Brady pitching at home earlier this season. Brady is in her junior year at Central Oklahoma and has been performing consistently from the mound this spring. Photo by VistaSports Archives.

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# Broncho Baseball break losing streak



**Joshua Palmer**

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Contributing Writer

Central Oklahoma played a four-game series this past weekend against conference opponent Central Missouri. Both teams have struggled to find many wins so far this year.

The squads met in Warrensburg, Missouri for the first match-up on Friday afternoon. Senior Dennis Morelli got the start for the Bronchos.

The Mules got off to a hot start, scoring six runs in the first two innings. They held an 8-0 lead after six.

UCO, struggling to find any offense throughout the game, managed two ninth-inning runs in the 8-2 loss.

In the first game of a doubleheader on Saturday, Daulton Leiker took the mound as the Bronchos' starter.

Central Missouri again took an early 2-0 lead after three innings, but UCO responded in the top of the fifth. After a walk and an error, the Bronchos tied the game on two base hits from Jacob Borrego and Dillon Argo, respectively.

However, the Mules began the bottom of the seventh with a single. After a sacrifice bunt, a wild pitch and two intentional walks, Central Missouri had the bases loaded with just one out.

Leiker gave up the walkoff single to the next batter, and the Mules won again, 3-2.

UCO's Brent Backlund started on the

mound in the second game of the day. For the third time, Central Missouri swung the bats well early on.

The Mules led 3-0 after one inning.

The Bronchos finally began finding some offense of their own, though. Their first three batters reached base in the top of the second.

Ethan Elroy then drove one runner in with a single, and senior Tyler Hatcher smashed a grand slam to give UCO a lead it would never relinquish.

It was Hatcher's sixth home run of the season. Central Oklahoma broke its five-game losing streak with a 6-4 victory.

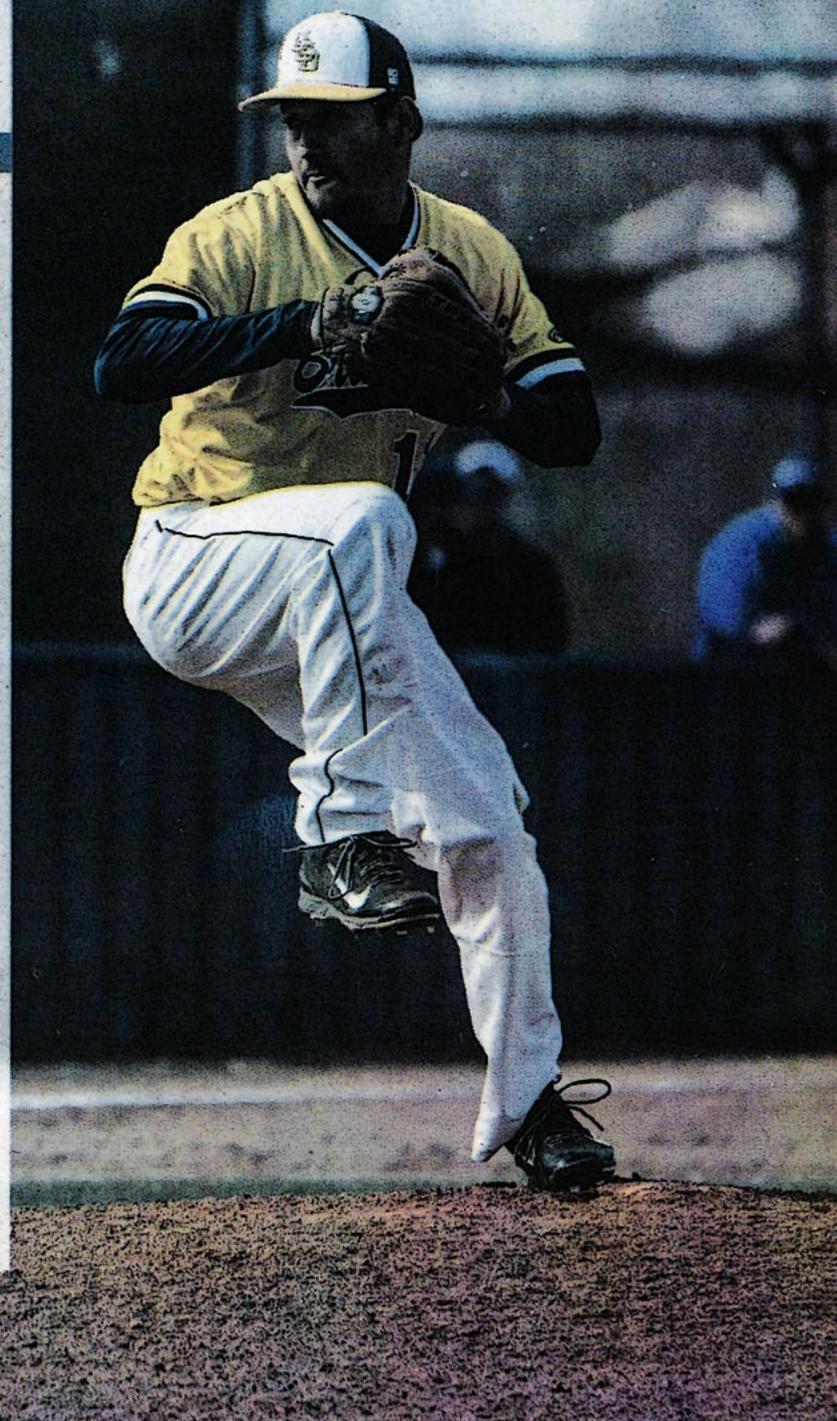
The final game of the series was played on Sunday afternoon. Junior Carson Corff was the starting pitcher for the Bronchos.

Central Missouri put on a textbook performance, allowing UCO only four base hits and zero runs through the first seven innings. The Mules steadily built up a 4-0 lead.

UCO junior Issac Hellbusch produced a two-run homer in the eighth inning, but that was the only offense the Bronchos could muster. They fell in the final matchup, 4-2.

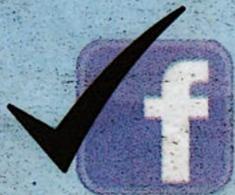
The 1-3 weekend leaves UCO baseball with a conference record of 7-12 and an overall record of 11-16. They will next face the 11-20 Arlington Baptist College Patriots on March 31.

*Rande Revilla pitches earlier this season at Windell Simmons field. Revilla is a junior at UCO this season returning after a two year layoff and looking to contribute to the Broncho attack. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.*



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