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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

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CONTENTS

| Comic Con Feature | 6 - 7 |
|-------------------|-------|
| Editorial | 9 |
| Horoscopes | 12 |
| Sports | 13-15 |

ON THE COVER

Fire Dept. of New York Battalion Chief Greg Hansson places flags in the names of first responders, who were military veterans, during a special five-day Salute to Service, at The National September 11 Memorial, in New York, Friday, Nov. 7, 2014. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)



Graduate student Jessica Rose Hammack paint the B-Rock with military symbols in front of the Chambers library on Monday, Nov. 10. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

Q&A: The Vista sits down with Michael Rooker



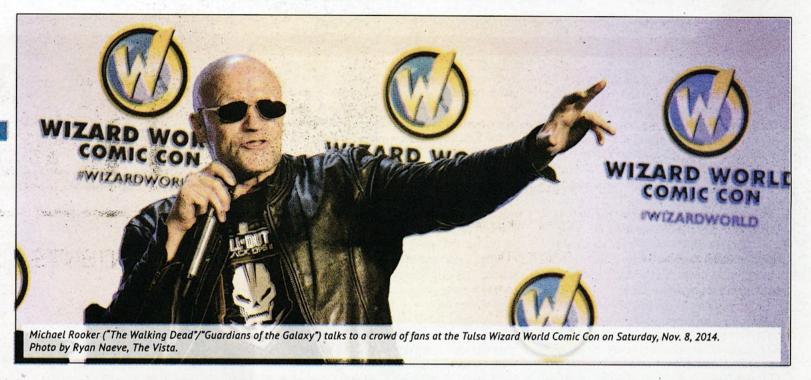
Managing Editor

You may know Michael
Rooker from his role as Merle
on AMC's "The Walking Dead"
or from his performance as the
ravenger, Yondu, in Marvel's
"Guardians of the Galaxy."
The rest of his filmography is
with great lead roles in movies
like "Henry: Portrait of a Serial
Killer" as well as smaller, but
memorable, roles in films such
as "Mississippi Burning."

As a character actor, he has amassed a résumé spanning over three decades, portraying characters that haunt audience's nightmares as well as characters that the audience wants to reach out and hug. He has also generated a passionate fan base through his open personality and by appearing at a variety of Cons across the country.

Rooker attended the first ever Wizard World Comic Con held in Tulsa this weekend. Due to a stroke of luck, Rooker granted me three minutes for a brief interview as he took a break from signing autographs and taking pictures with his fans.

Let me preface by saying I was extremely nervous, which Rooker picked up on and joked about before and during the interview. I also was not sure this interview would be possible given his very busy schedule so I went in with only a few questions. Overall though, he was very kind to give me any time at all. I extend my thanks to him and Wizard World for allowing this to happen.



So have you been in Tulsa before?

MR: "I've been through Tulsa before, but I haven't stayed here for an extended period of time so this is my first time really."

Do you do these kind of events frequently?

MR: "I've done several this past year, yeah."

What's the best thing about them?

MR: "Meeting the fans, and having really badly thought out interviews. (Laughs) I'm just teasing you."

(Laughs) Yeah, that's fair.

MR: "This is fun."

At this point, a fan in a line next to us asks for a hug that Rooker grants.

How many hugs do you get a day?

MR: "I get a lot of hugs a day. I get a lot of lovin'. They love the characters I played, especially on 'The Walking Dead' and 'Guardians of the Galaxy' as well."

I believe the first thing I saw you in was "Mississippi Burning."

MR: "Oh yeah? That was a while back."

How was working on that? I love that movie.

MR: "It was great, man. We had a great time shooting that on location. Alan Partridge is a fantastic director. It was a very scary movie."

Yeah, when I first saw it I was pretty young, and it left a pretty big impression. I'm still slightly terrified of you.

MR: "(Laughs) I get that a lot."

You're here all weekend, correct?

MR: "Correct."

Do you plan to do anything else while you are here in Tulsa?

MR: "I usually don't have a lot of time to do anything else so usually I just hang out, go out and get some dinner, chill out and enjoy the scenery."

Something I am curious about is special effects. You've worked with director James Gunn a few times now, in "Slither" "Super" and "Guardians of the Galaxy."

MR: Yes, he is a great guy.

In both "Slither" and "Guardians," you had to work with a lot of special effects. Practical and CGI. Which would you say is more of a hassle? MR: "Slither" was seven-andhalf-hour make-up so that one was really a tough one.

Do you have a favorite role? I'm sure you've been asked this over a thousand times given body of work under your belt.

MR: "I don't really have a favorite, but usually the most recent ones are the ones that generate the most excitement with fans. But some of the older ones that I've done in the past, those generate a lot of long-term commitment from the fans."

One final question and I know you probably can't talk a lot about this, but have you been involved with any talks about "Guardians of the Galaxy 2?"

MR: Yes, I have.

Awesome! Thank you so much!

MR: No problem! Enjoy the weekend, man!

4 FEATURE



Are women a fan of 'No Shave November?'

November isn't the month for cute guys; it's for men who prefer to be rugged and ready.

November marks the "No Shave November" trend popularized throughout America. Why is it so popular between young and old men is the question. The trend began as a way to help "Grow" awareness for cancer. James Powers, 39, a University of Central Oklahoma bursar employee, said he doesn't like shaving.

"Back in college I didn't get in the habit of shaving everyday and decided that I liked the beard," Powers said. "I don't know why beards are so attractive; you would have to ask my wife. A lot of people would think that it would be itchy and stuff, but she never complains."

The longest Powers has had facial hair was for 10 years. He hasn't shaved for the last five years.

The "No Shave November" trend serves as a good excuse to not shave and be able to get away with it, Powers said.

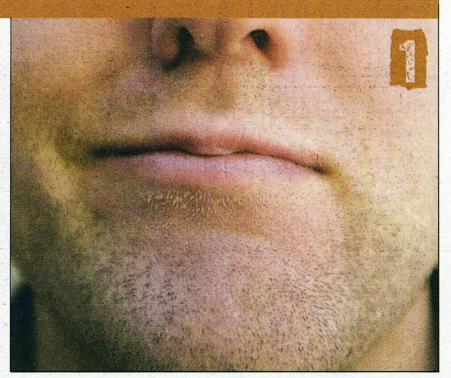
"I think it proves that we can get back to that biological stuff within us before we got all dignified," Powers said. Everyone can participate in the no shaving fad and the goal of "No Shave November" is for men to practice the laziness of being unkempt together for an entire month, according to Noshember.com.

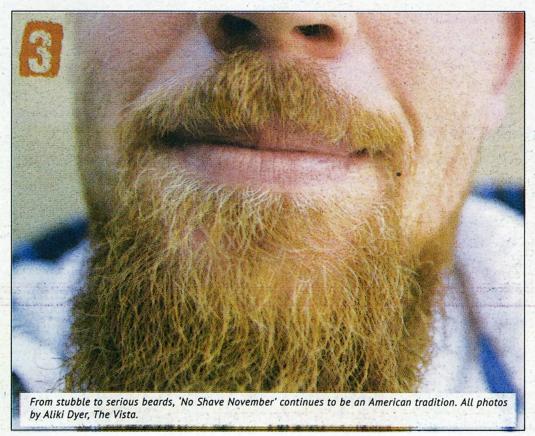
The beard represents wisdom, strength and masculinity, said Cliff Bradley, a public administration graduate student.

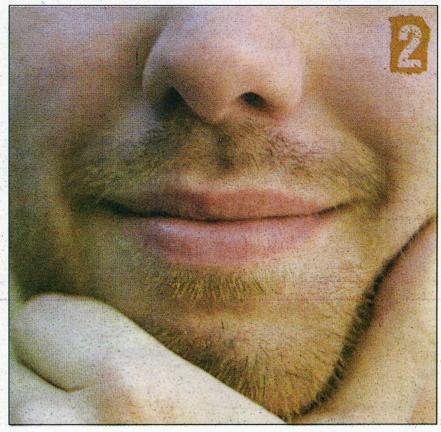
"I like the way it looks on me," Bradley said. "I believe it's popular because with November being one of the colder months before December, it gives you a nice facial warmer. Plus they're stylish for the fall and winter seasons."

When some women see a well-groomed beard, it creates positive associations with characteristics such as honesty and aggressiveness, according to an allwomenstalk.com report.

"I think the ladies are a fan of my beard," Bradley said. "Some prefer the wild and bushy look and others prefer the groomed. I like a little of both. I've been told not to cut mine more frequently. The point of the fad is trend is to be grateful for your ability to have hair while raising awareness for cancer."



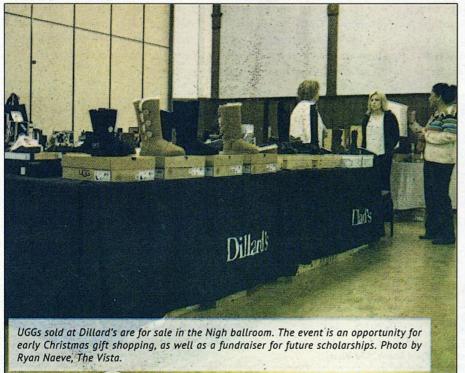






Dillard's pops up at UCO





Holiday shopping usually begins the day after Thanksgiving during Black Friday, and some stores are even opening on Thanksgiving night. However, the University of Central Oklahoma College of Education and Professional Studies (CEPS) invites the community of Edmond and UCO to shop even earlier for gifts and support scholarships for college.

Dillard's at Quail Springs Mall will transform the Nigh University Center ballrooms into a store with their "pop-up" shop. The fundraiser, Shop for Scholarships, is from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday Nov. 10 and 11. Attending is free but 10 percent of all sales will be donated to CEPS for their general scholarship fund.

"It's a contribution coming from Dillard's, but people can increase their efforts by shopping and knowing that their money is going to a great cause," said Michelle Moseley, CEPS development manager.

Everyone in the community is invited to look around and shop for merchandise available for men, women and children. Clothing, accessories

and holiday gifts will be available for purchase with cash, credit, debit or check. Shoppers will even be able to use or open up a Dillard's Card at the fundraiser.

"We're just really excited about this fantastic opportunity and we're hoping to make it an annual fundraiser," Moseley said.

Dillard's is also providing a portable dressing room, and customers who purchase items can receive free gift-wrapping, courtesy of UCO's fashion marketing honor society, UCO Fashion Troupe.

Parking is available to visitors in the Visitors' Lot, located by the Nigh University Center. Students and faculty should continue to park in designated areas on campus based on their UCO parking permits.

For more information, visit the UCO College of Education and Professional Studies' Facebook page. Students of the College of Education and Professional Studies can apply for a scholarship by visiting www.uco.edu/ceps/scholarships/index.asp.



A look into Oklahoma's first-ever Tulsa Wizard World Comic Convention

Managing Editor



Living in Oklahoma does not grant you many opportunities to go out and be a nerd with a lot of people. Sure, we have comic book stores and smaller conventions such as Izumicon in Oklahoma City, but there really isn't anything on the scale of something like the cons held in San Diego and New York.

If you are lucky (and rich enough at the time), you may be able to make a pilgrimage to one of those events, but for a majority of the time, we feel isolated here in the Midwest.

This weekend, the thirst for such an event was finally quenched in the form of the first-ever Tulsa Wizard World Comic Con.

While it still isn't as big as the one held in San Diego, the convention in downtown Tulsa this weekend was the first of its kind in this state on that scale.

Walking around the show floor felt like coming home in a weird way. I've been to big comic conventions before, but I was finally at one that wasn't far away. I was just an hour and half away from my home. Listening to people talk about the desire for a Midwest was beautiful in a weird way.

Possibly the best part of the entire weekend was just walking around and

seeing everything there was to see: from the fans in elaborate costumes inspired from every corner of pop culture to perusing the merchandize offered by the dozens of vendors on-site.

To summarize the weekend as a whole in one word would have to be fulfilling. It was fulfilling to finally have a nerdy event in Oklahoma not in a few hotel ballrooms but in a sold-out civic center.

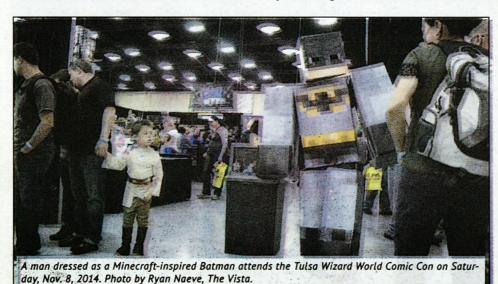
One moment in particular stands out though. During Tom Felton's Q &A, he was asked a question by a nervous young fan dressed as Harry Potter. Felton was unable to hear the question initially, and as the fan was walking away from the microphone, Felton snapped using his Malfoy voice, "Get back here, Potter." This was followed by overwhelming applause from the crowded assembly hall.

This is a moment that makes these kinds of events so special. It is in these moments that the appeal of massive gatherings reveals itself. Beyond the large crowds, if you are nerd or a fanatic about any aspect of popular culture, you feel like you fit in.

For any of those that don't get why I think this kind of event is incredible, I'll use church as an example. To be

able to approach a group and feel accepted is a basic human desire within each and every human being. When a religious person goes to church, their desire for this need is filled. When we go to games to see the Thunder play, we have this desire filled. The same can be said for a nerd at a comic book convention.

My hope is that this event becomes annual. Oklahoma needs an event like this so more moments like the one I just described are possible - not only feeling a part of something you love, but also seeing other people going through the same emotions is pretty spectacular.





COMIC CON FEATURE

William Shatner answers audience questions at the Tulsa Wizard World Comic

Con on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

gave me my underwear. Is that weird, enough?"

William Shatner ("Star Trek," "TJ Hooker," "Boston Legal" and countless other things) on the weirdest thing a fan has said or done to him: "I am so honored and in awe that you are all sitting here listening to me being foolish or trying not to be foolish. I feel blessed that any individual would want to hear what I have to say. So having said that (Laughs), I was in a hotel theater doing a performance of some kind, and I went upstairs to my room and I found that my underwear was missing and a phone number. I called the number and it was a young lady with a beautiful tone to her voice and she said, 'I've got your underwear.' And I said 'I need my underwear.' And see said, 'Well, I want you to sign something.' and she added 'You're not getting your underwear back until you do.' And I said alright and she comes to the room door, and I ask for my underwear again to which she says no and she opens up her dress, exposing her left breast and I had to sign and then she



Robert Englund (Freddy Krueger in the "Nightmare on Elm Street") on what his nightmares are about: "My nightmares are still the actor's nightmare. I'm backstage. The lights are on. I'm in the dark, ready to come out. I hear my queue and I don't know my first line. I assume I have the script so no problem. As soon as I check it, it'll all come back to me, but my script's not there. Things get a little tense. I'm backstage. I'm in the dark. I hear my queue. I don't know my line and my script's not there. It gets into a loop. It's that looping back on itself that is so frustrating and I think your body clock kind of knows it. That's my nightmare. My longest running nightmare is that I forgot some lines in some play."

Quotes from around Comic Con

Jon Bernthal ("The Walking Dead," "The Wolf of Wall Street," "Fury") on preparing to be killed off on "The Walking Dead: "Yeah, I knew going in right off the jump. It felt good to be on the show, but when I read the comic I saw Shane (his character) didn't last that long. But I got real lucky because from the day it started, I knew that their was going to be this arc so it let me be very strategic about letting him sort of unwind and unravel in a very specific way and I knew when that was coming. I felt very grateful for that."



Tom Felton (Draco Malfoy in the "Harry Potter" films) on filming his favorite scene in the films: "It's tough to pick just one. I'll never forget the first time I walked into the Great Hall which the Chris Columbus, the director, strategically didn't let us see the Great Hall before filming our reactions. That was genuine awe you get to see when we walk in there. I also really enjoyed the bathroom wand fight in "The Half-Blood Prince." Without shattering the illusion too much, when we had a chance to do spells in previous years, nothing happened. The added in the effects and the colors and the sounds afterwards so in that bathroom scene they actually rigged the entire set with explosives and flashes and colors so every time you got to say a spell, a toilet blew up. So that was very satisfying."

Felton on if he could play any other Harry Potter character: "I always thought I'd be a pretty good Hermione. If not, then Hagrid. (Laughs) It's really hard for me to envision playing any other characters. I kind of have a secret dream if maybe if they remake the films in 20 years then I'll get a chance to play Lucius [Malfoy]."

Felton on that awkward hug between Draco and Voldemort in the final film: "It wasn't scripted, Ralph [Fiennes] came up with it. The weird thing was he hugged me once in maybe 65 takes, and that's the take they used. And strangely enough as well, in the UK when we watched that at the English premiere, that was a really haunting and chilling moment and when we watched it in America, you guys just burst out laughing. ww



THE 9TH ANNUAL WORLD SPORT STACKING ASSOCIATION (WSSA)

STACK UP!

Local stackers take aim at Guinness World Record in sport stacking

When: Thursday, November 13th (Guinness World Records Day)

Where: Wantland Hall Gymnasium on the UCO Campus

Time: 9:30am-12:00pm

Who: UCO students

DID YOU KNOW?!

Stacking and un-stacking plastic cups is an energizing, brain-activating and world-record-setting activity? On Thursday, November 13th, thousands of participants will take part in what Guinness World Records terms the "World's Largest Sport Stacking Event."



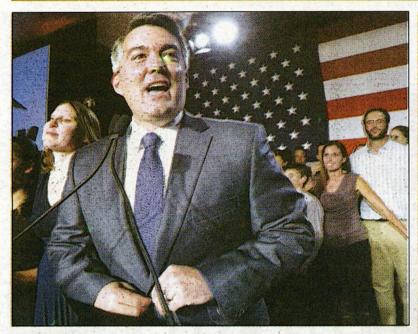
CHECK OUT WWW.THEWSSA.COM FOR MORE INFO!



J. Preston Drake @jpdrake94

Republican majority does not change much

Editorial Write



Left: Senator-elect, U.S. Rep. Cory Gardner, (R-Colo.), delivers his victory speech to supporters during a GOP election night gathering at the Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center, in Denver, Colo., Tuesday Nov. 4, 2014. Gardner defeated his Democratic opponent, incumbent Sen. Mark Udall. (AP Photo/Brennan Linsley) Right: Supporters cheer before Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts makes his victory speech during a Republican watch party Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014, in Topeka, Kan. (AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

Conversation Central

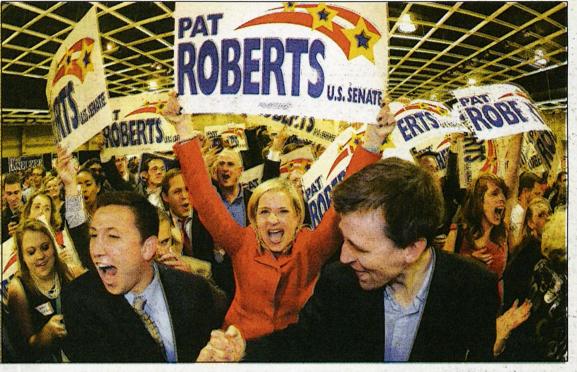
Improvement starts with "I"

We meet at Tutoring Central, located in the N.E. corner of West Hall.

Fridays: 1:30 to 3:00 pm Sundays: 4:00 to 5:00 pm

This is free for ESL students. No registration or appointment required. Just show up and join in the fun!

Contact the TC for more info: 974-2487



Republicans have gained control of the Senate, putting Congress in large part under their thumbs. But with the Obama administration set to occupy the White House for another two years, the U.S. is not going to see any improvements on the do-nothing Congress.

A simple majority does help matters, but without a 60+ seat majority, the leading party can only do so much.

Republicans have regularly filibustered and shot down countless bills in the Senate with their current 45-member minority. Votes on reproductive rights, equality, social programs and more have died in the Senate, failing to find five Republicans willing to reach across the aisle.

Democrats have complained intensely about GOP filibusters and blocks, but it is almost guaranteed that they will soon have a change of heart about the use of the filibuster.

All that will change in 2015 and beyond is that the tables are turned. The filibustered will now do the filibustering and vice versa.

Any Republican-made motions on

immigration reform, foreign policy and social programs are fair game for the soon-to-be-minority Democrats.

Even if the Republicans manage to force bills through both houses of Congress, everyone who watched Schoolhouse Rock as a kid knows it has to be signed by the president.

Given the GOP's fondness for foiling Obama in the past, does anyone think it even remotely likely that Obama will sign many bills passed by a Republican Congress?

It is possible that the presidential veto will come up more often, and the Republicans have no way of gathering the votes to override it in this polarized political atmosphere.

The only thing that can really be expected is that the 114th Congress will try to compete with the 113th to be the least productive Congress in history.

The focus of the national legislature may change, but that focus won't help if the bills in the spotlight never make it out of the Senate.

Democrats can say that the sky will fall when the 114th Congress is sworn in, but they are just playing politics.

GOP leaders have said that the Keystone X-L pipeline will be one of their priorities; Keystone was given the green light in the first place by many Democrats.

They also want to take a stronger stance against the so-called Islamic State. Democrats have already wholeheartedly backed air strikes and U.S. support for Iraqi and Kurdish fighters.

Republicans and Democrats have their differences, sure, but when placed on the international political spectrum, the country simply switched from the center-right party to the far-right party.

The only significant differences appear in social policies: pro-life against pro-choice, traditional marriage versus marriage equality, healthcare or no healthcare.

There will not be some big revamping of the federal government with this new majority. If Americans want to see results from their representatives, they had better start paying attention to their state legislatures.



Youngsun Yun

UCO hosts International Festival

Contributing Writer



The University of Central Oklahoma International Student Council will host UCO's 39th annual International Festival to celebrate cultures from around the globe together from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 13 in the Nigh University Center Ballrooms on campus.

UCO's 12 international student organizations will represent numerous countries, regions and continents at the festival including Latin America, Africa, Europe, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan and Vietnam.

The associations will share their culture with students and the community through displays of food, crafts and art. Each country association will have a booth which is decorated with its featured design. The associations will also have performances starting at 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. during the festival in the ballrooms.

European Student Associ-

ation will present European Choir performing famous songs and cultural dances. Japanese Student Association will present a Japanese calligraphy show, which is a fusion of traditional and modern styles accompanied by traditional Japanese drums. Korean Student Association will perform Korean pop dance. Malaysian Student Association will show a variety of traditional clothing from different ethnic groups in Malaysia.

"The International Festival allows people from UCO, Edmond and Oklahoma City communities to learn about a variety of different cultures through delicious cuisine, watching cultural performances and learning from the poster boards and booths that all of the associations have decorated," said Jared Scism, international activities specialist in Central's Office of Global Affairs.

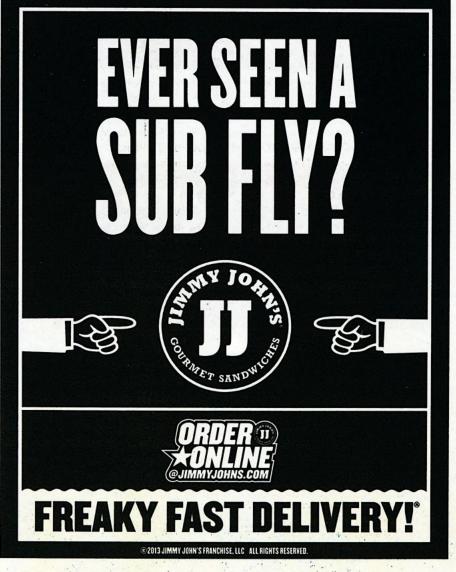
The International Student Council has increased international student involvement within UCO and the local community to build a dialog for cross-cultural communication and to involve international students in campus activities.

"This festival is meaningful because it is a part of Central Six – Global and Cultural Competencies. ISC promotes the cultural diversity at UCO," Scism said.

The commitment to Global and Cultural Competencies, as part of the transformative learning process at UCO, demonstrates the importance of preparing students to communicate effectively in a complex world, to function in multiple and diverse environments and to adapt to the continuously changing global society.

The festival is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Scism at (405) 974-2131 or jscism@uco.edu.





UCO wins fifth voter registration contest

tennife Hase, Continuing Write

The University of Central Oklahoma won the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's voter registration contest for the fifth straight year, by registering 610 people before the Oct. 10 Oklahoma State Election Board registration deadline.

The UCO chapters of the American Democracy Project (ADP) and the Political Science Honor Society, Phi Sigma Alpha, co-sponsored the registration beginning July 1, encouraging students, faculty and staff to register to vote in time for the November election, said Dr. Mary Carver, Mass Communications professor and ADP assistant director.

UCO beat University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, placing first in the "blue" category, which includes large institutions with full-time enrollment of 7,001 to 30,000, said Dr. Jan Hardt, UCO Political Science professor and Phi Sigma Alpha advisor.

"We've beat OU and OSU every year and that's a big deal," Dr. Hardt said.

Dr. Hardt also said that UCO representatives would receive a plaque at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's December meeting.

Hardt said winning the contest is important because students are registering to vote and it shows the Board of Regents, state legislators and other key people that UCO has done something very positive for its students and is very student-centered. She said there is heavy emphasis on civic engagement among students, and

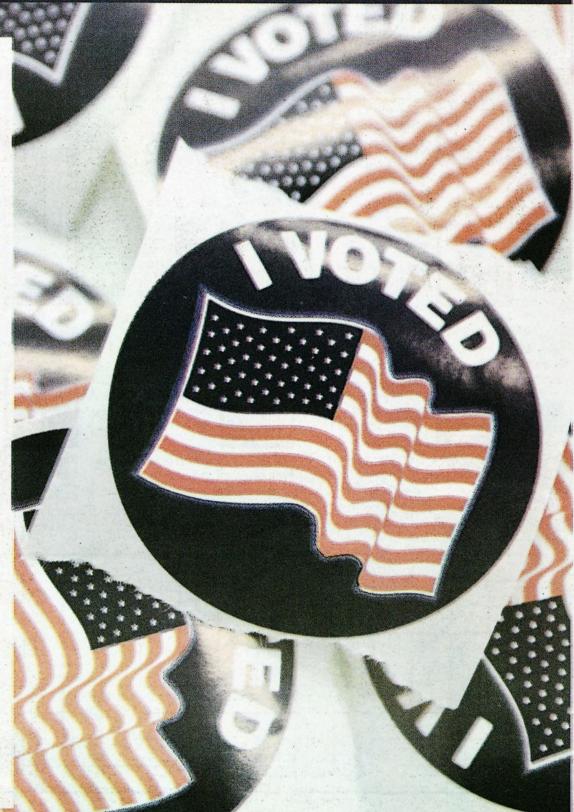
she thinks the voter registration contest fits into the overall picture of what UCO tries to do in terms of civic engagement, getting students involved and staying civically active in the state.

Carver said the biggest push for registration began as ADP members at UCO set up tables in the Nigh University Center and at the clock tower during Constitution Week, held Sept.15-19. The ADP is a national initiative that focuses on higher education's role in preparing the next generation of informed, engaged citizens for our democracy.

The following week, members of Phi Sigma Alpha volunteered to work at voter registration tables in the Liberal Arts building and distributed registration forms in American National Government classes said Hardt. Republican and Democratic candidate information for the November election was also available to students at the tables.

The statewide contest is hosted by Campus Compact, an organization of Oklahoma college and university presidents who have committed to articulating the importance of civic responsibility as an outcome of higher education.

Twenty-one college and universities participated by registering 3,312 in-state and out-of-state voters during the contest. Results are determined by the proportion of registered people to institution full-time enrollment during the contest dates. More than 27,000 people have been registered to vote as part of the contest since its inception in 2003 said Hardt.



(AP Photo/Kalamazoo Gazette-MLive Media Group, Mark Bugnaski)







December 22-January 19

Revenue boosters can come in many forms. Don't overlook a potential source of income, Capricorn. You've been wanting to get ahead, and this is the way to do it.



March 21-April 19

A loved one makes a need known. Do what you can to fulfill it, Aries. A promise from long ago is kept. A series of memos gets the ball off the ground.



June 22-July 22

The list of grievances grows at home with the arrival of guests. Leave it be, Cancer. It will all work out in the end. A request for more information is fulfilled.



September 23-October 22

My, oh my, Libra, have you become the clutter king or queen. The piles are growing, and it's time to take back control of your home.



January 20– February 18

Picture it, Aquarius, and it will be yours. It really is that simple this week. A friend has their mind made up. Don't waste time trying to change it.



April 20-May 20

The pasture is not always greener on the other side, Taurus. Take a closer look at your life, focus on what you do have, and the contentment you seek will be yours.



July 23– August 22

Old habits die hard,
Leo. Use whatever
extreme measures are
necessary to kick a
habit. The chase for
an heirloom begins.
Hop to it.



October 23-November 21

Eek, Scorpio! Trouble is brewing at home, and if you aren't careful, it could boil over into other areas of your life. Work fast to get things back on track.



February 19-March 20

A financial turnaround delights you to no end. Way to go, Pisces! A senior's outlook on life improves with regular visits. Keep up the good work.



May 21-June 21

Freedom often comes at a price.
Be prepared to make some compromises this week, Gemini.
The facts get muddled at work, and you must act fast to set everything right.



August 23– September 22

Nagging is not the way to get things done at home, Virgo. You need to hunker down and devise a better plan. A system with rewards might work well.



November 22– December 21

Love is in the air, and great adventures are in store for you and your special someone. Enjoy, Sagittarius. A task at home proves easy with a new purchase.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

Start Start

Classifieds

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.

Finish







UCO GAMES THIS WEEK

TUESDAY:

- Women's Volleyball vs. Southwest Baptist (6:00 P.M.)

WEDNESDAY:

- No Event's Scheduled

THURSDAY:

- No Event's Scheduled

FRIDAY:

- Women's Basketball vs. Southeastern Oklahoma State University (Hosted in Tahlequah, Okla.) (12:00 P.M.)
- Men's Basketball vs. Southeastern Oklahoma State University (Hosted in Tahlequah, Okla.) (2:00 P.M.)

MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYS EXHIBITION VS ARKANSAS

UCO Men's Basketball headed to Fayettville, Ark. to face SEC basketball power Arkansas in a pre-season exhibition game. VistaSports contributor Bryan Mahan breaks down what happened at the game and what's next for men's basketball this season.

PAGE 14

CROSS COUNTRY TO COMPETE FOR A SPOT AT NATIONALS

The UCO cross country team competed this last weekend at the MIAA championships, hosted by Southwest Baptist University on the Bolivar Municipal Golf Course in Bolivar, Mo. Now they will continue their great season by heading to the NCAA Regional with a chance to make it to the NCAA D-II National Championships. VistaSports writer Austin Litterell examines how the running 'Chos did at the conference championships and what comes next for the team.

PAGE 15





UCO Cross Country does well at MIAA conference championships

Sports Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma Cross Country team competed in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Cross Country Championships, held in Bolivar, Missouri, on Saturday afternoon. The Bronchos took home a sixth place finish in the 11-team event. UCO finished with 164 points in the race; with points being awarded according to the place of the top five runners on the team and the lowest score winning. Missouri Southern finished in first place with 44 points, 26 points ahead of runner-up Southwest Baptist.

Missouri Southern and Southwest Baptist were the only two schools to finish with less than 100 points. MSU finished with a total time (total time of the top five runners) of 1:52:17.21, while the Bearcats were just behind with a time of 1:53:19.77. SBU's Elizabeth Luckel took home the individual title, finishing 13 seconds ahead of the second place finisher.

UCO freshman runner, Maddie Brown, led the team, continuing her outstanding freshman season by finishing the six-kilometer course in 22:17.06. She has finished in the top seven in all six meets of the 2014 season. Also in the other five meets, she has not finished below fifth place, with her best finish coming at the Oklahoma Baptist Invitational where she was

the runner-up.

Six other Broncho runners participated in the race, featuring 90 runners overall. The second best individual performance for UCO came from Rebekah Hickman-Morales, who finished 22nd with a time of 23:25.14. Mickayla Miller was the third Broncho to place in the top 40, placing 39th.

Other results for UCO include Katie Cease (44th), Sheri Snyder (60th), Deven Bond (66th), and Audrey Campbell (68th).

It has been a solid 2014 campaign for coach J.D. Martin's squad. Like Brown, this is the first time they have finished above fifth place at any meet. They won the Oklahoma Baptist Invitational, finished second at the Oklahoma Land Run and have a couple of third place finishes as well.

The season is not over for the team. The Bronchos travel to Wayne, Nebraska, where they will run in the NCAA Division II Central Regional on Nov. 22. The top three teams, and top three individuals not part of a qualifying team from this meet will be given an automatic berth into the National Championships. UCO finished 16th at the 2013 regional held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.





