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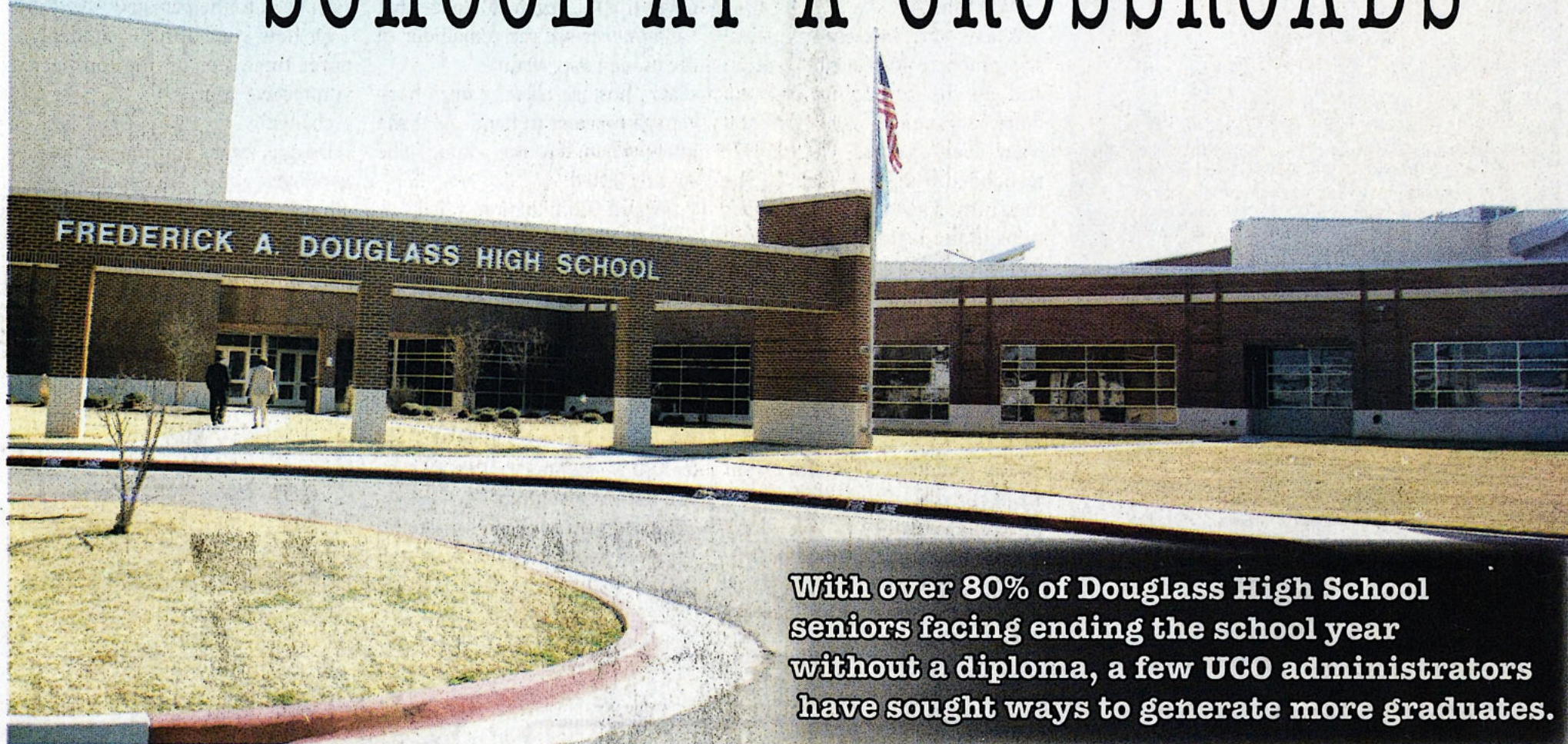


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SCHOOL AT A CROSSROADS



With over 80% of Douglass High School seniors facing ending the school year without a diploma, a few UCO administrators have sought ways to generate more graduates.

Photo by Michael McMillan, The Vista

• LINDSEY RICKARDS, Staff Writer •

UCO administrative leaders met with Douglas High School administrative leaders Jan. 8, 2013 to determine if UCO could assist in matters of supporting the school's students.

Dean James Machell of UCO's College of Education and Professional Studies, Dr. Myron Pope Vice President for Enrollment Management, and Dr. Jay Corwin Associate Vice President, Academic Advisement Center were the three who represented UCO at the meeting.

"It was clear last year that there were many problems at the school," said Machell.

A federal investigation by the U.S. Department of Education took place due to the complaints about the conduct of Brian Staples, the principal of the school at that time. The investigation was conducted for things like grade tampering, falsification of grades and changing academic records.

"The investigation revealed that prob-

lems existed, but not to the extent that was leveled against the principal at the time," said Machell.

According to Machell, over the last six months, Staples chose to resign because of great pressure received from the community and was replaced by an interim leadership team.

Machell said that at the time of Staples' resignation, OKC Public School District asked the State Department to conduct a curriculum audit, which found 87 of the 107 seniors at Douglas were not on track to meet the curricular

requirements to graduate.

"The results came out and concerns resulted," said Pope.

"It was a horrible set of circumstances that led to this occurring," said Machell.

Machell and Pope each had the desire to help and soon learned that each had reached out in order to do so.

Through reaching out to Superintendent Karl Springer, the two were able to get in touch with the transition leadership team and administrators Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Davis and Mr. Watson.

"We were amazed to learn of all of the

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HOGWARTS AT HOME

Forget England, wizardry lives in Edmond, as a group of UCO students assemble their own version of Dumbledore's Army.



From left: Jessica Webb, Adrian Rogers and Mark St. John, all officers in the newly created UCO Harry Potter Club, pose for a photo in front of Old North. Photo by Josh Wallace, The Vista

• JOSH WALLACE, Staff Writer •

Attention Harry Potter fans, the Rowling's School of Witchcraft and Wizardry Student Organization (RSOWWSO) has arrived on UCO's campus this semester. The organization was put together by Adrian Rogers, who serves as Headmaster, and is for anyone with a love of Harry Potter, be it the series of books or movies, the club is open to all of those who wish to join.

Rogers describes how RSOWWSO transitioned from a thought during a movie night to the organization coming to fruition, adding, "I started this organization because I didn't want to play the Quidditch sport, so I had an idea how about starting a similar group with the Hogwarts school as its main focus excluding the Quidditch activity to differentiate both groups. My other officers were hand selected by me to help make this organization a reality and if it wasn't because of their hard work and

dedication so far we wouldn't be an organization."

The first meeting was Jan 29, and Rogers described the turnout as being higher than expected, with around 30 people showing, exceeding the Headmaster's initial expectations of around 15 for the first gathering. So far around 50 people have signed up for the group's mailing list, and Rogers expects to see more students showing up to upcoming meetings.

One of the club's current members, Shawna Stiles, a Public Relations major, had seen posters for the organization around campus and was interested, but wasn't sure what would be in store for her, adding, "I had no clue what to expect! But it is better than I could have imagined. I was nervous I wouldn't know enough about the series but they

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Dr. Diane Rudebock considers the art of the maze a personal "calling"

BROOKS NICKELL, STAFF WRITER

Dr. Diane Rudebock discusses the layout of UCO's labyrinth project outside the future site in Heartland Plaza, Feb. 8, 2013. Photo by Alike Dyer, The Vista

Two pressed wooden circles decorate the windowsill of Dr. Diane Rudebock's office. She picks one up and with her finger, she traces the shallow grooves that snake through the surface making a symmetrical and intricate path leading to the center.

"I believe it's a calling," she said.

Rudebock's fascination with labyrinths, a pattern with a single winding path leading to a predetermined destination, began on Dec. 31, New Year's Eve of 2000.

"There was something that happened for me personally on that labyrinth walk.

Rudebock was finishing up her dissertation at Oklahoma State University, hoping to graduate in a few months, while working full time.

She had never heard of a labyrinth or seen one before and said the idea of mazes and being confused didn't intrigue her. But, at midnight she set out on the third of a mile walk that would

be the first of many labyrinth journeys.

"I felt like it was the first time I had a chance to stop and be alone with my thoughts," Rudebock said. "I felt calm and hopeful, reassured and excited, but most of all intrigued."

After that experience she began walking a canvas labyrinth every month with a community group.

Rudebock said the more she walked the labyrinth, the more beneficial it was, giving her an avenue into a meditative place inside.

"I started to find clarity and calmness. Ideas would come forward. And, sometimes I would just think about my life journey."

She scoots closer to the office desk littered with books containing the histories of various labyrinths and locations where they can be found. One of these shows two simple labyrinths. The first is made from river stone and the other

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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.

Address letters to:

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

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Editorial

Here's A Tip

Sunday night, I was lucky enough to grab a late dinner at IHOP with my buddy Josh. After finishing our food, and conversing over our coffee about the state of the union, we got our checks. Josh paid with his bank card, and I with cash.

When our waitress returned, she grabbed Josh's card/receipt, and as she turned to pick up mine, she asked me, "Do you want your change?" I promptly responded with, "Yes, please". She then turned away and retraced her steps to the register. Now, I think that my change was somewhere around the \$3.75 range; not a bad tip for a post-10 pm meal. Josh and I continued talking, and our heavy-footed host reappeared with his receipt, and my original \$15.

"You said you didn't want change, right?" she gruffed.

"Yeah, actually, if you don't mind, I'd like it." I gruffed back.

Once again, retracing towards

the cash register ensued.

At this point, Josh and I are chuckling about the incident, and I give myself a well-deserved moniker of "a real-life Mr. Pink" (if this falls on deaf ears, think of your stingy North Dakotan uncle who never tips). I began to realize that I may never see the remainder of my money ever again.

My hostage-taker came back yet again, water in hand. As if she knew what she was doing, she sweetly asked,

"Would you like more water?"

"How about more coffee?"

I could have sworn I heard her offer to pull our car around; regardless, I just smiled and said that I was fine. Seemingly content with my surrender of the remainder of my bill, she fled the scene. We decided to cut our losses and leave my money to the wolves, and left the restaurant.

I leave you with this thought. We're all aware that our wait staff live off of tips, whether it's IHOP

or Old Chicago. What we don't always think about is the manner in which they garnish these tips.

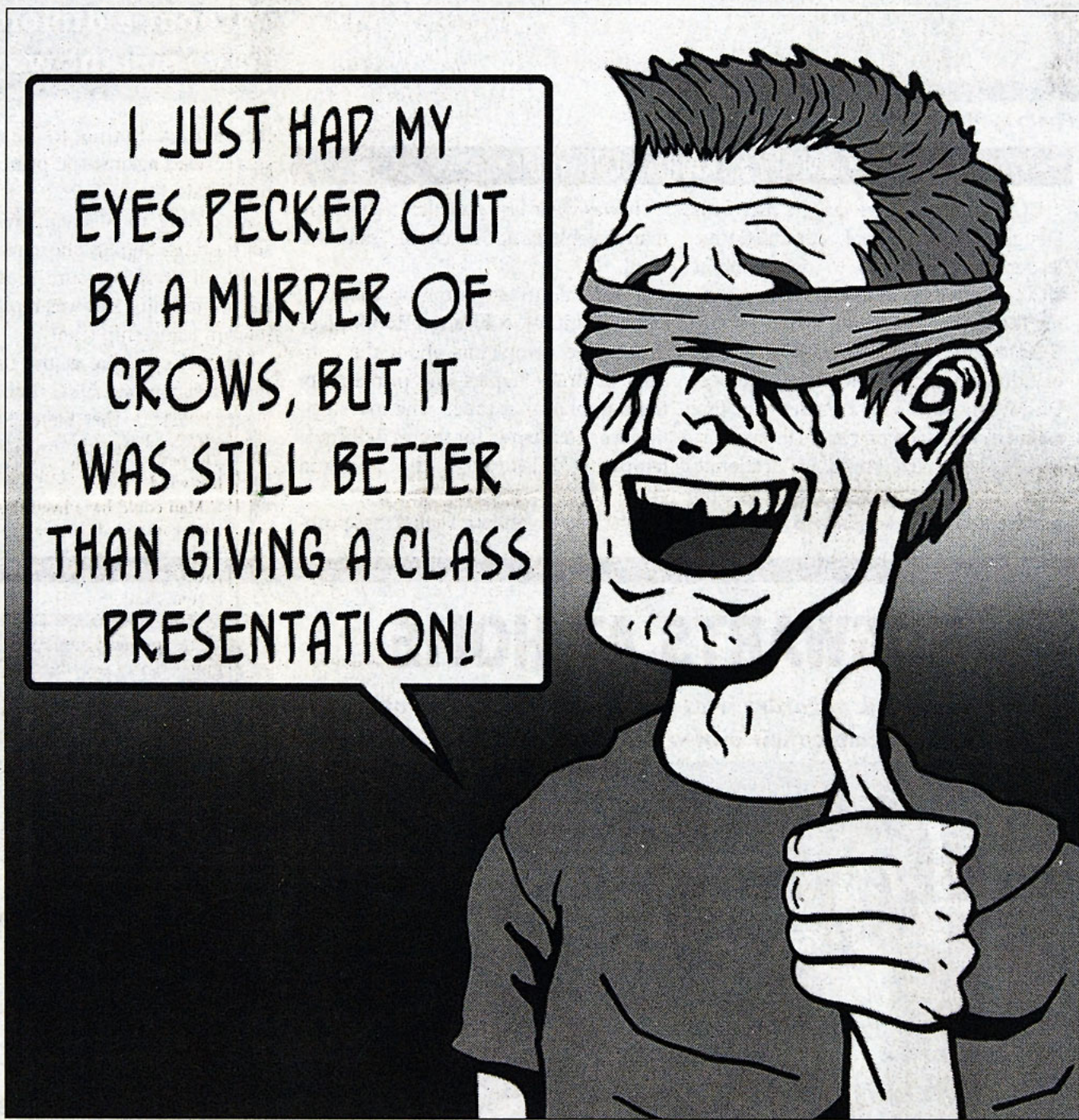
Think about this; how many times have you seen a waiter bring back the credit cards first, but then take another trip to bring the cash back to the patrons?

Or how your drink is suddenly never three sips off the top once you receive your change?

Doggie bags, fortune cookies, goodbyes, and handshakes are all around you the moment your mind is anywhere near calculating a leave-behind for your waiter. It's high-stakes poker the moment you reach for your coat, and these people are in it to win it.



Zac Haigh
Contributing Writer



Cartoon by Evan Oldham

CAMPUS QUOTES

Who do you want to be the next pope?

DESIRAE DAVIS

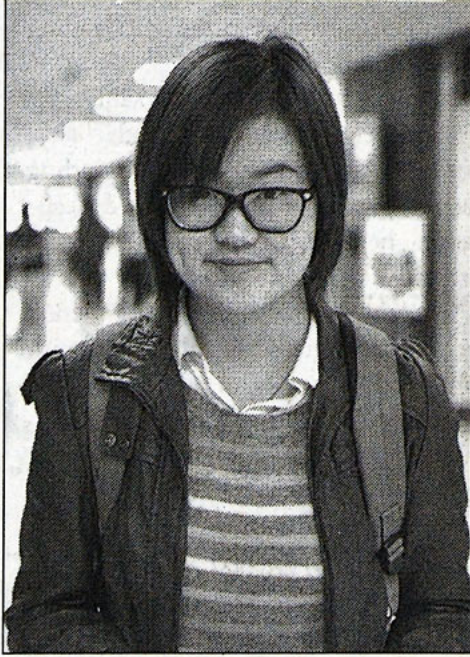
Fashion Marketing - Junior



"I don't know. I'm not a Catholic. It doesn't really affect me."

MEITY KUMALASARI

Nutrition - Junior



"I don't know who will be. He must be a good leader and a good person."

CALEB GLENNIE

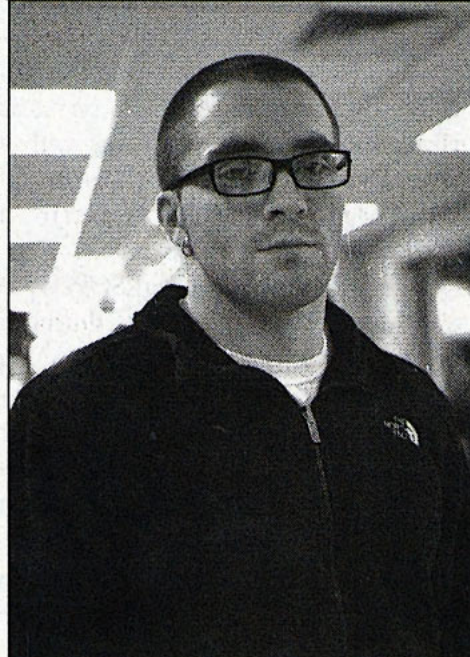
Interpersonal Communication - Senior



"I have no idea. I guess whoever god wants to be the next pope, he will be."

ZENICK FERRELL

Sociology - Junior



"It's anyone. I'm not really a Catholic. Just put in someone who can succeed him well."

Skyrim gamers looking forward to new expansions

• Josh Lewis, Contributing Writer •

The wait is nearly over for Playstation 3 players awaiting new content for the role-playing video game Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim.

The long-delayed expansions Dragonborn, Hearthfire and Dawnguard will be released through the online Playstation Store this month. Each downloadable add-on will be released weekly, starting with Dragonborn on Feb. 12.

Dragonborn and Dawnguard will cost \$20 and Hearthfire \$5, though each expansion will be at half price the first week it is available on the Playstation Store.

Skyrim publisher Bethesda Softworks released the first downloadable expansion Dawnguard last June for Microsoft's X-Box 360, but stated on its website that performance issues would delay or even prevent the content being made available for the Sony console.

In a post explaining the PS3 expansion issues, Bethesda Global Community Lead said,

"This is not a problem we're positive we can solve, but we are working together with Sony to try to bring you this content."

The problem seems to be solved, with Bethesda president Pete Hines announcing the Skyrim DLC releases dates in January on his Twitter account.

Skyrim was released on Nov. 11, 2011, but many Playstation users reported a host of problems with the game, including system crashing, lag time during game play, and glitches. Bethesda has created various patches to fix these problems in the months following its release.

The expansion provides additional game play and new content for players, including quests, weapons and armor, enemies and the ability to build a virtual home in the game.

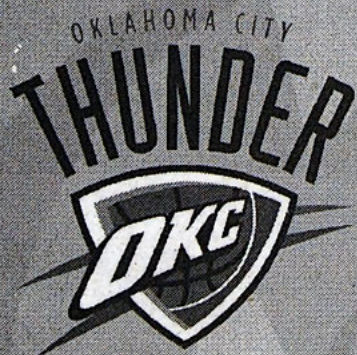
More information about Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim can be found at www.elderscrolls.com/skyrim.

Miss Black UCO crowned



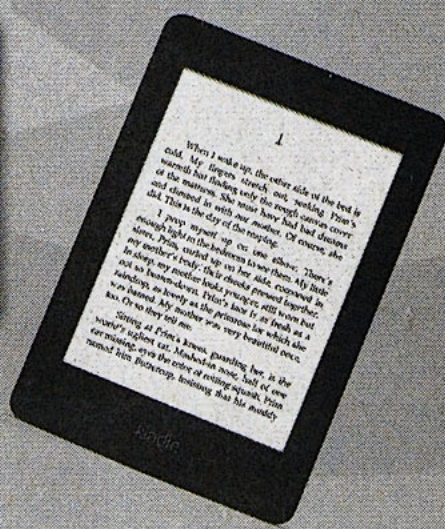
Left to Right: Miari Che Douglas, second runner-up, Jeanee Canada, Miss Black UCO 2013, Andrea Tharpe, first runner-up. Photo provided

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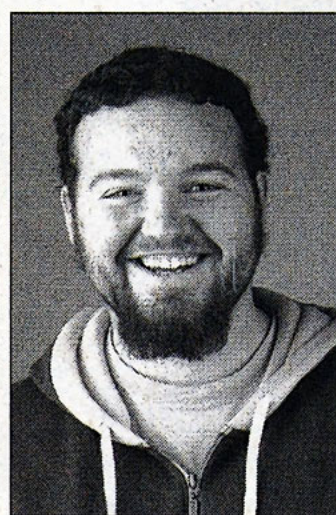
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Opinion



BEEN JAMMIN

By Ben Luschen Follow me @okluschen ...seriously

#thiscolumnisnotwhatyouthink #yolo

Hey, did you hear they were adding # and @ to the alphabet? It'll be official as of July.

Everything I said in that first line was a lie. You probably believed me, and its not because you're stupid and gullible.

Here in the 21st century, we're living through a golden age of these once obscure characters. # sign was probably just excited to be included on the phone dial back in the day. Little did the guy know that by the 2010s, #ing would sweep the globe.

So everyday you use your new friends the @ and the #, and I mean that in every sense. @ and # are used everyday as you send a desperate tweet to your favorite, dreamy country music singer/hunk or when you want the whole world to know your Starbucks Caffe Americano was #awesome.

Has anyone ever asked # and @ what they want? Has anyone ever bothered to look into their past and origin?

Well yes, one person has. Me! Using the all-knowing Internet, I sought to answer these burning questions. But first, here are my hypotheses on the birth of these modern giants of digital typography.

History of the # sign: Ben's best guess

Look at the simple structure. Two sets of rigid, yet slightly slanted, overlapping lines. It strongly implies carving or etching. I believe the # sign was discovered by an ancient people right before the invention of 90° angles.

The days before the # sign belonged to an era of absolute freedom. Freedom from law. Freedom from social constructions. And best of all, freedom from clothes! The world didn't operate in the realm of "shapes" or "numbers." Instead nature substituted the simple square for the complexity of a leaf. The perfect circle for the dynamic and formless wind.

Man could have lived this way forever, as nature intended. But man needed a standard, so he started keeping score. 'I like pointy rocks. I need the more pointy rocks than everyone else!'

Man's greed taught him how to count. To count you need numbers, and to remember numbers you need records writing. To continue to keep records, you need some sort of shorthand. Thus the # sign was born, a derivative of Roman numerals and other archaic number sets.

History of the # sign: Reality

I was a little off on this one. According to the infallible Wikipedia, the # sign got its start during the age of the printing press as a way to represent pounds (like the unit of weight). At first, printers just used the letters 'lb,' as is customary. Eventually, a unique character was developed, the letters 'lb' with a single horizontal line drawn through the vertical portion. Over time, the character evolved and simplified into the # we know today.

History of the @ sign: Ben's best guess

Unlike the # sign, the @ sign requires a great deal of finesse and imagination. Whoever invented the @ sign probably fancied himself to be quite refined. I don't know why, but I think the writer of the first @ sign probably used a quill.

I envision the first @ sign coming into existence around the Enlightenment. For whimsicality's sake, we'll say it was invented at the very same card game in which the great John Montagu (Earl of Sandwich) first requested a slice of meat between two slices of bread.

There was a little known man playing with him by the name of Nathaniel Perot, Earl of Tuna Casserole. During the card game, when Montagu's maid was taking food orders, Perot (whose native tongue was French, of course) wrote down on a piece of paper:

<<< fishy ~noodle~ @ tableau

As per his immense sense of inferiority, Perot made sure his handwriting was especially swirly and twisty, so he could make others think he knew something they didn't. The writing twinkled with self-importance -- Perot giggled at its beauty. Not only was this the birth of the @ sign, but it also is the first known use of the now extinct language now known as "cursive."

History of the @ sign: Reality

No one knows for sure where we first got our cute, curly letter a. Most scholars trace its first use to Medieval Europe -- but its exact location with the continent is unknown. The most reasonable origin appears to come from the retail world. European merchants used @s earliest ancestor as a shorthand version of "each at," appearing as a large 'e' with an 'a' inside.

Campus Cook - Chestnut Soup with Thyme Cream

Ingredients:

- 3 cups whole roasted bottled chestnuts
- 2 cups chopped yellow onion
- 3/4 cup thinly sliced carrot
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 6 cups fat-free, lower-sodium chicken broth
- 5/8 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 1/2 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme leaves

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 400°.
- Place chestnuts on a jelly-roll pan. Bake at 400° for 15 minutes. Place chestnuts in a large bowl; cool to room temperature.
- Combine onion, carrot, and oil on pan; toss to coat vegetables. Bake at 400° for 1 hour or until tender, stirring occasionally. Add to chestnuts; stir in broth. Pour half of broth mixture into a blender; blend until smooth. Pour pureed mixture into a Dutch oven. Repeat procedure with remaining broth mixture. Stir in 1/2 teaspoon salt and pepper. Place pan over medium-high heat; bring to a simmer. Reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes.
- Place cream in a medium bowl; beat with a mixer at high speed until soft peaks form. Add remaining 1/8 teaspoon salt; beat at high speed until stiff peaks form (do not overbeat). Ladle about 3/4 cup soup into each of 10 bowls; top each serving with about 1 tablespoon cream. Sprinkle with thyme. Serve immediately.

BRONCHO

TheBronchoMixtape.tumblr.com

MIXTAPE

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DOUGLAS

things they had already done," said Machell.

According to Machell by the time of the meeting, the work done by the Douglas administrator's team had resulted in 40 students not on track to graduate instead of 87.

"During the holiday break those students who were behind on their studies were required to go to school, so many of them were able to make up time by doing that," said Machell.

Machell said that they also started Tuesday and Thursday night classes so that the students are taking to accumulate more credits.

"The students want to graduate," said Pope, "they are doing what they are supposed to do to make sure they are successful."

At the meeting, the Douglas team told UCO administrators that they already had a mentor for each student, including a UCO faculty member and alumnus of Douglas who stays very involved in the community.

"They didn't need help with that, they needed help with food," said Machell.

According to Machell, they wanted to have food brought into the school that the students could have on the irregular day when they went to their Tuesday and Thursday night classes.

Corwin helped to find a restaurant chain McDonalds in the neighborhood who obliged in providing healthy snacks for the students.

"It looks like they may need some volunteers now to help tutor the students," said Machell.

As a result of failing an End of Instruction (EOI) Test, students have the option of a project called an Achieving Classroom Excellence (ACE) Project.

A panel of educators will evaluate the submitted project, and if it meets standards, then it suffices in place of the EOI exam.

"We are exploring if we can find some volunteers to serve as tutors for the students who are doing these ACE Projects," said Machell.

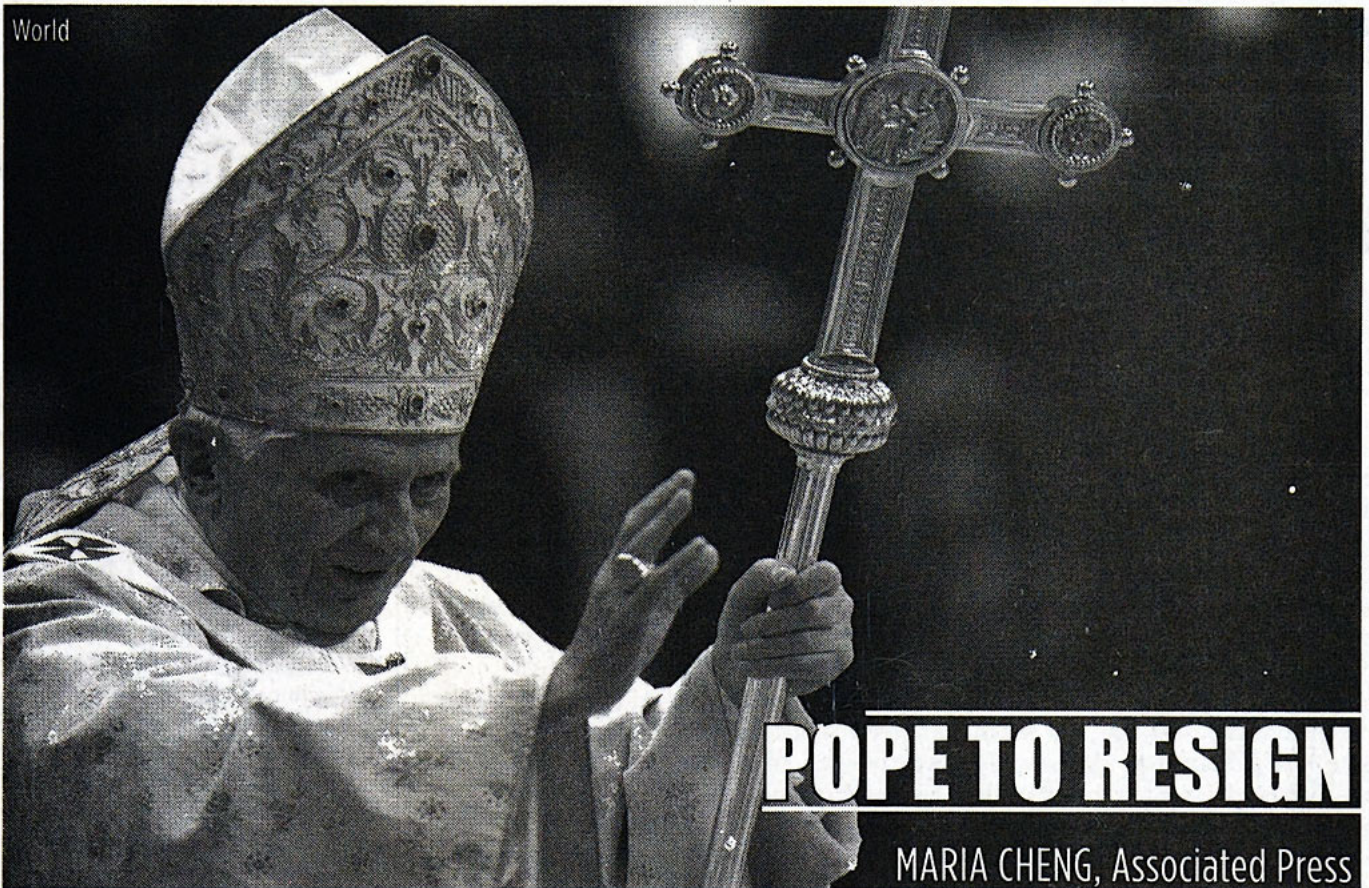
According to Machell, they are working with Dr. Sharra Hynes, Director of the Volunteer and Learning Center at UCO to identify students who are really capable of going and being helpful.

"We are in the process right now of trying to figure that out," said Machell. "It's possible that we may not have any body there to do anything, we don't know yet."

According to Pope, the community is working together to come up with solutions.

"They have high confidence that at the end of the year each of their students will be qualified to graduate," said Machell.

World



POPE TO RESIGN

MARIA CHENG, Associated Press

In this Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008, file photo, Pope Benedict XVI holds the pastoral staff as he celebrates Christmas midnight Mass in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican. Declaring that he lacks the strength to do his job, Benedict announced Monday Feb. 11, 2013, he will resign Feb. 28 — becoming the first pontiff to step down in 600 years. His decision sets the stage for a mid-March conclave to elect a new leader for a Roman Catholic Church in deep turmoil. (AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia, File)

When he became pope at age 78, Benedict XVI was already the oldest pontiff elected in nearly 300 years. He's now 85, and in recent years he has slowed down significantly, cutting back his foreign travel and limiting his audiences.

The pope travels to the altar in St. Peter's Basilica on a moving platform to spare him the 100-yard (-meter) walk down the aisle. Occasionally he uses a cane. Late last year, people who were spending time with the pontiff emerged saying they found him weak and too tired to engage with what they were saying.

The Vatican stressed on Monday that no specific medical condition prompted Benedict's decision to become the first pontiff to resign in 600 years. Still, Benedict said his advanced age means he no longer has the necessary physical strength to lead the world's more than one billion Roman Catholics.

That Benedict is tired would be a perfectly normal diagnosis for an 85-year-old pope, even someone with no known serious health problems and a still-agile mind.

He has acknowledged having suffered a hemorrhagic stroke in 1991 that temporarily affected his vision, but he later made a full recovery. In 2009, the pope fell and suffered minor injuries when he broke one of his wrists while vacationing in the Alps.

A doctor familiar with the pope's medical team told The Associated Press on Monday that the pontiff has no grave or life-threatening illnesses. But, the doctor said, the pope — like many men his age — has suffered some prostate problems. Beyond that, the pope is simply old and tired, the doctor said on condition of anonymity.

According to the pope's brother Georg Ratzinger, the pontiff was told by his doctor not to take any more trans-Atlantic trips. In fact, the pontiff's only foreign trip this year was scheduled to be a July visit to Brazil for the church's World Youth Day.

Experts weren't surprised the pope's health problems were slowing him down.

"In someone who's 85 and has arthritis, the activities of being a pope will be a struggle," said Dr. Alan Silman, the medical director of Arthritis Research U.K. He said Pope Benedict most likely has osteoarthritis, which causes people to lose the cartilage at the end of their joints, making it difficult to move around without pain.

"It would be painful for him to kneel while he's praying and could be excruciating when he tries to get up again," Silman said, adding that for people with arthritis, even standing for long periods of time can be challenging.

Silman said some drugs could help

ease the pain, but most would come with side effects such as drowsiness or stomach problems, which would likely be more serious in the elderly.

The doctor said it isn't clear whether the pope's arthritis would worsen with age. "It could be it's as bad as it's going to get," he said. "But it already sounds like he has it pretty bad and continuing with all the activities of being the pope won't help."

Joe Korner, a spokesman for Britain's Stroke Association, said having a mild stroke also could be a warning of a possible major stroke in the future. "I would imagine the pope has been warned this could happen and that he should make some changes to his lifestyle," Korner said, including reducing stress levels.

When he became pope, Benedict replaced John Paul, who died in 2005 at the age of 84. He was the Vatican's most-traveled pontiff, visiting 129 countries during his nearly 27-year papacy and had captured the world's affection like no other pope.

In the last year of his life, John Paul was forced to curtail his travels because of old age and illness, including trembling hands and slurred speech, an inability to walk or hold his head up, and other symptoms of Parkinson's disease.



Continued from Page 1

HOGWARTS

were welcoming."

Stine went on to describe some of the events of her first meeting, which included the familiar introductory getting to know you games as well as members participating in a sorting hat quiz, a process to determine which Hogwarts house they would belong to within the club.

Rogers also mentions that throughout the meetings, members will have opportunities to earn points for their respective houses. Possible future activities might include having a Horcrux scavenger hunt, as well as the possibility of holding a magic show later in the spring.

The Headmaster tries to incorporate the details of Hogwarts throughout for a fun and unique experience, adding, "The officers and I do dress up in costume to match the personalities of the Hogwarts professors and the houses that they represent in the school. We do encourage the members of the organization once being sorted into a house to come in the future dressed in the proper Hogwarts attire to help recreate Hogwarts."

The RSOWSO will meet on a regular basis, every other Tuesday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., with the next meeting on Feb. 12 in the Nigh University Center. For those interested in signing up or just looking for more information on the organization, students can email the Headmaster at arogers18@uco.edu, or be on the lookout for the group's fliers around campus.

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LABYRINTH

grass, both hand crafted by Dr. Rudebeck and her husband.

When she first came to the University of Central Oklahoma in 2003, Rudebeck had no idea that anyone inside the school knew about labyrinths.

In 2004, she found out that the Broncho Coral Leadership Institute (BCLI), a retreat planned every year for UCO students, would be featuring one.

As a certified labyrinth facilitator, Rudebeck emailed Dr. Kathryn Gage and asked if she could volunteer.

The university's canvas labyrinth had not arrived in time for BCLI so Rudebeck asked the church that sponsored the monthly walks she attended if the university could borrow theirs.

After the successful BCLI retreat, Dr. Rudebeck remembers the most collective question students would ask was: when can we get one of these on campus?

"The Student Affairs department had a canvas labyrinth, but I really felt like our department could benefit from one," she said.

The Kinesiology and Health Studies department at UCO purchased their first canvas labyrinth with student activity fees and in coalition with the UCO counseling center began offering a labyrinth workshop each semester as a part of a stress reduction series.

"There were so many people at these events," Rudebeck said. "We ordered a second smaller labyrinth and by this time we had set up the Labyrinth Research Committee."

The group started meeting and discussing how they could use the laby-

rinths and ways to promote them.

In 2009, the group was granted permission to paint a labyrinth on the grass at UCO for a research project.

During this time Rudebeck continued to attend BCLI and from different groups of students was still hearing that same question: when can we get one of these on campus?

"Once I started to walk the painted one regularly, that's when I knew," Rudebeck said as she thumbed a turquoise and silver labyrinth hanging from a thin chain around her neck. "It was time."

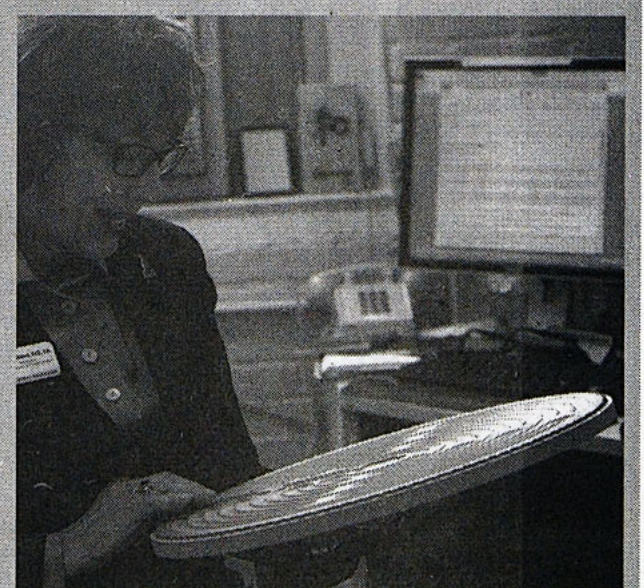
After the research study was finished in 2010, she began to work diligently, putting together information for a proposal to bring a permanent labyrinth to UCO's campus.

There was a cool breeze in the air that sent a bright yellow piece of caution tape fluttering violently in the wind.

Dr. Rudebeck stood in front of the chain-link fence surrounding the cement ring in Heartland Plaza where, in only months, paths of red and grey brick will be laid creating UCO's permanent labyrinth.

She said that she feels in awe to see the opportunity coming to students and faculty members.

"When you are doing something where your energy and passion and knowledge all come together, you're in this concept of flow. I never get tired of working on labyrinths or talking about them," Rudebeck said. "When you have a passion it never seems like work."



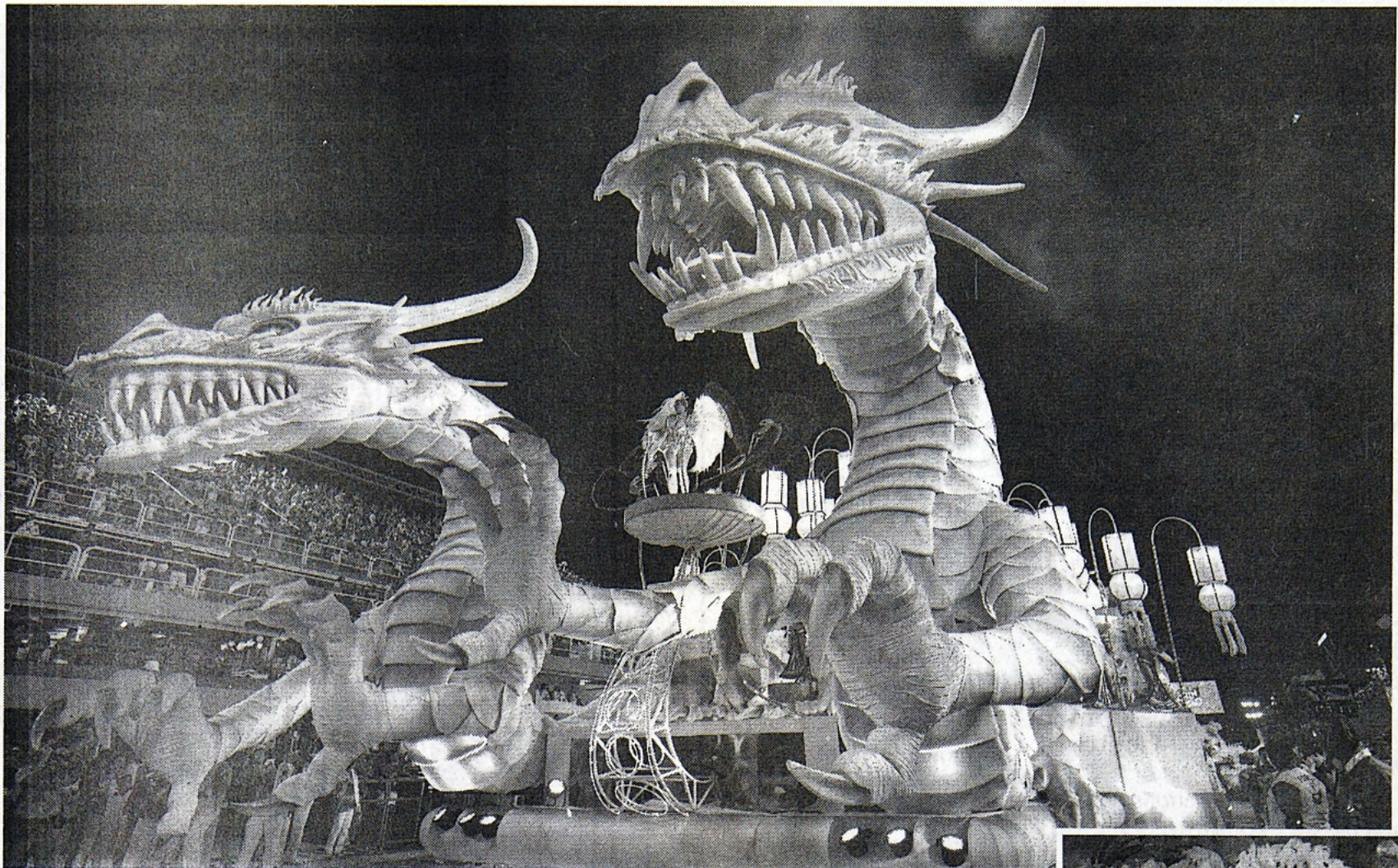
Dr. Rudebeck traces a wooden labyrinth in her office, Feb. 8, 2013. Rudebeck has been working toward a labyrinth on campus since 2010. Photo by Alike Dyer, The Vista

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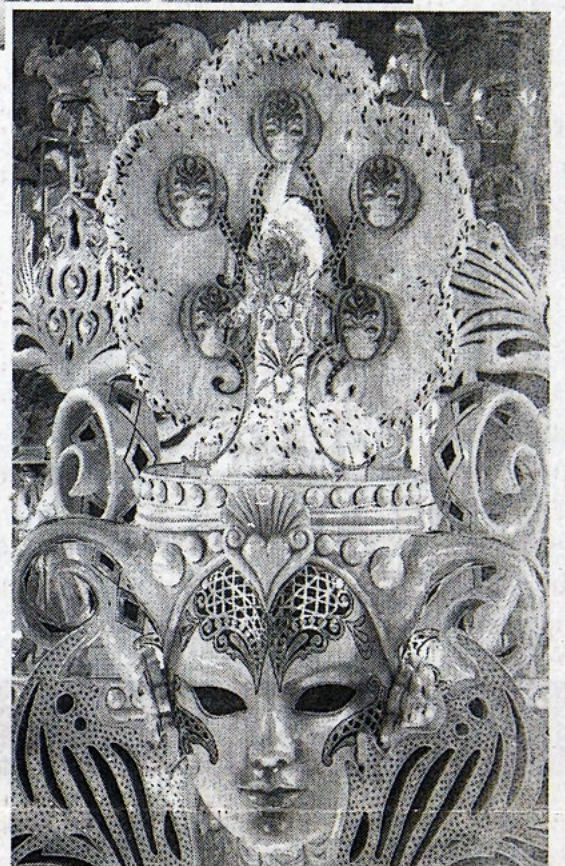
A dancer performs atop a float during Inocentes de Belford Roxo samba school parade at the Sambadrome during carnival celebrations in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. (AP Photo/Silvia Izquierdo)

AROUND THE WORLD

CELEBRATIONS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE



A Chinese man prays for health and fortune on the first day of the Lunar New Year at Yonghegong Lama Temple in Beijing Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. Millions across China are celebrating the arrival of the Lunar New Year, the Year of the Snake, marked with a week-long Spring Festival holiday. (AP Photo/Andy Wong)



Performers from the Academicos do Salgueiro samba school parade during carnival celebrations at the Sambadrome in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. (AP Photo/Felipe Dana)



A Nepalese Hindu woman gets vermillion powder applied on her forehead after taking holy dips at the Bagmati River during Madhav Narayan festival in Katmandu, Nepal, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. Unmarried Hindu women pray to meet and marry a good husband while the married women pray for the longevity of their husbands by observing a day long fast during the month long festival. (AP Photo/Nirajan Shrestha)



A Chinese girl uses a cylinder while performing an acrobatic show at the Dongyue Temple fair during the second day of the Chinese New Year in Beijing Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. Thousands attended temple fairs across the city to celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Snake. (AP Photo/Andy Wong)



Nepalese Hindu women take holy dips at the Bagmati River during Madhav Narayan festival in Katmandu, Nepal, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013

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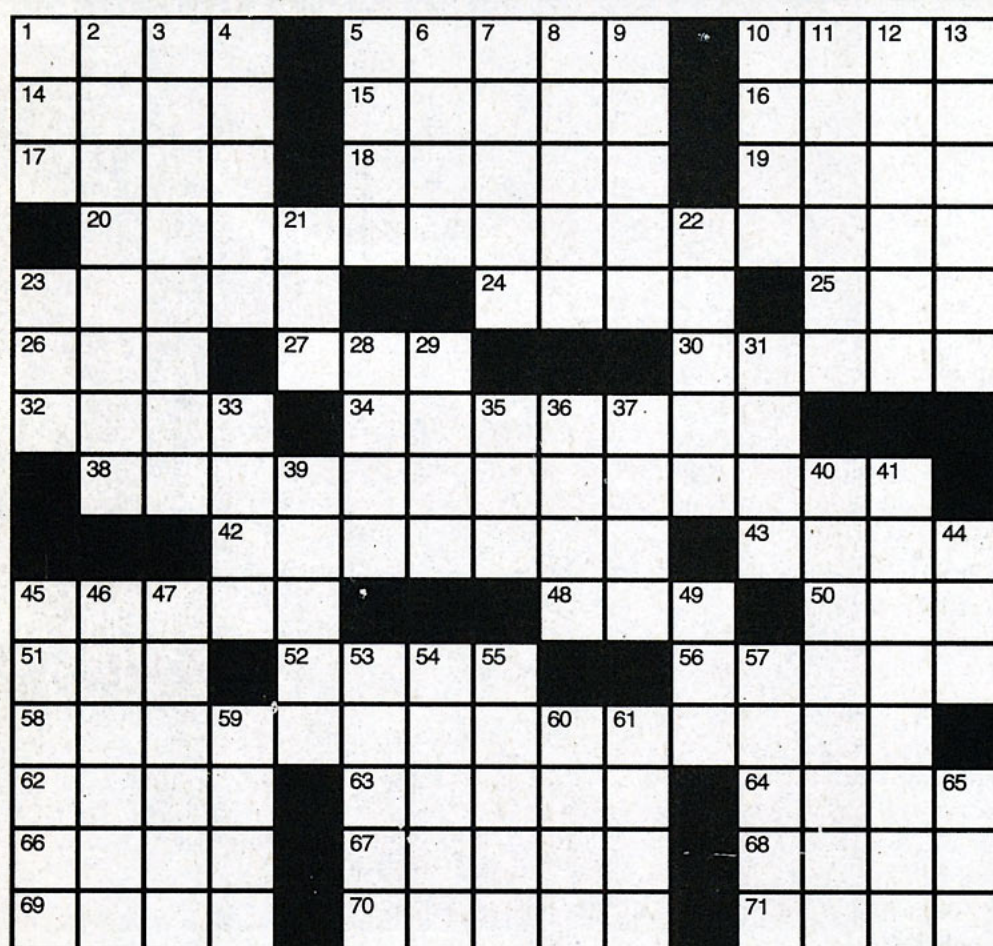
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CROSSWORD



Across

1. Dog-eared
5. Open, as a bottle
10. Adult+male swans
14. On the safe side, at sea
15. Anklebones
16. Catcall
17. Abstruse
18. At full speed
19. "The Snowy Day" author ____ Jack Keats
20. Threatening with divine punishment
23. Fireplace
24. High-hatter
25. Used to indicate the maiden or family name of a married woman
26. Kind of approval
27. "The Matrix" hero
30. Utah lilies
32. ____ lily
34. Electrical gizmo
38. Automatic mechanical device causing new records to be played without manual intervention
42. Kind of lineup
43. Aces, sometimes
45. Zoroastrian
48. "____ bad!"
50. Be in session

51. Bauxite, e.g.

52. Butcher's offering
56. Full of veins
58. Easily influenced
62. Arias, usually
63. Bit of color
64. Commanded
66. "-zoic" things
67. Barely beats
68. Auspices
69. Harmony
70. Change, as a clock
71. Mar, in a way

22. "A Doll's House" playwright

23. Conditions
28. Benjamin Disraeli, e.g.
29. "What are the ____?"
31. "Cogito ____ sum"
33. Wood sorrels
35. Appear
36. Excellent, in modern slang
37. Hawaiian tuber
39. Antipasto morsel
40. Fodder harvested while green and kept succulent
41. Controlled
44. Chester White's home
45. Carries in equilibrium
46. Collection of resources
47. Redesign
49. Egg cells
53. Banana oil, e.g.
54. "All kidding ____"
55. American hakes
57. Fell off
59. Kind of computer architecture
60. Arch type
61. Home, informally
65. "C'____ la vie!"

Down

1. Large amount of money
2. Ornamental shrub
3. Carry out again
4. High land
5. Its motto is "Industry"
6. Finger, in a way
7. Studies intensively
8. ____ flu
9. It's spotted in westerns
10. At the home of
11. Leaking out
12. 3rd largest island in the world
13. Levels
21. Big ____ Conference

RANDOM FACTS

The song sung in the animated How the Grinch Stole Christmas was not sung by narrator Boris Karloff, but by the voice of Kellogg's Tony the Tiger, late actor Thurl Ravenscroft.

Ferruccio Lamborghini made tractors until he went to Enzo Ferrari to complain about a Ferrari he had bought. Lamborghini felt snubbed by Ferrari and decided to get into the sports car business.

Obsessive nose picking is called rhinotillexomania.

Many artificial color additives are prohibited by law, so farmers add marigold petals to their chicken feed as a natural color enhancer to give their egg yolks that sunny, yellow hue.

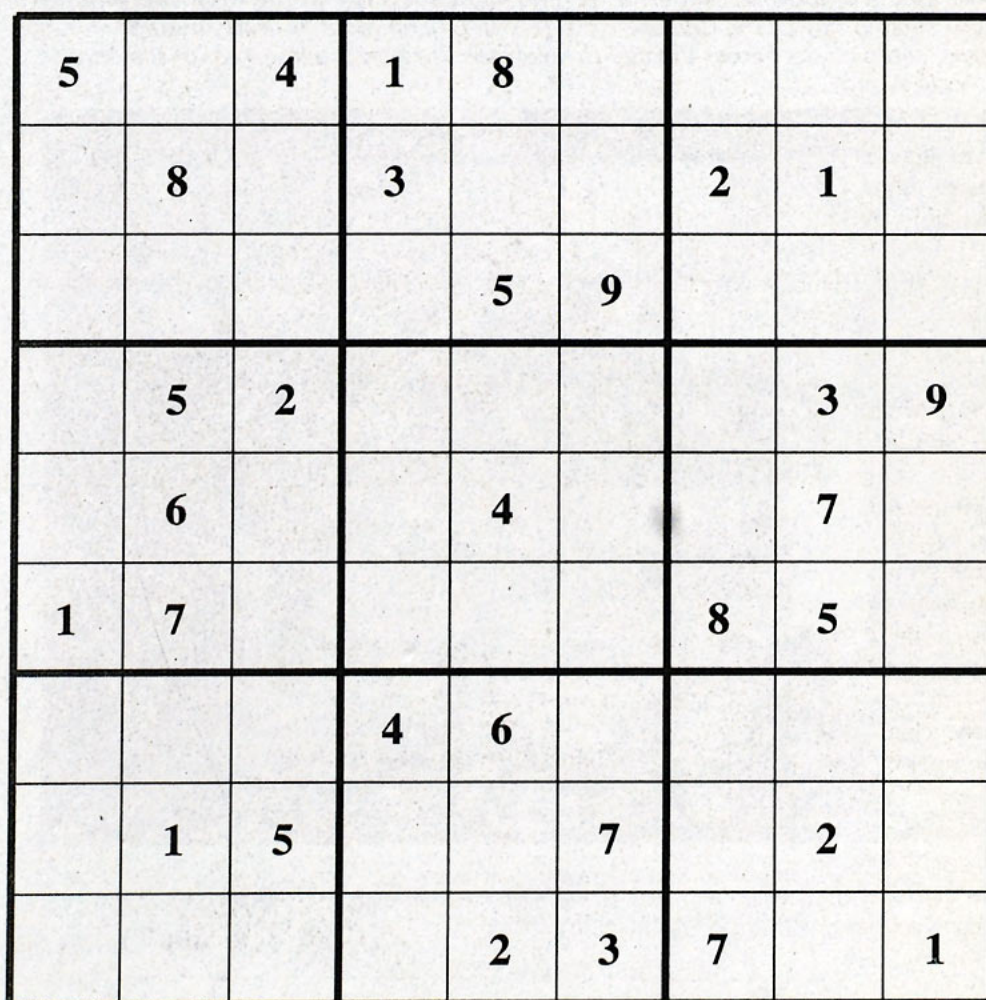
The firefly is not actually a fly, but a beetle.

DAILY QUOTE

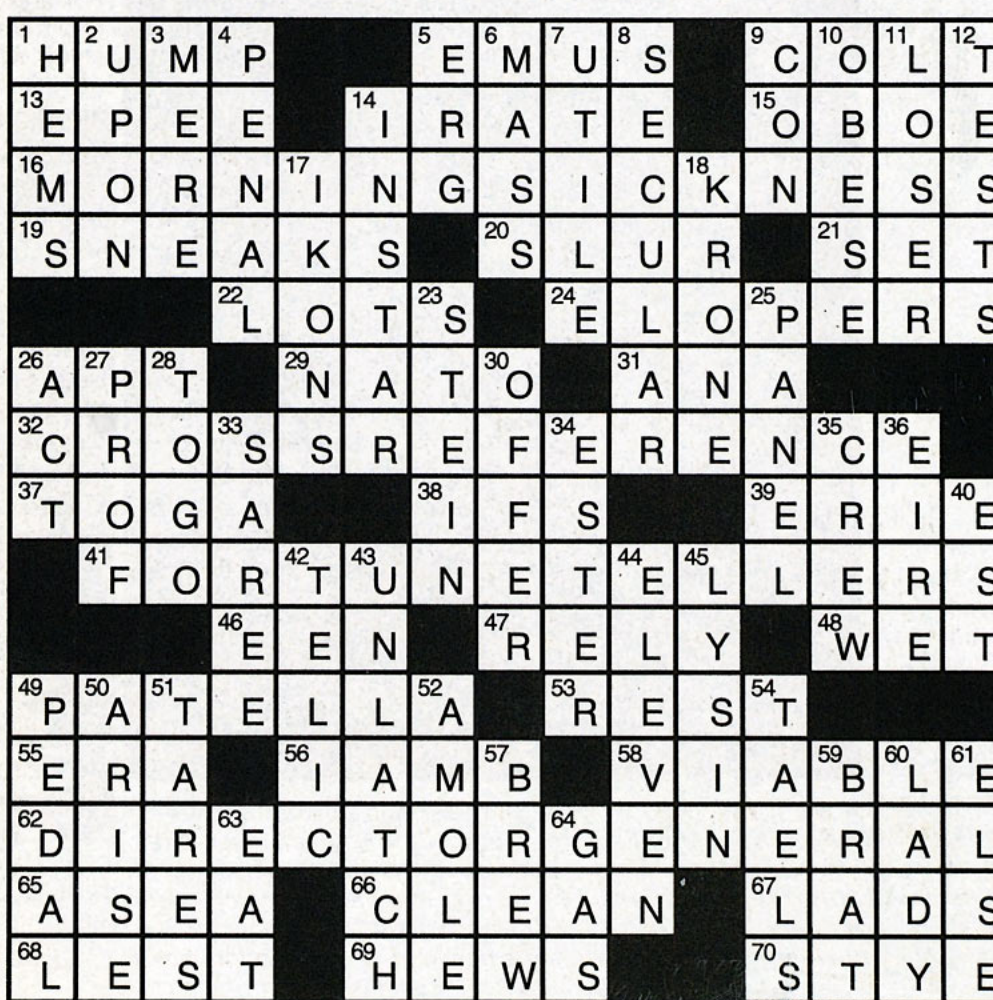
Voices that loud are always meant to bully. Do not be bullied. Acts of bravery don't always take place on battlefields. They can take place in your heart, when you have the courage to honor your character, your intellect, your inclinations, and, yes your soul by listening to its clean, clear voice of direction instead of following the muddled messages of a timid world.

- Anna Quindlen

SUDOKU



CROSSWORD ANSWER



Basketball

Gibbs-led Bronchos look towards Emporia

Whitt Carter

Staff Writer

As the season has gotten into the important part, UCO has gotten serious.

The Bronchos (10-11, 8-5) have won three straight- two of which at home, where UCO had struggled up until this past week. The Bronchos can end a three-game home stand by winning their fourth in a row on Wednesday when they host Emporia State at Hamilton Field House.

The Bronchos started the streak at Nebraska-Kearney two Friday's ago, beating the Lopers 85-75 on the road.

UCO then returned home to begin a three-game stretch in Edmond, and defeated MIAA-leader Central Missouri in a tight contest, an area where the Bronchos had struggled for most of the year.

The Bronchos handed the Mules only their third conference loss, beating UCM 69-67 behind some clutch late play from senior PG Jamell Cormier.

The third win came on Saturday, when UCO outran Lincoln 89-80 in Edmond behind 25 points and 10 rebounds from MIAA Player of the Year candidate Josh Gibbs and 20 points and 13 rebounds from senior Spencer Smith.

"We're playing much better,"

said head coach Terry Evans. "The guys are playing really hard and playing as a team."

Gibbs has been the leader for UCO- during the stretch and for the majority of the season.

The junior is averaging a team high 17.3 points (fifth in MIAA) and 6.5 rebounds (10th in MIAA), while shooting 48 percent from the field. Gibbs has led the Bronchos in scoring for 11 of the past 12 games, dating back to Dec. 19.

Gibbs has also scored 20 or more points in nine of those twelve games, in which the Bronchos are 7-5.

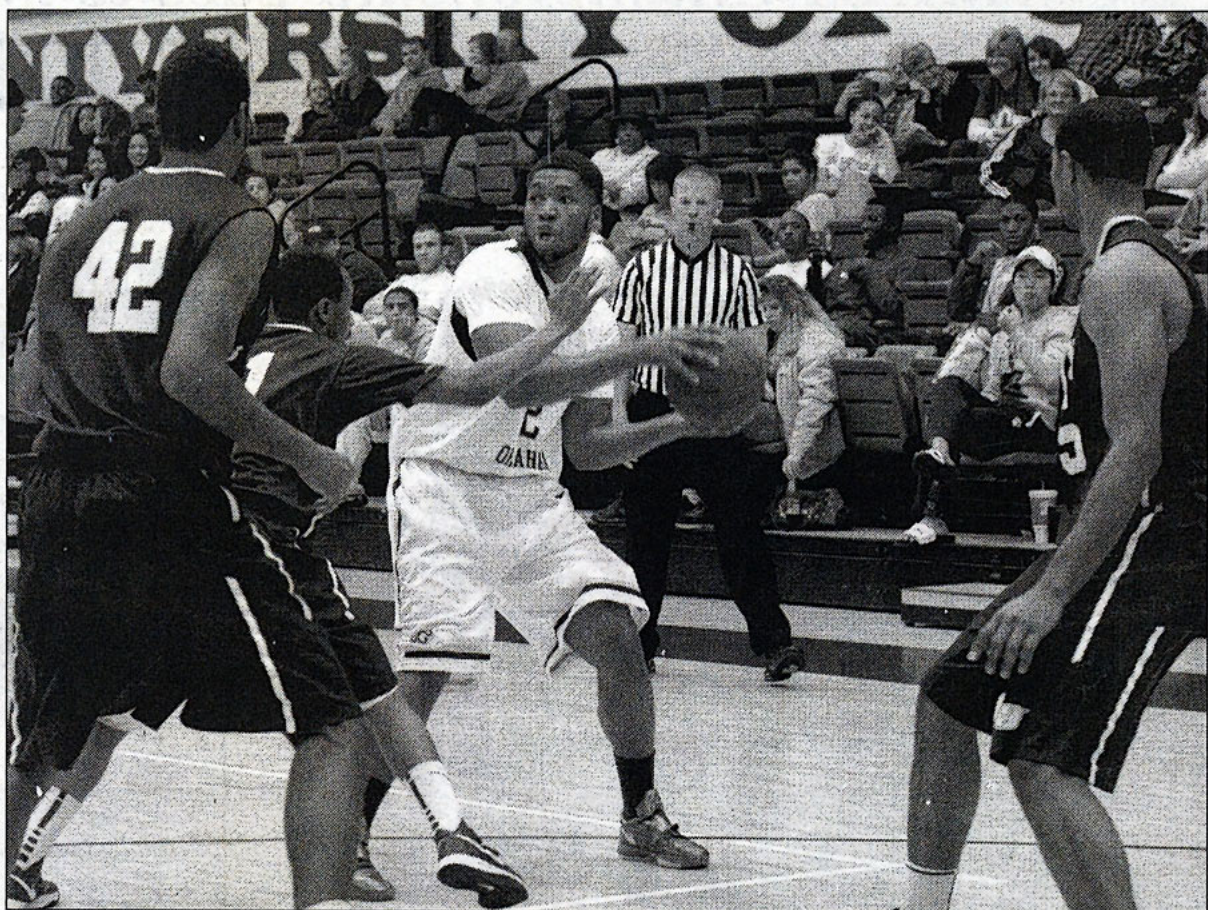
"Josh has been outstanding," said Evans. "He's playing as well as anyone in the conference and he's giving us a great chance to win, night in, night out."

The Bronchos are 8-5 in conference play, tied for fourth in the MIAA, but only one game back of conference leaders Fort Hays State and Central Missouri.

Emporia State is having a similar season, as the Hornets sit at 10-10, 5-7 on the year. ESU has won two in a row, however, beating Lincoln, 71-64, and Lindenwood, 61-52, last week at home.

The Hornets have struggled on the road this season, posting a record of 2-8 away from home.

Kaleb Wright, who averages 14.4 points, four rebounds and



UCO junior forward Josh Gibbs looks to pass against Lincoln University on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013. Photo by Aliki Dyer, The Vista

three assists per contest, leads Emporia State on the offensive end. The Hornets also get 13 points and eight rebounds per game from Paul Bunch, who has only played 14 games this year, after missing some time due to injury.

Emporia State is one of the bet-

ter rebounding teams in the conference, pulling down 36 boards per game, good for fourth overall. The Hornets rank second in defensive rebounding at 30 per contest.

Following tomorrow's hosting of Emporia State, the Bronchos will travel to Missouri Southern

State next Thursday, before returning home on Saturday, Feb. 23 to host Pittsburg State, who beat the Bronchos in their MIAA-opener back in December.

Tipoff for tomorrow is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Lady Bronchos end skid, ready for Hornets

Chris Brannick

Sports Editor

The UCO Women's Basketball team ended a ten-game losing streak on Saturday with a win over the Blue Tigers from Lincoln University. Now, head coach Guy Hardaker is trying to get the Bronchos consecutive wins for the first time since Dec. 19 and Dec. 29, 2012, with a Wednesday night matchup against Emporia State.

"You could just tell they were motivated," Hardaker said.

With five games remaining in this season, the Bronchos are in dire need of wins with any hopes of making the postseason conference tournament, which 12 of the 15 teams in the MIAA make. UCO is 2-11 in conference play this season and sits two games behind Lincoln and Southwest Baptist, who are 4-9. Nebraska-Kearney is 3-10, in 13th place.

"We're going to have to win four out of five," Hardaker said.

Emporia State has already earned at least a birth in the postseason. Currently ranked fourth in the MIAA with a 9-3 conference record, the Hornets are two games out of first place but only a half game ahead of Truman. The top four teams at season's end will earn a first-round bye in the tournament.

"They do such a good job screening on the ball, it leaves shooters open," Hardaker said.

"With every team you can't stop everything but you can stop one thing and we can't let them shoot threes like we did last time. We have to run their threes off."

The Hornets are riding a seven-game winning streak including a victory over UCO on Jan. 27. Rachel Hanf led ESU in scoring in that game and is second in scoring on the team this season with an average of 13.3 points per game. Hanf is one of two Hornets to start in all 20 games played this season. Laura Patrick is the other and is the team's high scorer with an average of 14.7 points per game. Patrick leads the team in field goals made, 101, 3-pointers made, 52, and her 82 percent of free-throws made is the highest on the team.

Freshman McKenzie Solberg led the Bronchos in scoring in Emporia last month with 14 points and senior Alyssa Fuxa scored 11 but Central found themselves down by 20 points at halftime.

Fuxa leads the Bronchos in scoring this season with an even 12 points per game. The senior averages 5.4 rebounds per game, which also leads the team. Solberg averages 8.6 points per game, fourth-best on the team. Jill Bryan, 10.7 and Britney Morgan, 8.6 are second and third respectively.

Despite a ten-game losing streak, the Bronchos average margin of defeat is 0.8 points per game. UCO shoots 40 percent field goals and opponents shoot 38 and UCO and its opponents both shoot 32 percent from behind the arc on average this season.



UCO senior Alyssa Fuxa goes up to score against Lincoln on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2013. Photo by Aliki Dyer, The Vista

Opinion

Whitt-ness This: The best is yet to come



Whitt Carter

Staff Writer

Did you ever think LeBron James could become more unstoppable?

Surely the game's best athlete, who's also one of the most skilled passers, fastest players end-to-end and hands down, best all-around player in the game couldn't have gotten better, could he?

He may have. Or maybe it's just one of those hot streaks that great players experience for a few weeks.

Whatever the case may be, it's one of the more impressive things our generation has ever seen.

Try these numbers on for size: LeBron has made 55 of his last 77 shots. Yikes, that's 71 percent in a

span of five games. I've never seen that from someone that takes shots like LeBron.

He's made 30-of-37 (81 percent) shots from inside the paint. Of course, he's fantastic inside that area, but could he even do that in a gym by himself nine times out of ten? I doubt it.

How about shots outside the paint, mid-range to long twos? Oh, he's 8-of-16 (50 percent) from there, with most of those being contested.

LeBron is 22-of-24 (92 percent) on layups. Probably the least impressive stat of the group, but still, through four and a half games, to only miss two layups when everyone is trying to abuse him at the rim is still impressive to me.

Of the 49 buckets made, nine have been dunks. Expected, right? Well, he too, has made nine threes during the stretch. Evolution, people.

Three point shooting during this stretch? How about 10-of-16 (62 percent) from downtown? That is not the LeBron James we watched two years ago. I know this won't remain, but it's scary to think that he

can do it for a five-game stretch.

The breakdown of shots made is pretty interesting, as well. LeBron has made 25-of-27 (92 percent) shots before intermission. This tells me two things: 1) He's coming out focused and 2) He's getting other people involved- only six shots on average in the first half.

LeBron has struggled coming out of the locker room, however. The King is only shooting 57 percent in the third quarter, a percentage that is dismal to his 8-of-9 (89 percent) fourth quarter shooting. Unbelievable.

James has tied an NBA record, scoring 30 or more points in his last five games, while shooting 60 percent from the field. Let's hope this doesn't slow down anytime soon.

He's also upped his free throw percentage. LeBron has shot 36-of-46 (78 percent) from the charity stripe during this stretch, up 4 percent from his season average.

Finally, one of the more impressive things about this stretch, he's still doing what he does best. Everything. James is averaging seven rebounds and six assists during the

five-game span. To me, that's showing maturity by letting the game come to him, even if he is 8-of-9 for the game.

We are seeing something that won't come around too many other times. The dude is going off. But, how much better is it than his regular season?

Not as much as you'd think. Even with all this, James is still shoot-

ing 56 percent from the field, 42 percent from three-point and 74 percent from the foul line. His FG percent and 3P percent numbers are both comfortably a career high. He's doing all this while taking the lowest number of shots per game in his 10-year career.

If the numbers in the last five games don't wake you up, those will.

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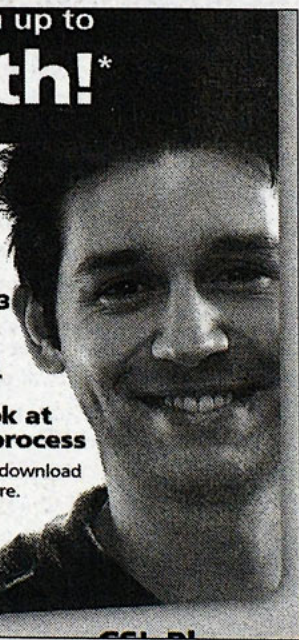


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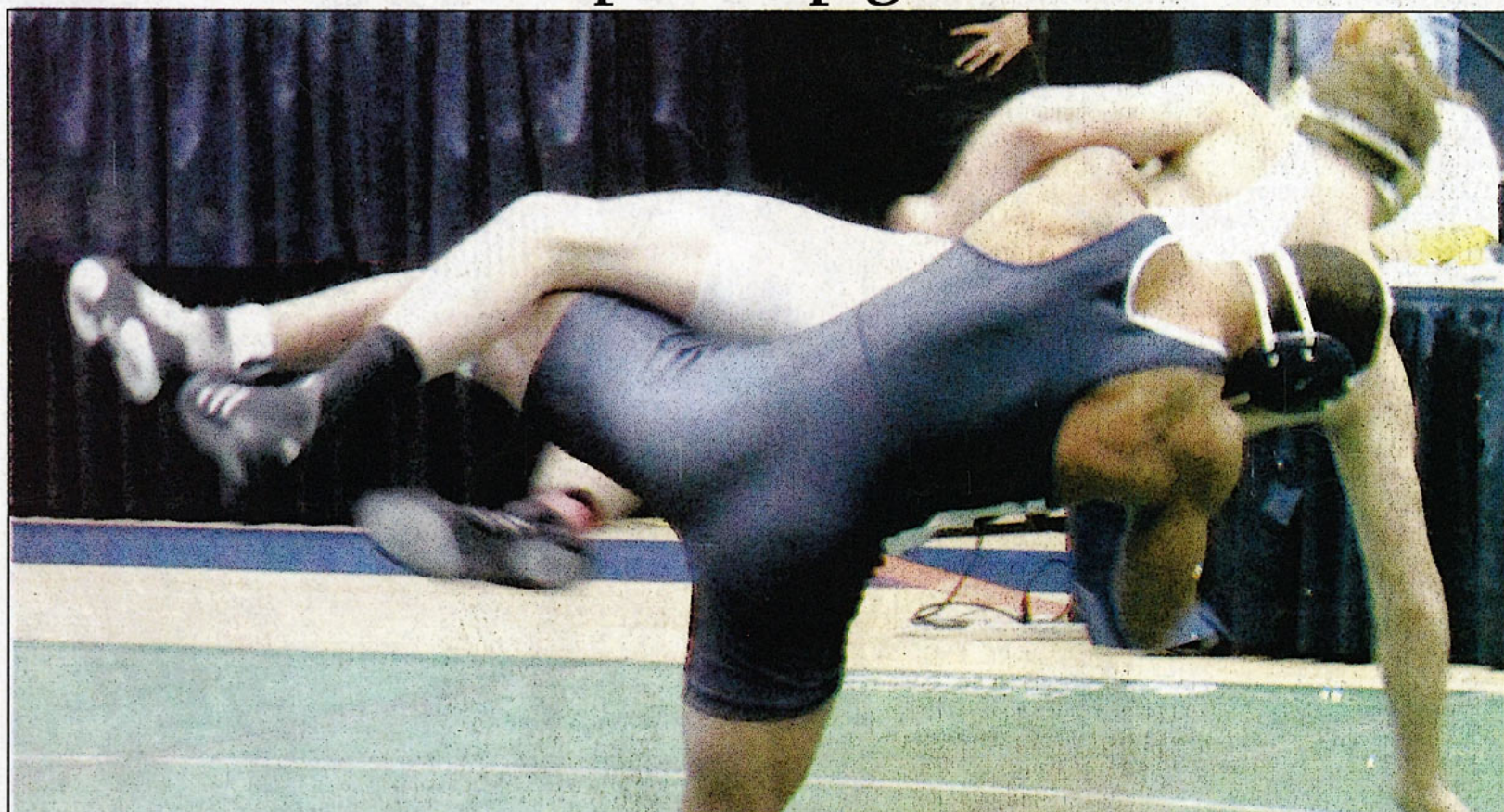
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Wrestling

Bronchos see five crowned champion

MIAA Championship goes to Nebraska-Kearney



UCO junior Cory Dauphin wrestles in the MIAA Championship in Edmond on Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. Photo by Cody Johnson, The Vista

Cody Johnson

Contributing Writer

The rivalry between the No. 3-ranked University of Central Oklahoma and the No. 8-ranked Nebraska-Kearney continued at the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship tournament Sunday at Hamilton Fieldhouse. Seven out of ten final matches were between UCO and UNK.

Fans became heated during the 133-pound match between Casey Rowell, a junior for the Bronchos, and Daniel DeShazer of Nebraska-Kearney. "He [Rowell] hasn't shot one time yet", a Loper fan yelled during the match. Rowell defeated DeShazer 6-4 by taking him down in the third overtime period. "Fire Bob Stoops," one Nebraska-Kearney fan yelled in an attempt to provoke Central Oklahoma fans.

The University of Central Oklahoma Bronchos had five conference champions, gaining 102 team points. While the Nebraska-Kearney Softball

ney Lopers only had four conference champions, they gained 109 team points due to bonus points.

No. 3-ranked Casey Rowell, a junior for the Bronchos, was named MIAA Wrestler of the Year and UCO's Coach David James was named MIAA Coach of the Year on Sunday.

At 125 pounds, Ryan Brooks, a sophomore for the Bronchos, defeated Laramie Allembaugh, of Central Missouri, 8-0 in the quarterfinals, then lost to Connor Bollings, of Nebraska-Kearney, 7-5 in the semifinals. On the consolation side of the bracket Brooks defeated Jabez Zinabu, of Truman, 17-2 and Blayne Shockley, of Lindenwood, 6-2 to win third place.

At 133 pounds, No. 3-ranked Casey Rowell, a junior for the Bronchos, received a bye in the quarterfinals, defeated Hunter Neighbors, of Central Missouri, 9-1 in the semifinals; and defeated No. 6 ranked Daniel DeShazer, of Nebraska-Kearney, 6-4 in the finals.

At 141 pounds, Trison Graham, a senior for the Bronchos, de-

feated Nick Shea, of Truman, 10-0 in the quarterfinals; defeated No. 5-ranked C.J. Napier, of Fort Hays, 5-2 in the semifinals; and defeated Eric Mateo, of Central Missouri, 7-0 in the finals.

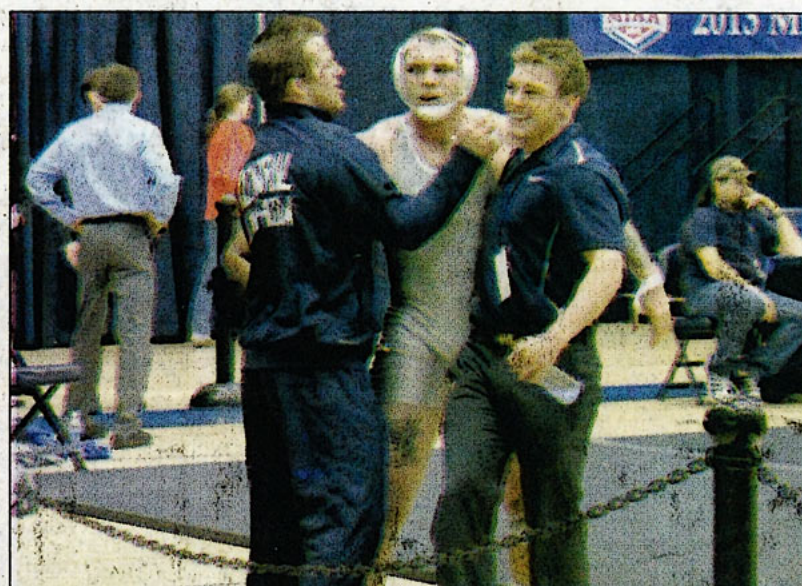
At 149 pounds, No. 1-ranked Jordan Basks, a junior for the Bronchos, defeated Nick Viterisi, of Central Missouri, 4-1 in the quarterfinals; defeated Ryan, Maus, of Truman, 5-2 in the semifinals; and lost to No. 6-ranked Raufeon Stots, of Nebraska-Kearney 6-4 in overtime.

At 157 pounds, No. 3-ranked Cory Dauphin, a junior for the Bronchos, received a bye in the quarterfinals, pinned Derrick Weller, of Lindenwood, in the semifinals, and defeated No. 2-ranked Chase White, of Nebraska-Kearney, 12-6 in the finals.

At 165 pounds, Chris Watson, a sophomore for the Bronchos, defeated Cullen Halphin, of Lindenwood, 11-2 in the quarterfinals, defeated Ty Loethen, of Central Missouri, 8-3 in the semifinals, and lost to No. 7-ranked Chase Nelson, of

Nebraska-Kearney, 9-3 in the finals.

At 174 pounds, No. 6-ranked Kelly Henderson, a senior for the Bronchos, defeated Chase Wrisinger, of Truman, 6-2 in the quarterfinals, defeated Travis Budke, of Fort Hays, 3-2 in the semifinals; and lost to No. 5 ranked Patrick Martinez, of Nebraska-Kearney, 4-3 in the finals.



UCO junior Znick Ferrell celebrates after a victory in the MIAA Championships in Edmond on Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. Photo by Cody Johnson, The Vista

Softball returns eyeing return to World Series



UCO junior Amanda McClellan pitches in a game last spring. The Vista Archives

Sam Philbeck

Contributing Writer

No. 16-ranked Central Oklahoma opened their 2013 season on the road this past weekend with a strong showing in the Whitten Inn Classic in Abilene, Texas.

"We did extremely well," Coach Genny Stidham said talking about her team's overall performance.

The Bronchos (3-1) faced off against former Lone Star Conference opponents Eastern New Mexico University and Abilene Christian University in the two-day event.

The two days featured just about everything you could want in a softball game.

Offensive showcases, a pitcher's duel and even some heroics. Unfortunately the latter one didn't go in the Bronchos favor.

The Bronchos got off to a great start on Friday with a 15-4 victory over ENMU and finished the day with a great pitching showcase

in a 2-1 victory over No. 22-ranked Abilene Christian.

Leading the way in the first game was All-American and reigning Division-II Player of the Year senior third baseman Kacie Edwards.

Edwards went 2-4 with in the game, but both hits were home runs. The first came in the first inning when she smashed a two-run home run over centerfield while the second came in the fourth inning when she smacked a three-run home run over left center to increase the Broncho lead to 15-0.

"Kacie comes through with flying colors, she's just picking up where she left off from last year," said Stidham about her star player's performance.

Edwards, who is coming back from off-season knee surgery, is now alone atop the all-time UCO home run list. Before her first inning home run, she came into the season tied with Alley Roberts for the top spot with 34 home runs.

She didn't wait long to break the record with her first inning giving her 35 for her career and the record.

Along with Edwards, freshmen Ally Dziadula and Brooke Zuckerman each homered with both coming in the second inning. Dziadula led off the inning with a solo blast to right field, while Zuckerman hit a 3-2 pitch over the left field for a grand slam.

Dziadula finished 3-4 with two RBIs and Zuckerman went 2-2 with the grand slam and four RBIs.

Sophomores Nicole Workman, Kaylee Brunson and junior Hayley Hudson each had two hits apiece to add to the Bronchos 16-hit onslaught.

"I thought we hit the ball great for our first time out," said Stidham.

Amanda McClellan picked up the first win of the season for the Bronchos striking out three and walking two. She pitched four scoreless innings before giving up four in the final inning, but the Bronchos were in full control.

The final game on Friday against No. 22-ranked Abilene Christian was a 2-1 pitching duel victory for UCO.

Two newcomers, Workman and junior Kalynn Schrock, led the way for the Bronchos as Workman knocked in the only two Broncho runs in the third inning with a two-out double to left field that scored Dziadula and sophomore Devyn Frazier.

"Defensively and offensively she (Workman) was just outstanding," said Stidham.

That was enough for Schrock as she pitched seven innings only giving up four hits and striking out eight and out-dueling Abilene Christian's Caitlyn Crane in her Broncho debut.

"Schrock was lights out," said Stidham about the pitcher's debut.

Both Workman and Schrock transferred to UCO this season following great seasons at their previous schools.

Workman came to UCO from NEO after a tremendous freshman season where she hit 13 home runs and knocked in 45 RBIs earning All-Region honors. Schrock transferred from the University of Tulsa, where she had two solid seasons as a freshman and sophomore and helped the Golden Hurricanes go 45-12 and reach the NCAA tournament last season.

UCO split their two games on Saturday.

The Bronchos opened up play with a 10-5 victory of ENMU. The Bronchos opened the game with a 7-0 lead over the Zias led by Dziadula and Zuckerman, who each homered for the second day in the row.

Dziadula hit a three-run home run in the second inning to left center that pushed the lead to 4-0, while Zuckerman added a solo shot in the third giving the Bronchos a 5-0 lead.

"Our freshman came to play," said Stidham when speaking of the freshmen solid play over the weekend.

The Bronchos finished the game with 11 hits, getting two-hit performances out of Dziadula, Edwards, Zuckerman, junior shortstop Hannah Justus and freshman catcher Toni Collet.

Workman got the victory pitching four scoreless innings giving up only four hits and striking out five.

The Bronchos lost their final game, a 6-5 contest against No. 22 Abilene Christian.

The Wildcats jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the second on an Anna Jones two-run double and Keanna Winkfield two-run triple.

The Bronchos finally scored in the third on a Collet double to right scoring Workman and tying the game at 4-4 in the fourth with back-to-back home runs by Edwards and Workman. Edwards hit a two-run shot to left center followed by Workman's solo blast to left.

The Wildcats took back the lead in the sixth on a bases-loaded walk, but Edwards tied the game 5-5 in the top of the seventh with a solo blast, her second in the game and fourth of the weekend, to center field.

The Wildcats though got the final say in the game as Lyndi Smith hit a 3-0 pitch over left field giving ABU the victory and handing the Bronchos their first loss of the season.

Schrock took the loss in the game pitching 6 2/3 innings giving up 11 hits and six runs, walking two and striking out four.

The Bronchos finished with 11 hits in the game. Edwards led the way going 3-4 with three RBIs and Workman and Dziadula adding two hits apiece.

The Bronchos are back on the road this weekend as they head to Tucson, Ariz. to play in the NFCA Leadoff Classic.