



Features

News

Sports

02.05.15

the **VISTA**

@TheVista1903

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EDITORIALS

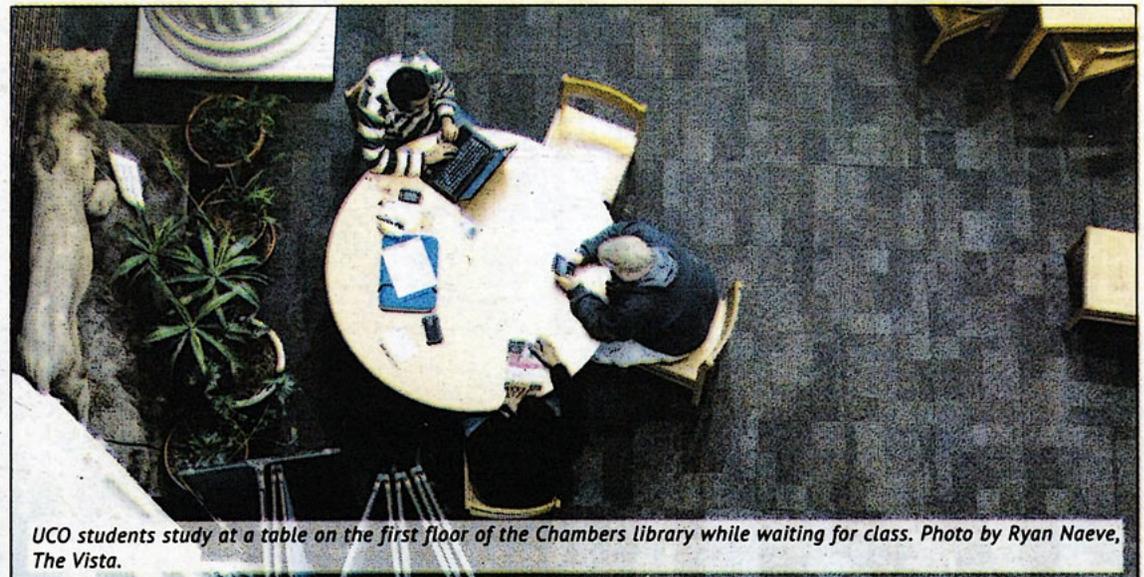
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LETTERS

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:

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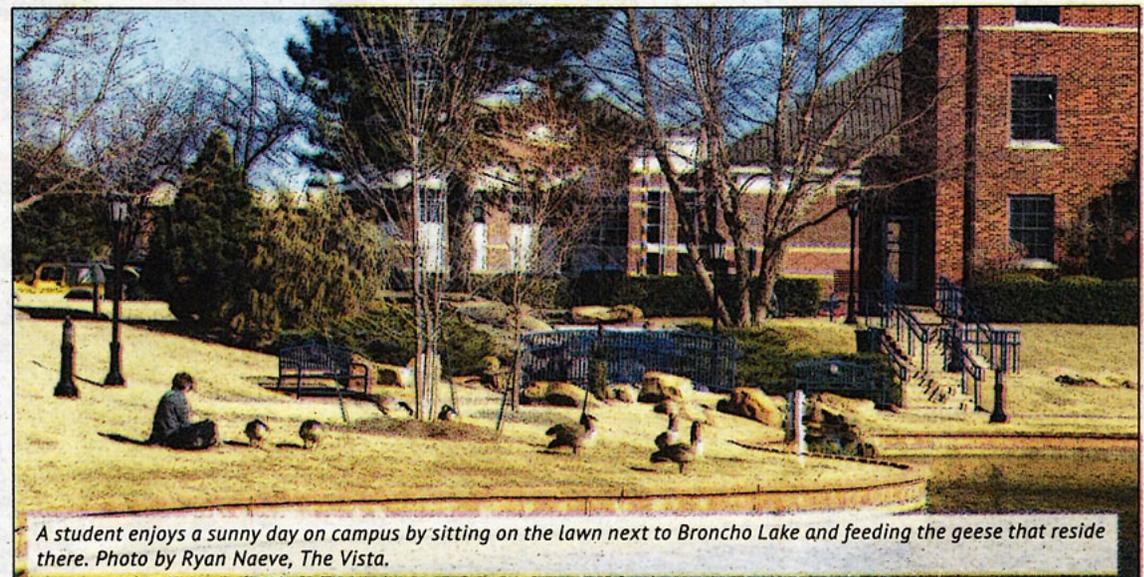
UCO students study at a table on the first floor of the Chambers library while waiting for class. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

CONTENTS

Campus Quotes.....	4
News.....	5-10
Editorial.....	11
Classifieds.....	12
Sports.....	13-15

ON THE COVER

A student lounges in the sun, on the bleachers overlooking Plunkett Park on campus. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



A student enjoys a sunny day on campus by sitting on the lawn next to Broncho Lake and feeding the geese that reside there. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

The Vista's Broncho of the Week: Gus Olson



Austin Rabon
@ TheRabon

Staff Writer

Going to a Thunder basketball game is more than just watching a game, it is an experience created by the people that work there.

Gus Olson, a student at the University of Central Oklahoma, is part of what makes that experience so great.

"I am what you might refer to as a hype man," Olson said.

Olson runs around the stadium for two hours straight getting people excited and starting chants to help the Thunder cruise to victory. He is also part of the Storm Chaser dunkers. As a dunker he and his team get to use trampolines and perform acrobatic stunts doing flips and spins to entertain the crowd.

Apart from his busy life as an Oklahoma City Thunder

Storm Chaser, Olson goes to class right here at UCO. Currently a junior, Olson is studying Kinesiology, with a focus on exercise and fitness management.

"Being from a small town and school I didn't really want the overwhelming size of an OU or OSU, but I wanted more than just a couple thousand students and UCO has both of those things," Olson said.

Olson graduated from the Oklahoma Bible Academy in Enid and chose to attend UCO.

"My favorite thing about UCO is that it's a large school with a small school feel. I can see new faces every day and there is always an event going on or booths around campus promoting clubs and organizations," he said.

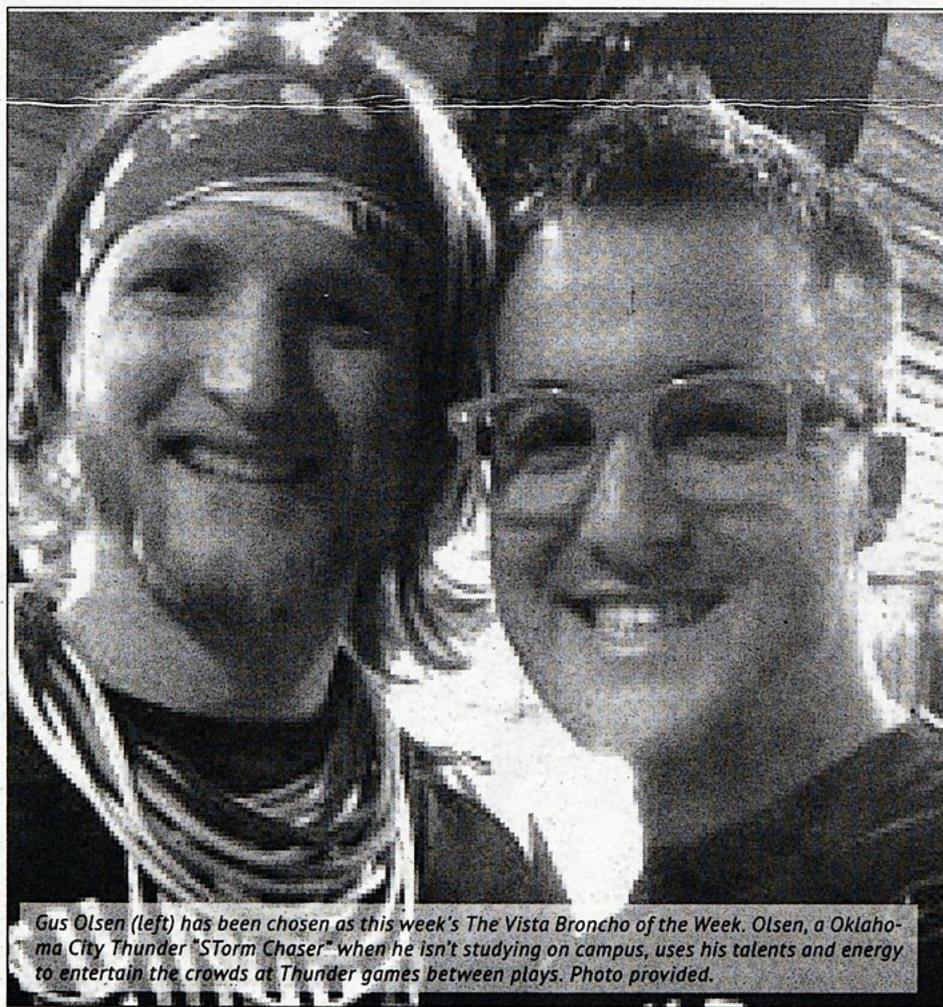
If Olson is not at school, or at a Thunder basketball

game, one might be able to find him near a lake or at the top of a mountain.

"I love to go hiking, camping, rock climbing, boating, road tripping, or anything else that involves adventure. I also enjoy playing games with friends, whether it's video games or board games," he said.

Olson works about 20 hours a week, goes to school full time, is involved in intramural sports here at UCO and although he loves working for the Thunder, Olson said his dream is to be a strength and conditioning coach.

Olson is proud to be a Broncho and shows his school spirit both on and off campus.



Gus Olson (left) has been chosen as this week's The Vista Broncho of the Week. Olson, a Oklahoma City Thunder "Storm Chaser" when he isn't studying on campus, uses his talents and energy to entertain the crowds at Thunder games between plays. Photo provided.




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“Campus Quotes”

Which class are you dreading taking your first test in the most?

Jake Bottroff

Nursing Major

“I’m dreading taking my exam in Contemporary Moral Problems because it requires a deeper state of thought than I’m used to thinking.”

Junior

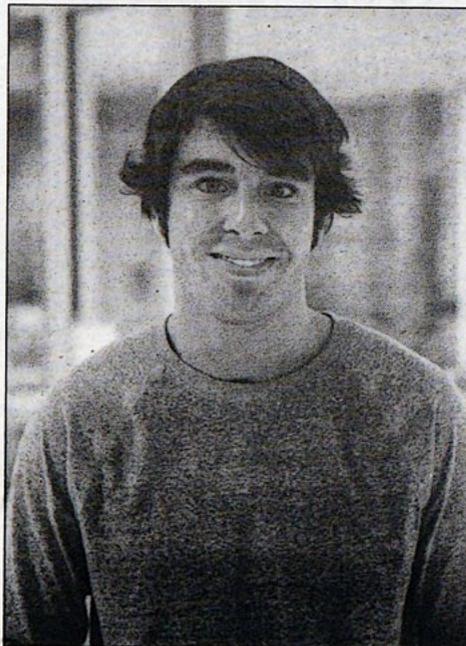
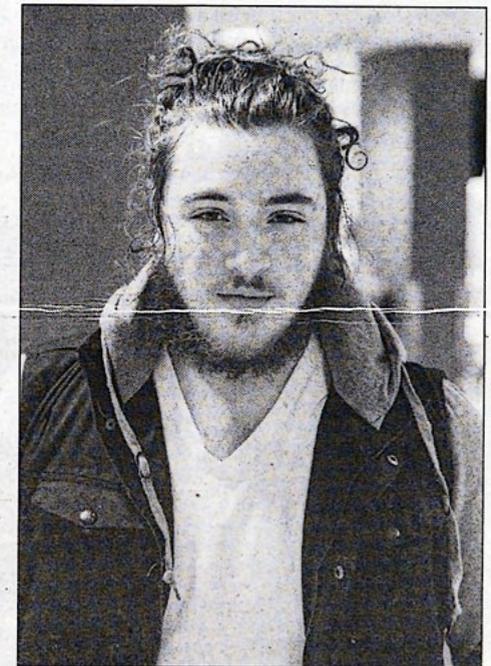


Loné Mandoze

International Business Major

“The first test that I’m dreading right now is U.S. History before the civil war. It’s kind of hard for me because I’m an international student and I don’t really know much about American history, so it’s a bit of a challenge.”

Freshman

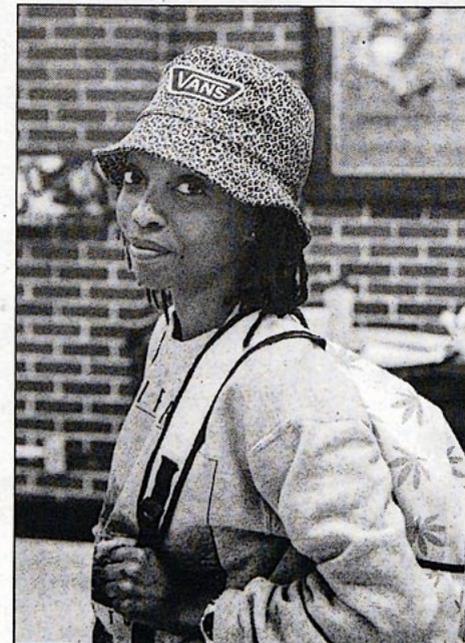


Tam Cao

Accounting Major

“Logical thinking, because it’s a little bit of a combination of math and logic, so it’s very difficult.”

Junior



Christian McGrew

Film Major

“English because I’ve always had trouble with the whole syntax and grammar side of it, you know.”

Freshman

UCO celebrates Black History Month



Rebekah Murphy
@ rebekahfm18

Contributing Writer

February will be a full and exciting month for the University of Central Oklahoma as it celebrates Black History Month put on by The Office of Diversity and Inclusion along with other organizations on campus. The events begin with a kickoff on Feb. 4 followed by events throughout the month.

The theme this month is "Honoring the Past, Building the Future." The planned events are designed to educate people as well as spark a conversation based on gender, class and race.

Bryan Williams, a member of Black Male Fellows, explained the importance of the month because it gives people from every race a chance to become cultured. He also said that too many times history is looked over and that people need to be reminded of where they came from.

For the kickoff Feb. 4, Willard C. Pitts, president of the Board of Directors for C.A.R.E., will be speaking in the Heritage Room of the Nigh University Center. Following events range in topics from the controversial conversation of skin color in Skin Deep Feb. 18, to the Stereotype Threat on Feb. 24.

Williams is especially looking forward to the event he is helping put on Feb. 16: The N Word: A term of Endearment? He said that the word has been controversial but he thinks everyone should come find out a new perspective about that word.

Other events include a movie on Feb. 6 based off Martin Luther King's campaign and Miss Black UCO pageant the following night.

There are also interactive events to attend. The Black

Student Association will be pairing with The Office of Diversity to sponsor Guiding Right: Know Your Status that will be giving out free and confidential HIV tests to UCO students.

Also the African Student Association will host a Live Sit-In Demonstration on Feb 17 that invites students to experience a sit-in followed by a discussion.

These are just a few of the many events being held this month. For further information on the mentioned events along with the others go to uco.edu/bhm or visit the Office of Diversity and Inclusion located in the Nigh University Center.

The events are all-free with a UCO ID and are located throughout the Nigh.



In this Aug. 28, 1963, file photo Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., center left with arms raised, marches along Constitution Avenue with other civil rights protestors carrying placards, from the Washington Monument to the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington. Next Wednesday, the nation's first black president, Barack Obama, will stand near the spot where Martin Luther King Jr. stood 50 years ago, a living symbol of the racial progress King dreamed about, and enunciate where he believes this nation should be headed. (AP Photo, File)



Adam Ropp
@adamropp

Staff Writer

The Big Pink Tournament for breast cancer is back

The University of Central Oklahoma Campus Activities will host the Fifth Annual Big Pink Volleyball Tournament on Feb. 23-27 in the Wellness Center to raise money for those affected or for those who have survived breast cancer in the Central and Western Oklahoma regions.

The games are played with a 4-foot pink volleyball with everyone in the local community encouraged to participate. The sign up fee is only \$5 per person.

Haley Stiles, a UCO Organizational Communications major and executive director for Big Pink at UCO stated, "You should do Big Pink because breast cancer can affect anyone, both men and women. Plus, everyone knows someone whose been affected by cancer in general."

Teams must have a minimum of five players with only six players allowed to play at one time

for each team. You can also sign up as an individual to be placed on a team.

"Last year we had around 99 teams, our goal this year is to have 150 teams and raise at least \$15,000. If we raise \$20,000 I have pledged to shave my head and donate my hair as a wig to someone with cancer," said Stiles.

In the four years Central has hosted the tournament, Big Pink has raised \$16,947.43 as well as additional funding from selling T-shirts and bagels in the Nigh University Center. Big Pink also accepts donations.

Big Pink will also have Paint the Campus Pink Week Feb. 16-20 as well as a Rally on the Feb. 22 where tournament participants can hear testimony from breast cancer survivors, enjoy a cookout and practice with the 4-foot volleyballs.

Besides planning the Volleyball Tourna-

ment, the Big Pink Executive Committee hopes to spread awareness to the UCO community through education about Breast Cancer, its prevention and to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Central and Western Oklahoma chapters.

Susan G. Komen is the largest and most-funded breast cancer organization in the United States and since its inception in 1982, has spent nearly \$1.5 billion for breast cancer education, research, advocacy, health services and social support programs in the U.S.

Tournament registration will end on Feb. 18. To register or for more information you can visit the UCO campus activities website or call 405-974-2363.

The start time for the tournament will be determined based on the number of participants.



Display located in the Nigh University Center for the Big Pink Volleyball tournament. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

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Problems and solutions for women on campus



Ariana Muse
@ arianamarie93

Staff Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma's Chapter of National Organization for Women hosted a women's forum at 7 p.m. on Jan. 28 in the Nigh University Center Constitution Hall that focused on women's issues and solutions.

Speakers, Lindsey Churchill, Ph.D., assistant professor of history and faculty adviser to UCO-NOW, Janelle Grellner, Ph.D., professor of psychology, Elizabeth Overman, Ph.D., associate professor of political science and Lory You'll, Ph.D., professor of psychology, presented issues concerning women on campus and solutions that might help the school, organizations and individuals solve these problems.

Some of these concerns included underpaid women, education, college pregnancy, childcare on campus, Mercy Health Clinic services and sexual harassment.

"I'm hoping that we can move towards basically gender equality, towards better services for women and men on campus, and that we can be empowered from this, to come forward and have solutions not just talk, that we can actually take action to make these changes on campus," said Churchill.

Churchill founded the chapter of NOW in 2013 which concentrates on equality for everyone. The chapter wants to help eliminate secure reproductive rights for women, violence against women, racism discrimination and harassment, sexism and homophobia and promote equality and justice.

Churchill has recently started a scholarship that is now offered at UCO as well as started the gender and sexuality minor that is set to start in the summer. The minor will look at everything from global gender

and equality, sexuality, the media, race, LGBT issues and critical thinking; it is interdisciplinary, so any major can do the minor said Churchill.

"I think it went really well. I love the questions people asked, the ideas that they had and it just inspired everybody," said Churchill about the event.

Victoria Hack, an English major freshman from Marlow, Oklahoma, described the event as her first introduction into that sort of program. She said she is really interested in getting involved in this sort of thing and the NOW program. She is thinking about joining the gender and sexual health committee.

"It was a very eye-opening experience for me, you know, I wasn't aware of a lot of these issues that they brought up and so it was just really very informational for me, very helpful," said Hack.



Speakers at the women's forum sponsored by UCO-NOW discuss women's issues and solutions on UCO's campus. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.



Adam
Ropp

Staff Writer

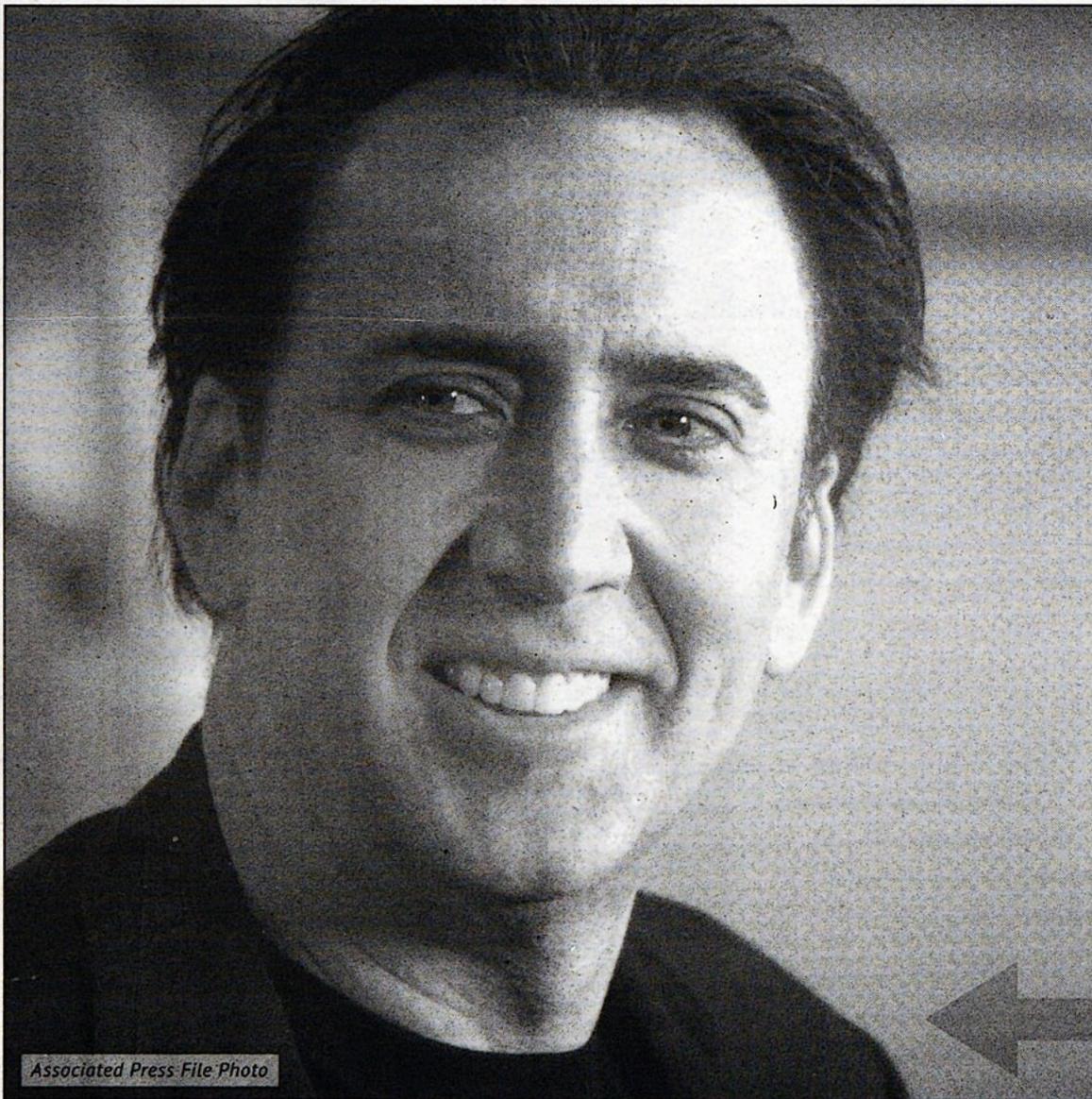
1990's actors whose careers are over; they just don't know it yet

Some movie careers come to a halt after a catastrophic event like a sex tape or drug bust. However, many others just slowly fade away through the course of time.

We never really have a conscious defining moment of when a star lost their luster, we just think one day,

"When's the last time so-and-so came out with a big movie?"

I'm not really concentrating on the typical washed up star who now sells ballpoint pens over the phone, but rather a different category of stars who are still trying but just don't have that magic anymore.



Associated Press File Photo

Nicholas Cage

Nicholas Kim Coppola came into Hollywood with such an obvious silver spoon that he changed his last name to hide it. Being the nephew of Francis Ford Coppola, director of *The Godfather* and *Apocalypse Now*, was obviously a contributing factor to the fact that Nicholas Cage was one of the biggest stars of the 1990's.

When it started: *Leaving Las Vegas* (1995)

After Cage won an Oscar for *Leaving Las Vegas* (1995), it was followed by a string of box office hits like *The Rock*, *8MM*, *Face/Off* and *Gone in 60 Seconds*, where I can remember teenage males driving around recklessly after its 2000 release. Cage lived in castles and married Elvis's daughter so life was good if you were Nicholas Cage.

When it cracked: *The Wicker Man* (2006)

Cage had hits all the way up to 2010, however right after *National Treasure* (2004) and *World Trade Center* (2006) things changed. *The Wicker Man* (2006) was a disaster and while *Ghost Rider*, *National Treasure 2* and *The Sorcerers Apprentice* were popular films they failed to have the same energy of Cage's previous movies.

When it ended: *Drive Angry* (2011)

Drive Angry wasn't really an awful movie, it's the fact that most American audiences have never heard of it, which would soon be the case with his following 9 out of 11 movies.

Even during today's comic book film craze, Cage's *Ghost Rider 2* failed to make a profit and its existence is hardly even known to moviegoers. Independent film companies have smelled blood in the water and now Cage's only offers are cheap, Christian movies like *Left Behind* (2014).

Cage didn't necessarily do anything wrong, it's the fact that as the world gets older the target audience for moviegoers remains at ages 13-25. Cage is now 51.

Associated Press File Photo



Adam Sandler

It would be fair to say that it's a tie between Adam Sandler and Jim Carrey for greatest comedy star of the 1990's. Every American male between the ages of 12-20 watched, quoted and acted out Sandler's movies regardless of how stupid they may seem today.

When it started: *Billy Madison* (1995)

Sandler was a cast member of SNL, but it wasn't until *Billy Madison* (1995) that he became every teenage boy's dumb hero. Sandler put out *Happy Gilmore* (1995), *The Wedding Singer* (1998) and *The Waterboy* (1998) with each one quoted and re-watched, making him the King of funny idiots.

When it cracked: *Mr. Deeds* (2002)

Little Nicky (2000) was Sandler's last movie where he seemed to rule comedy. It was original, funny and of course quotable, but *Mr. Deeds* seemed to be lazy in the creative and laughter departments.

Sandler then went on an artistic journey by straying from comedy and trying his hand at drama, which didn't go so well. *Punch Drunk Love* (2002) and *Spanglish* (2004) are not considered classics despite Paul Thomas Anderson directing *PDL*.

Sandler still made successful movies like *The Longest Yard* (2005) and *I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry* (2007), but we didn't anticipate his releases like we once did and they'll never be hailed as classics.

When it ended: *Jack and Jill* (2011)

Sandler's *Grown Ups* (2010) was huge hit, enough to render an awful sequel and maybe a revival of him being comedy King, but this blockbuster wasn't enough to save his next few mistakes.

This brings us to the awful *Jack and Jill* (2011) followed by a string of movies that were only financially successful due to the help of a worldwide release, which is a red flag. Think about it, if you are relying other continents to make a profit, something's wrong.

Unlike Nicholas Cage, Adam Sandler didn't fizzle out because he got older. Sandler wisely switched to producing his own films to stay alive, but in doing so he forgot to make wise decisions from that point forward by his choice of scripts.

Sylvester Stallone

You could argue that Sylvester Stallone is the greatest action star of all time, next to Arnold Schwarzenegger, who created two of the most successful movie franchises and iconic cinematic characters of all time with *Rocky Balboa* and *John Rambo*.

When it started: *Rocky* (1976)

Stallone was easily the biggest movie star in the world in the late 1970's. He wrote and starred in *Rocky* (1976), which won Best Picture and multiple Oscar nominations. Critics hailed Stallone as the next Marlon Brando and Hollywood was for Stallone's choosing.

Stallone followed it up with *Rocky 2*, *Rocky 3*, *Rocky 4*, *Rambo 1* and *Rambo 2*...all of which were released before 1985! It looked like Stallone was ahead of his time by making nothing but a copious amount of action sequels like we do today.

Oh, he did do *Rambo 3* the following year as well as *Rocky 5*... the following year.

When it cracked: *Get Carter* (2000)

After making two movies and 7 sequels, Stallone finally ventured into successful non-franchised movies in the 1990's, but into the 2000's he lost his box office demand. *Get Carter* (2000) and *Driven* (2001) failed to financially break even and almost no one you knew saw them.

In 2003, Stallone made *Shade*, which made a whopping \$23,000. That's 23 thousand off a multi-million-dollar project. He had a few financially successful movies with *Spy Kids 3D* (2003) and *Rocky Balboa* (2006), but his box office appeal was definitely put on life support.

When it ended: *Rambo* (2008)

Much like Sandler, Stallone has managed keep himself from living in a run-down San Diego apartment by taking on the role of producer.

The reason for Stallone's initial success was finding a successful formula and keeping it, however his 1980's formula became obsolete in the 2000's and instead of adapting he upped his formula with more cheesy one-liners and explosions. This tactic relies on foreign sales with none of Stallone's movies having made any domestic profit since *Rocky Balboa* (2006).



In this Jan. 17, 2015, photo provided by Peter Rowe, right, takes a selfie with friends Jacob Kerstan, left, Andrew Wright, third from left and actor Sylvester Stallone in Philadelphia. Rowe said the three friends had just finished racing up the staircase at the city's Museum of Art when they saw Stallone. Stallone made the steps famous in his first turn as fictional boxer *Rocky Balboa*, who used them as part of his training regimen. Thousands of people now visit the steps each year to re-create the run. (AP Photo/Peter Rowe)

New bowling alley opens in Midtown



Lauren Capraro
@ laurencapraro

Staff Writer

Oklahoma City's thriving Midtown district continues to progress, with the newest addition being a bowling alley. Dust Bowl Lanes & Lounge, located near 10th and Walker Avenue, opened last month and boasts an old-fashioned flair.

The Dust Bowl's name is a play on words incorporating bowling with a little bit of Oklahoma history. The 12,000 square foot facility, which includes a lounge, a full-service bar, and a VIP room with two to four lanes, is a retro-inspired tribute to the classic bowling alley of the 1970s.

The bowling alley is open seven days a week, and is open to all ages during the day, and turns into a 21-and-older facility, with a valid ID required. The venue can also accommodate parties by reservation or walk-in.

Directly above the bowl-

ing alley is Fassler Hall, a German-themed bar with a 7,000-square-foot rooftop beer garden. The original Dust Bowl and Fassler Hall are located in Downtown Tulsa, however, the new Oklahoma City locations are bigger in square footage.

"The purpose of building two restaurants in one building is to give our guests two completely different, yet equally entertaining dining experiences in one visit. The original Fassler Hall and Dust Bowl restaurants are located a few blocks from each other in downtown Tulsa. It was a challenge incorporating the two separate concepts, but the transition ended up being a success," said Annie Taylor, Dust Bowl OKC Event Coordinator.

The owners of the Dust Bowl Lanes and Fassler Hall are striving to be an integral part of the Mid-

town renaissance.

"The McNellie's Group is interested in helping revitalize and stimulate economic growth within our community, not just building businesses in up-and-coming neighborhoods," Taylor said.

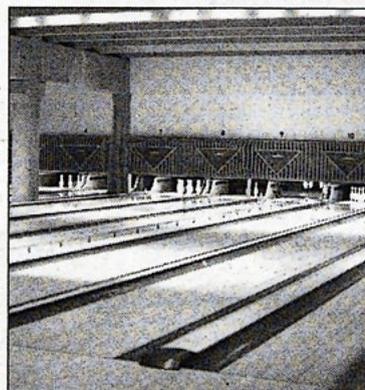
The district also hosts businesses such as Elemental Coffee, McNellie's, Louie's, Cafe Do Brasil, Waffle Champion, and Irma's Burger Shack. The popular monthly food truck festival, H&8th Night Market, also occurs right in the middle of Midtown OKC-- Hudson and 8th Street.

For more information on Dust Bowl Lanes & Lounge and Fassler Hall, visit <http://www.dustbowl.com/okc>.

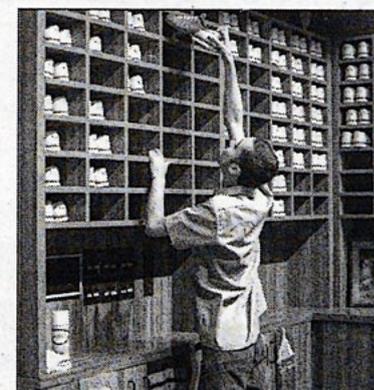
To learn more about the Midtown district of Oklahoma City, go to <http://midtownokc.com>.



Patrons enjoy the views of Mid-town OKC through the front windows of the Dust Bowl's full bar. Dust Bowl is one of the many new developments coming to the area recently. Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.



A photo of the brand new bowling lanes put in to the Dust Bowl Lanes and Lounge in Mid-town OKC. Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.



A attendant at the Dust Bowl Lanes and Lounge grabbing a pair of bowling shoes for a patron. Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.



The sign outside Fassler Hall, a German-inspired beer hall located next-door to the Dust Bowl lanes, showing that the entire Mid-town area is alive with new construction and entertainment. Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.

Libraries are fighting for their lives, and you have a hand in their demise



Alex Brown
@ Aymae_baybay

Copy Editor

With how technology is taking off nowadays and how everyone is plugged into the Internet almost 24/7, it makes sense for book publishers and distributors to find less traditional ways to put books in readers' hands. Unfortunately, readers are missing out on the simple pleasures of getting to read a physical book when they use an e-reader.

New Book Smell is one of the pleasures e-readers cannot replicate; it's a pity too. The gratification you get when you flip through the pages making the faint smell of ink lazily waft toward your nose is the most calming solace.

Whether it is a new book that gives off the scent of fresh ink, or it is an old, thrift store book with an older, dusty smell, your e-book cannot duplicate either of these scents. The best it can do is smell like burning plastic if you try to read all night and it overheats.

The feel of the pages turning in your hands is another important aspect to immersing yourself in a story that an

e-reader cannot do for you. Whether you're rifling through a novel, a text book or a dictionary, the distinct feel of turning page after page is more satisfying than swiping your finger across a screen.

You can dog-ear your pages to save your place, or you can leave your book as pristine and unused as possible by buying your own bookmark. Hitting 'bookmark' on your e-reader just isn't as satisfying; it is almost comparable to hanging up a phone in frustration: tapping the end button on a screen just isn't the same as slamming down the phone on the receiver.

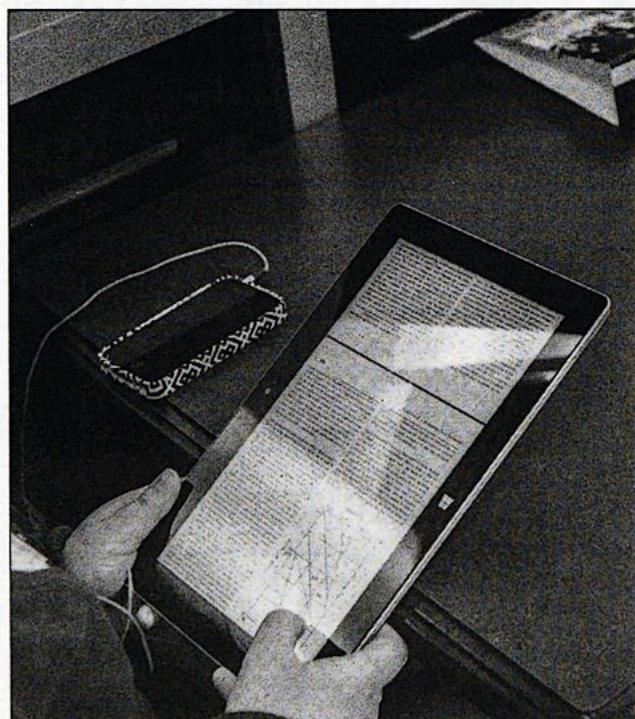
The most obvious item on this list would be that books won't turn off due to an uncharged battery. It is the most frustrating thing to be getting to the climax of the story and your e-reader either flashes the low battery message or just shuts down.

Hard, physical books are more pleasant to read because

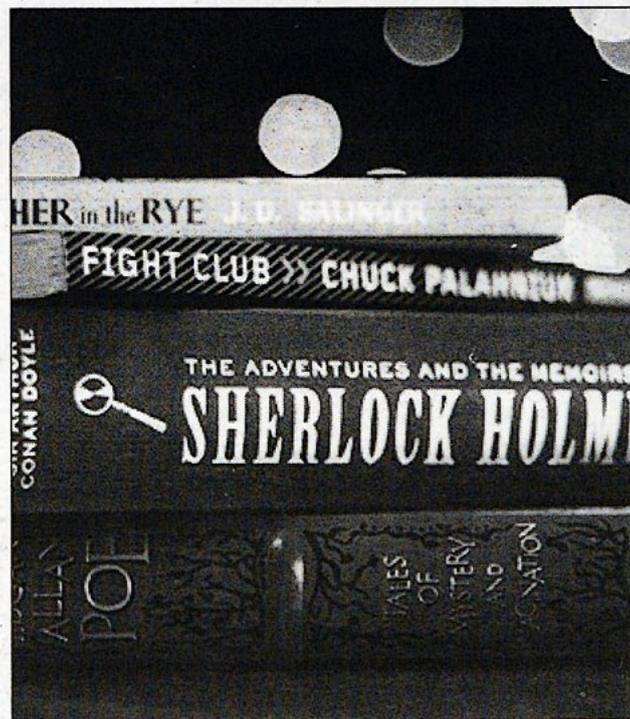
you don't have to worry about staring at a screen too long or having to dim your screen so that you can look at it for far too long. You get to sit by a warm yellowed light in a cozy chair in one of your practiced reading positions instead.

E-readers still put stories in the hands of the public, and they help the newer technology-driven generations to keep reading. It can be hard to complain about that, but most days there is nothing as good as a solid book in your hands, and the luxury of immersing yourself into the pages of a new story.

Where do you stand on the e-book versus real book debate? Let us know online at Ucentralmedia.com and on Twitter @TheVista1903.



A student passes the time by reading an ebook on her tablet in the Nigh Building. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



A stack of some of the most famous books off all time showing some of the different sizes and shapes that a hard-bound or paperback book can come in. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

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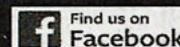
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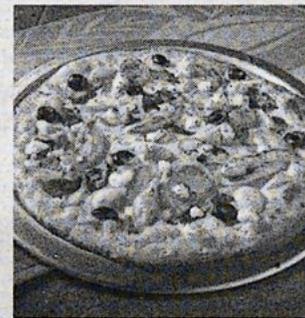
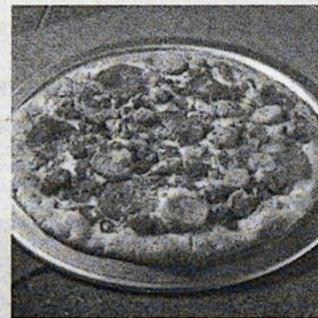
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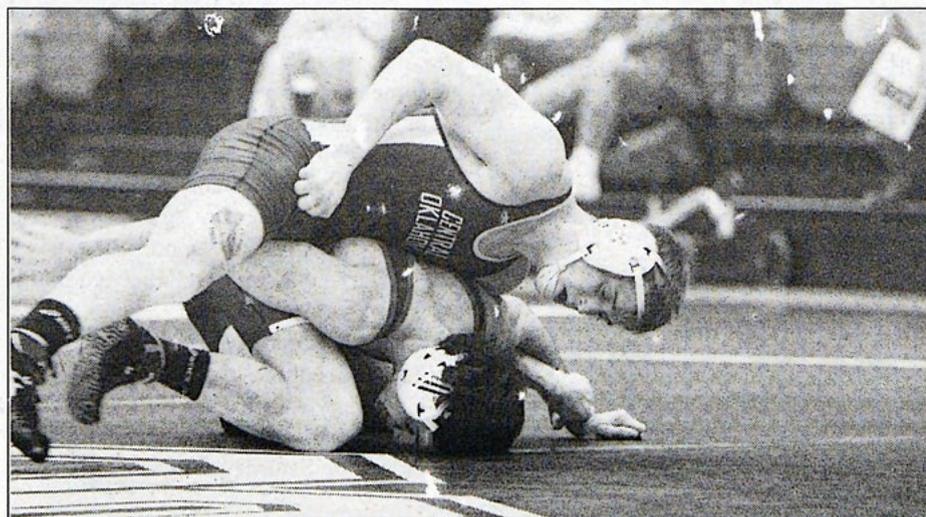
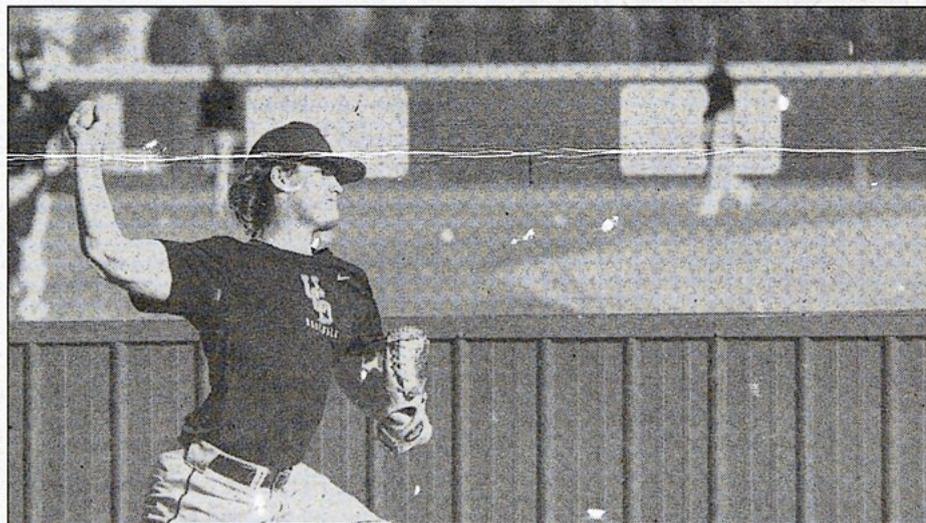
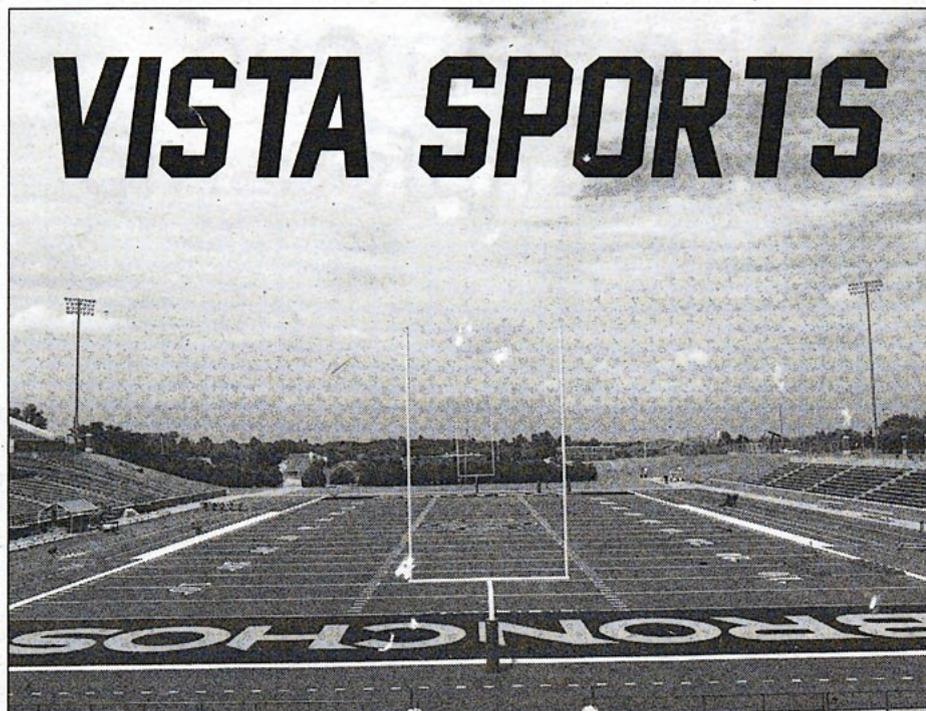
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VISTA SPORTS



UCO GAMES THIS WEEK

THURSDAY:

- Women's/Men's Basketball vs. Northeastern State (5:30 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.)

FRIDAY:

- Softball at NFCA Leadoff Classic (in Tuscon, AZ) (All-Day)
 - Baseball at University of Arkansas - Fort Smith (6:00 P.M.)
 - Wrestling vs.. Colorado State University - Pueblo (7:00 P.M.)
 - Women's Track and Field at Missouri Southern Invitational (All-Day)

SATURDAY:

- Women's Track at Missouri Southern Invitational (All-Day)
 - Softball at NFCA Leadoff CLassic (in Tuscon, AZ) (All-Day)
 - Baseball at University of Arkansas - Fort Smith (1:00 P.M.)
 - Women's/Men's Basketball vs. Pittsburg State (1:30 P.M. and 3:30 P.M.)

BRONCHO BASEBALL TO BEGIN SEASON THIS WEEKEND

With 11 returning seniors for Central Oklahoma Baseball, Coach Dax Leon is confident in how far his team will go this season. Senior trio; Josh Ingram, Jake O'Brien, and Ricky Reeves were named to the All-Central Region Preseason team. Contributing writer, Joshua Palmer spoke with Coach Leon about the upcoming season.

PAGE 14

CENTRAL WRESTLING RANKED 12TH IN THE NATION

Wrestling had a challenging week last week facing two conference rivals at home. After their 22 home dual winning streak was broken by the Oklahoma City Stars this last Thursday, the Bronchos bounced back with a win against Adams State giving them their sixth win of the season. VistaSports Contributing writer, Ryan Fields has the latest news on wrestling.

PAGE 15

UCO baseball returns to the diamond hunting for a conference championship



Joshua
Palmer

Contributing Writer

Coming off their best year since 2006, the University of Central Oklahoma Bronchos return to the diamond this week as a new baseball season officially begins.

Eleven seniors return from a squad that finished last season with a record of 37-17. High expectations are in order for the

program that looks to continue building momentum.

Preseason projections peg the Bronchos as the third-best team in the conference, behind Central Missouri and defending champion Emporia State.

"Our biggest goal is to try to get into

the Regional [tournament]," said fifth-year UCO head coach, Dax Leone. "We feel good about our team winning the MIAA."

Leone's pitching rotation will be led by junior-college transfer Daulton Leiker and senior Ricky Reeves. Reeves had a monster year in 2014, compiling an 8-2 record

and 2.12 ERA on his way to being named MIAA Pitcher of the Year.

For Reeves, though, it's not just the stats that have impressed his coaches.

"We measure him by his leadership," said Leone. "He's been a super teammate and we're glad to have him."

Senior Tanner Ferrell will act as UCO's full-time closer. He appeared in 20 games last season.

"He's got the best slider in the MIAA," said Leone.

As for the Bronchos lineup, two of its best hitters return in second baseman Josh Ingram and first baseman Jake O'Brien. Both seniors produced batting averages over .400 last year.

They were each named to the All-Central Region Preseason Team, along with Reeves.

Although the program is veteran-heavy with numerous seniors, Coach Leone believes a couple of younger players are primed for a breakout season.

"Isaac Hellbusch is a guy we're expecting a lot out of," said Leone.

A junior transfer from Seminole State, Hellbusch was named UCO's starting catcher for 2015. He has reportedly drawn some interest from pro scouts already, before having even played his first game as a Broncho.

Another junior transfer to watch this year is shortstop Jacob Borrego. He began his collegiate career at Connors State.

"Borrego is our best defensive shortstop we've had," said Leone.

UCO's season begins on the road Friday, with a three-game series against the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. Leiker will start game one, while Reeves takes the mound on Saturday for game two.

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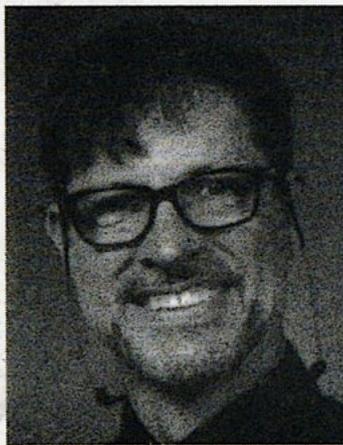
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- *Points of Origins* Coordinator at College Campuses with the Creation Truth Foundation.
- BS (Biology), MEd (Science Ed.), MS (Environmental Bio.) — George Mason University.
- EdD (Science Ed.) — University of Virginia.

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UCO Wrestling looks to continue hot start



Ryan Fields
@ RyanFields92

Contributing Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma's wrestling team is off to a great start so far this season being ranked as high as 12th in the nation. The Bronchos also have two wrestlers ranked in the top five nationally in their respective weight class.

This past weekend was very busy for the team and it began with a matchup last Thursday night against the 13th ranked NAIA Oklahoma City University.

The Bronchos fell 12-0 to start the duel and struggled to make up ground the rest of the way. After fifth ranked Dustin Reed was upset, Oklahoma City used that momentum for the rest of the duel by winning six of the 10 matches.

UCO did not go down without a fight as they got a win from Spencer Rutherford getting his sixth fall of the season. Kyle Factor and Colton Gallo both racked up wins and top-ranked Chris Watson was business as usual winning by major decision.

UCO was able to pull as close as 15-13, but the Stars were too much in the end holding on to win 22-16 and ending a 22-match home winning streak for the Bronchos.

Central Oklahoma looked to bounce back Saturday night against Adams State and the

Bronchos put on a big-time performance.

The dual did not start the way the Bronchos envisioned after they dropped the first match at 125. After that, UCO dominated getting wins from every other weight class including first-period victories from Will Steltzen, Spencer Rutherford and Caleb Hawes.

Those were just three of nine matches the Bronchos would go on to dominate before picking up their sixth win of the season 46-3.

Central Oklahoma had no time to celebrate their victory because fourth ranked Ouachita Baptist was coming to town Sunday afternoon.

This was a struggle all day long for the Bronchos, picking up only two wins on the day. The lone wins came from Rutherford and Watson.

Watson continued to dominate as the top-ranked wrestler at his weight 165 and Rutherford beat his opponent 8-3. That was the extent of the celebration for the Bronchos-- OBU won the other eight matches and won 31-7.

The No.12 Bronchos are now 6-8 on the season with a matchup against Colorado State-Pueblo looming on Friday.



UCO Wrestler Zac D'Amico fights off an opponent's single-leg attempt during his match on Jan. 15, 2015. The Bronchos ended up winning their dual that night, against Newman university, by a score of 38-8. The Bronchos have only three more duals in the season until the MIAA conference championships on February, 15. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

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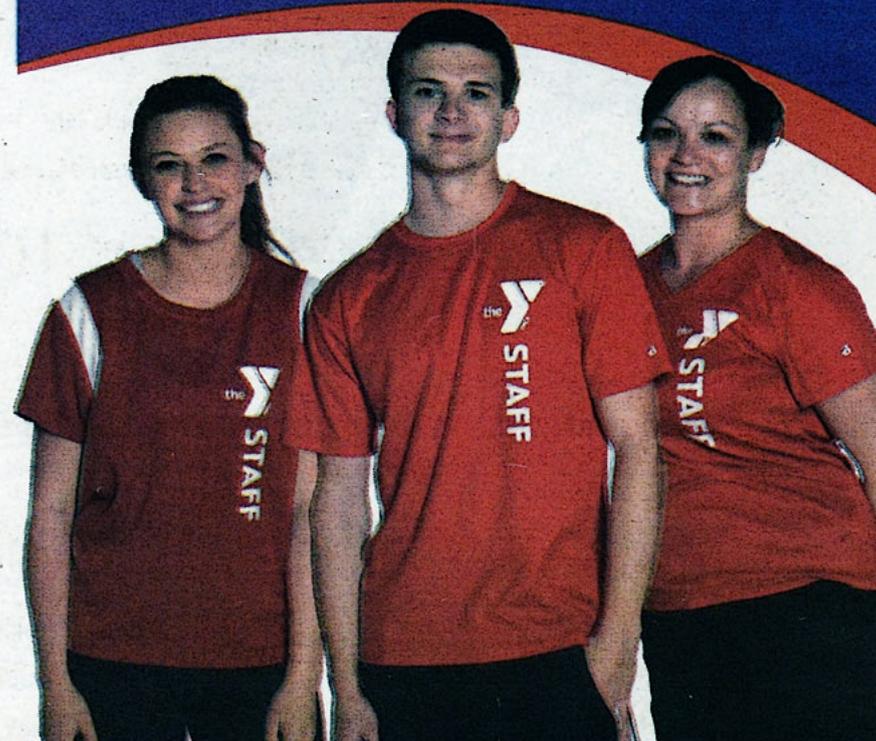
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