

# ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

## The Hidden Realities of Collegiate Sexual Assaults

By: SEAN TOLBERT  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While the number of reported sex crimes at many Oklahoma universities is on the decline, students should be aware of how often sexual assault goes unreported.

Statistics released to the U.S. Department of Education by the University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma all show a drop in the number of reported sexual assaults against students over the last four years.

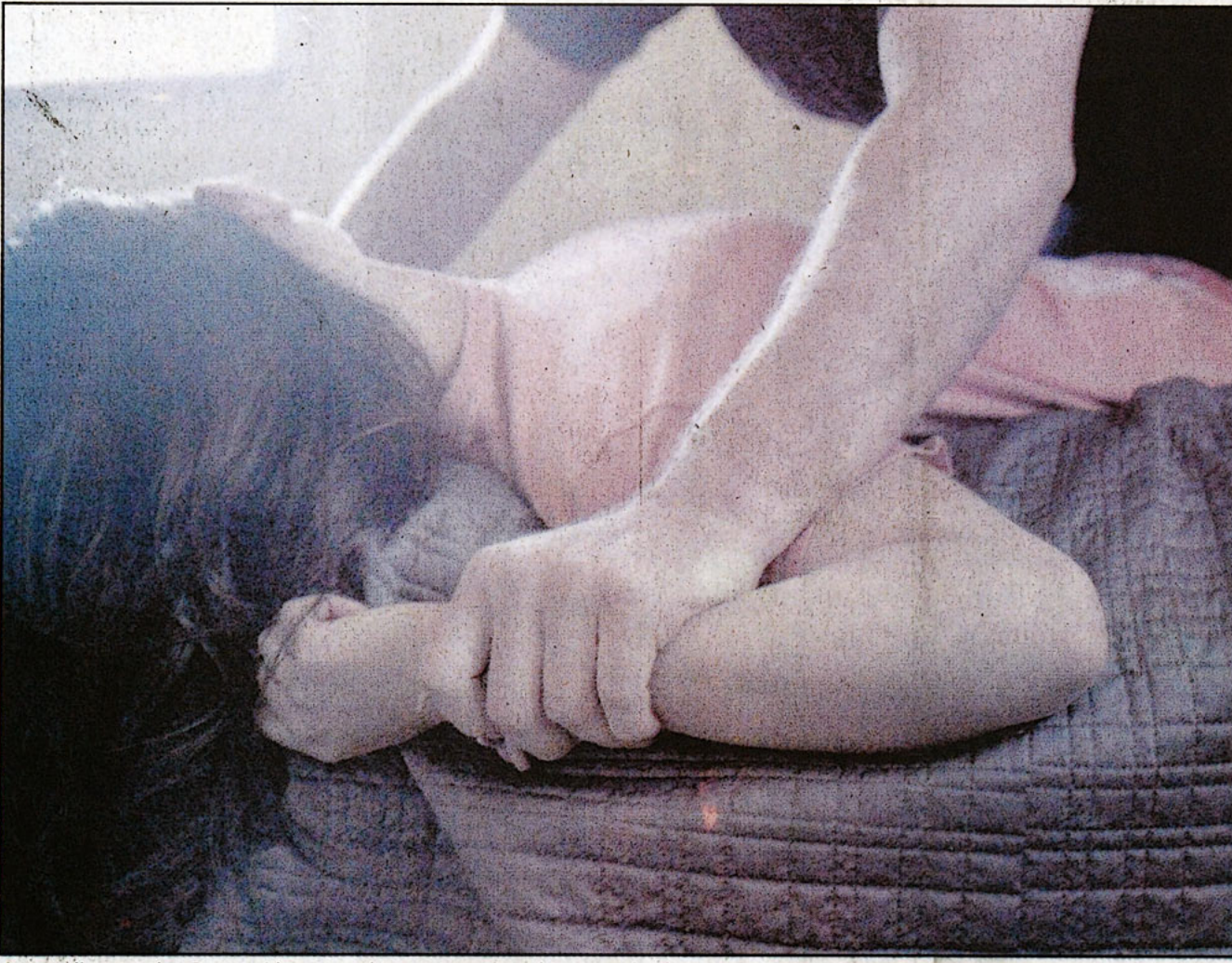
A comparison between the three major state universities showed that each school recorded their highest number of reported sexual offenses in the 2011 calendar year, with a total of 28 recorded—13 of which were reported to have occurred at OU alone. Yet, when compared to relevant statistics over a variety of categories, such relatively low numbers may not be indicative of the true number of sexual assaults that are occurring.

According to The Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), there are approximately 237,868 victims of sexual assault every year, 80 percent of which are women under the age of 30; a statistic particularly relevant to the approximately 155,000 females currently estimated to be enrolled in state colleges by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Sexual Assault Advocate Katherine Kautz said, while a visible decline in the number of reported sex crimes at universities may lead people to assume fewer assaults are occurring, the reality is that these numbers are not likely to reflect what is actually taking place.

"Sex crimes occur far, far more than what is reported," she said.

See Sexual Assault  
on Page 5



According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, there are approximately 237,868 victims of sexual assault every year, most of which are college-aged. Photo by Alike Dyer, The Vista.

## Student loans could impact U.S. taxpayers

Olanrewaju Suleiman

Staff Writer

Student loans have become a part of the majority of college students' lives. They are taken out to pay tuition, fees, books and anything else that a student might need.

Many students get help from their parents and relatives. The amount of the student loans having to be taken out can put a strain on both the students and parents.

A new study from ProPublica and the Chronicle of Higher Education has shown that student loans are beginning to affect taxpayers, as well.

The study focuses on the Parent Plus Program. It allows parents to take out as many loans as needed to pay for their child's education.

The controversy surrounding the program deals with it accepting people, regardless of their income or whether they can pay the loans back or not. It has put numerous families thousands of dollars in debt.

The study showed that there is over \$60 billion in outstanding debt from the Parents Plus Program. The average graduate owes about \$20,000.

Graduate student Julia Newberry has never heard of the program, but understands how student loans can be stressful for families.

"If it wasn't for student loans, I wouldn't be able to go to school," she said.

Her parents have paid for the majority of her education.

"I have a job, but I don't make enough," she said. "So my parents help me pay for most of it."

Newberry's family has done what they can to foot the bill for her education.

"My education is awesome," she said. "I don't think I can thank them enough."

Newberry has also made adjustments to her life to pay for her education.

"I went to a smaller school where the cost for everything was a lot cheaper, so I knew coming to UCO for grad school would cost more," she said. "I live at home. It's a great way to save money."

At the end of her graduate education, her hope is to find a job that will aid her in paying off her loans.

"Right now I work an hourly job," she said. "My goal is to get a real job and start paying off what I owe."

The study showed that the Education Department has considered closing the Parents Plus Program after many participants say they will never be able to pay it all back.

Many of them ask for reforms to limit the amount that is able to be borrowed by parents and family members.

Because of the fact that the program is government funded, if the loans are not paid back, the money from taxes pays it instead. This helps the government recoup their cost at the expense of the taxpayers.

The United States Education Department plans to continue their reforms on loans to help ease the burden of students and parents who have taken them out.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION UCO ADDS TO CAMPUS

By: WIDHA GAUTAM  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The University of Central Oklahoma began a 15-month construction project for an on-campus residence hall with a pre-construction meeting April 3 to meet market demand at UCO for new student housing.

The on-ed residence hall to be built on East Hall field, located east of Buddy's cafeteria, has a total project budget cost of \$28 million. It will cover 120 thousand sq. feet. The 440-bed project, which received approval by UCO Board of Regents in January 2012, will open August 2015 with registrations starting April 2015.

"This will be the single largest construction project done at UCO," said Executive Director of Business Enterprises at UCO Housing and Dining Josh Overocker. While structures like the Nigher University Center and Max Chambers Library are bigger in area, the buildings were built in multiple phases.

University Architect and Director of UCO Architectural and Engineering Services David Stapleton said, "The next largest academic project would be the Forensic Science Institute at

\$12 million. From an area prospective, the next largest project would be the Wantland Stadium improvements projects."

Though the area has been fenced off, the construction is expected to create noise and distractions for nearby buildings such as Business, West Hall and Buddy's.

"We'll apologize ahead of time," Overocker said "We're going to do what we can to not make it too disruptive, but at the same time, we can't build a building without having some noise."

Stapleton said that managing traffic on Ayers Street might also prove to be a challenge as the project progresses. Construction access will range from Chowning Street to Ayers Street. At times, traffic may have to be diverted to accommodate equipment and material delivery.

"It's still very early in the construction phase," said Overocker "We'll be beginning more work in a week or two." After moving trees and dirt around, they will begin digging down into the ground for a tornado shelter.

"Housing sits as an auxiliary unit, so we have to fund ourselves," said Overocker

"We've done a business plan from the very beginning on it and we expect that this will be a project that will pay for it -

self. We have bonds and that's basically a more complex version of a home mortgage. So, I'm going to have to pay the principle and interest for the bonds for the next 30 years."

Residence fees will be determined accordingly.

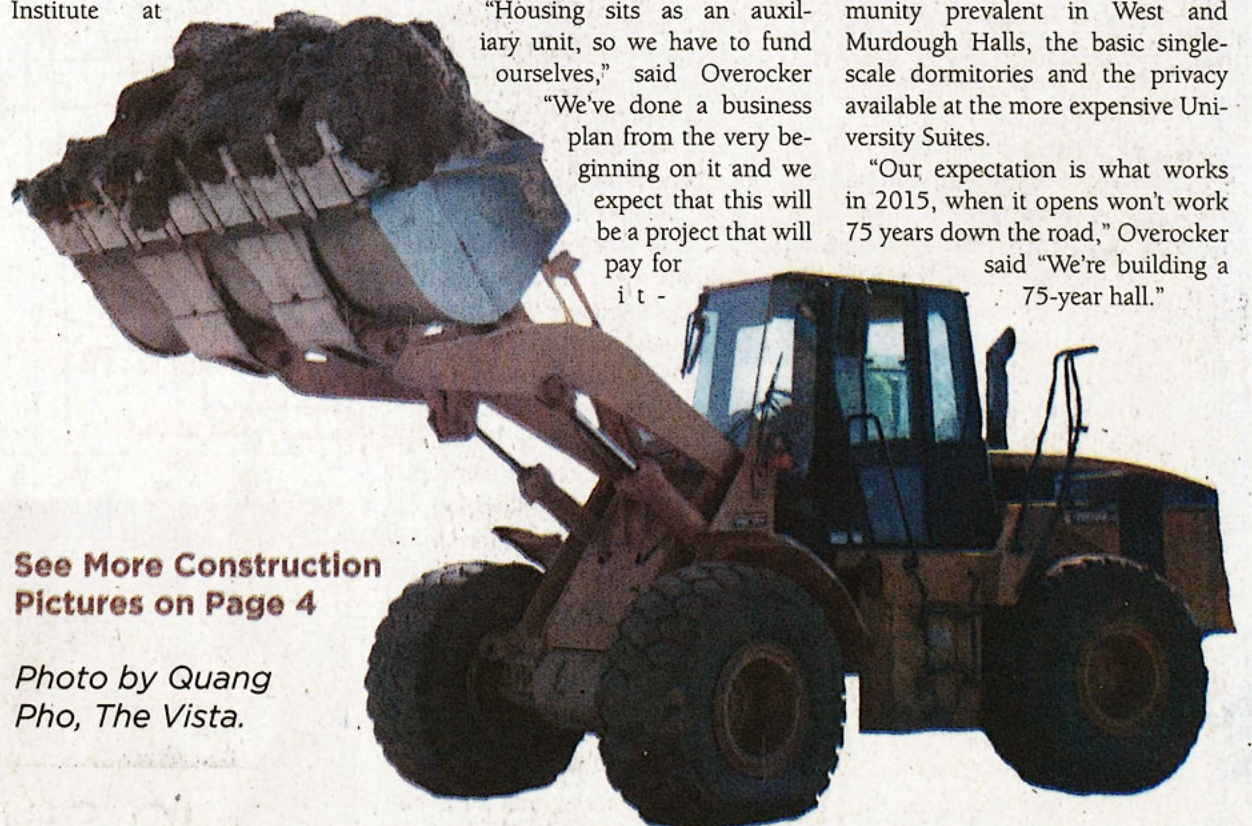
East Hall Field was the ground for East Hall, a male residence hall from 1962 to the early 2000s when the building was torn down because of deteriorating value.

It currently serves as an open field on campus, commonly used for intramural sports and campus events like Holi and several stamped week activities. Overocker expects that such events will be moved to other spaces on campus including Plunkett Park and the front area of Hamilton Field house.

"It requires some of our groups to think a little differently about how they've done things," Overocker said. "But I'm a believer that some of that change can be exciting."

Flexibility is a focus of the building's design. The hall will incorporate a blend of the sense of community prevalent in West and Murdough Halls, the basic single-scale dormitories and the privacy available at the more expensive University Suites.

"Our expectation is what works in 2015, when it opens won't work 75 years down the road," Overocker said "We're building a 75-year hall."



See More Construction  
Pictures on Page 4

Photo by Quang  
Pho, The Vista.

## THE VISTA

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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.

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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.

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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.

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# CAMPUS QUOTES

If it was socially acceptable, would you wear a cape on campus? Why or why not?

#### ASHLEY LABAT

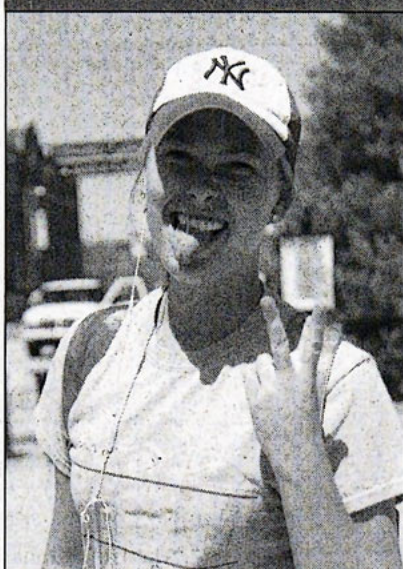
Psychology/Criminal Justice - Sophomore



"Yes, being different, getting to do your own thing, letting the wind blow into it, have fun"

#### KAITLYN CREAGER

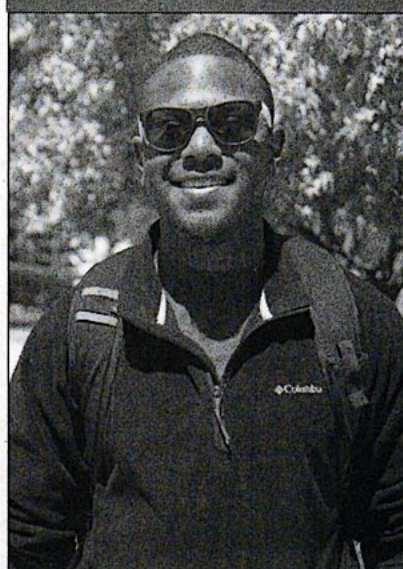
Undecided - Freshman



"Yes, why not?"

#### BARRY RICKETTS

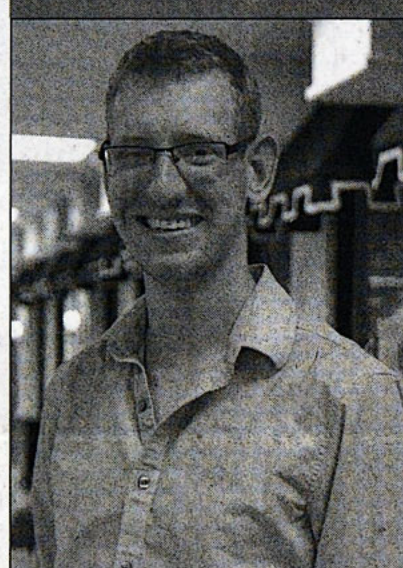
Industrial Safety - Sophomore



"Oh yeah, it would have to be bronze and blue of course. I would wear it around campus trying to get kids to take pride in their school."

#### CHRIS FRY

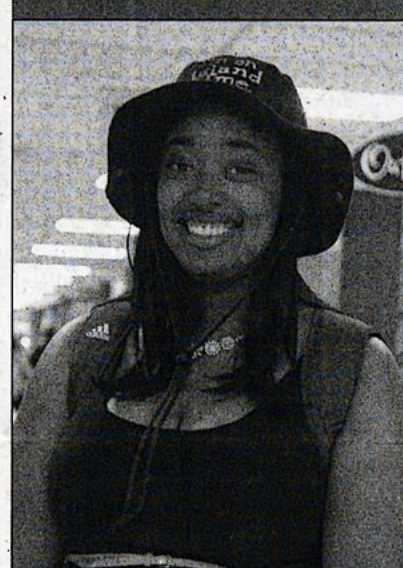
Political Science - Junior



"Everyday because look at people who wear capes, superman, darthvader. The list goes on and on."

#### AJA ROBERTS-BOWMAN

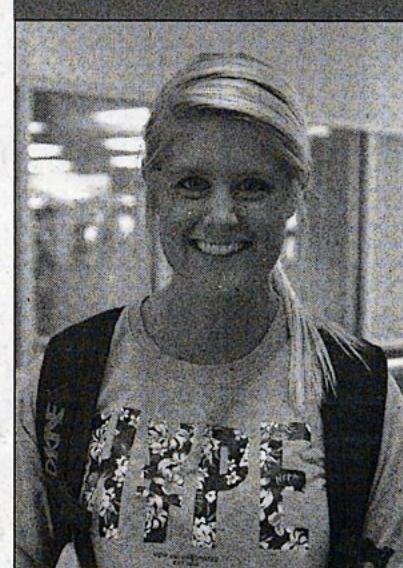
International Business - Junior



"Absolutely, I mean it's a cape. Why not?"

#### CAMI MAGNUSON

Public Relations - Senior



"Of course. Well I am always wearing an invisible cape so being able to wear it out in the open would make things easier."

## Enough about Malaysia Flight 370

Editorial by: John Drake,  
Contributing Writer

On March 8, a Boeing 777 from Malaysia Airlines lost contact with air traffic control near Kuala Lumpur and one month later this event is still breaking news on CNN, NBC, FOX and countless other mainstream news outlets. Even if it is not the top story on the TV broadcast, the search effort is still one of the first stories on their home page. These reporters and anchors need to take a deep breath and consider the last month.

After all of the conspiracy theories and intense, around-the-clock coverage, the media has beaten this horse to an early death and kept on beating. This story is unusual and definitely worth keeping an eye on and updating occasionally. Planes do not disappear every day, especially big jets, but this frenzy has taken up the entire media for an entire month.

In 2010, when a Polish Tu-54 crashed near Smolensk, Russia, 96 people died, most of which were members of the Polish government, including the President, 18 Parliamentary members and numerous military leaders. One of America's NATO allies lost its heads of state and military on Russian soil and this still did not get nearly the same amount of coverage or conspiracy theories as Flight 370.

And the conspiracy theories are taking up airtime too! Everything from Muslim hijackers to black holes to something about Lost has been thrown around by national anchors like Don Lemon, Ed Schultz and Eric Bolling. It shows that our national media is either too lazy to find more real news to fill their 24-hour news cycle or they have some reason to fill the air with inane spec-

ulation.

Some anchors have generally taken a higher road. As Chris Hayes said, the media's job "is not to fill the air by telling bedtime stories."

Jon Stewart, host of The Daily Show, aired an episode lambasting the overhyped coverage of the missing plane. When a comedian is able to get more laughs out of footage of news media than he can from most of his jokes, it is fair to say that our media has lost a lot of integrity in recent years.

The disappearance of Flight 370 is newsworthy, of course, but it should not be the headline almost every day for an entire month. At most, the story called for an update every few days and limited discussions by talk show personalities. There are other things happening in the world.

Ukraine continues to toe the line of civil war, Russia is still trying to take control of Crimea, Syria and South Sudan are still fighting civil wars, NSA leaker Edward Snowden is still out there and so much more. There is no shortage of newsworthy stories these days but mainstream news media insists on clogging the air with insubstantial fluff.

It is time to move on from Flight 370. If the wreckage is found or a real conspiracy unearthed, an update would be nice. However, idle speculation is not news and even though it is finally beginning to wind down, a lesson needs to be learned. By definition, news media must report news. Feeding speculation is not involved in the free press envisioned by John Zenger and Benjamin Franklin and American media's growing tendency to banter instead of report is embarrassing.

## CAMPUS CARTOON

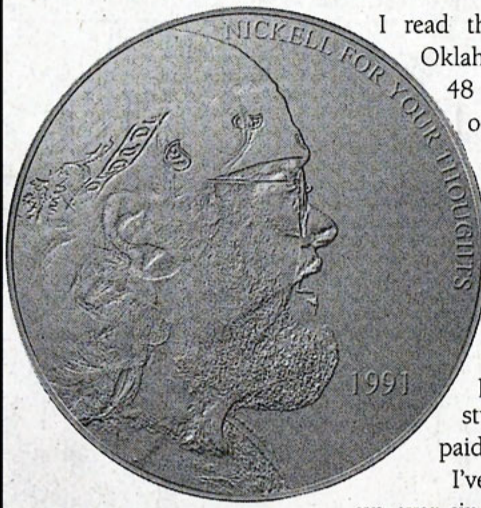


Cartoon by Brenda Chavez Quintero.



Check out *Sincerely, Stevie* every  
Tuesday on [UCentralmedia.com!](http://UCentralmedia.com)

Opinion UNEDUCATED OKLAHOMA By Brooks Nickell



I read the other day that Oklahoma sits at number 48 regarding quality of education. That does not particularly shock and awe me. I could have paid more attention in high school. It's a story many kids take part in; inattentive students and underpaid teachers. I've been catching up ever since, teaching myself what I needed in order to be at the same classroom performance level as the respected norm. This conversation is a tired one. To many, the battle to improve education has been fought time and time again. It's been taken to the steps of the Oklahoma capitol and the statistics presented and protested. Often you hear a multifaceted argument, but the typical avenues of blame come from similar areas. Students that could have performed better, blame the teachers. The teachers that could have performed better, blame the students. The teachers that know the system's broken, fight tooth

and nail to give students the best possible future, while the state of Oklahoma slashes the education budget and says, "Good luck!" The burning question to me, the elephant in the room so to say, is why cut your education budget at all? And, on top of that, why cut your education budget when your state does so poorly at educating? Doesn't make much sense to me. But, that's what Oklahoma has done. How about Gov. Fallin's FY 2014 budget suggesting a \$50 million increase for Common Education, reducing funding for Higher Education by \$49 million? To me, it looks like the state is robbing Peter to pay Paul and then slapping Paul in the back of the head and taking all his shit. In 2014, common education stands to receive the lowest share of the state budget since 2000. So, there's civic engagement? Let me change speed here. Let's talk about hope management, another one of Oklahoma's strong points. Scrape the bottom of the barrel when you're looking for voter turnout. Did you find Oklahoma, no? You might need to turn that barrel over. Oklahoma is smashed underneath it. In 2012, we ranked 49 in voter turnout. In case you didn't know, that's number 49 out of 50. See, it's a vicious cycle. Education allows for broadened horizons and has been proven time and time again to drastically improve civic engagement. An educated populace equals a voting one.

So, there should be no surprise that such a large amount of our citizens don't vote. Ballads are hard to read. I'm not usually one to focus on all the negatives, but it seems like the only positive things I hear about Oklahoma anymore are how strong we unite after tornadoes or how we ran Westboro Baptist church out of Moore. Congratulations. I'm proud to be from Oklahoma. I'm proud to be from the small town of Davenport. But, I'm ashamed of our state government's approach to education. And, I'm ashamed that such a large number of our population lacks the education, know how, or desire to make a change. It really doesn't matter if you are and advocate for traditional education or not. The fact is this: education leads to expansion of ones self through the examination of others points of view and ideals. I can't support my closing statement with any facts, but I will say that I believe it makes perfect sense. The easiest way to control people, to enslave them, is to take away their ability to read and write. Ensure they can't vote and then pass all the legislation you'd like. Don't believe me? Pick up a history book. "Knowledge makes a man unfit to be a slave." -Frederick Douglass- Follow me on Twitter @JbrooksNickell

Farsi: Not Your Typical Foreign Language Course

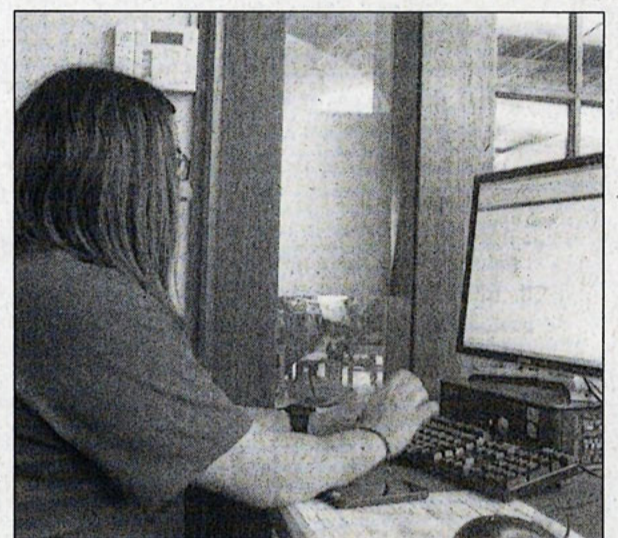
Rachel Brockelhurst

Staff Writer

Most people know Spanish or French, but not very many know Farsi. Farsi, formerly Persian, is one of the Iranian branches of Indo-European language. "The Persian language has been written with a number of different scripts, including the Old Persian Cuneiform, Pahlavi, Aramaic, and Avestan, Cyrillic, and Latin alphabets," said criminal justice major Maryam Bina. "After the Islamic conquest of the Persian Sasanian Empire in 642 AD, Arabic became the language of government, culture and especially religion." Modern Persian appeared during the ninth century. It is written in a version of the Arabic script and is full words of Arabic origin. There are also two methods of writing Per-

sian with the Latin alphabet. "Under Mongolian and Turkish rulers, Persian was adopted as the language of government in Turkey, central Asia and India, where it was used for centuries and until after 1900 in Kashmir," Bina said. Not only is it the language of Iran, according to www.farsinet.com, over 40 million Farsi speakers, about 60 percent of Iran's population, and about two million Dari Persian speakers are in Pakistan. There are also a significant number of speakers in many other countries, including Uzbekistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Israel, Turkmenistan, Oman, Yemen, the UAE, Afghanistan, in an ancient form of Tajikistan, and the Pamir Mountain region. In Afghanistan, Persian is known as Dari or Dari-Persian, while in Tajikistan, it's known as Tajiki. "It is mostly similar to Arabic," Bina said. Three phases may be distinguished in

the development of Iranian languages: old, middle, and modern. Avestan and Old Persian represent Old Iranian. "Avestan, spoken in the northeast of ancient Persia, is the language of the Avesta, the sacred scriptures of Zoroastrianism," Bina said. "Except for this scriptural use, Avestan died out centuries before the advent of Islam." Old Persian is recorded in the southwest in cuneiform inscriptions of the Persian kings of the Achaemenid dynasty, notably Darius I and Xerxes I. Old Persian and Avestan have close affinity with Sanskrit.



The photo features criminal justice major Maryam Bina has studied and is familiar with the foreign language, Farsi. Photo by Faythe McMillin, The Vista.

Anti-Death Row events hosted by American Democracy Project

Tyler Talley

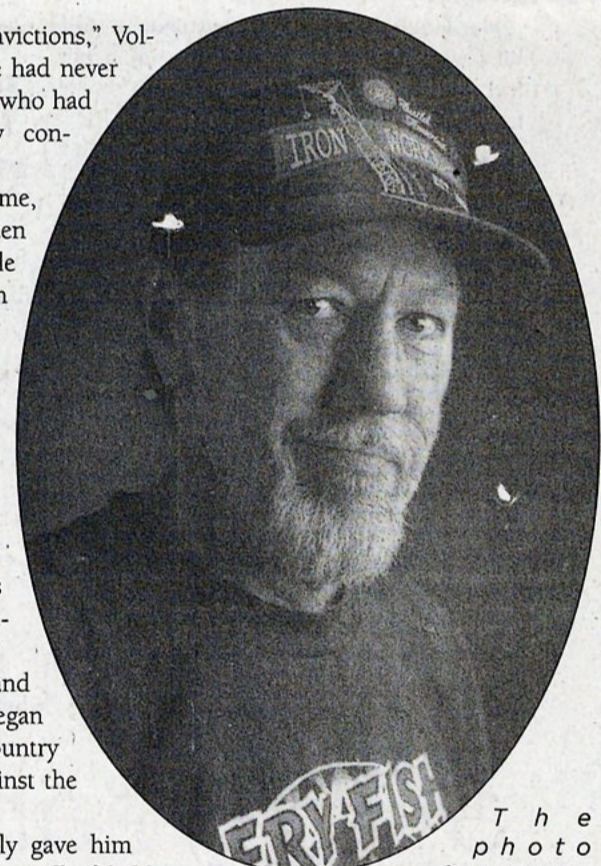
Staff Writer

The American Democracy Project, along with other organizations, will host a series of events concerning the death penalty on April 12 in the Nigh University Center at the University of Central Oklahoma. To kick off the day, Rob Warden will hold a Q&A session at 3 p.m. in the Will Rogers room. Warden is an award winning legal affairs journalist, who served as editor and publisher of Chicago Lawyer magazine. During Warden's time there in 1980's, he helped expose more than 20 wrongful convictions in Illinois, including six cases in which innocent men had been sentenced to death. He has also won more than 50 journalism awards. This event is free and open to the public. The UCO Debate Team will then hold a debate at 4:30 p.m. in Constitution Hall in which they will ex-

plore the question, "How and why to eliminate the death penalty in Oklahoma." The participating debaters will look to the recommendations made by the Oklahoma Justice Commission that calls for reforms designed to protect innocent people from conviction and being sentenced to death. This event is also free and open to the public. After the debate, the ADP and the Oklahoma Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty will host an annual banquet, during which Warden will serve as the keynote speaker. The banquet will take place at 6 p.m. in the University ballrooms and tickets can be purchased at okcapd.org. Nancy Vollersten, who serves as a financial aid counselor with UCO's Financial Aid office, will be attending Saturday's events. She is on the board of directors of Witness to Innocence, a national organization of death row exonerees and their families, and her brother, Greg Wil-

hoit, was wrongfully convicted for a murder and served and was placed on death row in Oklahoma. Wilhoit, who passed away on Feb. 14, was convicted for the murder of his wife, Kathy, in 1987. The case rested on the testimony of dental experts, one of which had just graduated from dental school. They agreed that a bite mark found on Katy's body matched Wilhoit's teeth. Vollersten stated that Wilhoit suffered from that incompetent representation. At one point, his defense counsel arrived at court drunk and threw up in the judge's chambers. Wilhoit served on death row for five years, until 1991 when his conviction was overturned, thanks to the testimonies of 11 forensic experts testified that the bite marks found on his wife did not match his teeth. An appeals court also ruled that he had ineffective counsel. He was then released, and would eventually be fully exonerated in 1993. Vollersten stated that Wilhoit had a difficult time after being released because of the emotional and psychological toll being on death row had taken on him. She went on to say that Wilhoit would begin to find comfort after meeting people who had gone through similar experiences. "In 1998, we went to a conference at Northwestern University in Chicago

on wrongful convictions," Vollersten said. "We had never met anyone else who had been wrongfully convicted." "At that time, there had been about 72 people who had been on death row from all over the country who had been exonerated and released. A lot of these people came to this event and it was really just a life-changing event." Vollersten and Wilhoit soon began traveling the country to speak out against the death penalty. "Speaking really gave him a purpose and he really felt like he was contributing something by doing it," Vollersten said. "Every time he had to retell his story it was very painful, but he was willing to do it to educate people. I have gotten things from people all over the world telling me what a difference he made in their lives." Wilhoit's story would soon gain national attention, like 20/20 on ABC. Author John Grisham included Wilhoit's story in his nonfiction book "The Innocent Man." Vollersten said that she is against the death penalty in all cases, even for those who are guilty of their crimes. As an alternative to the death penalty, Vollersten stated that



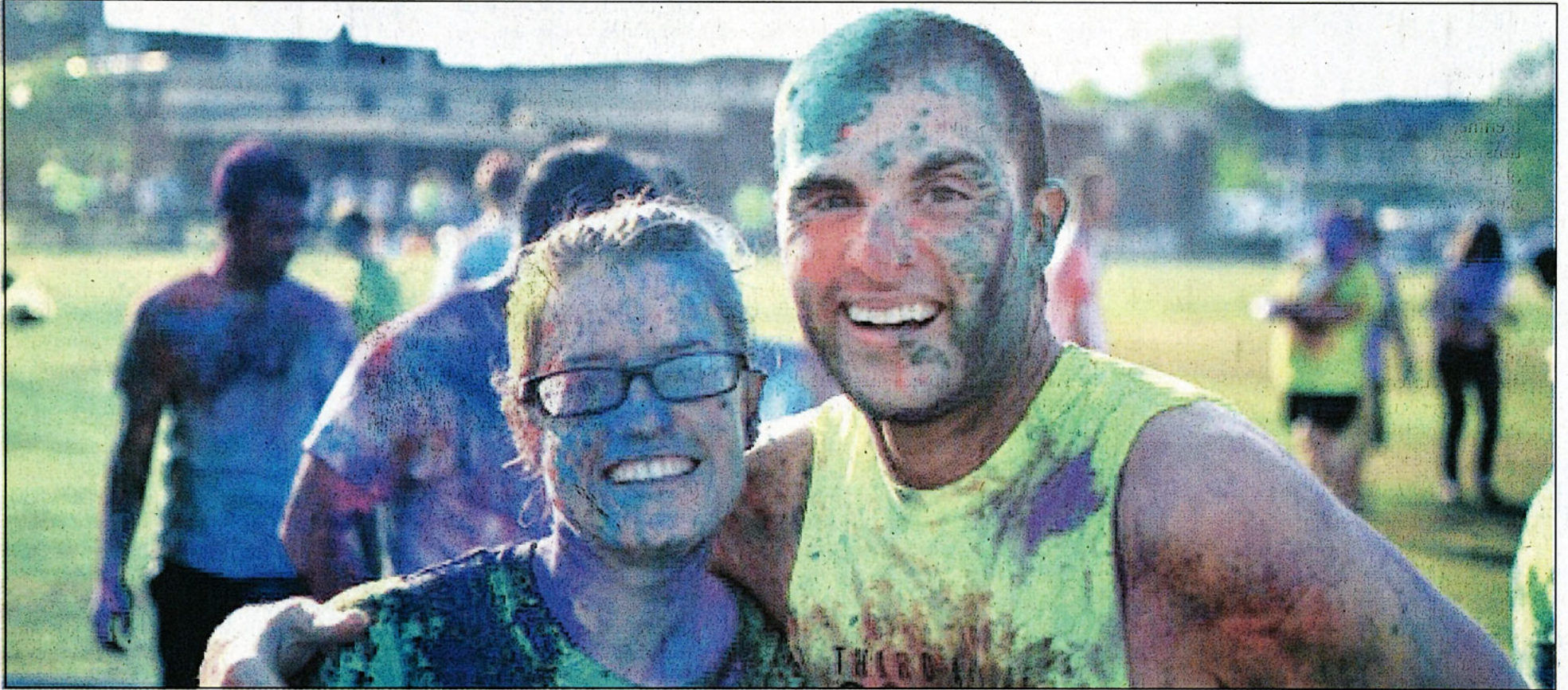
The photo features Greg Wilhoit, who was released from death row after five years. Photo provided.

she is for sentencing prisoners to life without parole. She said that while it will be a slow process, the national opinion on the death penalty is beginning to change. "I really think it's on the downhill slide," Vollersten said. "I think people are coming around and I think innocence is a big part of it. When Greg was convicted back in '87, DNA evidence wasn't really a factor. Things have changed." She admitted that Oklahoma, along with a number of other southern states, might take longer to catch up. "It's interesting to me that the state that claims to uphold Christian values has the death penalty," Vollersten said. "One of the foundations of Christianity is forgiveness." Now that her brother is gone, Vollersten said that it has been hard to continue and that she may step back for a time. She said that her passion for the cause has not diminished however, and events like the one being held on Saturday are a worthy cause. Vollersten said, "Because of Greg, I found a second calling life."

Advertisement for Friends of Chambers Library Annual Book Sale. Includes dates: Friday April 11th 10AM-6PM, Saturday April 12th 10AM-6PM, Sunday April 13th 12PM-6PM. Location: Edmond, Oklahoma University and Avers Chambers Library Basement. Price: \$10 for students to attend the presale and receive a free tote bag!

Advertisement for CSL Plasma. Text: "Donate plasma today and earn up to \$300 a month!" Includes contact info: 716 NW 23rd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73103. Phone: 405-521-9204. Website: CSLPlasma.com. Includes a QR code and a photo of a smiling man.

## Confidently James:



James Ledbetter's journey began at UCO and he has come back to Central to finish his education. Photo provided.

Xavier Jackson

Contributing Writer

### One man's struggle with homosexuality

University of Central Oklahoma junior James Ledbetter has an uncommon wealth of experience.

He started his freshman year in the fall of 2002.

Ledbetter comes from the small town of Bristow, Okla. He doesn't have many fond memories of his time there.

**"It has a population of 4,000 and it hasn't changed since my childhood. Very Christian influenced there are churches on every corner, very little open-mindedness," said Ledbetter.**

In school, Ledbetter said that there wasn't any room for difference.

"If you weren't Future Farmers of America you were nobody. It didn't matter if you were good in school," said Ledbetter.

His family was very well known in the Bristow community. This made Ledbetter feel even more compelled to live up to the family name.

"There was pressure put on me to fit in," said Ledbetter.

Religion, as in much of Bristow, was a big part of his family's lives. His grandfather was

a preacher at the largest church in town.

Growing up, Ledbetter said that there were no other gay people in his community.

**"I didn't know anyone who was gay except my uncle, who died of AIDS, which made it seem even scarier," said Ledbetter.**

Before coming to Central, Ledbetter never really acknowledged his sexuality.

"I honestly was very repressive of it and tried dating girls all the way up into my early 20s, thinking that I could change myself by doing that," said Ledbetter.

Relationships were always an uncomfortable conversation subject for him. Ledbetter would often try and emulate his straight friends.

He refused to give up his pursuit of the straight lifestyle.

**"There would be a certain girl that would make me feel like I wasn't gay," said Ledbetter.**

Ledbetter believes that not having gay influences before coming to UCO didn't help his development.

"I didn't really build that confidence in myself until much later in life. I didn't really know who I was. I had no idea," said Ledbetter.

Ledbetter's confusion about his own identity made him unsure of his future.

**"When everyone was talking about college and moving away, I had nothing. I didn't see myself having a family. I didn't know what it would look like," said Ledbetter.**

Ledbetter and his parents were ecstatic when he was accepted to UCO in 2002.

Here at Central, Ledbetter appreciated the freedom the campus provided.

UCO is where he began his very first steps of discovering who he is.

"I was just on the surface of figuring things out about myself," said Ledbetter.

At this point, Ledbetter began his first gay relationship.

His relationship with his roommate, a long-time friend from Bristow, had become strained as Ledbetter struggled to contain his difference.

One day, his roommate returned to their room as Ledbetter was kissing his boyfriend. "At first, he seemed very OK. He didn't

blow up. He wanted to know another part of me," said Ledbetter.

A few weeks later, Ledbetter became aware that his roommate had told members of his family about his homosexuality.

He had a choice to make, use this as an opportunity to do something positive or deny. Ledbetter decided to come out.

His roommate, however, had already told the most important person in his life, his mom.

**"He told my mom, which really destroyed me," said Ledbetter.**

His mother, whose brother had died earlier of AIDS, was not supportive.

Because of the situation with his roommate, Ledbetter decided to move off-campus with a good friend.

His friend, a straight woman, helped him explore and educate himself on his sexuality.

Years later, he credits a battle with cancer for inspiring him to come back to Central.

"That experience made me feel confidence even when I thought I had confidence," said Ledbetter.

Now that he's back in school, Ledbetter has a lot that he's thankful for.

Ledbetter said, "I'm thankful for the chance to start again. I'm thankful for the education that I have."

## UCO Under Construction: 'We're building a 75-year hall'



Photo by Quang Pho, The Vista.



The University of Central Oklahoma has begun a 15-month residence hall construction project. It will cover 120,000 square feet and is set to include room for 440 beds. The budget for the project is \$128 million. According to Josh Overrocker, the Executive Director of Business Enterprises for UCO Housing and Dining, the project will be the single largest construction project at UCO. Concerns about the project center about possible traffic problems related to the construction's progress. UCO aims to build a timeless building, one that will stand the test of time for the decades to come. Photos by Aliko Dyer, The Vista.



Sexual Assault

# Sexual Assaults Go Unreported

"Women have a one-in-four chance of being the victim of a sexual assault in their lifetime; with the majority becoming victims between the ages of 18 and 25-years-old— this makes college-aged students particularly susceptible."

This inherent susceptibility is further magnified by RAINN's reporting that 73 percent of rape or sexual assault victims knew the perpetrators prior to the assault; a circumstance Kautz said may preclude many victims from ever reporting that an assault occurred.

"Stranger Rape' is far less common than the public is led to believe," she said.

"The reality is the majority of rape victims knew their rapist before the crime was committed."

Kautz further stated that, in many cases, it is the circumstances behind how or when the crime is committed that directly impacts whether a crime goes unreported by the victim; with pre-existing relationships and their applicable social networks defining whether or not a victim feels comfortable reporting the crime.

RAINN advises victims to report their assault to authorities if at all possible, but

states on their official website that:

"The decision is entirely yours, and everyone will understand if you decided not to pursue prosecution."

However, the organization's web page also makes clear that reporting a crime can be the most productive way of trying to ensure that more crimes don't occur in the future.

"Reporting to the police is the key to preventing sexual assault: every time we lock up a rapist, we're preventing him or her from committing another attack. It's the most effective tool that exists to prevent future rapes."

Kautz concluded that, regardless of whether the crime is reported, there is one key point that all victims of sexual assault must remember.

"The most important thing for a victim of sexual assault to know is that they weren't at fault," she said.

"No matter what may make them feel like they were responsible for what has happened—that is not the case at all."

For more information regarding sexual assault statistics in the United States, visit [www.RAINN.org](http://www.RAINN.org)



"Women have a one-in-four chance of being the victim of sexual assault in their lifetime," according to statistics presented by RAINN. The report claims that the real number of sexual assaults on college campuses is unknown due to the large number that go unreported every year. Photo by Aliko Dyer, The Vista.

# Oklahoma Bill Would Allow Guns in State Capitol

Sean Tolbert

Contributing Writer

On Feb. 3, Oklahoma Congressman David Derby (R- Owasso) introduced legislation to the state House of Representatives that could allow handguns to be permitted on the person of individuals entering the state capitol building.

House Bill 2672 would allow for individuals who are not members of a law enforcement agency to carry a sidearm unobstructed.

Derby stated that his bill would allow "law abiding citizens" to "exercise their Second Amendment rights."

In an interview with The Tulsa World, Derby also said that the bill's allowance could go even further, stating that guns could potentially be allowed on the floor of the House "If the House rules allow it."

The bill opens up questions, however, as it does not change the status of weapons such as knives, batons or other hand-held items, which would all retain their current status as objects banned in government buildings.

Currently, firearms have not been allowed in the government building and individuals who enter them, must be cleared through security checkpoints that include metal detectors and law enforcement personnel.

The bill was sent to the state House Judiciary Committee On Feb. 13 and passed by a

vote of 9-6, in favor of the bill being sent to the House for further discussion.

The bill will now move to the floor of the House, where a potential vote could take place. Should it pass the state House, it would be sent to the Senate for similar procedure and voting.

House Bill 2672 is one of nine firearm-related bills introduced into the House in 2014, all of which were authored by a different Republican representative.

# Teen in Pa. Stabs 20 Classmates



A student and guardian walk to their car from Franklin Regional Middle School after more than a dozen students were stabbed by a knife wielding suspect at nearby Franklin Regional High School on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Murrysville, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The suspect, a male student, was taken into custody and is being questioned. (AP Photo/Tribune Review, Brian F. Henry)

KEVIN BEGOS, The Associated Press

MURRYSVILLE, Pa. (AP) — A 16-year-old armed with two knives went on a stabbing and slashing spree at a high school near Pittsburgh on Wednesday, leaving 20 people injured, including a school police officer who eventually subdued him with the help of an assistant principal, authorities said.

The attack occurred in crowded hallways just minutes before the start of school. Of the 19 students injured, four suffered serious wounds, but all were expected to survive, hospital officials said. The injured officer was discharged.

Murrysville police Chief Thomas Seefeld said the bloody crime scene at Franklin Regional High School, some 15 miles east of Pittsburgh, was "vast" and may take a couple of days to process. School superintendent Gennaro Piraino said the school would be closed for the foreseeable future.

"Our focus is on our students, staff and the community," Piraino said. "I pray and we pray that this doesn't happen in any school."

Police didn't immediately name the suspect, who was taken into custody and driven to and from the police station in the back of a cruiser for treatment for a minor hand wound.

Investigators haven't determined a motive, but Seefeld said they're looking into reports of a threatening phone call between the suspect and another student the night before. Seefeld didn't specify whether the suspect reportedly received or made the call.

The chief arrived to find students running out of the school at about 7:15 a.m.

Michael Float, an 18-year-old senior, said he had just gotten to school when he saw "blood all over the floor" and smeared on the wall near the main entrance. Then he saw a wounded student.

"He had his shirt pulled up and he was screaming, 'Help! Help!'" Float

said. "He had a stab wound right at the top right of his stomach," blood pouring down."

Float said he saw a teacher applying pressure to the wound of another student who had been stabbed.

Float said he knew who the suspect was but didn't know him personally. "I heard he's a very nice kid. I don't know what drove him to do it," Float said.

Two student victims were in critical condition, according to Dr. Mark Rubino of Forbess Regional Medical Center, the closest hospital to the school, where eight victims were taken.

The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center treated a dozen patients. Officials said a 17-year-old boy and 14-year-old boy were in critical condition, a 17-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy were in serious condition, and a 17-year-old boy and two 17-year-old girls were in fair condition.

Five patients had been discharged, including three 15-year-old boys, a 16-year-old girl and an adult, who is believed to be the school officer who suffered only superficial wounds.

Seefeld wouldn't detail the carnage beyond saying, "The juvenile went down the hallway and was flailing two knives around and injured the people."

Westmoreland County public safety spokesperson Dan Stevens said not every injured student was stabbed, and that some suffered scrapes and cuts in the mayhem.

The chief said someone, possibly a student, pulled a fire alarm after seeing some of the victims being stabbed. Although that created chaos, he said, it also resulted in students running out of the school to safety faster than they might have otherwise.

"The fire alarm being pulled probably assisted with the evacuation of the school and that was a good thing that that was done," Seefeld said.

Authorities were crediting an assistant principal with subduing the suspect. Officials didn't immediately release his name, but he was identified by students as Sam King.

King's son told The Associated Press that his father was treated at a hospital, though authorities have said he was not wounded by the knife and is doing fine.

"He says he's OK. He's a tough cookie and sometimes hides things, but I believe he's OK," Zack King said.

King said his father was to be interviewed by police but said little about his role in the attack.

"I'm really happy. I'm proud of him," King said, adding his thoughts are with "the victims and their families who have to deal with this, and I hope the best for all of them and my prayers are with them."

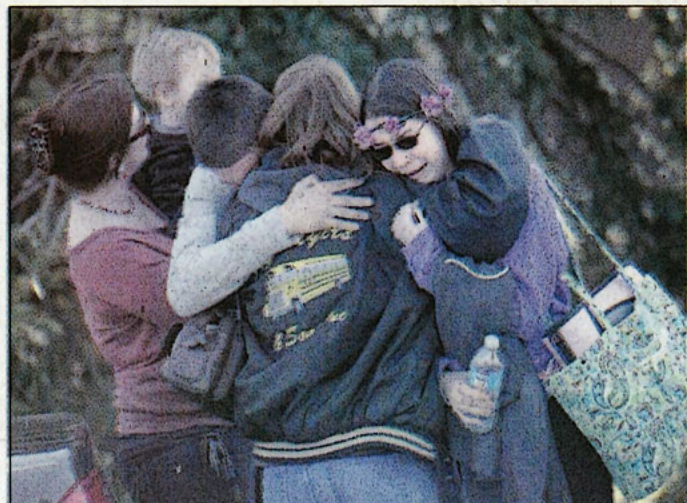
Rubino, the hospital physician, said a girl who wasn't wounded likely kept an injured schoolmate from bleeding to death.

"She displayed an amazing amount of composure to really help that friend who has having pretty significant bleeding at that point, and the pressure that she applied probably played a significant role in his ability to survive this," Rubino said.

Public safety and school officials said an emergency plan worked as well as could be expected in this district of 3,600 students who live in the bedroom communities of Murrysville, Export and Delmont. The elementary and middle schools are part of the same campus as the high school and were to remain open.

The district conducted an emergency exercise three months ago and a full-scale drill about a year ago. "The plan will be reviewed again after this situation to see if it can be improved upon," Stevens said.

"We haven't lost a life and I think that's what we have to keep in mind," he said.



Left: A police officer stands by the scene outside Franklin Regional High School where more than a dozen students were stabbed by a knife wielding suspect on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Murrysville, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The suspect, a male student, was taken into custody and is being questioned. (AP Photo/Tribune Review, Brian F. Henry) Right: Parents and students embrace along School Road near Franklin Regional High School after more than a dozen students were stabbed by a knife wielding suspect at the school on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Murrysville, Pa., near Pittsburgh. The suspect, a male student, was taken into custody and is being questioned. (AP Photo/Tribune Review, Sean Stipp)



APR 10, 2014

University of Central Oklahoma

# VISTA SPORTS

The Student Voice Since 1903

OKC Thunder

## Thunder win while Durant ends his own streak

Antonio Gonzalez

AP Sports Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — With Kevin Durant on the bench to start the fourth quarter, his Oklahoma City Thunder teammates put together a run that helped end one of the most impressive scoring streaks in NBA history.

And Durant says nobody is happier it's over than him.

Caron Butler made all six of his 3-point attempts to finish with 23 points, and the Thunder began the fourth quarter on a 16-0 spurt to pull away for a 107-92 victory over the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday night.

Durant finished with 23 points but was never needed in the final quarter, stopping his streak of scoring at least 25 points in 41 consecutive games.

Only Oscar Robertson (46 straight games in 1963-64) and Wilt Chamberlain (all 80 regular-season games in the 1961-62 season) have longer such streaks.

"I was getting so many texts after every game. I'm glad that's over with and we can just focus on the team," said Durant, who shot 8 for 13 in 31 minutes.

"If we played well and I had 25 points, that took away from how well the team was play-

ing, so I didn't like that. If we lost, it was all about me scoring 25 points and I didn't like that either. I'm glad we can just talk about the team now."

Coming off losses at Memphis and Phoenix, Oklahoma City certainly has plenty of bigger things to play for during the season's final two weeks.

Serge Ibaka added 19 points and four rebounds for the Thunder, who rested Russell Westbrook ahead of Wednesday night's game at the Los Angeles Clippers. Oklahoma City (56-21) is 1½ games ahead of the Clippers (55-23) for the Western Conference's No. 2 playoff seed.

Even still, Durant said he was aware of how many points he had but never thought of asking coach Scott Brooks to go back in the game.

Brooks insisted it never crossed his mind, either, saying the most impressive thing about Durant's streak is that he didn't even realize it ended because Durant has been the "trademark for consistency."

"He's about team," Brooks said. "If he wasn't, he would have played golf and tried to chase (Jack) Nicklaus' record of 18 majors."

DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Travis Outlaw scored 24 points in Sacramento's third straight loss.

Even with three regulars out with injuries, the Kings made the Thunder work through the first three quarters.

Oklahoma City built double-digits leads throughout the game only to watch Sacramento surge back each time.

But with Durant on the bench to open the fourth, the Thunder finally created a lead big enough to stick. The Thunder held Sacramento scoreless for nearly 6 minutes to go ahead 101-77.

"We had some guys that played with no energy," frustrated Kings coach Michael Malone said. "It looked they didn't even want to be out there, to be honest."

With the matchup in Los Angeles looming large, Brooks decided to rest Westbrook — as he has done during one game of back-to-back sets since Westbrook returned Feb. 20 following right knee surgery.

The Thunder got some relief with Thabo Sefolosha playing for the first time since injuring his left calf against Memphis on Feb. 28. He finished with two points and three rebounds in 16 minutes.

Sacramento, already among the conference's worst teams, played even more short-handed. Kings big man Reggie Evans and forward Rudy Gay sat out with back injuries, and point guard Isaiah Thomas missed his eighth straight game with a bruised right

quadriceps.

Oklahoma City looked every bit like the better and deeper team at the start.

The Thunder surged ahead 9-0 in the first two minutes before Cousins brought the Kings back with his perimeter shot, slicing Oklahoma City's lead to 30-27 at the end of the first quarter.

The Thunder began to pull away again with a 17-4 run in the second quarter propelled by Butler, who made all four of his 3-point attempts in the first half. Oklahoma City led 61-49 at intermission and didn't have a turnover until the second half.

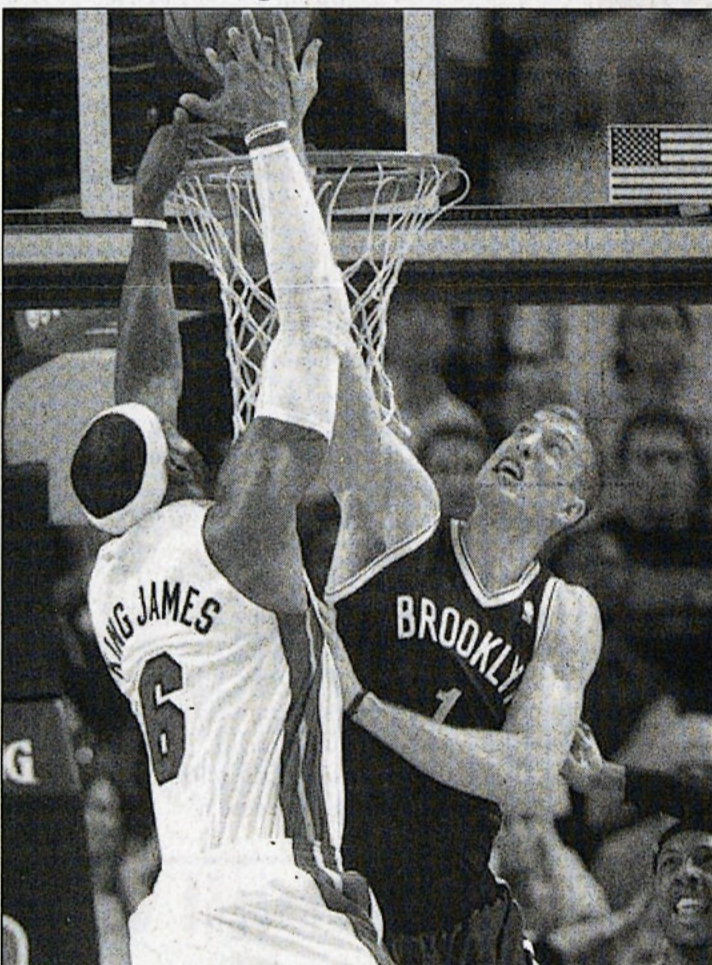
Durant credited the communication and ball movement for pulling away late, and he said he hopes the focus can shift from his scoring streak to his team's improved play.

"When I sit back after the season's over that's when I reflect on everything that I've done, that the team's done, and I'm sure I'll appreciate (the streak) then," Durant said. "But now, I'm just focusing on game to game and how we can get better as a group and how I can help the team get better."

NOTES: The Thunder swept the four-game season series against the Kings. ... Oklahoma City has won 10 straight and 16 of 17 over Sacramento. ... A fan made a shot from half court during a timeout in the first half to win a car.

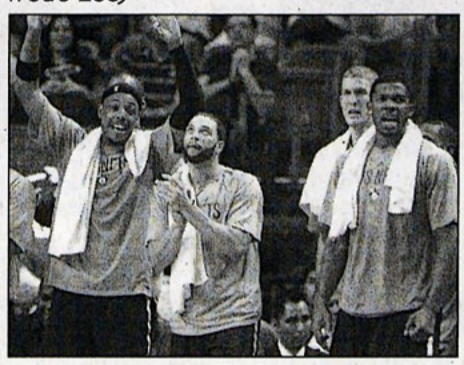
NBA Basketball

## Brooklyn Nets sweep season series against the Heat



Left: Brooklyn Nets forward Mason Plumlee (1) blocks a shot by Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) in the final seconds of the second half of an NBA basketball game, Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Miami. The Nets defeated the Heat 88-87. (AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

Below: Brooklyn Nets' Paul Pierce, from left, Deron Williams, Mason Plumlee and Joe Johnson come off the bench as they celebrate a basket during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Miami Heat, Wednesday, March 12, 2014, in Miami. The Nets defeated the Heat 96-95. (AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)



Tim Reynolds

AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — A debated block at the buzzer. A season sweep of the NBA champions.

Hello, Brooklyn — the only NBA team this season to go unbeaten against the Miami Heat.

Mason Plumlee denied LeBron James' dunk attempt at the rim with 2 seconds left, and the Nets finished off a four-game sweep of Miami by beating the Heat 88-87 on Tuesday night.

With Miami down by one and time running out, Rashard Lewis somehow got a pass from underneath the basket to James, who rose as Plumlee jumped to contest the play. Replays showed Joe Johnson made some contact with James as he started his move and that Plumlee hit the four-time MVP's hand on the dunk try, but the Heat never got the call they wanted.

"My initial thought was to just foul and make him earn it at the free-throw line," Plumlee said.

That's precisely what the Heat thought he did.

"He grabbed my right hand," James said. "He didn't do it on purpose, but he got my right hand."

Said Heat coach Erik Spoelstra: "It was a foul from my vantage point. But what can you do?"

Time expired, and just like that, Miami's lead in the Eastern Conference was down to a half-game — one in the loss column — over Indiana.

Johnson scored 19 points, reserve Marcus Thornton had 16 and Paul Pierce scored 14 for the Nets. Plumlee had two of his three blocks in the last 2 minutes, the first of them on a short try by Chris Bosh that Miami felt should have been whistled for goaltending.

Still, his late work couldn't get Plumlee a one-night respite from rookie duty.

"He still got to come in here and carry the bags and get the towels," Pierce said.

Final score of the four Brooklyn-Miami games: Nets 389, Heat 377. Brooklyn won three of the games by a single point, becoming the third team in NBA history to have that many narrowest-of-margin wins over an opponent in the same regular season and the first team ever to do so without playing more than four times.

And the fourth went to double overtime.

All four could have gone Miami's way. None of them did.

"They're a good team," Spoelstra said. "They're one of the hotter teams since All-Star break. Every

single one of these games, however you want to slice it, however you get to that point, there are plays to be made in the fourth quarter. And for whatever reason, they've made more plays."

Brooklyn became the first team in the last two years to sweep the Heat. Miami was the only team in the league to beat every team last season and would have repeated that feat with a win Tuesday.

James had 29 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for the Heat, who got 12 points from Bosh and 10 from Norris Cole.

Up by one, Johnson took a jumper that was way off with 11 seconds left. Miami has been down by one in the final seconds twice in the last couple weeks, with James not getting a chance at the last shot either time.

This time he did, and Miami still couldn't break through. Each of the last three Heat losses have come by a single point — and they've dropped six in all by that margin this season. "That's just basketball," Nets coach Jason Kidd said. "You have the best player in the world going against a rookie and we got lucky."

Thornton's steal and layup with 3:27 left put the Nets up one, before James answered seconds later with a dunk, part of a final quarter that featured seven lead changes.

Deron Williams missed a pair of free throws with 2:17 left and Brooklyn down a point, but Plumlee blocked Bosh's layup on the next Miami possession. Thornton hit a 3 from the right corner to put the Nets on top, Johnson followed with a beat-the-shot-clock score from the lane, and Brooklyn was suddenly up four with 1:01 left.

A mere 5½ seconds later, the lead was down to one.

James drove past Johnson and got fouled by Pierce on the way to a three-point play, getting Miami within 86-85. The teams alternated baskets on their next possessions, but the Nets wouldn't trail again.

Miami's Dwyane Wade (hamstring) missed his seventh straight game — his 26th absence this season for the Heat, who were also without Greg Oden (back) and Udonis Haslem (stomach virus). Brooklyn sat Kevin Garnett, who is expected to play at Orlando on Wednesday.

NOTES: Alonzo Mourning, the Heat player-turned-executive whose induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame was announced Monday, received a video tribute and loud ovation during the first half. ... U.S. Olympic speed skater Eddy Alvarez, a Miami native and silver medalist from the Sochi Games, was part of the sellout crowd.

### Follow The Vista sports writers on Twitter

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Trey Winfrey

### Upcoming Broncho Games

Thursday

Track and Field at the Cowley County Decathlon (All Day)

Baseball at Lindenwood University 7:00 p.m.

Friday

Track and Field at KT Woodman Invitational (Hosted by Emporia State University) (All Day)

Women's Tennis at Lindenwood University 2:00 p.m.

Softball at Emporia State University 4:00 p.m. / 6:00 p.m. (Doubleheader)

Baseball at Lindenwood University 6:00 p.m.

Saturday

Track and Field at KT Woodman Invitational (Hosted by Emporia State University) (All Day)

Softball at Washburn University 1:00 p.m. / 3:00 p.m. (Doubleheader)

Baseball at Lindenwood University 1:00 p.m. / 3:00 p.m. (Doubleheader)

Sunday

Women's Tennis at McKendree University 9:30 a.m.

Monday

Men's Golf at Embassy Suites Invitational (Hosted at Whitmoor Country Club in St. Charles, Missouri) (All Day)

Rowing

## UCO Crew has a strong showing in San Diego

Bronchosports.com

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Central Oklahoma's rowing team wrapped up a successful weekend at the San Diego Crew Classic by taking two top-three finishes in both the Varsity 8+ and Varsity 4+ events.

The Broncho eight finished second in their heat on Saturday morning, falling only to California-Santa Barbara and finishing ahead of crews from Orange Coast College, the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club and Illinois. Their placing earned them a spot in Sunday afternoon's grand final, where they would finish third to South region-rival Barry and UC-Santa Barbara. Division II opponent UC-San Diego finished fourth.

"I'm proud of how our eight performed over the course of the weekend," said head coach Andrew Derrick. "Unfortunately we drew lane four for the grand final. It put us at moderate disadvantage to UCSD, but a significant one to Barry in the coveted lane one of Mission Bay. I was really happy with how the team responded, and set about going to work to make the best of the situation given the windy conditions in the outside lanes.

"Overall, I think the crew performed well, the coaching staff is really proud of them, and the racing should hopefully give them some much deserved confidence going into our preparation for Tennessee."

UCO's four opened the weekend on Saturday afternoon with a preliminary race for lanes. After a slow start the Bron-

choswalked back through multiple crews and withstood a furious final push from Barry to finish second and earn lane two in the grand final on Sunday.

During the final the Central four found themselves in a four-crew fight for the lead in the first 1,000 meters with UC-San Diego, Orange Coast College and Barry. UC-San Diego would eventually take the lead for good with the Bronchos stretching their grasp on second-place over the course of the final 750 meters, finishing with open water on both Orange Coast and Barry.

"The four really exceeded our expectations this weekend," said assistant coach Amy Jantzen. "For such a young crew, they really showed some resiliency in their races and proved that they can show some real speed at the end of races. I'm looking forward to tapping into more of that potential as we prepare for SIRAs."

The Broncho novice squad also competed at home this weekend on the Oklahoma River, taking on Oklahoma City University and Wichita State Saturday morning. The racing took place in fours, with Central taking second and third place in each of the 2,000-meter races. OCU finished first in each race and Wichita State finished fourth each time.

"We're very excited with the development of our novice team this spring and we're looking forward to introducing them to even more competition as the whole team visits Tennessee in a couple of weeks," said graduate assistant Travis Hall.

"After a very long winter we're able to get our novices more consistent time on the water and in new lineups and boats,

which they are responding to well," said graduate assistant Kristin Philhower. "From top to bottom the team is getting faster at the right time, which we're very proud of."

The next race for Central comes in two weeks at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association in Oak Ridge, Tenn. There, the Bronchos will once again face off with regional-power and defending national champion Nova Southeastern, as well as Florida Tech, Rollins and dozens of other programs from across the country.

Racing in Oak Ridge will take place on the Melton Hill Reservoir and begin on Friday, April 18th with heats and conclude with semifinals and finals on Saturday, April 19th.



UCO 8+ crew competes last weekend. UCO Rowing was in San Diego to defend their title in the San Diego Crew Classic.

MLB Baseball

## STL Cardinals use late rally to win home opener

R.B. Fallstrom

AP Sports Writer

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Lance Lynn dug another early hole. The St. Louis Cardinals offense climbed right out of it.

Lynn gave up three first-inning runs for the second straight time against the Cincinnati Reds, but again came away a winner. When he's on the mound, the other pitcher often suffers.

"There's no secret that he gets good run production," manager Mike Matheny said after the Cardinals rallied for a 7-5 victory on Tuesday night. "It's hard to explain with Lance. I think some guys just have a knack of being in the right place when we've got a lot of offensive support."

Matt Holliday hit a go-ahead two-run double in the sixth inning that glanced off right fielder Jay Bruce's glove on the warning track.

"I just jumped a tad early," Bruce said. "Error or not, it's a ball I should have caught and I expect to catch."

Yadier Molina homered and Peter Bourjos had three hits and an RBI to help the Cardinals clinch their 26th series win to go with three losses and two splits since 2003 at Busch Stadium against Cincinnati. They're 4-1 against the Reds already this year, leaving a top division rival scuffling at 2-6 overall.

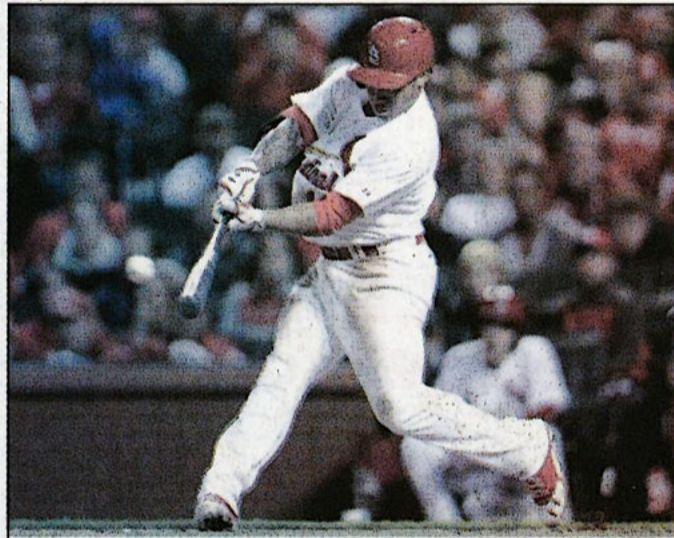
"There's not a whole lot of blatantly one-sided games, it's one or two mistakes here or there," Reds starter Homer Bailey said. "We can't think about what we do here or what we do just against them."

"Across the board, we just need to get better."

Bruce had a two-run triple in the first, Billy Hamilton's second hit of the season drove in a run and Ryan Ludwick had two RBIs for the Reds.

The Reds squandered a 4-0 second-inning lead by the bottom half of the inning. The Cardinals averaged 5.67 runs in Lynn's starts last year, third-most in the National League, and have scored seven both outings this year.

"The offense was able to pick me up again," Lynn said. "That's the beautiful thing about baseball, you can have a sub-



St. Louis Cardinals' Kolten Wong hits a two-run triple during the second inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in St. Louis. (AP Photo/Jeff Roberson)



St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Lance Lynn throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in St. Louis. (AP Photo/Jeff Roberson)

par pitching performance and great offensive night."

Trevor Rosenthal finished for his third save in three chances.

Bruce appeared to have a bead on Holliday's two-out drive with two on against Logan Ondrusek (0-1), but had to jump a bit at the last instant and the ball glanced off his glove as the Cardinals took a 6-5 lead. Bourjos added an RBI single in the seventh off J.J. Hoover.

Both starters scuffled, just as they did in the second game of the season in Cincinnati. Lynn has surrendered eight runs in 11 innings and Bailey has permitted eight runs on 16 hits and five walks in 9 1-3 innings.

"So far at the beginning of games I haven't been able to get that rhythm that I would like," Lynn said. "I've had it later in games and I need to get a better rhythm out of the gate and I'll be all right."

Lynn is 5-1 for his career against the Reds, including three wins last year. Bailey is 5-10 against the Cardinals.

"Tonight, I definitely feel like I deserve the loss," Bailey said. "I guess you can always say it's still early but every single game counts."

Joey Votto and Bruce had one-out hits in the fifth ahead of Ludwick's run-scoring groundout for a 5-4 lead.

Cardinals leadoff man Matt Carpenter had two hits, an RBI and was hit by a pitch against Bailey. He's 13 for 22 against the right-hander.

Notes: It was 61 degrees for the first pitch, a 12-degree improvement over the home opener Monday. ... The Cardinals received World Series rings in a pre-game ceremony. "I'm going to be wearing this one," manager Mike Matheny said. "My fingers have been busted up pretty bad, so they don't hold rings real well. But I'm going to make sure this one stays with me for a while." ... Shelby Miller (0-1, 8.44) opposes Mike Leake (0-1, 5.40) in the series finale Wednesday afternoon. Miller gave up three solo homers in his first start at Pittsburgh. Leake makes his ninth start against the Cardinals but just his second on the road. ... Rehabbing Reds reliever Sean Marshall (shoulder) is scheduled to throw an inning at extended spring training Wednesday.

Softball

## March Madness delivers yet again : Softball wins

Austin Litterell

Sports Reporter

Sadly, it's that time of year again where possibly the greatest month in sports has finally come to an end. There were definitely ups and downs on this journey, but overall, it was one heck of a ride. Upsets, overtimes, buzzer beaters, have been part of one of the best tournaments in recent memory. Not to mention, two historic Cinderellas meeting in the championship game. Take away the officiating and we had a solid month of basketball.

The best part of the tournament for me came in the early rounds with all of the upsets, because that is where we want to see them. We enjoy a good upset until they

get to the later rounds and we get matchups like Dayton and Stanford, which was a good game, but still there was something missing. It's the victories like Mercer over Duke that I absolutely love. Teams that come out of nowhere and knock off a historic program, there is something special about that that I love. David killing Goliath is one of my favorite stories, especially when it comes in sports.

Another favorite of the tournament for me was the championship matchup with two historic teams making an incredible run to the finals. Now with history, these runs usually will not surprise anyone, but this year, nobody beside that one guy with the tattoo gave these teams a chance. You figured with Kentucky's talent, maybe if they could come together and they proved

they were under-rated. Two of the most well known Cinderellas in the history of the tournament, I absolutely loved the game. I thought it was entertaining to see these teams battle for the ultimate prize in basketball. Not to mention, the coaching in this game was an incredible intrigue. John Calipari, who does not get enough credit for how good of a coach he is, and Kevin Ollie, who has performed one of the most special coaching jobs in one game. I loved everything about it.

There was one flaw with this whole ordeal, which was of course, the officiating, but besides that is was a great month of March Madness. I give the tournament an A for this season and hope to expect the same next year.

## Senior Day doubleheader

Austin Litterell

Sports Reporter

UCO softball hosted what its final home games of the season on Tuesday afternoon against Midwestern State University. The Bronchos came into the games with a 31-9 record on the year, including an outstanding 17-1 in conference play. UCO is currently first in the MIAA softball standings this season.

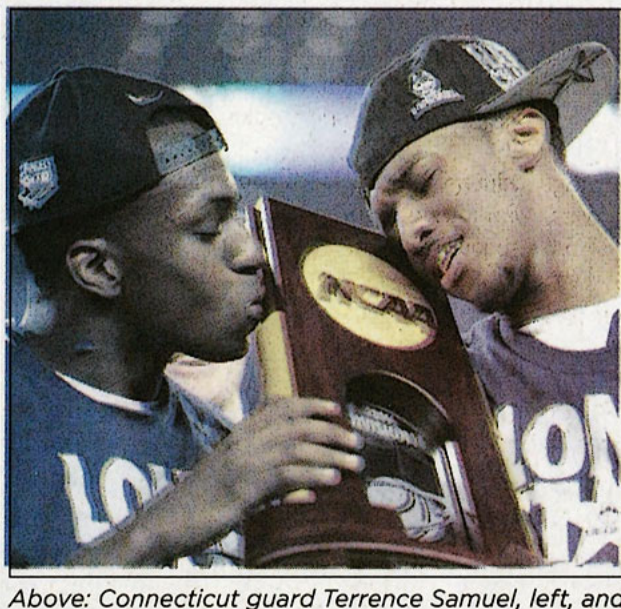
The Bronchos started off the day with a 3-1 victory over Midwestern. Kalynn Schrock pitched another complete game, giving up only four hits in the outing to keep the batters under control. Offensively UCO was led by Hannah Justus who hit a solo home run for the Bronchos. UCO also had doubles from Ally Dziadula and Emily Ditmore.

The second game became interesting for UCO, who needed a huge rally to earn the sweep. The Mustangs raced out to a 5-0 lead and managed to hold the explosive Broncho lineup to just three hits in the first six innings of the game. Devyn Frazier and Dziadula, who hit a two-run blast, started UCO's rally. Brooke Zukerman, Ashton Smith and Ditmore then loaded the bases for Schrock who came up with a massive grand slam to give the Bronchos the lead for good. It was the second grand slam in as many games for her. Schrock would also come in to close on the mound and earned her second save of the season.

UCO will finish their season on the road with their closest game being in Bethany, Okla. against the Southern Nazarene Crimson Storm. Their next game will be held in Emporia, Kansas, in what will be a gargantuan matchup with the seventh-ranked Emporia State Hornets. The Hornets are currently second in the conference with a record of 13-1 in the MIAA.



Left: Connecticut guard Shabazz Napier (13) passes around Kentucky center Dakari Johnson (44) to center Amida Brimah (35) as guard James Young (1) helps during the first half of the NCAA Final Four tournament college basketball championship game Monday, April 7, 2014, in Arlington, Texas. (AP Photo/Chris Steppig, pool)



Above: Connecticut guard Terrence Samuel, left, and guard Lasan Kromah hold the championship trophy after beating Kentucky 60-54, at the NCAA Final Four tournament college basketball championship game Monday, April 7, 2014, in Arlington, Texas. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip)