



# the **VISTA**

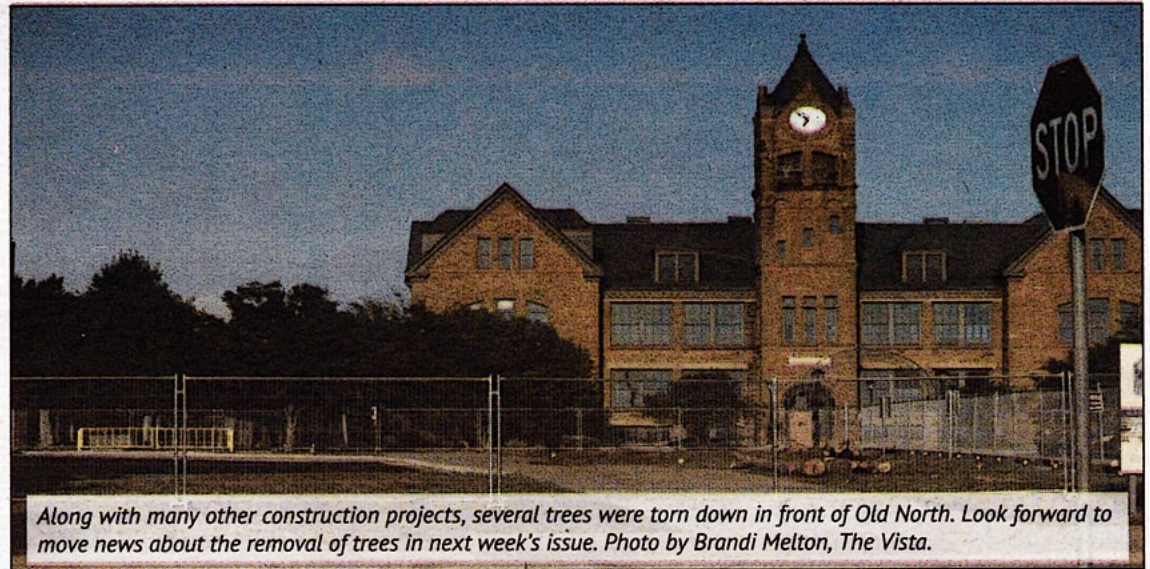
June 10, 2015

**Waste of money  
or work of art?**

Editorial page 6 • Feature page 8

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Along with many other construction projects, several trees were torn down in front of Old North. Look forward to move news about the removal of trees in next week's issue. Photo by Brandi Melton, The Vista.

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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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## ON THE COVER

Featured in The Vista this week, UCO's new statue of a Native American Chief stands watch over the South end of campus on Second Street. The new statue cost the City of Edmond over \$90,000. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



Several sections of the library have been closed off due to construction projects. In this photo the front entrance of the library is taped off. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



Eriech  
Tapia

Contributing Writer

# Big changes to BRock on Campus

The Broncho Rock or BRock went through major changes, as one of the school's main attractions for students to express their creativity, the Student Programming Board has decided make it larger for students to paint.

"Our students are thriving for traditions or ways that they can show their school pride, which is on the upsurge," said Courtney James, associate director of Campus Activities. "We are hoping that this will give them a little different environment to paint on."

The idea came about when James and her students were looking for ways to improve BRock and found the idea from a stress ball,

which was in the shape of a rock on her desk.

"When we were talking about the shape, I brought the stress rock to them and my boss and said what if we do something like this with a flat side that students can write on," James said.

The rock is five feet tall and includes a flat side, so that students can write easier on one side, but students are not limited to just writing on one side.

Students are also allowed to borrow paint from the Student Programming Boards office if they would like to paint BRock.

"I hope now that the way it will be you

can have many different organizations paint it at the same time," James said.

However, the original BRock is not completely gone. The original rock has been covered with four and a half yards of concrete to make the new rock right on top of it.

"I actually like that it is bigger so that students can express their creative views and it can be seen better when you are walking by," said Katrina Loos, Junior at the University of Central Oklahoma.

The new rock was constructed within two days of the construction crew from Blue-Ocean StoneMasters arriving to finishing

the new rock.

"We had the concrete truck out here at about 8:30 this morning and we had our first pour at 9:15 and around 11 a.m. we had four yards of concrete down. We hope to have it completed by tomorrow night," Marcus Jernigan, Professional Installer, said.

Jernigan put a weather proofing stain on the new rock, which will allow it to stand against the weather and elements for coming years. The original BRock was introduced in April of 2014.



Several students from different on-campus organizations give the new BRock its first paint job on Tuesday, June 9. The new BRock, that was finished last week is meant to be more sturdy and easier to paint. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.



Professional contractors Slade Tosh and Marcus Jernigan construct the new BRock on Thursday, June 8. The two contractors finished the rock over the course of two days. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

# Fashionista Line offers realistic Barbies



**Queila Omena**  
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

Thank God now you can find a Barbie that looks exactly like you.

With the demanding media telling you what you should wear, or how you should look, here's a hope for a diverse future-- a future where you are accepted and liked for just being you.

Beauty comes in different colors, sizes, weights and styles. And guess what dolls? Barbie finally gets you.

Fans will be able to choose 23 different Barbies from the Barbie Fashionista Line. The dolls will have different eye colors, hair colors, skin tone, hairstyles and even face shapes. Barbie upgraded and we are thankful for that.

We are all beautiful the way we are, and we shouldn't feel less than that because the media tells you different. Stand up for yourself, and make a change. These Barbies understand that, and promote diversity and acceptance.

For the dolls, there will be

18 eye colors, 23 hair colors, eight different skin tones, 22 hairstyles and 14 facial structures. The unique dolls are expected to arrive in stores on October-- and we cannot wait.

"We're thrilled to see the growing diversity among dolls," said Debbie Sterling, GoldieBox founder.

The brand believes there is nothing wrong with looking like princesses, but girls should be able to build their own castle as well. The brand also notices that girls are discouraged to be in the field of science, technology and engineering. Sterling promotes confidence, strong verbal skills, and equality among girls and boys.

"GoldieBlox is determined to change the equation. We aim to disrupt the pink aisle and inspire the future generation of female engineers," said Sterling.

Another brand that supports diversity is Naturally Perfect Dolls,

launched Angela Sweeting, an Africa-American mom dedicated to teach her daughters the truth about beauty. Sweeting worried that her daughters would dislike their facial features and skin color. With that concern, she was able to create a natural looking doll that represents girls of color.

"Seeing my daughter struggle with her beauty at the age of three was completely terrifying for me," Sweeting said. "I could not fully understand how a child so young could be aware of her outer appearance and even disapprove of it," Sweeting said.

According to her, the Angelina Doll was created to open the eyes of young teens struggling with their narrow view of beauty. She created the doll so kids can see themselves in a doll.

What good news for all of the women out there; let's celebrate diversity and embrace our true beauty.



*The goal of the new Barbie is to convince girls that beauty comes in many different shapes and sizes, and that everyone is beautiful in their own way. Photo provided by Mattel*

*(Below) This photo provided by Mattel shows Barbie dolls wearing high heel and flat shoes. A new line of Barbie dolls has the 56-year-old fashionista rocking flat shoes for the first time. Toy maker Mattel said flats are an effort to accessorize street styles Barbie wears in the new line. (Mattel via AP)*



# When to let go; when friendships go cold



**Alex Brown**

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Editor-in-Chief

You always seem to hear that as you get older, you will outgrow some of your friends. Friendship can be tricky though, because it is just like a relationship.

There will be times when you think back on some fun nights you had or you'll see something and it will remind you of them. Some might say losing a close friend is almost like a breakup.

Whether they did something bad to you or you just don't have the same interests anymore, it's never easy completely letting go of someone. You're either bitter about everything they do with their new friends, or you're genuinely happy for them in whatever they choose to do in life.

I'm not saying you should always be happy for the people that chose to leave your life for whatever reason, I'm just saying that being bitter about it takes a lot of your energy-- and that's energy that you could put towards something else.

If they choose to not be in your life, then choose to use that hostile or sad energy on something productive-- like looking for new friends or reconnecting with current or old friends.

You don't need someone in your life that doesn't have your best interests in mind or take the time to support you-- you deserve to surround yourself with people that care about you.

If they only talk to you when it's convenient for them or when they need something from you-- you don't need them. No matter how funny or nice they are to your face, if they don't make you important in their life then they aren't worth

the energy.

This goes both ways though; if you expect your friend to care about you and what is going on in your life, then you need to care about those particulars in theirs. Like when you're in a romantic relationship, friendship is a two-way street.

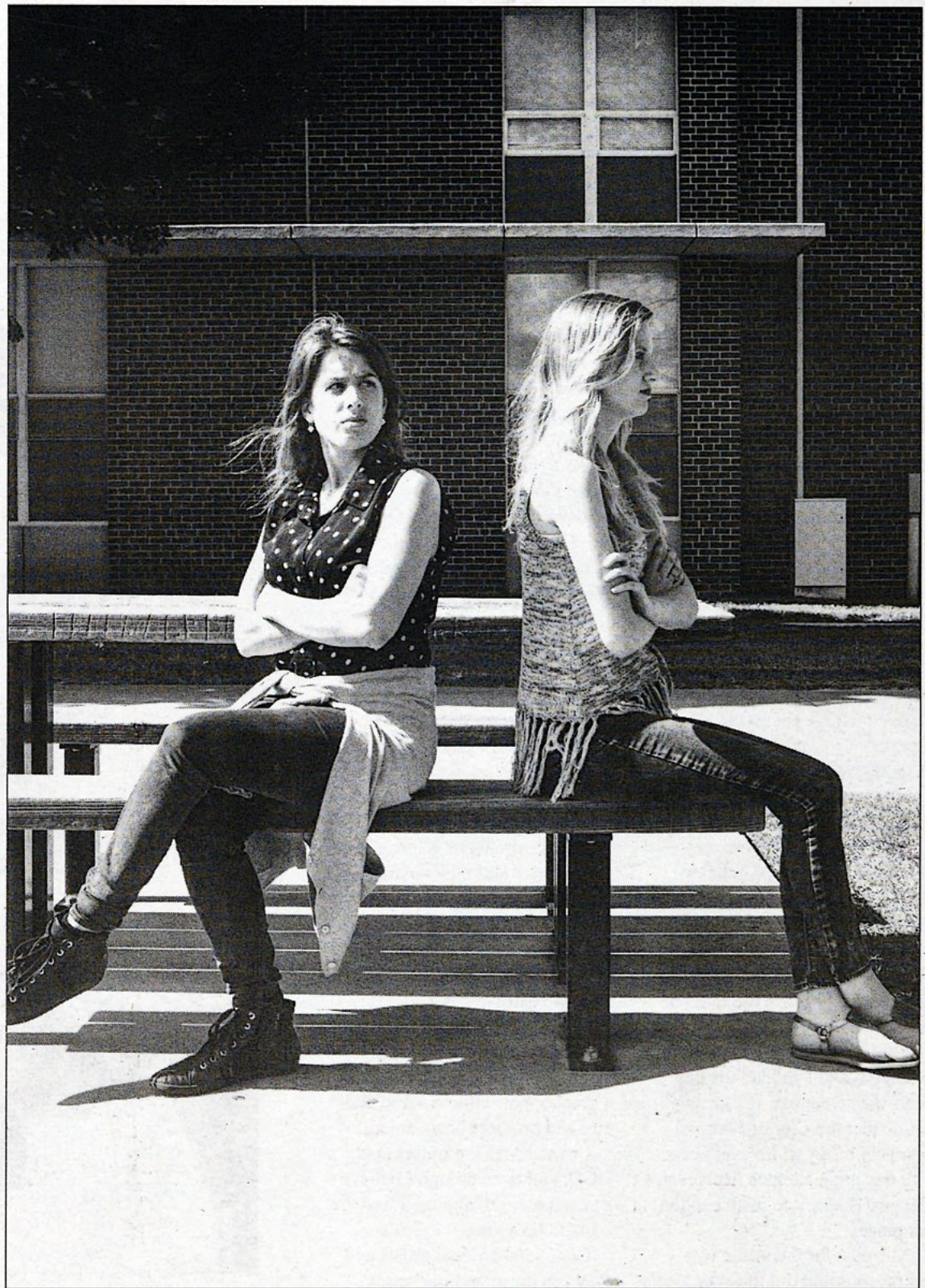
It sounds cliché, but you want someone who would always be loyal to you, and that means you need to be loyal to them.

Whether that means having their back while some gossip is going around your group of friends, or it means taking their side when they are fighting with their significant other, you have to always be reliable-- and vice versa.

You also want to surround yourself with people that are like-minded. If your friends always go out and party, it's going to be hard to keep up when you're at home studying.

Choose friends that will take a night in to study with you over going out and partying all the time, because this shows that they have priorities. People in our age group are making some choices that will effect them for the rest of their lives, and you want to surround yourself with friends that make choices that coincide with your own.

Choose your close friends by their compassion, loyalty and priorities, and don't sweat losing friends that don't have anything beneficial to offer you. Friendship is a two-way street and if only one person is trying the other will stray out of your life eventually, and you need to learn that is OK.



Everyone needs friends, but it's important to know when to let go of negative people in your life. Cut off all ties with toxic relationships before it's too late. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

# Price of new monument upsets students



Queila Omena  
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

Some monuments are there to make us proud, but “Touch the Clouds” did the opposite for students at the University of Central Oklahoma.

It’s beautiful, but pricy.

The statue illustrates a chief of the Minneconjou Teton Lakota known for his bravery, physical strength and diplomacy.

The art piece is very thoughtful, don’t get me wrong, but it does little for locals and students.

Even though the funds came from the City of Edmond, and not from the school, the overall costs reached over \$90,000. Locals and students drop their jaws as they realize the cost of production, transportation and installation.

What? I can’t believe the statue cost \$90,000-- there’s no way.

The extraordinary costs of the new Indian statue located at the university made me sad, and here’s why.

I encourage art in the city of Edmond, and I’m glad the city feels the same way. It’s great to know that the City of Edmond wants to bring art here and beautify this great campus. However, the cost doesn’t do justice to the art piece.

The cost for the statue was outrageous and did little for locals and students. Not the best idea.

Instead of wasting so much

money, why not invest in programs for art students?

Why not encourage local artists to build beautiful art pieces around the city? They would be motivated to create something beautiful for their city and their campus, and that would make us proud.

I’m sure students and local artists would love to promote their work while being supported by the city.

I speak for myself alone, but the statue really brought concerns to me. Most students felt the same way when I asked about the new monument: waste of money.

Local artists want to promote their works, and they are relying on the city to help them as well. Why not support them instead of wasting money on a statue that does nothing for them, but remind us how costly it was?

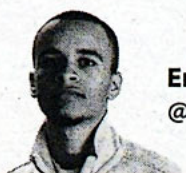
The city of Edmond could use funding to help and invest in local art. Artists would appreciate such a great opportunity to serve their city and promote beautiful art.

I’m sad with the Indian statue at UCO, and even though I believe it represents Oklahoma, I find the costs to be a joke.

Give \$500 to local artists and they can do something better, believe me.



The new statue of a Native American chief stands on the South side of campus overlooking Second Street. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.



Erick Perry  
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Contributing Writer

# Pay Attention; SaveMoney

Chicago's music collective, Savemoney, has outdone any competition they may have had throughout the past few weeks with the release of free albums and eccentric videos, as well as a major label signing.

"Surf" by Donnie Trumpet and The Social Experiment was published to iTunes Thursday night, free of charge to anyone wanting to download, sparking a trending topic worldwide. The project is the first by SoX and Savemoney member Chance The Rapper since his breakthrough, *Acid Rap*.

Chance The Rapper penetrated mainstream music platforms in the summer of 2013, following the release of his sophomore mix tape, *Acid Rap*. The unusual melodies hailed Chance as one of the most popularized, unsigned artists of the past decade.

This was a position the rapper intended to keep, refusing every major label contract offered and continuing to release free music—mostly via SoundCloud. One thing that would not remain the same, however, was Chance's performing as a solo act.

The rapper has now officially joined forces with Nico

Segal, or Donnie Trumpet, Peter Cottontale, Nate Fox, and Greg Landfair, or Stix to form The Social Experiment. All of the group worked on *Acid Rap*, but have now chosen to become an official band, mostly headlined by Segal, the trumpet player and lead creative, along with Chance.

Just prior to the release of "Surf," fellow Savemoney member Towkio presented his video for his Kaytranda-produced single "Reflection." The video sheds light on dangers faced by today's youth like drug abuse and rape culture.

Following the April release of his debut, full-length project, ".wav Theory," Towkio has catapulted himself into the mix with breakout members of Savemoney, Chance The Rapper and Vic Mensa. The EDM, or Electronic Dance Music, infused hip-hop brings a carefree dance feel back into music.

"I just had a vision to blend the two cultures. It's where everything's going right now," Towkio told *Red Eye Chicago*, referring to his signature sound.

Savemoney front-runner, Vic Mensa, made headlines in April after confirming the rumors of his signing to record

label Roc Nation and Jay-Z, who took Twitter to give a subtle announcement.

Last year, Mensa was selected to appear, alongside fellow Savemoney member Chance The Rapper, on the 2014 *XXL Freshman List*. The annual magazine cover features 10 of the upcoming year's most promising rappers.

"Ultimately, I think what it can do is that it can add to my momentum and what I can do. But it's not making noise of breaking me. At the end and the beginning, it's about the records, it's about the music that I make, it's about the content that I produce," Mensa told *XXL Magazine*.

He would continue to produce the music he spoke of, with his hit singles "Down On My Luck" and "U Mad," as well as, impressive features like on *Wolves* by the fellow Chicagoan, Kanye West.

Mensa's expected debut Roc Nation project, *Traffic*, has yet to have a release date unveiled.

More music from Savemoney collectives can be found at [https:// soundcloud.com/savemoney](https://soundcloud.com/savemoney).



SaveMoney, from Chicago, has released several free albums and music videos over the last few weeks. The SaveMoney crew features several up and coming rap artists such as Chance the Rapper and Tokyo Shawn. Photo provided by [Redbullsoundselect.com](http://Redbullsoundselect.com)

## “Touch the Clouds” brought to UCO

Leah Singer

Contributing Writer

A gigantic Indian statue called, “Touch the Clouds,” has recently been installed in Edmond. Standing at 18 feet tall, the statue has—without a doubt—not gone unnoticed by many Edmond residents.

The statue, located off of Second Street in front of the University of Central Oklahoma’s campus, came from the Astrodome in Houston, Texas. The City of Edmond purchased the statue for \$50,000, following several requests from Edmond residents that the city should purchase it.

The statue, like most public art, has caused mixed reactions. While many residents appreciate what is now the town’s biggest work of art, many of our taxpayers are not so thrilled about the purchase.

“I personally feel that the statue was a big waste of money. And if the city must spend \$50,000 on artwork, why not

have that money go to support our own local artists here?” stated recent UCO graduate, Josh Rayes.

The funds for the statue came from “The City Council Contingency Fund,” which allots for \$100,000 to be spent every year for any special project that the city wants to pursue, said city spokesman, Casey Moore.

In addition to the \$50,000 spent on the purchase of the statue, it cost an additional \$40,000 for transporting and installing, as well as a fee for restoration of the statue planned to take place sometime in the fall.

Although the artwork might have been pricey, Moore said that it greatly added to the beauty of the city and that the feedback, for the most part, has been positive.

“We feel like it’s important for the quality of life here in Edmond to have lots of art,” he added.

*Photo by name, The Vista. The new statue “Touch the Clouds” statue features Chief of the Minneconjou Teton Lakota tribe. It stands at the South end of campus watching over Second Street. Photo by Brandi Melton, The Vista.*





# South Carolina Senator for President?



Jake Stacy

Contributing Writer

Lindsey Graham is running for president because, he said “the world is falling apart.”

And if Americans are looking for a Commander-in-chief, the South Carolina Senator believes he’s it.

Graham, who told CNN last month he’s been “more right than wrong on foreign policy,” announced his presidential bid in his hometown of Central, South Carolina, Monday. He hopes that his track record on foreign affairs will give him the advantage in a wide-open primary fight.

“I want to be President to defeat the enemies trying to kill us, not just penalize them or criticize them or contain them, but defeat them,” he said at his kickoff event.

The timing could not be better for Graham, a national security hawk announcing his candidacy on the day a key provision of the Patriot Act expired in large part because of Sen. Rand Paul, another Republican running for president. He becomes the ninth Republican to enter the field.

What happens now that the Patriot Act provisions have expired?

Paul and Graham are foils in their party and represent an internal struggle for the soul of the GOP.

But Graham still barely registers in the polls. A Quinnipiac University poll, out last week gave him 1 percent, and he did just 1 percent better than that in an April CNN/ORC nationwide poll.

He’s banking his long-shot bid on his deep well of experience and long history of speaking out on global threats. Experience that he believes is both unmatched and invaluable in a race where foreign policy is certain to take center stage.

Of all the nearly two dozen Republicans running or contemplating a run, most are governors with relatively little experience in foreign affairs or young senators with a much shorter track record.

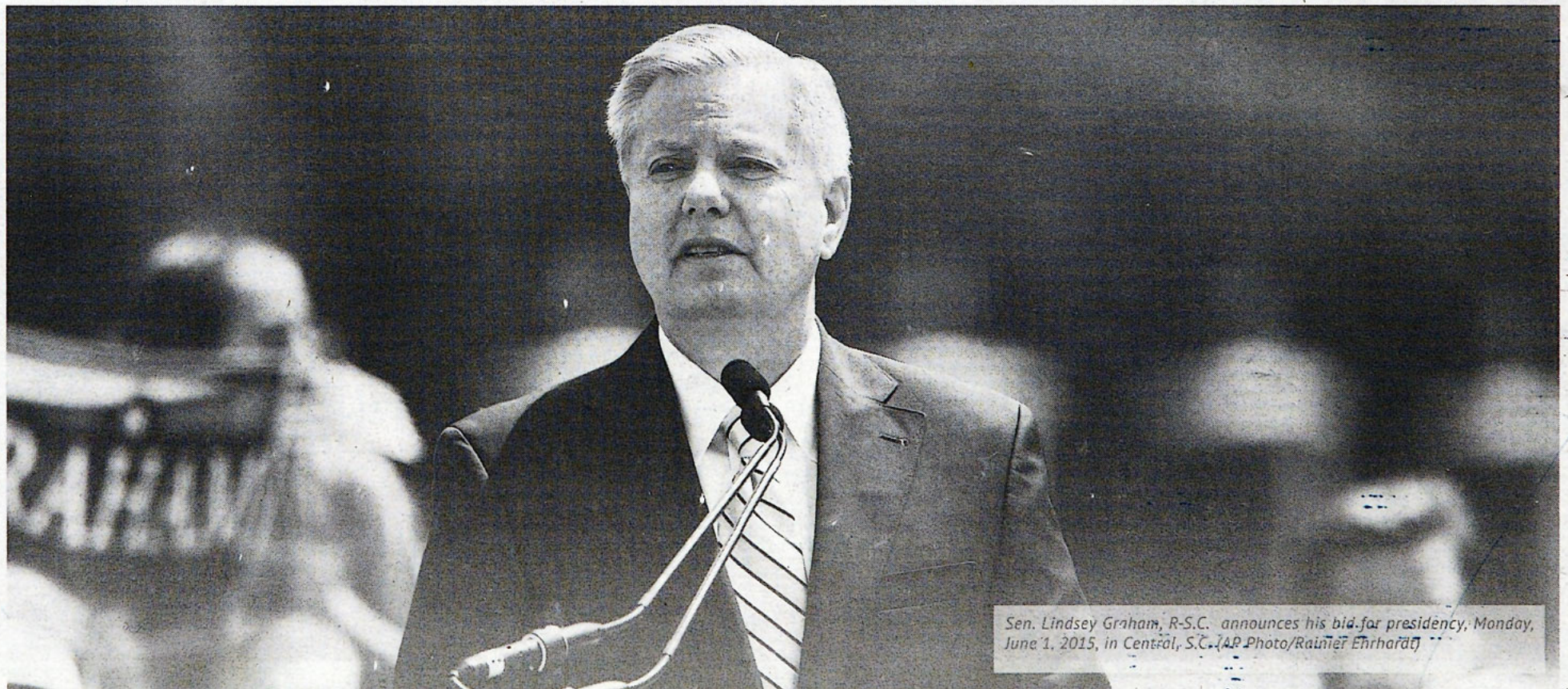
Graham is hoping that expertise, peppered with jokes delivered in an easy Southern drawl, will be enough to help him overcome conservative skeptics wary of his willingness to work with Democrats and his moderate position on immigration reform.

A close friend of John McCain -- who often jokes that Graham is his “illegitimate son” -- the South Carolinian is no stranger to presidential politics, having campaigned for the Arizona Republican during both of his presidential runs.

He’s likely to have the favor returned; three of Graham’s top campaign staffers are veterans of McCain’s 2008 presidential campaign, and he’s been talking up Graham’s prospects for months.

But for all of McCain’s chatter, Graham has yet to break out in the pack.

His advisers acknowledge their first and most urgent task is to introduce the candidate to voters.



Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. announces his bid for presidency, Monday, June 1, 2015, in Central, S.C. (AP Photo/Rainier Ehrhardt)

# “Your Twitter page is your website”



**Queila Omena**  
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

Twitter has become well known, and it has been used by millions of people, but what stands out about it?

Since 2009, Twitter grew tremendously and connected many people around the globe. Twitter has now 288 million monthly active users, where 33 languages are supported, according to the data.

This extraordinary app can generate job opportunities, increase your network, and even improve your writing skills.

Some people might argue that Twitter cannot help you professionally, but Dr. Terry Clark, professor of Twitter for Journalists at the University of Central Oklahoma, strongly disagrees. According to him, Twitter is not only beneficial for the work field but it gives an insight of people.

The two-week course at UCO made an impact on students' lives, with a series of speakers active on the social media. Most of them had their lives changed because of the great app.

“Your Twitter page is your website. There is no business without twitter. If you can know it, you should know it because the resources are available.” said Mike Sherman, sports editor of The Oklahoman and NewsOK.

“Twitter isn't a positive or a negative. Networking is how you really make your connections,” he added.

Sherman reminds students that Twitter can be used with authenticity and professionalism. He said companies might not hire an employee if they don't have a twitter account. It sounds crazy, but it's true.

Robert Crissinger, one of the top PR professionals at Bumpshoot, said Twitter can be used 80 percent personal and 20 percent business. Crissinger is a graduate from UCO, and had the great opportunity to gain knowledge from Dr. Clark many years ago.

“Twitter is only effective if you are listening and broadcasting. Twitter also helps you amplify your voice.” said Crissinger.

Twitter forces users to be concise with their writing, improve their writing skills, and perfect their thoughts. It can also be a life resume. It can be used to reach people in your professional area, as well as maintaining good relationships with inspiring people.

Even though Twitter has many benefits, users need to be aware that they are in the public eye. Don't use twitter if you are out drinking with your friends. Put your phone away, and save that great quote for the next day.

Use Twitter as a tool to make you better person. Know your limits, but don't be afraid to try new things.

Be you, and be fierce, but don't publish if you cannot show it to your boss.

Remember you are also human. You will make mistakes. Don't hesitate to delete something in your Twitter account, be transparent and honest-- have fun.



Twitter is a great way to get your voice out there, and depending on how you use it, it can be very helpful or detrimental to your success. Photo by Ryan Naeve, the Vista.

# Work Shop for work study funds



**Eriech Tapia**

Contributing Writer

Laying the groundwork for work-study students, the Student Financial Services is hosting a one-day conference to review federal work-study programs on campus; also telling departments to take advantage of the \$400,000 – \$450,000 from the federal government.

“This workshop is for on-campus and off-campus timekeepers and supervisors, making sure that they are up to date on what the federal work study monitoring programs require and how to request federal work study funding,” said Carol Dean, assistant director of Federal Work-Study & Scholarships.

The workshop is designed to help each department on the campus review what forms will need to be filled out to receive grant money that the University of Central Oklahoma receives each year.

“These forms are very competitive for the dollars that we receive for each year,” Damita Kennedy, Senior Budget Analyst, said. The workshop will guide timekeepers on how to make sure that they are not giving out more than their allocated amount of hours, which causes the department to pay the students wages out of their budget.

“They have to monitor the funding of the student awards, so that the students don’t work over the amount of time they are given or they would have to pay for the

extra amount of time,” Dean said. Every dollar that the university pays to student workers, whether work study students or other on campus jobs, 75 percent of that comes from the federal government and 25 percent from the university.

If the department gives a student more than their allocated hours, then the department has to pay the entire amount, which has to come out of the department’s budget.

“It’s a hard hit for some budgets to have to pay that, because some budgets can’t really afford that and some budgets really do depend on these,” Kennedy said.

The Library and Financial Aid are some of the biggest employers on campus and making sure that they stay within their budget is something that requires them to watch everybody’s hours.

“This workshop kind of helps convey this information and the process that everybody has to go through, because the process always seems to be a bit overwhelming since the department has to deal with this,” Dean said.

The workshop will be held June 29 in Room 320B in the Nigh Center from 9-11 a.m. and another session from 2-4 p.m. for all timekeepers, student-employee supervisors and department tuition waiver managers.

For more information, contact Dean at 405-974-3940 or [cdean@uco.edu](mailto:cdean@uco.edu).



*The workshop will guide timekeepers on how to make good money choices. 75 percent of money paid to student workers comes from the federal government and 25 percent comes from the University. Photo Naeve, the Vista. s*

# UCO's First Outdoor Activities at Arcadia



Katie Towler

Contributing Writer

# ADVENTURES

The University of Central Oklahoma's Outdoor Adventure Recreation Center, at Arcadia Lake is accepting registrations for their Adventure Camp, starting July 28, for children ages 9-13.

Registration is \$125 per child before July 1 and is \$150 after. Families can choose morning or afternoon sessions.

Morning sessions are 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., check in will start at 8:30 a.m. Afternoon sessions are from 1-4 p.m., check-in will start at 12:30 p.m.

A free outdoor Adventure Camp bag and water bottle will be given to each camper.

Becka Johnson, adventure experience coordinator, said the camp has been in the works for a couple years and this is the first time everything came together to make it happen.

"We wanted to make kids aware of activities outside of their homes and not on their computer screens," said Johnson. "This camp creates more hands-on activities for the children to do, outside of the regular classroom setting."

Campers will participate in paddle sports, land games, Project WILD, camping skills and spend a day at the Adventure Experience Rope Course.

In paddle sports campers will practice canoeing, kayaking and stand up water boarding along with instruction from an American Canoe Association certified kayak instructor.

In land games children will play ultimate Frisbee, rubber chicken, volleyball and water balloon war.

Project WILD educates children on Oklahoma wildlife with hands-on activities. Students learn about different

types of animal tracks, and nature specific to Oklahoma.

Campers will learn how to properly set up their camp site, how to safely start a campfire, learn tips and tricks for hiking, while following the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics core principles.

Featuring a zip line, the rope course will show campers how to develop team and leadership skills through team and individual activities.

The Adventure Camp is limited to 50 students per session and registrations are offered on a first come first serve basis.

For more information or to register contact Becka Johnson at 405-974-3143 or [rjohnson59@uco.edu](mailto:rjohnson59@uco.edu).

The final day to register is July 26.



Children who enroll are encouraged to come out and spend time outside away from electronic screens. Photo provided by Creative Outlet.



Attendees of Adventure Camp will have an opportunity to go kayaking, hiking, play Frisbee golf and have a water balloon war. Photo provided by Creative Outlet.



## Losing Love locks: relying on a new Twitter tradition



Queila Omena  
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

For years, couples visiting the city of love have written their names on locks, and threw the keys into the Seine river as a sign of their love that is supposed to last forever. However, some things don't last forever, but I'm sure visitors will find another way to express their love.

Paris dismantled padlocks at the Pont des Arts, aka Love Locks Bridge, due to the heavy weight that caused the bridge to collapse last year. The city took action, and got rid of the locks on June 1, 2015.

If you are wondering what will happen to your relationship, do not assume you will have to break up. You don't have to end your relationship because they took the locks down. It's sad, but the city is taking measurements of safety and we should appreciate their concern.

It's estimated that that the padlocks weighed over 45 tons. Roughly a million locks have been placed on the bridge since 2008 causing a safety hazard to tourists and citizens.

In 2014, the Paris Mayor Office publicly encouraged visitors to take "selfies" at the bridge instead of leaving love padlocks. They even launched a campaign, "Love Without Locks" where they warn the risk of more panels collapsing.

But unfortunately, the campaign wasn't a catch.

"Our bridges can no longer withstand your gesture of love. Set them free by declaring your love with #lovewithoutlocks," said the Paris Mayor Office.

The city council said that the padlocks cause "long-term heritage degradation and a risk for visitors' security."

But don't get too sad. The city plans to replace the padlocks by paintings over this summer, experimenting alternative materials for the bridge where locks cannot be attached.

"We want Paris to remain the capital of love and romance," said Bruno Julliard, Paris' deputy mayor. He added that the city would encourage visitors to express their love in other ways.

We hope this is the beginning of new love signs at the city of love.

*Paris city employees remove a railing loaded with locks on the famed Pont des Arts bridge in Paris, Monday June 1, 2015. Lovers in Paris, beware: City authorities are taking down thousands of padlocks affixed to the famed Pont des Arts bridge. The city council says the locks, usually hung by couples to express eternal love, cause long-term damage to Paris heritage and sometimes pose a security risk. Last summer a chunk of fencing fell off under their weight. (AP Photo/Remy de la Mauviniere)*

# Slip N' Slide through the city comes to OKC



Jeffrey Gonzales

Contributing Writer

Slide the City, an organization that hosts slip and slide parties around the world, is bringing their 1,000 foot water slide to Oklahoma City on June 25.

The event, which will be held at North Shartel and NW Eighth Street, offers many activities for families to get out in the sun.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the Oklahoma City chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, which helps people with cystic fibrosis live better lives through funding research and promoting individual treatment.

Slide the city will also be selling hats and t-shirts to further support the foundation.

"It's ridiculous how much fun you have, even when you aren't on the slide," said Slide the City Pensacola attendee Kyle Christian.

"They did a good job of not making it feel like a water park where you feel like you are just standing in line all day."

While at the event, participants can play with giant beach balls, throw water balloons, and dance to music. Many activities are designed to encourage fun while waiting in line or walking back after a slide.

They offer three packages; their entry package is the triple slider. This package will include three slides during the session chosen, a tube, mouth guard, temporary tattoo and a drawstring bag.

Registration is \$35 before June 27 and \$40 after, until the day of the event, which it will then be \$45.

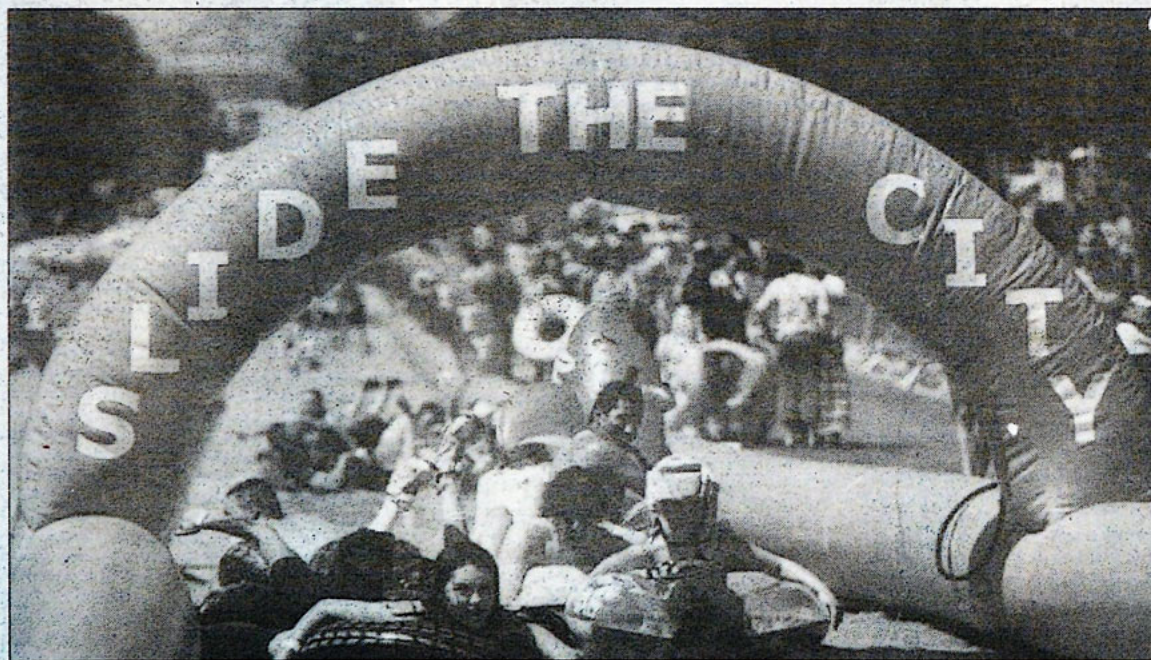
The sessions offered are the Morning Wave from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the Afternoon Wave from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Riding a bike or taking public transport is recommended to avoid what could be a substantial walk.

Volunteering is encouraged to help the local foundation that is being supported. But even the volunteers get to ride the slide and join the festivities, said Christian.

Sliding is open to anyone over the age of five and at least 46 inches tall. Although it doesn't start until 10 a.m., arriving early is encouraged in case of long lines.

Participants also don't need to worry about a little rain, it will just add to the fun.

For more on how to register or to get involved, visit [www.slidethecity.com](http://www.slidethecity.com).



Several attendees slide through the 1,000 foot waterslide. Slide the City will be in Oklahoma City on June 25. Photo provided by Slide the City.



(Above) June 25 Slide the City will bring their 1,000 foot waterslide to downtown Oklahoma City. Registration is \$35 and a portion of the proceeds will go to the Oklahoma City chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Photo provided by Slide the City.

# UCO graduates live minimalistic lifestyle



Cooper Billington  
@twitterhandle

Staff Photographer



All photos by Cooper Billington, *The Vista*.



Our desire is to manifest our own destiny and broaden our horizons. By DJ Labay and Liz Warren.



UCO graduates Dj labey, psychology degree minor in illustration, and Liz Warren, graphic designs degree, were inspired when on a trip in Hawaii. When living in a boathouse they realized how little importance having

extra things in their life was. They found that with just a suitcase full of necessities they could live happily and comfortably.

Now they plan on launching a Gofundme project so they can make this new dream a reality.

They plan on leaving at the end of this month on and living off the grid as long as possible.

They also want to do this to set an example to others and show everyone that it is possible to live this way. They will be posting

pictures to keep everyone updated on their blog page. Selling their art and online designing webpages will be their way of income along with helpful donations from readers like you.

If you would like to stay up-

dated with their experience, you can check out their blog page at [Wearecollective.wordpress.com](http://Wearecollective.wordpress.com). If you would like to donate to their cause go to their Go Fund me that will be up soon.

The background features a collage of social media-related icons and shapes. A prominent dark blue button with rounded corners contains the text 'social me' in a light, sans-serif font. Surrounding this are various speech bubble and arrow icons in blue and green outlines. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, typical of digital marketing materials.

social me

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