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UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

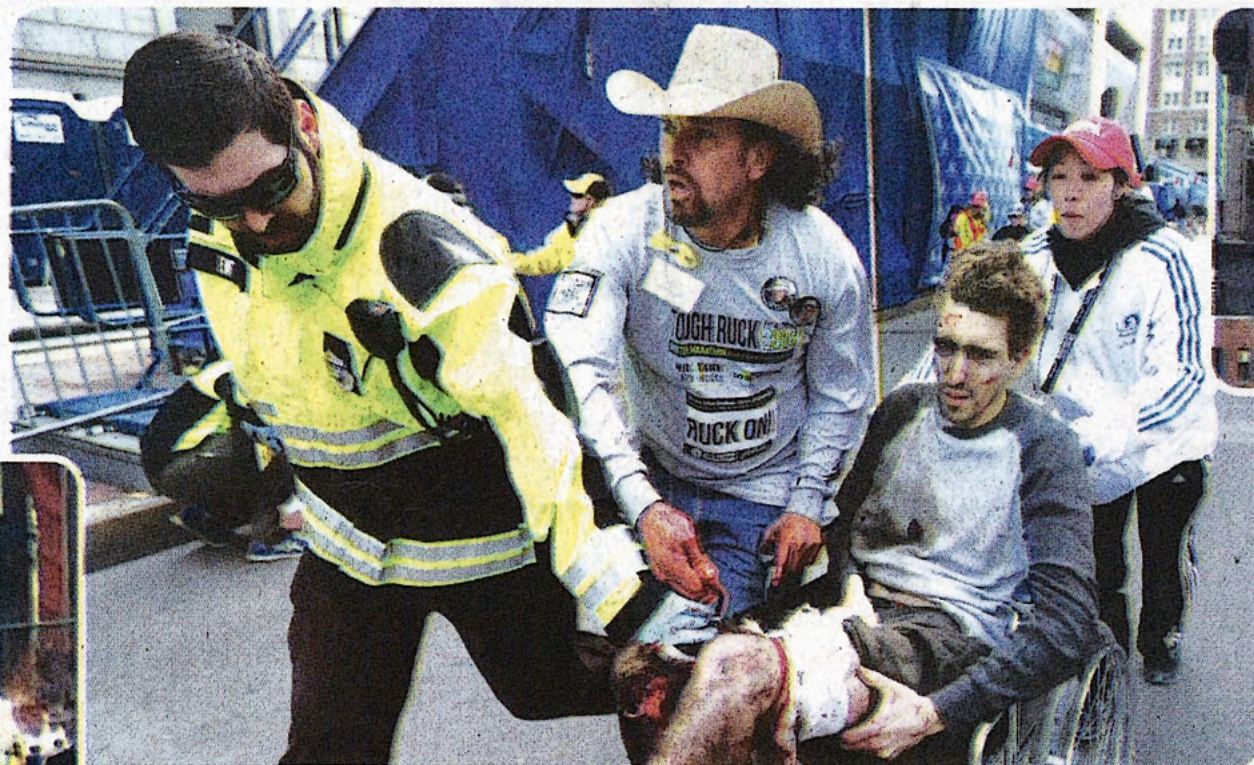
THE VISTA

The Student Voice Since 1903

Press Freedom Week

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(Below) In this image from video provided by WBZ TV, spectators and runners run from what was described as twin explosions that shook the finish line of the Boston Marathon, Monday, April 15, 2013, in Boston. (AP Photo/WBZTV)



Medical responders run an injured man past the finish line the 2013 Boston Marathon following an explosion in Boston, Monday, April 15, 2013. Two explosions shattered the euphoria of the Boston Marathon finish line on Monday, sending authorities out on the course to carry off the injured while the stragglers were rerouted away from the smoking site of the blasts. (AP Photo/Charles Krupa)



(Above) Medical workers and authorities work on the scene near the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon following an explosion in Boston, Monday, April 15, 2013. (AP Photo/WCVB-TV/ABC)

MULTIPLE CASUALTIES, DOZENS INJURED IN BOSTON MARATHON EXPLOSION

Boston blast heightens senses in Oklahoma

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Oklahoma Highway Patrol says there have been no threats or heightened security in the aftermath of a bombing at the Boston

Marathon — but that senses are heightened.

Trooper Betsy Randolph says the Boston bombing focuses attention on the scheduled April 28 Okla-

homa City Memorial Marathon. Randolph says authorities have always focused on security measures around the April 19 anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing and

during the marathon.

Oklahoma City Police Capt. Says police have always increased security for the race and adds both on-duty and off-duty officers for the

race.

Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett says there are currently no plans to call off this year's Oklahoma City marathon — but said events will be monitored daily.

International

STUDENTS REMAIN IN SOUTH KOREA DESPITE THREATS



Anti-war activists wearing military clothes of a North, left, and South Korea hug each other during a rally to mark Global Day of Action on Military Spending in front of the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea, Monday, April 15, 2013. (AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

ADAM HOLT, staff writer

The Office of International Services insists that current UCO students studying in South Korea are safe despite rising tension with North Korea.

Dennis Dunham, executive director of the Office of International Services at UCO, said they are continually in contact with the U.S. Department of State.

"The state department is emphatic about how the safety of Americans in South Korea has not changed," he said. "The students are safe as they ever were." There are currently eight UCO students in South Korea.

Dunham said International Services is taking the situation seriously. Parents and students have asked questions about the current predicament. Dunham said all parties involved are calm and confident and continue to enjoy their time on the Korean Peninsula. The office has communicated an evacuation plan to the students in case military action begins.

Dunham admits this round of rhetoric, the first from Kim Jong-

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Student Life

ON THE WAITLIST: HOUSING CONTRACTS SURPASS RECORD HIGH



Housing and Dining Services uses a 12-waitlist system to funnel students toward their requested living arrangement. Photo by Cyn Sheng Ling, The Vista

LESLIE NATION, contributing writer

The 2012-2013 academic year ends soon, but UCO's Housing and Dining is already preparing for students who are applying for housing in the fall.

As the number of new students enrolling in UCO increases each year, so too does the amount of housing contracts completed. The number of completed contracts has now reached 765, exceeding Housing and Dining's previous high of 690 in 2011. With those figures in mind, Executive Director of Housing & Dining Josh Overocker expects there to be a waitlist for all housing options, as there has been in previous years.

"Every year, for the last couple of years, we've had a waitlist for all of the halls," Overocker said. "We actually anticipate the same thing this year as well."

Overocker went on to explain that while there are currently 765 completed contracts to live in on-campus housing, another 500 are in some phase of their application.

"If all 500 of those contracts came through, I'd be about 1,250 out of 1,700 spaces full," Overocker said.

With available spaces filling up quickly, Housing and Dining organizes the excess of students on up to 12 different waitlists simultaneously. Overocker acknowledges that this process does make things difficult for them, but housing tries to ensure the students get what they requested through this process.

"There are some things that we do that certainly makes our lives more difficult," said Overocker. "But if it makes the students' lives easier it's worth making our lives a little bit more difficult."

Housing and Dining tries to take in account the amount of students who will not show up for check-in. Overocker said that housing, on average, has between 25 and 75 "no shows" every year. Because of this, housing will overbook and allow more

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Campus Politics

MILVO TO PRESS 'RESTART BUTTON ON STATUS QUO'



Newly elected UCOSA President, Zach Milvo, poses beside Broncho Lake, April 3, 2013. Photo by Larissa McClellin, The Vista

JOSH WALLACE, staff writer

At 3 p.m., April 10, voting ended on and off campus for the next University of Central Oklahoma Student Association (UCOSA) President, and after tallying the votes, candidate Zach Milvo was elected.

Milvo's candidacy was challenged several times during the 2013 campaign, once by election rules outlining that he was ineligible to run and were later overturned, and then by grievances filed against his campaign. He described his thoughts on why the campaign faced so many issues, saying, "We kinda built our whole campaign on refreshing UCOSA, or kinda pressing the restart button on the status quo, and I think that what that did was make the people who were involved with UCOSA say 'hold up, we don't need a restart button.' I think those were just two idea shifts and so basically we had people resist within the organization more than usual I would assume."

Voter turnout was under 10 percent, something Milvo says is a problem. He went on to describe how he and his running mate, Jillian Goodman, are going to be

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THE VISTA

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EDITORIALS

Opinion columns, editorial cartoons, reviews and commentaries represent the views of the writer or artist and not necessarily the views of The Vista Editorial Board, the Department of Mass Communication, UCO or the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges. The Vista is not an official medium of expression for the Regents or UCO.

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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.

Contact Aaron at 405-974-5913 or email your questions to vista-media@yahoo.com for rates.

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Editorial

SPEED TRUMPS ACCURACY IN BOSTON COVERAGE

While race spectators with missing legs laid in hospital beds, while family members were notified of lost loved ones, while cell phone service was shut down in Boston to prevent remote detonation, news providers, whether national entity or small college media, jockeyed for the fastest, most dynamic coverage following the marathon bombing.

Reporters looking to localize their stories employed the use of the hashtag #BostonMarathon. Supplications like "Anybody from Wichita, KS run in the #BostonMarathon today? We want to hear about your experience?" flooded the Twitter feed. Conflicting reports stacked upon conflicted reports came in next. As of 4:00 p.m. Monday (the time this editorial was penned), The New York Post claimed 12 were dead, over 50 injured. CNN claimed three dead, nearly 30 injured.

Six-second, looping Vines of

the initial explosion circulated throughout personal Twitter accounts and were even embedded into news websites. Even in UCentral Media's own newsroom, I overheard one broadcast student say, "We're going to have an award-winning show today." Fastest. Most dynamic.

Accuracy? Well...

This is the component of news that wears on me. It's a necessary grind, but a grind nonetheless. Focusing on breaking news and getting information to citizens as quickly as possible is a major goal of reporting. Given. However, speed is not the only goal. When speed is priority one, facts are skewed and often media outlets become a fear factory.

Such was the case yesterday, when reports of a third explosion at the John F. Kennedy Library spread wildly. After twenty minutes of misinforming the public, the Boston Police Department tweeted that there was an unre-

lated fire that took place at the library.

While many news agencies were getting it wrong, some websites are private citizens provided links to help those worried about family members. Google created a "People Finder" webpage, in which people in Boston could check-in and family members could search for to see their condition. A Runner tracker, a website showing where each runner checked in last, was promoted.

Not every news agency misinformed the public. But too many did. At a time of such suffering, news agencies must put respect and accuracy first and speed second.

JOSH HUTTON

editor-in-chief

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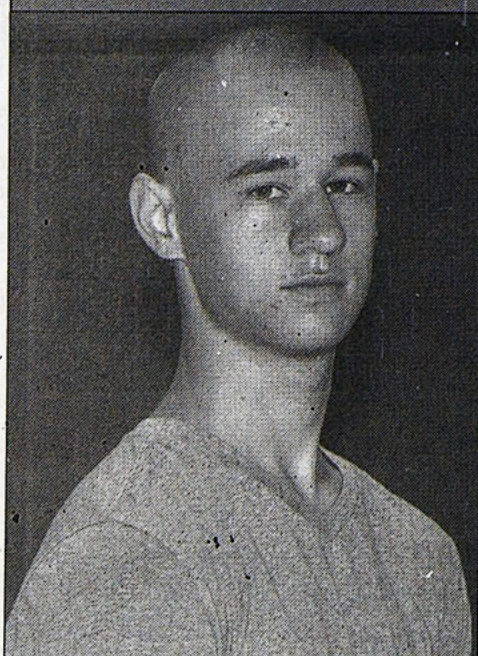


Cartoon by Evan Oldham

CAMPUS QUOTES

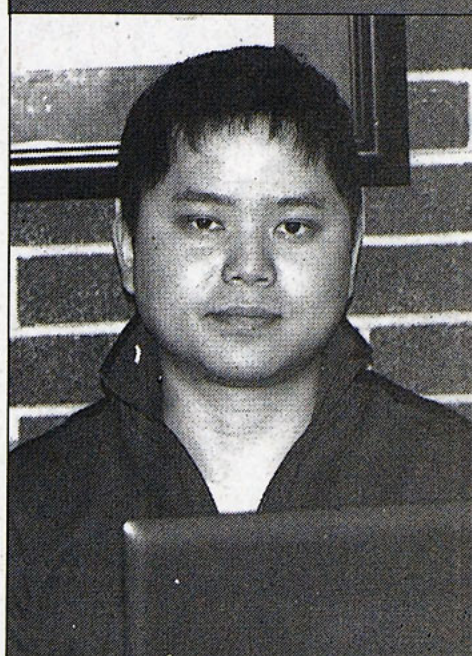
What is your reactions to the explosions at the Boston Marathon?

NATHAN YOUNG
Golf Management



"I'm kinda surprised, don't know why someone would set off a bomb there. I don't understand the importance of it. I'm just shocked and astounded. I feel bad for the people there."

CARLOS LAAN
Computer Science



"It's terrible, many people got injured. I'm waiting to hear more information."

ELENA CORTEZ
Nursing



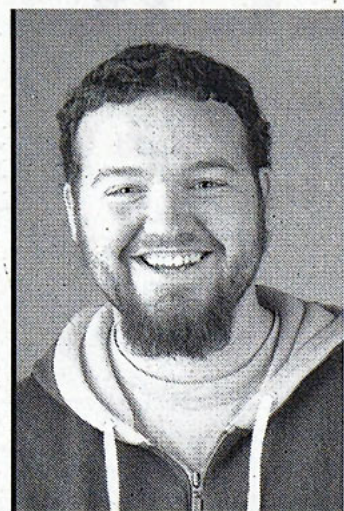
"I can't believe it; it's crazy; it's sad. I don't know what else to say. I'm just shocked."

KAYLA TUCKER
Community Public Health



"I'm not sure what to think about it. I hope it's just an accident, and not something more complex."

Opinion



BEEN JAMININ

Buddy's Identity Crisis

by Ben Luschen

Follow me @okluschen
...seriously

I spoke to a high school journalism class over the weekend. We were supposed to talk about college and future internships. I told them about how I got accepted into my dream school when I was 18 but I couldn't go because I just didn't have the kind of money they wanted.

They felt sad for me. Then I told them I went to UCO. They felt even sadder.

It's no secret that UCO is known as this Island of Misfit Toys, full of "coulda-beens" and "plan-B's." From personal experience, I can't say I was tremendously excited about going to Central my first semester. I don't think anyone is SCREAM-AT-THE-TOP-OF-YOUR-LUNGS-MAD-CAPS-LOCK-TWEETING at the fact they got accepted into UCO.

But does perceived reputation alone make a school? What is UCO?

That seems to be the \$40 million question. Clearly, Central administration is looking ahead to something big, as evidenced by the ambitious "Always Central" fundraising campaign and "Vision 2020," which seems to be a veiled way of saying "seven more years of construction."

If you ask students on campus what they think the future of UCO should be, responses will be unsurprisingly varied. Some would like to see Central as an NCAA Division I sports school, a thought which may seem preposterous until you

consider Florida Gulf Coast started just a few years ago as a bunch of trailers in a vacant lot. UCO has 17,000 students and is the state's third largest university. The University of Tulsa has under 5,000 and just accepted an invitation to the new Big East.

But then again, when's the last time you went to a Broncho sporting event? That answers that.

Some students would probably like it if UCO completely dropped its "commuter school" label and focused on improved housing options and worked to expand its Greek life. There are some students who would probably wish the exact opposite.

Some people would just like to see the perpetual construction on Old North come to a close, and I'm sure there are even some who wouldn't mind seeing the iconic clock tower leveled and a new parking lot put in its place.

And plenty more would have absolutely no opinion at all.

Here lies UCO's problem: it's a school that has no real concept of self. There are a million and one impressions about what UCO can and should be, but because these ideas are so varied, we end up settling for complacency. Stuck on an island.

What do you think UCO should be, Ben?

Well, thanks for asking. Despite whatever I said earlier, I actually like a "Vision 2020's"

overall mission statement, which is to make UCO a premier national metropolitan university. Basically, a commuter school on steroids.

There is absolutely no reason commuter school should be synonymous with a lack of facilities. No reason it should be synonymous with "coulda-beens" and "plan-B's."

Let's stop looking at what UCO isn't and start looking at what it already is: a decent-sized, well-rounded school that maintains small class sizes and is located in the heart of a blossoming metro area seemingly impervious to national economic downturn, all at a deliciously low price.

Remind me again what I have to feel bad about?

The groundwork is there for UCO. I feel like they have a winning formula. All that's needed are the facilities and the type of campus backing that can propel the school into the national landscape.

Central will never be a traditional university. Never. But that doesn't mean it can't be better (or the best) at what it does.

What that takes is more than general apathy among the students and faculty. It takes less self-pity-less jealousy-and more direction. More resourcefulness. Only then will UCO ever realize it's true "Vision." Only then can we get off the island.

Recipe

CAMPUS COOK

Cauliflower Pizza Bites

by Jody Buck

Ingredients

- 2 cups grated cauliflower
- 1/4 cup egg whites
- 1 cup 1 percent cottage cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- Turkey pepperoni slices

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
2. Put paper muffin liners into muffin tray.
3. In a frying pan, stir the grated cauliflower until it's clear
4. Place all the other ingredients in a food processor and blend until smooth.
5. Mix with cauliflower and stir.
6. Pour the mixture into muffin tray, add the pepperoni's on top, and put them in the oven.
7. Bake for 25-30 minutes.
8. Remove paper liners-note: if bottoms are still gooey simply flip them over, place them on a cookie sheet, and put them back in the oven for a few minutes until golden brown.



UCO hosts powwow



UCO hosted a Spring Powwow last weekend at Hamilton Field House. Native American costumes and customs were celebrated at the powwow, along with native dances and activities. The costume, like the one worn by the man above, is an original Native American costume. Photo by Alike Dyer, The Vista.

Local

Blockbuster closes its doors



Photo by Josh Lewis, The Vista.

Josh Lewis, Contributing Writer

Customers browsed through used DVDs at the Blockbuster in Choctaw, Okla., scavenging for bargains. Towers of cardboard boxes stand in the corner. A red sign hung from the ceiling declaring, "Entire stock on sale." These are the vestiges of a dying business.

Jill Ditata has been manager of this location for three years, one of the few Blockbuster stores still open in Oklahoma. She described how four stores closed last week and four more the week before that. On May 19, Ditata's store will be

shut down as well.

"End of an era," she said.

All Edmond locations have already been closed, making the closest available store ten miles away in northwest Oklahoma City. Ditata thinks technology has played a large role in the erosion of Blockbuster's customer base.

"There are so many opportunities to watch movies at their home. You can just get Netflix on X-box or PS3," she said.

Founded in 1984, Blockbuster became a mainstay for VHS, DVD, and video game rentals. At its peak in 2004, there were around 9,000 stores. Now, there are about 500.

The rise of Redbox and increased use of digital options has led to the near demise of the video rental chain. Ditata also cited poor business practices as another contributing factor to Blockbuster's decline.

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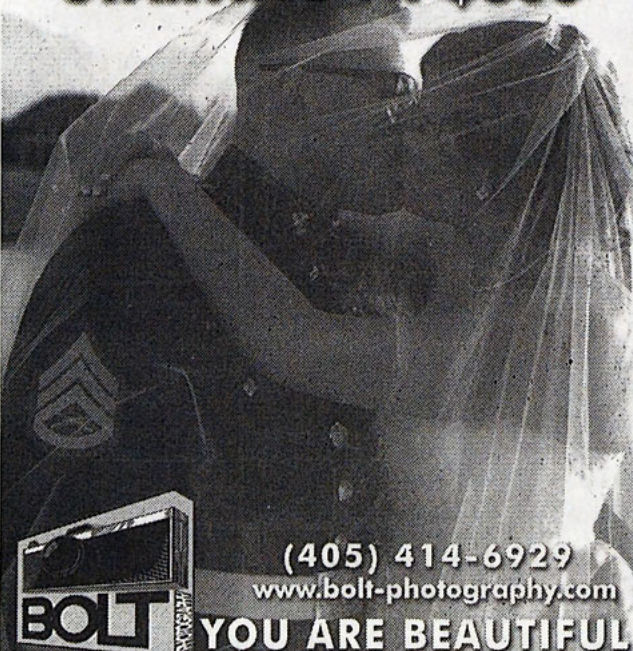
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PRESS FREEDOM WEEK



"We believe that UCO's campus needs to know that press freedom is a right but also a privilege." —Yvette Walker, Ethics Chair for the Mass Communications department

Milvo

working towards reaching out to students across campus to build up the reputation of the student government and seek more student involvement within the organization.

Milvo also spoke of the vote regarding the merging of UCOSA house and senate. He talked of his support for the change, adding, "I think it will be a good idea, I think what was happening in the past you had two different bodies that met, and not necessarily everybody wanted to be there, and so what this does is just kind of cleans it up and gets everybody in one room. In a real political system having two bodies is great, but for a student government system, there's just not a whole lot of need there."

Milvo spoke of his priorities once taking office after this semester, saying he would be focusing on the new UCO Student Center that is still in the planning stages. He men-

tioned the possibility of breaking ground on the project in the fall, and his desire to work with UCO to get the project done at the lowest expense for students.

In addition to trying to maintain low costs, Milvo plans to hold open forums in the fall with students to get an understanding of what they want in the new student center. He then plans on boiling down what students' wants and needs are for the student center, and working with UCO administration to implement them.

While his main focus is on the student center, Milvo's immediate plans are to overhaul the UCOSA website. He says the process should be short, and the site will be more attractive and hold more pertinent information than its current version.

Korea

Un, supreme leader of North Korea who took office in late 2011, is unlike threats of the past, but believes they are empty.

"It is different with the warnings to foreigners inside South Korea to leave," he said. "But his tactic is totally mouth."

Dunham said the media attention resulting from the recent tension is much more serious in the U.S. and other parts of the world than in South Korea.

"The U.S. has made it the number one story," he said. "South Koreans and the students are more blasé towards it."

Matthew Esch is a UCO senior currently studying international business at Pukyong National University. He agreed with the notion that the North Korean aggression has become a larger story outside of South Korea than inside.

"South Koreans do business as usual," he said. "Their society is too competitive to have time to worry about this kind of thing. If they skip a beat, no more job opportunity. Therefore

North Korea is the least of their worries."

Esch said the northern regime's rhetoric is nothing new and he has no worries.

"I view North Korea the same as always, like an angry child that wants power," he said. "They won't hurt more than a dozen people if anyone."

Dunham said UCO programs in South Korea have gained popularity even in the current climate. This summer 30 students as well as seven faculty members will be spending time in the country to develop new teaching methods.

"All of the students are saying it is a wonderful opportunity and are having a ball," he said.

Dunham hopes the current situation does not sour prospective students from studying in South Korea.

"I hope this does not discourage anyone," he said. "I wouldn't want anyone to miss this opportunity due to a dictator's rhetoric," he said.

Brooks Nickell

Staff Writer

It's Press Freedom week at the University of Central Oklahoma and UCO's Ethics Chair for the Mass Communications department, Yvette Walker, alongside her Press Freedom class will be working around campus to spread the knowledge and importance of this issue.

While National Press Freedom Day is a worldwide event held on May 3, students at UCO will be taking finals that week. Walker allows that press freedom awareness is important to share at all times and will be presenting Press Freedom Week from Apr. 15 through 19.

"We wanted to let the UCO campus know that press freedom is important," Walker said. "We should value it in this country and understand that many other countries don't have the amount of freedoms in press that we do."

Walker shared that while we have more press freedom in the United States than other countries we are not number one.

According to Reporters Without Borders, a nonprofit organization devoted to fighting cyber censorship, supporting and protecting journalists and keeping watch around the world, that spot belongs to Finland, with the U.S. landing in the rank of 32nd.

Walker's class has been preparing for Press Freedom Week by having journalists from around the world Skype into class. Many of these journalists have reported from a variety of other countries.

"We have had a chance to talk to real people who have actually been in these situations where they've had to report in countries that don't have as many freedoms as we do and how it can be tricky and dangerous to get the news out," Walker said. "We believe that UCO's campus needs to know that press freedom is a right but also a privilege."

Around the Nigh University Center, throughout the week, there will be various happenings to inform students about press freedom. Among information booths, students can also sign banners to show their support for press freedom.

Caroline Palumbo, a student in Walker's Press Freedom class said that students should stop by Thursday and visit the citizen-generated media themed table, where students can express what they think constitutes front page news.

"I feel like there is a lack of knowledge or a comfort that we're all in because of where we live," Palumbo said. "We take it for granted that we can get information out so easy. In other places, you can't pick up a paper and assume the information is true. We can help people realize that they have more of a voice in what they read and even what they consume social networking wise."

Both Palumbo and Walker expressed that there will be a "surprise" event happening in the Nigh University Center during Press Freedom week.

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FREEDOM OF THE PRESS WORLDWIDE IN 2013



Housing

fill out contracts than there are spaces available.

According to the terms and conditions of UCO's Housing and Dining contract, housing is allowed to make any sort of on- or off-campus accommodations for students who are overbooked. This has led to students living in study rooms, or with a resident assistant while they wait for permanent spaces to become available.

Kenzie Heidelberg, a senior photographic arts major and former resident assistant of West Hall, addressed issues this could create for students.

"As an RA with a roommate it was dif-

ficult to create an environment where other residents felt that they could come to me with sensitive issues," Heidelberg said. "One of the main purposes of RA's having their own room is so that residents feel like they can approach the RA without other residents knowing."

Heidelberg also stated that many of her residents complained about the study rooms being used to house other students. Those same students wanted to utilize the study rooms for the room's intended purpose.

Another issue that some students have with housing is paying a cancellation fee if they decide to terminate their contract. Overocker said that their ultimate goal is to help stu-

dents graduate, but there is also a business component to this policy.

"Housing on our campus, and on any campus, operates as what we call an 'auxiliary entity,'" Overocker said. "The basic gist is that we get zero dollars from the state and zero dollars from tuition and fees, so anything we use to operate is generated by student rent."

In the cancellation policy of Housing and Dining's terms and conditions, if a student is accepted to the university and terminates their contract they are responsible for 50 percent of both fall and spring semesters. However, if they withdraw from the university during the first two weeks of the fall semester,

they are reimbursed 100 percent of their contract minus the non-refundable fees.

"Nobody likes being told they owe money for something they're choosing not to participate in," Overocker said. "We're going to have to make a decision that allows us to continue to function and pay bills. That's where the rubs going to be. Students are going to be upset because they have to pay a cancellation fee, but I have a cancellation fee because I've got to be able to pay the bills and operate."

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- Thomas J. Watson

RIDDLE ANSWER

The letter 'N'.

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1. Elbow
6. Vice president under Jefferson
10. Torn part of a ticket returned as a receipt
14. Ancient
15. Succulent plants having rosettes of leaves found chiefly in Africa
16. "Major" animal
17. Trait of not being considerate of others
20. Ballad
21. "The Catcher in the ____"
22. Conventional characters of the alphabet
23. Charge
24. Biology class abbr.
25. Slot machine used for gambling
33. Lifeless, old-style
34. Cuckoos
35. ____ Wednesday
36. Made of lawn or fine linen
37. "____ any drop to drink": Coleridge
38. Anklebones
40. ____ Beta Kappa
41. Flexible mineral
42. Hole in the head
43. Course alternating study with work experience
47. "At Seventeen" singer Janis
48. "____ calls?"

Down

49. Substituted (for)
53. "Bingo!"
54. Bygone bird
57. Elements in a mathematical set
60. Advocate
61. F.B.I. operative
62. About to explode
63. 1992 Robin Williams movie
64. "La Scala di ____" (Rossini opera)
65. Chip dip
1. Short piece of wool separated from the longer staple by combing
2. Arm bone
3. June 6, 1944
4. "____ lost!"
5. Earnest or urgent request
6. Bête noire
7. Final: Abbr.
8. Aggravate
9. Echoes
10. Browning of the skin
11. Certain surgeon's "patient"
12. "Back in the ____"
13. Low in pitch
18. Appraiser
19. "Empedocles on ____" (Matthew Arnold poem)
23. "Charlotte's Web" girl

25. 1935 Triple Crown winner
26. Kind of situation
27. Bouncing off the walls
28. Methuselah's father
29. English theoretical physicist who predicted the existence of anti-matter and the positron
30. Repairs by sewing
31. Any Time
32. "Get ____!"
33. "The Sound of Music" backdrop
38. Cataclysms resulting from a destructive sea wave
39. Breezy
41. Excavations
44. Semiconductors consisting of a p-n junction
45. Dry riverbed
46. Diamond Head locale
49. Cottontail's tail
50. Hawaiian tuber
51. Bacchanal
52. Finger, in a way
53. "____ and the King of Siam"
54. Breakfast, lunch or dinner
55. Crumbs
56. Fishing, perhaps
58. Back muscle, familiarly
59. Car accessory

RANDOM FACTS

Between 1912 and 1948, art competitions were a part of the Olympics. Medals were awarded for architecture, music, painting, and sculpture.

The capstone atop the Washington Monument is actually made of aluminum. The 100-ounce pyramid-shaped "stone" was placed on December 6, 1884, and was the largest aluminum object cast up to that time. It sounds like an odd choice today, but aluminum was very hard to produce at the time and was worth as much as silver (\$24/oz in today's dollars).

The United Kingdom was the first nation to issue adhesive postage stamps; today, British postage stamps are the only ones in the world that do not indicate their country of origin.

"Cleaner shrimp" is a general term for any decapod crustacean that feeds off parasites living on fish. To attract passersby in the market for a cleaning, the cleaner shrimp will do a little dance. Fish taken in by the choreographed moves will respond by "striking a pose," which signals the cleaner shrimp to start washing and waxing like an underwater car wash.

While the James Bond novels weren't an immediate hit when they were published, they did get some recognition from at least one American: John F. Kennedy gave From Russia With Love a nod in one of his speeches.

Most supermarkets place their bakery areas near the entrance because studies have shown that the aroma of fresh-baked goods makes customers spend more money.

Baseball

Bronchos sweep Lopers, move to seventh

Cody Johnson

Contributing Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma's baseball team swept a three-game series against the University of Nebraska-Kearney this weekend on Wendell Simmons Field.

"Our guys competed well and had a really solid weekend offensively," Coach Dax Leone said.

UCO defeated UNK 15-5 and 14-4 in a double header on Saturday and 15-11 in a single game Sunday afternoon. This weekend put the Bronchos at a season record of 22-16 and an 18-15 record in the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference.

The action started on Saturday afternoon. It wasn't until the second inning when the Lopers scored the first run of the series. The Bronchos found their first scored run in the bottom of the third when the bases were loaded and Ryan Stoup walked on base, sending Matt Malloy home.

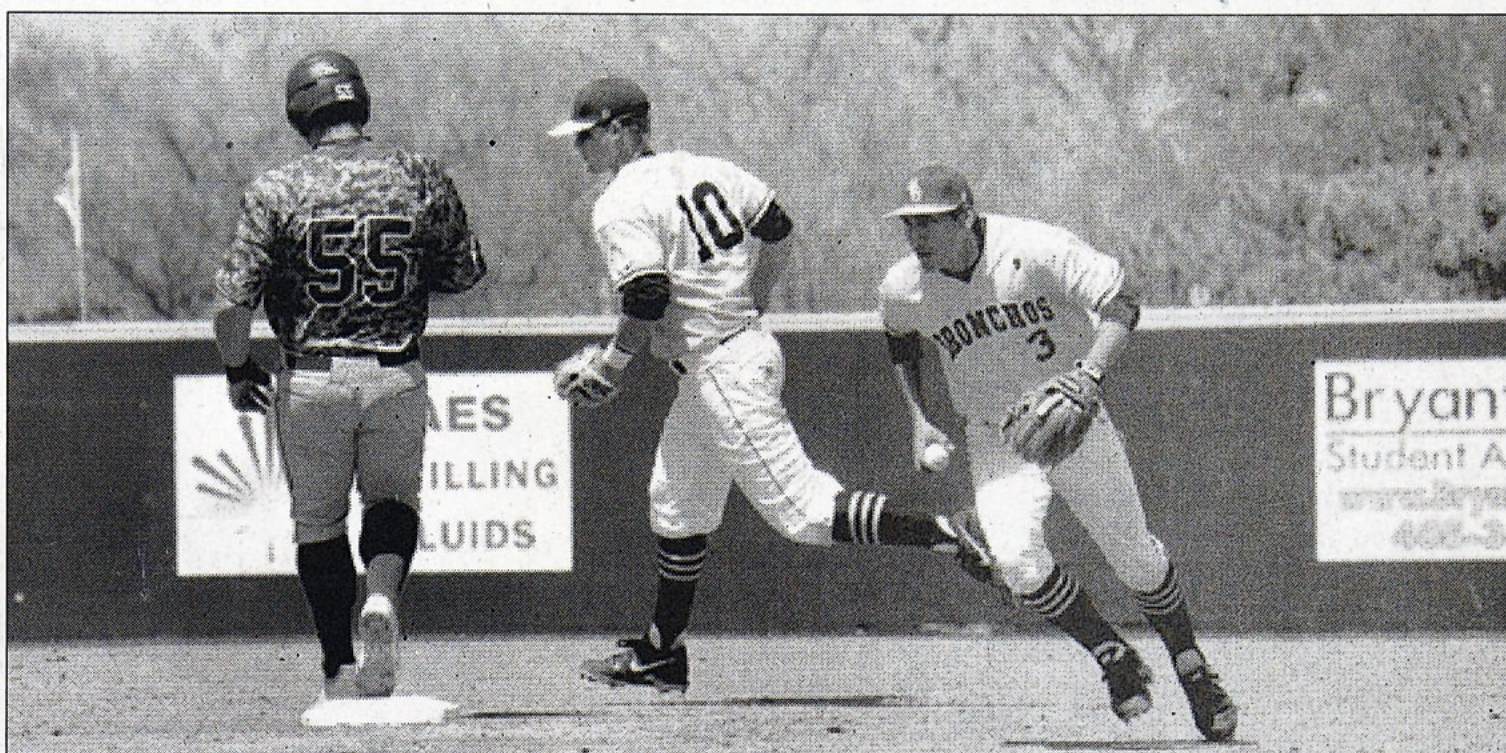
Central Oklahoma went on to score three more runs in the third and four more runs in the fourth inning. Nebraska-Kearney did not answer back until the sixth inning when they scored two runs in the top.

The Bronchos saw their two runs in the top and raised them five more when they scored seven runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. The Lopers scored two more runs in the seventh to put the final score of the first game at 15-5.

After a short break, the Bronchos and Lopers hit the field again with a second game on Saturday. Central Oklahoma didn't waste anytime in the first inning. Eric Garza slammed a home run over the left field wall, sending another Broncho home with him. Wacey Henderson and Matt Johnson each batted in a runner pulling the Bronchos ahead 4-0 going into the second inning.

Central Oklahoma continued in the second, with Matt Johnson sacrificing a fly

Opinion



UCO junior Cesar Wong (3) and junior Matt Johnson (10) after recording an out in a game against the University of Nebraska-Kearney on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Photo by Alik Dyer, The Vista

ball to center field so that Cameron Mavroulis could score a run. The Lopers came back in the third inning with a run scored and added another in the fourth inning to make the score 5-2. In the bottom of the fourth, the Bronchos added two more runs to the scoreboard, one off of a walk and one off of a ground ball to shortstop.

In the fifth inning, Cesar Wong scored off of Ross Rose's double play to center field. Wong went on to slam a homerun to left center in the sixth inning sending Matt Johnson and Robbie Hoffman home along with him.

Nebraska-Kearney managed to score two runs off of three hits in the seventh before the Bronchos enacted the 10-run rule with Tyler Crabtree and Hoffman sending a runner home each in the bottom of the inning. The final score was 14-4.

After a night to rest, both teams hit

the windy Wendell Simmons Field on Sunday afternoon for the final game of the series. Between the two teams, there were 36 hits, including 11 homeruns in what ended in a 15-11 victory for the Bronchos.

The day started with Crabtree and Johnson, UCO's first two batters, both hit homeruns in the first inning. The Lopers came back to tie the game at 2-2 with single runs in the second and third innings. However, the Bronchos continued their assault in the bottom of the third with Crabtree walking on first, stealing second and scoring off of Wong's double play to left center. Malloy then sent Wong home off a single play to center field.

Nebraska-Kearney saw their first lead of the three-game series in the fourth inning when they scored five runs. But Central Oklahoma answered right back with a four-run bottom of the same inning. Three of those runs were off of Johnson's slammed homer

over center field.

The Bronchos scored one more run in the fifth before the Lopers took the lead with a three-run sixth inning. Henderson tied it back up in the bottom of the sixth with a single play that sent Crabtree home from third base. UNK pulled ahead once more in the seventh inning with another run scored.

The Bronchos answered with three runs in the seventh inning and two more in the eighth inning to put the final score of the game at 15-11 and sweep the three-game series with 44 runs scored.

The Bronchos will travel to Joplin to play Missouri Southern on Wednesday in a doubleheader and then return to host another doubleheader against Hillsdale Baptist on Thursday in Edmond.

Whitt-ness This: The Braves keep rolling



Whitt Carter

Staff Writer

Let's talk baseball.

More specifically, let's talk about the Atlanta Braves.

All of the talk in the offseason was the acquisitions of the Upton brothers- BJ and Justin- to pair with slugger Jason Heyward, forming a loaded outfield that would most certainly carry the lineup.

Throw in other underrated players like Dan Uggla- three-time all-star- and Freddie Freeman, and you get a lineup that could most definitely do some special things, possibly even challenging for the NL East crown.

Well, if you haven't noticed, they've done more than "some things" in their scorching 11-1 start.

They've won nine in a row and Sunday, swept the Nationals with ease, a team that many believed at the beginning of the year to be the best team in the National League.

They are 6-0 on the road, and are currently riding their best start since 1994. Atlanta has outscored their opponents 62-23 and they've homered 20 times to their opponents' six.

This team is for real, folks.

Justin Upton has homered seven times this year- he hit his seventh last year on June 23, pitcher Paul Maholm, who threw eight shutout innings on Sunday, hasn't sur-

rendered a run in 20 1/3 innings thrown this season and they're getting contributions from guys that the majority of people haven't heard of.

Like catcher Evan Gattis, a janitor two years ago, who is now batting .324 with four homers (some of which haven't landed yet) and 10 RBI.

Or Chris Johnson, a career .275 hitter, who went 4-of-5 on Sunday with two RBI and is hitting .405 on the year.

The Braves just keep rolling. I mean, winning 11 straight games in basketball is impressive, sure. But in baseball, especially this early?

It kind of makes you stop for a second and say, "whoa... these guys are really good." It makes me say, "dang... my Royals play a two-game set in Atlanta today and tomorrow."

And all of this, without any production from the Braves' most seasoned veteran and top hitter.

Uggla is hitting .171 with two homers and three RBI. Heyward is batting a dismal .103 with one homer and four RBI. Just think about when those guys get the bats going.

Yes, I know, it's only mid-April and everyone always overhypes teams at the start of the year, because we forget that there are 150 games left.

But this time, I think it's different.

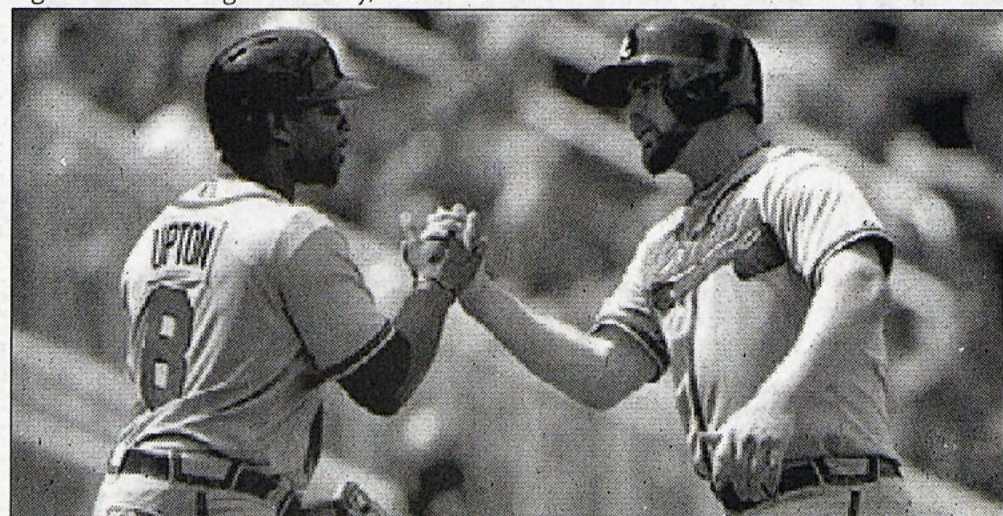
This team has underrated starting pitching, a deep lineup that can do lots of different things and a desire to prove themselves.

To prove that this Braves team can be mentioned with the others, the great teams of the 90s.

To prove that they can win a division title for the first time since '05 and possibly a pennant for the first time since '99.

To prove they might be the best team in baseball.

Such a brave statement, right?



Atlanta Braves' Justin Upton, left, congratulates teammate Evan Gattis after they both scored on a single hit by Chris Johnson during the first inning of a baseball game against the Washington Nationals at Nationals Park, Sunday, April 14, 2013, in Washington. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

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Softball

Softball gets six wins in three days

Bronchos streak to 13 games

Sam Philbeck

Contributing Writer

Eighth-ranked Central Oklahoma finished the weekend winning six straight home games and taking over the top spot in the MIAA conference standings.

UCO (33-7) since losing to Midwestern have run off 13-straight victories, including six straight over the weekend against Emporia State, Washburn University and rival Northeastern State.

"I was very proud of six wins at home against the competition we had," Central Oklahoma head coach Genny Stidham said of her team's weekend performance.

The victories have helped push the Bronchos to 17-1 in conference play and two games ahead of Fort Hays State in the MIAA standings after the Tigers dropped two games over the weekend and are now 15-3 against conference opponents.

The Bronchos took on two top-five conference opponents this weekend in Emporia State and Northeastern State.

Emporia State (26-13) came to town on Friday on a four-game winning streak, but left Edmond on a two-game losing streak.

Junior pitcher Kalynn Schrock pulled out the victory in a game one pitcher's duo against ESU's Karley Schmelzer. Both pitchers went the distance in impressive performances, but the fireballing southpaw shut the Hornets offense down in seven innings of work giving up only four hits and one run, while striking out three.

The victory would be the first of three victories over the long weekend for the junior pitcher. The run allowed was also



UCO freshman Sam Cool makes a diving catch in a game against Washburn University on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Photo by Aliki Dyer, The Vista

the first allowed by Bronchos pitchers in four games as they had a three game shutout streak before the weekend.

The Bronchos only runs all came in the fourth inning when junior Hayley Hudson and freshmen Tori Collet and Sam Cool all knocked in runs to give UCO the 3-1 lead.

Hudson and Collet finished with big weekends leading the teams in RBI's with ten and seven for each player, while both each hit one of the team's nine home runs over the weekend.

Game two was an exciting match between two of the top three teams in the conference as UCO pulled out an extra innings 5-4 victory on senior Kacie Edwards walk off single.

A back and forth battle, the Bronchos

scored two late runs in the eighth to preserve the victory and keep the winning streak alive.

"I thought they played outstanding against Emporia, who's got the whole package they've got pitching, they've got hitting, so to pull out two wins against them I thought was a great job," Stidham said.

Saturday ended up being a nightmare for pitchers on both sides with a strong gust blowing out to left center and center saw a combined ten home runs hit on the day, including eight in game two alone.

UCO swept both games that on paper looked like walk over games for the Bronchos, but ended up being tight slugfests between the two teams.

Central Oklahoma jumped out to a 8-0 lead over the first four innings, but the Lady Blues fought back over the final three closing the gap to 10-8, but couldn't come up with the big hits to tie or take the lead before UCO added one more for a 11-8 final.

Schrock started, but left due to arm issues and was relieved by freshman Nicole Brady who went three innings giving up seven runs (four earned), while striking out two and picking up her first of two wins this weekend improving to 3-1 on the season.

Game two, the Bronchos offense was just too much for the Blues and smacked Washburn around for a 16-7 victory.

"I told my girls in game one, we've got sixteen hits and we should have sixteen runs and in game two we score sixteen runs and they say to me there are the sixteen runs you wanted coach," Stidham joked talking about Saturday's doubleheader performance.

Edwards and freshman Brooke Zukerman each homered twice off Washburn pitching finishing with a combined eight RBI's in the game.

The slugging senior finished 10-20 on the weekend, knocking in five runs to go with the two home runs giving her a team high twelve for the season and 46 for her career.

The Bronchos scored 27 runs on 27 hits on Saturday, while six Bronchos finished with three or more hits on the day.

The weekend finale against rival Northeastern State was as advertised as both teams featured terrific pitching, but the Bronchos pulled out each nail biter to complete the weekend sweep.

Game one, Schrock returned and went the distance for UCO giving up only three runs and striking out ten RiverHawk batters, while picking up her third win of the weekend and her team high 19th on the season.

Sophomore slugger Nicole Workman and Hudson each hit a pair of two-run home runs to lead the offense in game one.

Workman picked up where she left off in game one, adding her second home run of the day in game two and two more RBI's to give her a total of four on the day and a team high 47 on the year.

Junior pitcher Amanda McClelland was solid in her fourth appearance on the weekend, going six innings and giving up two runs before Schrock came in and closed the door on any hopes the Hawks had of coming back and picked up her fourth save of the season in the Bronchos 4-2 game two victory.

The wins extend UCO's season high thirteen game winning streak and pushing them to the top spot in MIAA, where they have won twelve straight against conference opponents.

UCO is back on the road this weekend as they head to Missouri for doubleheaders against Lindenwood and Truman State, before returning home to close out their season next weekend.



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MIAA Standings

1. Central Okla.	33-7, 17-1
2. Fort Hays State	35-7, 15-3
3. Missouri Western	29-11, 13-5
4. Northeastern St.	20-18, 12-6
5. Emporia State	26-13, 13-7
6. NW Missouri St.	22-12, 10-8
7. Truman	21-13, 9-9
8. Pittsburg State	21-19, 9-11

*Top 8 advance to playoffs