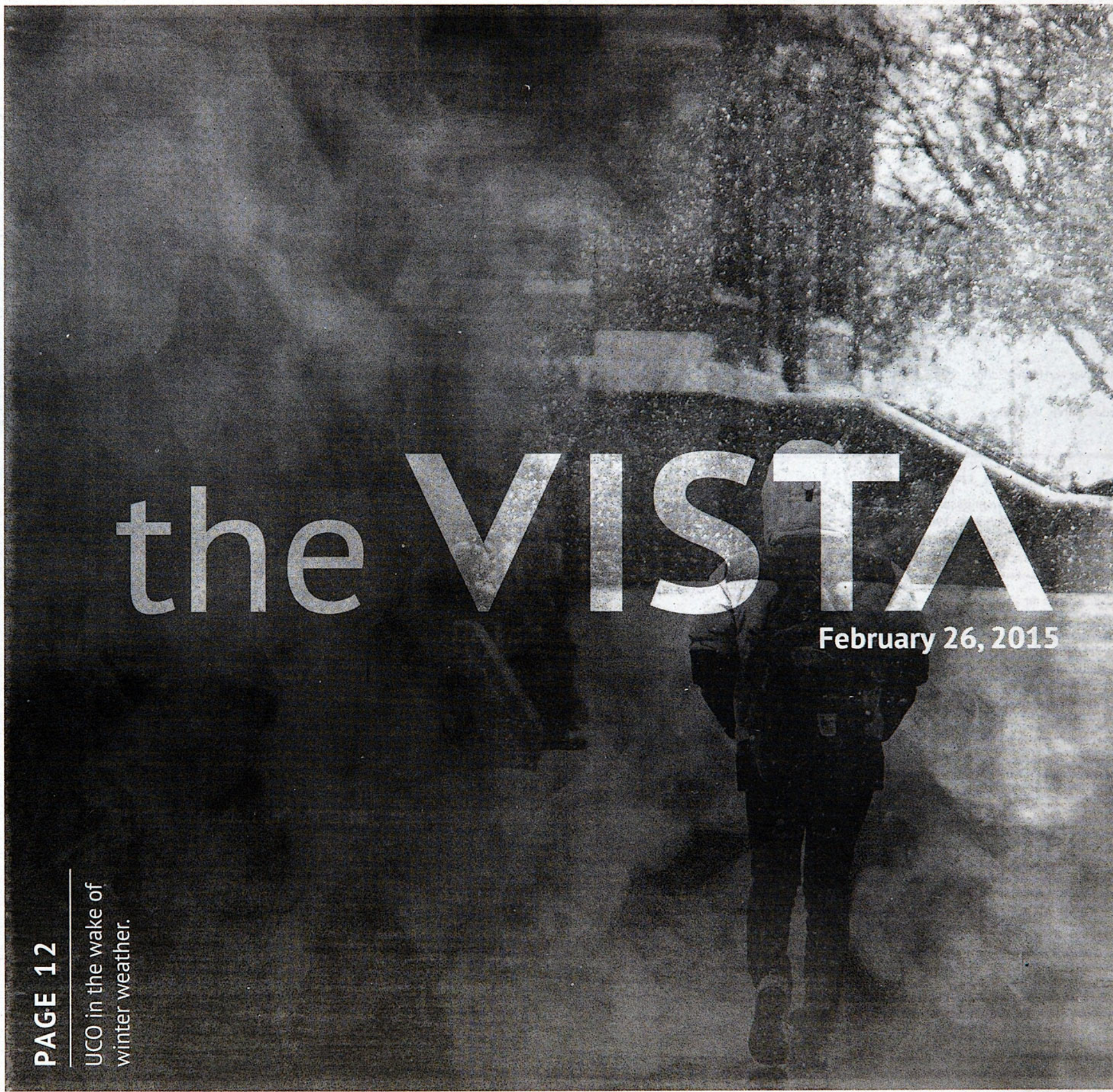


PAGE 12

UCO in the wake of
winter weather.

the VISTA

February 26, 2015



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CORRECTION

The story "Reachout hosts Black Hair Care Forum at the Nigh" which ran in the February 19th edition of the Vista was wrongly attributed to Vista Contributor Erick Perry. In actuality this story was written by Vista Contributing Writer Taylor Favell.

Advertise with the Vista:

The Vista is published weekly 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.

Email your questions to:

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The Vista is published as a newspaper and public forum by UCO students, semiweekly during the academic year except exam and holiday periods, and only on Wednesdays during the summer, at the University of Central Oklahoma. The issue price is free for the first copy and \$1 for each additional copy obtained.

EDITORIALS

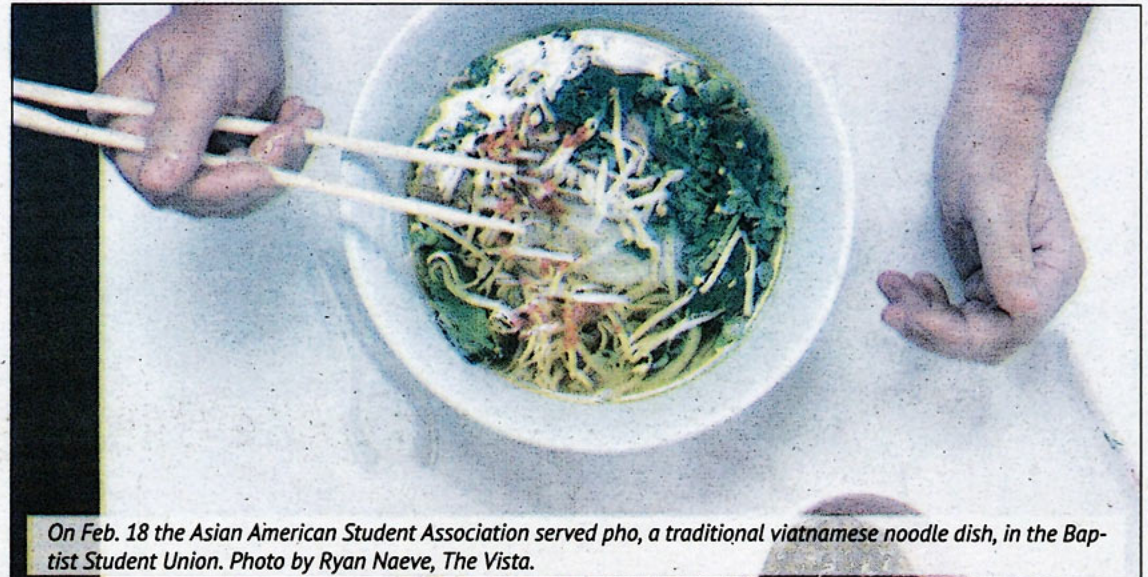
Opinion columns, editorial cartoons, reviews and commentaries represent the views of the writer or artist and not necessarily the views of The Vista Editorial Board, the Department of Mass Communication, UCO or the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges. The Vista is not an official medium of expression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

LETTERS

The Vista encourages letters to the editor. Letters should address issues and ideas, not personalities. Letters must be typed, double-spaced, with a maximum of 250 words, and must include the author's printed name, title, major, classification and phone number. Letters are subject to editing for libel, clarity and space, or to eliminate statements of questionable taste. The Vista reserves the right not to publish submitted letters.

Address letters to:

Editor, The Vista, 100 N. University Dr., Edmond, OK 73034-5209, or deliver in person to the editor in the Communications Building, Room 131. Letters can be emailed to vistauc@gmail.com.



On Feb. 18 the Asian American Student Association served pho, a traditional vietnamese noodle dish, in the Baptist Student Union. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

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ON THE COVER

A student walks through the snow early this week on the sidewalk in front of Evans Hall on the campus of The University of Central Oklahoma. Photo by Cooper Billington/ Photo Illustration by Daltyn Moeckel.



A student trudges through the snowstorm on her way to class. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.

“Campus Quotes”

What's your favorite thing to do on a snow day?

Nathan Miliam

General Studies

"I plan to head out to lake Arcadia for a little bit of snow hiking."

Senior

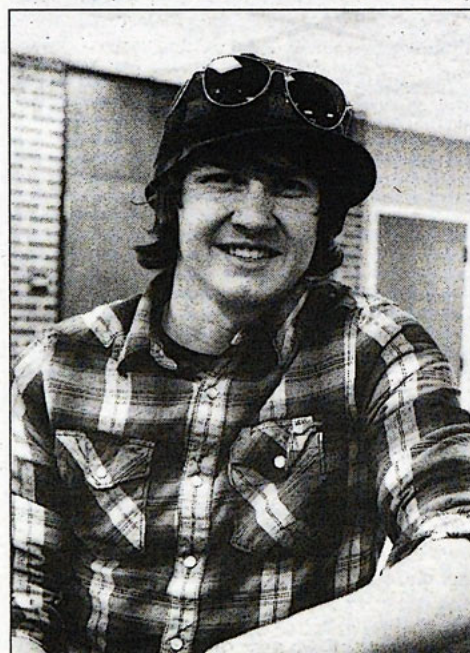
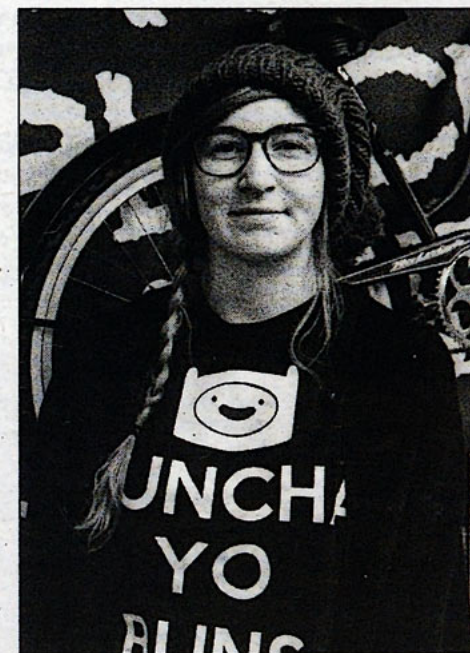


Samantha Nguyen

Biology

"I like to either watch 'Friends' on Netflix all day or go sled-ding."

Freshman

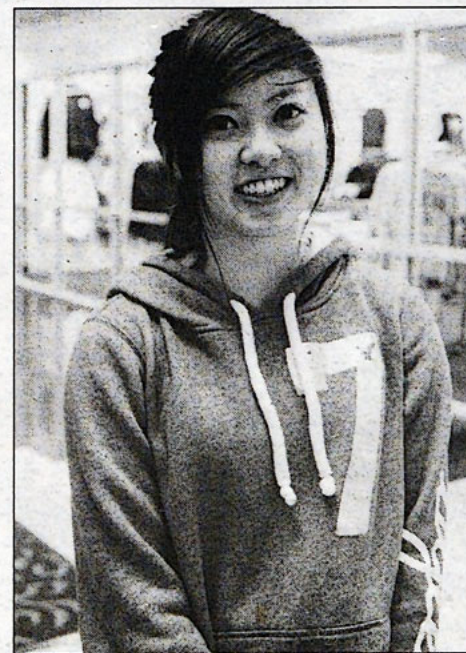


Courtney Holmes

Psychology and Forensic Science

"If we have a snow my plans are to sleep in and work on homework."

Freshman



Samantha Smith

Studio Art

"I usually watch movies with my sister and cook food"

Senior

Student Programming Board wants you to go to a Thunder game... for free



Austin Rabon
@ TheRabon

OKC THUNDER

Going to a Thunder basketball game can be expensive, but when you get a chance to go it can be the experience of a lifetime.

That experience can become reality because The University of Central Oklahoma has a ticket waiting just for you-- the best part is that it's free. On March 4, the Student Programming Board will host the UCO Night at the OKC Thunder.

"Last year we had a huge turn out. It is a great experience because students get to hang out with other students and watch a NBA game," said Special Events Coordinator Bryan Huddleston when asked about the event.

To attend the event and get a ticket to the game, students simply need to go to <http://www.uco.edu/stu->

[dent-life/orgs/orgsync.asp](http://www.uco.edu/stu-), sign in and fill out a form. Only the first 100 students will get a ticket, and students must have a valid student identification card from UCO to attend.

The OKC Thunder are right on the edge of making the playoffs. Russell Westbrook, who had an unbelievable all-star performance, will help lead the way alongside Kevin Durant and Serge Ibaka.

It is not everyday these stars can be seen, and especially not for free.

"This event gives students an opportunity to do something fun, and for some, something new, and support the local NBA team," Huddleston said.

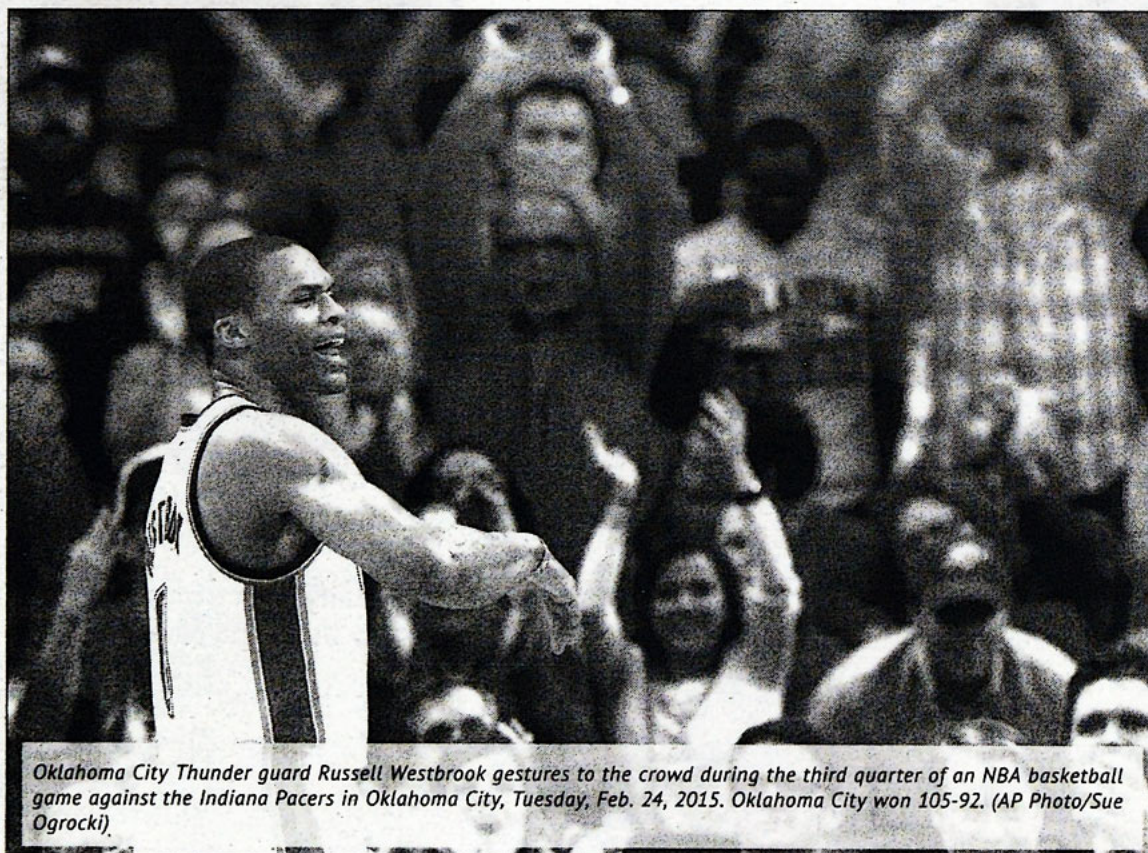
Once it is confirmed a student has a spot, a designated

meeting area outside the stadium will be established. The seats are in the upper level of the arena, known as Loud City, and the Thunder will be playing the Philadelphia 76ers in that night's contest.

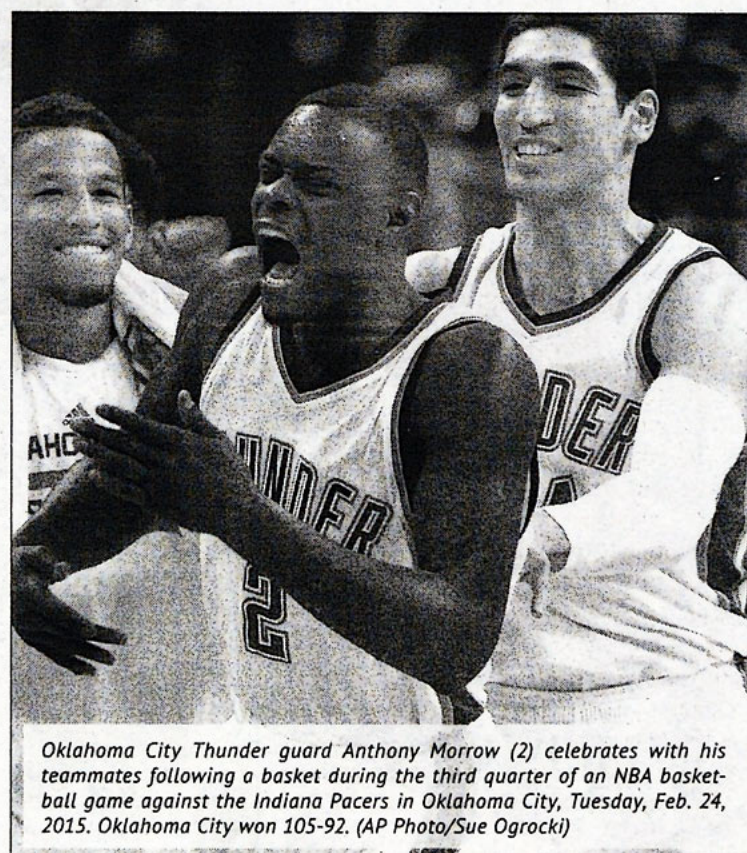
The only catch is that if a student does not show up to the event they will be charged \$10 to their bursar account to help pay for the unused ticket. So if a student commits to go, that student needs to be sure that they can make it so that no tickets are wasted.

"No transportation will be provided so students will have to find their own ride to the stadium, but once they're there it will be worth it," Huddleston said.

So take advantage of this great opportunity, reserve a ticket and come help cheer on the Thunder to victory.



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook gestures to the crowd during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers in Oklahoma City, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. Oklahoma City won 105-92. (AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki)



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Anthony Morrow (2) celebrates with his teammates following a basket during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Indiana Pacers in Oklahoma City, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015. Oklahoma City won 105-92. (AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki)

Four arrested at Wesleyan University (Conn.) for tainted Molly

AP @AP

Associated Press

Four Wesleyan University students were arrested Tuesday in connection with about a dozen hospitalizations among people who took a party drug known as Molly.

The students, including one from Brazil, were arrested on assorted drug charges and were suspended from the university.

Eleven Wesleyan students, some of whom had attended a rave music show on Saturday night, received medical attention over the weekend, police said. Two students were still being treated Tuesday, they said.

Police officers trying to find out who supplied the Molly and collect evidence in the case searched locations in and around Wesleyan's campus in Middletown, Chief William McKenna said. Authorities from various agencies worked to identify the different types of chemicals in the batch of Molly that caused the weekend overdoses, he said.

"This particular batch may have had a mixture of several kinds of designer drug chemicals, making the health risks unpredictable and treatment to combat the effects complex and problematic," he said.

The arrested students were identified by police as Eric Lonergan, of Rio de Janeiro; Andrew Olson, of Atascadero, California; Zachary Kramer, of Bethesda, Maryland; and Rama Agha Al Nakib, of Lutherville, Maryland. They were jailed Tuesday night, and police said there was no way for them to comment to anyone by phone. They're due in court March 3.

Lonergan is accused of possessing a controlled substance and illegally obtaining or supplying drugs while Olson faces charges of possessing and selling a hallucinogen. Kramer is accused of possessing drug paraphernalia, a regulated substance and a small amount of marijuana. Al Nakib is accused of possessing a controlled substance, a controlled substance with intent to sell it and drug paraphernalia.

Wesleyan president Michael Roth said the univer-

sity takes drug distribution allegations seriously and is cooperating with authorities.

"We will do everything we can to make our community as safe as possible," he said in a statement.

Roth had sent a letter to people on campus on Monday asking for help: "If you are aware of people distributing these substances, please let someone know before more people are hurt," he said then.

The university became aware of the Molly problem early Sunday after several students showed up seeking treatment at a hospital near campus, university spokeswoman Lauren Rubenstein said. Two students listed in critical condition Sunday were airlifted for treatment in Hartford, 20 miles north of campus.

Molly is a term used to describe a refined form of Ecstasy, a synthetic drug also known as MDMA. It can drive up body temperature and cause liver, kidney or cardiovascular failure.

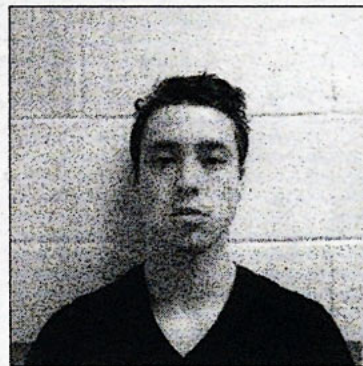
Dr. Mark Neavyn, chief of toxicology at Hartford Hospital, said users who believe they are taking Molly are often receiving different kinds of designer drugs, with ranges of purity and potency making the health risks unpredictable.

The weekend rash of Molly hospitalizations wasn't the first such episode this year at the private university of nearly 3,000 students.

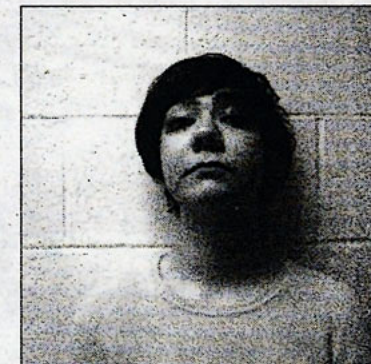
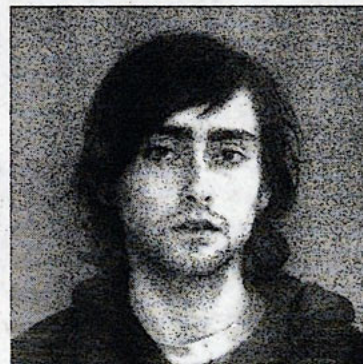
Wesleyan health officials said in a campus-wide email on Sept. 16 that students had been hospitalized the previous two weekends after taking Molly. Students were urged to visit the university's health center if they had questions or concerns.

The police chief said the safety and welfare of community members, including those on the Wesleyan campus, were his top priority.

"Incidents jeopardizing the safety will not be tolerated," he said, "and those offenders will be held accountable."



Top Left: This image provided by the Middletown Police Department shows Zachary Kramer, 21, of Bethesda, Maryland. Kramer was one of four Wesleyan University students arrested Tuesday Feb. 24, 2015 in connection with about a dozen hospitalizations among people who took a party drug known as Molly. Top Right: This image provided by the Middletown Police Department shows Eric Lonergan of Rio de Janeiro. Bottom Left: This image provided by the Middletown Police Department shows Andrew Olson of Atascadero, Calif. Police say Olson posted bond Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015 and is due in court March 3. Bottom Right: This image provided by the Middletown Police Department shows Rama Agha Al Nakib, of Lutherville, Maryland. (AP Photos/Middletown Police Department)

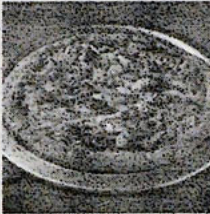
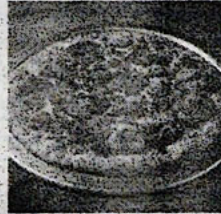
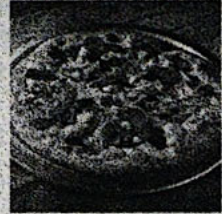





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UCO hosts Historical Performance Outreach Weekend



Lauren Capraro
@laurencapraro

Staff Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma Center for Historical Performance hosted a historical performance outreach weekend Feb. 20-21 at the Radke Fine Arts Theatre with featured performances, master classes and historical performance lectures.

The Radke Fine Arts Theatre is located in the Center for Transformative Learning on campus. All of the weekend's events were free, were open to the public and they were made possible by a grant from the Oklahoma Arts Council.

The weekend kicked off on Friday with a Harpsichord Master Class by Brad Bennight and was followed by a concert featuring Bennight, Sarah Freiberg and Tess Remy-Schumacher.

Saturday started off with two workshops hosted by Ted Honea which included the History of Performance Practice and Literature and the Editorial and Translation Method and Problems workshop.

The outreach weekend also hosted a Technical and Stylistic Elements in Historical String Performance Practice and the Baroque Chamber Music Master Class on Saturday afternoon.

Ending the outreach weekend was a hands-on Q-and-A session where attendees could talk to the performers and play a harpsichord or cello.

Some of the topics covered in the workshops included: how to select a performing edition, editing musical text and translation problems in music.

"All of the programs were really good; I can't pick a favorite but I think the most informative event was the History of Historical performance class. It looked at the different ways people have looked at music throughout history. The workshop was much more in-depth than any class I've taken," said Sarah Willson, a UCO Music Alumni.

The Center for Historical Performance aims to understand and present music from the past as close to the composers' intention as possible, including the use of historical instruments or modern replicas.

The Center for Historical Performance will host a Spring Concert on April 19 at 3 p.m., in the Radke Fine Arts Theater in the UCO Center for Transformative Learning. They will also take a Field Trip to the National Music Museum at the University of South Dakota on Oct. 14-18.

For more information and a complete listing of UCO Center for Historical Performances events, visit www.uco.edu/cfad/historical-performance/events-outreach.asp.

Attendees were able to actually experience the available instruments brought throughout the weekend during the Q&A session on the last day of the event. Pictured is an attendee playing on a harpsichord. Photo by Lauren Capraro, The Vista.

Facing your fears in the name of doing good: Why you need to donate blood



Adam Ropp

Staff Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma's Delta Sigma Theta hosted a Blood drive last Friday in the Nigh University Center in partnership with the American Red Cross.

Despite receiving donors, many students did not attend due to the fear of needles or needle phobia, a medical condition that according to "The Journal of Family Practice", affects around 25 percent of adults.

Amber Tardif, administrative secretary for UCentral Media commented, "Almost everyone I talked to said they wouldn't go because of the needles and that they couldn't find a friend to go with them."

According to a comprehensive review by James G. Hamilton M.D. titled "Needle Phobia: A Neglected Diagnosis", fear of needles is one of the few phobias that actually kills people with over 23 confirmed deaths due to the direct result of shock during a needle procedure.

In 2012, the Taddio Study found that Public health officials have also seen the drop of vaccinations in seven percent of adults and eight percent of children due to the fear of needles.

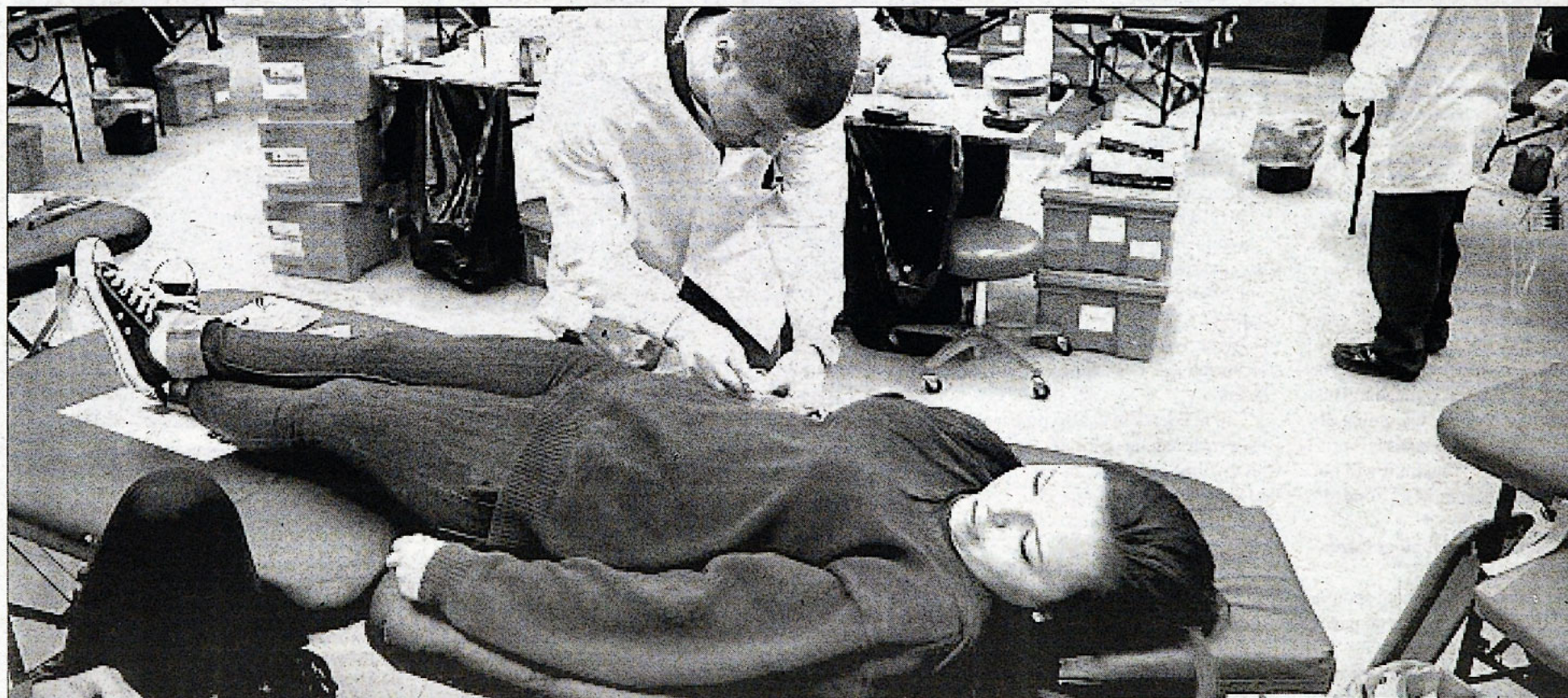
Stanton Wayne, a UCO biology major and blood donor stated, "I understand why people get freaked out over the needles, but this is for a good cause and I would want people to get over their fear and do this for me, so I'm going to do it for them."

Hamilton stated about 80 percent of needle phobics have inherited the fear from a relative, which was considered a genetic trait that had survival value for humans prior to the 20th century.

Before modern medicine, an individual who feared being stuck with a fang, a thorn or a knife was less likely to die in accidents or in encounters with hostile animals or other people.

This survival trait was valuable prior to the 20th century, but now has a harmful effect; it causes certain people to refrain from the benefits of modern treatment, even when facing serious or potentially fatal conditions.

The website for the Oklahoma Blood Institute stated, "Every two seconds, someone needs blood, yet less than 10 percent of those eligible to give blood do it. Blood donors with Oklahoma Blood Institute know they are, literally, saving the lives of their friends, family and co-workers, some who may have no idea they will need blood in an urgent situation. One blood donation can save up to three peoples' lives."



American Red Cross worker Scott Moore prepares to draw blood from Apollo High School (Minn.) student Hanna Pierskalla during a blood drive Wednesday at the school in St. Cloud, Minn. (AP Photo/The St. Cloud Times, Dave Schwarz)

UCO College of Business offering Tax Assistance for students through Volunteer Program



Taylor Favell

Contributing Writer

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance at the University of Central Oklahoma's College of Business is providing income tax preparation and e-filing for students, staff and the public between Feb. 3 and April 11.

The College of Business is calling this a public service that should be taken advantage of because many tax agencies charge hundreds of dollars for their assistance with tax preparation. The VITA is offering their service free of charge to students and the public.

VITA is staffed by accounting students who have passed at least three tests to qualify them to prepare income tax returns. The students are supervised by UCO accounting faculty, who check each return for corrections.

Before submission, the tax returns are double and triple checked to avoid errors; accuracy is most important to VITA.

VITA's services are located in Room 111 in the College of Business building. The upcoming day they will be filing taxes is April 11 from 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; it will not be offered March 14-21 due to Spring Break.

There are a few things taxpayers should bring:

1. A photo ID for both spouses
2. Birth dates for the taxpayer, spouse and dependents
3. A passport and visa for international students
4. A Social Security card for yourself and for each of your de-

pendents, or last year's tax return

5. W-2 forms from each 2014 employer

6. 1042-S forms from UCO and certain other 2014 employers, for international students

7. 1099 forms from banks, brokerages, contract work and other income sources

8. Receipts and other documentation to support education expenses, including books, day care costs and other deductible costs

9. A personal check to provide the checking account and routing number for refunds to be directly deposited

10. If you have a Marketplace granted health coverage exemption, bring your exemption certificate number

11. If you purchased a qualified health plan from the Marketplace, bring your Form 1095-A

12. 2013 tax return, which is optional

All services are first come, first serve and less busy before Spring Break.

U.S. residents may also prepare their own federal and state tax returns free at <http://busn.uco.edu/freefile>. The income limit is \$60,000 in 2014 for individuals and families.

For more information about VITA contact Dr. Mary Sheets, Professor of Accounting, at msheets@uco.edu or call at 405-974-2834, or go on the VITA website at <http://busn.uco.edu/accounting/vita>.

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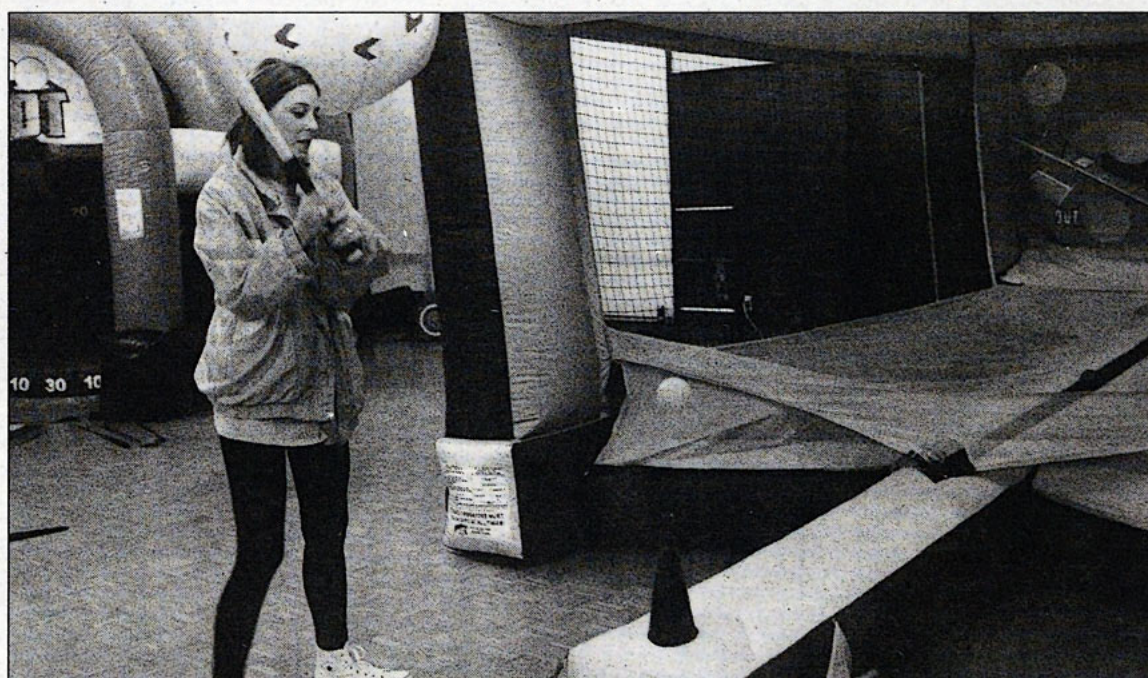
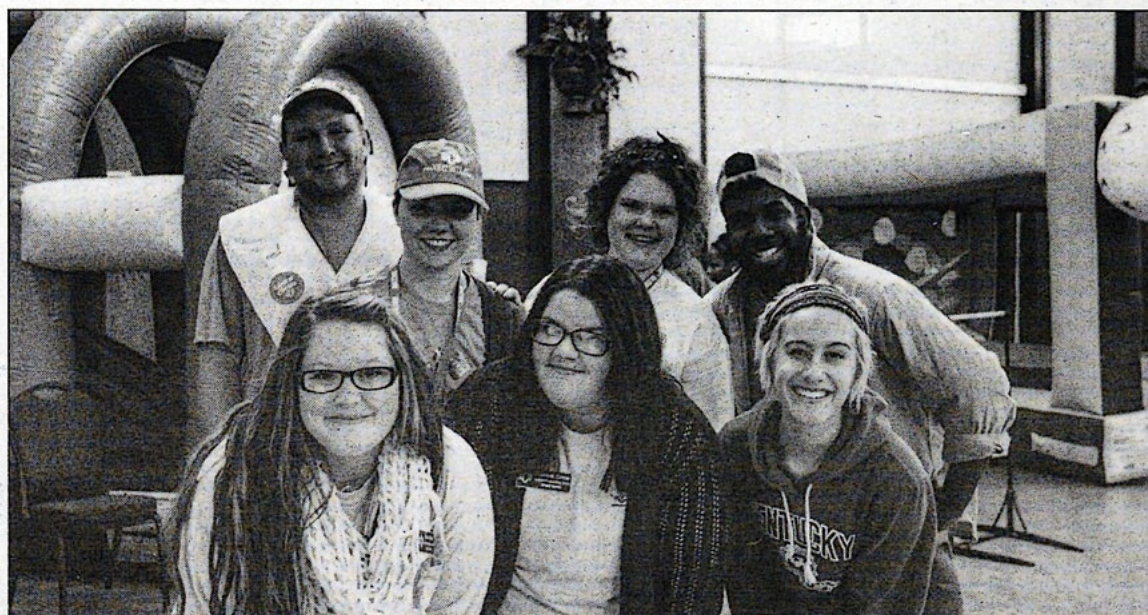
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UCO Hosts Carnival for the Cure as a part of the 5th annual Big Pink Week



Brandi Melton

Contributing Photographer



(Top Left) Senior Alex Baker is an active member of SPB. Baker wore a pink ribbon and handed out pink hats to encourage students to donate.

(Bottom Left) Jamie McLain (left) and Blake Hubbard (right), both juniors at UCO, prepared soda pop floats for students during the Carnival for the Cure. The carnival is one of many events that SPB hosts in hopes of encouraging students and faculty to donate towards breast cancer research.

(Top Right) Members of the SPB took a moment for a photo opportunity during the Carnival For the Cure. The SPB uses these events to encourage the campus to come together and educate themselves about breast cancer.

(Bottom Right) Haley Hambrick, a freshman at UCO, played baseball at the Carnival For a Cure. SPB also provided other games including basketball, human foosball and ladder ball. Photos by Brandi Melton, The Vista.

Behind the scenes of Big Sean's new project

Dark Sky Paradise



Erick Perry
@erickperry9fo

Contributing Writer

Big Sean's "Dark Sky Paradise" was released Tuesday to music fans across the world, through G.O.O.D. Music and Def Jam Recordings.

The 12-track album features various artists including: Drake, E-40, Chris Brown, Ty Dolla Sign, Jhene Aiko, Lil' Wayne, John Legend and Kanye West.

The album includes production from Kanye West, DJ Mustard and Travis Scott.

A deluxe edition of the album is also available with three additional songs featuring PARTYNEXTDOOR, the breakout Canadian act signed to Drake's OVO label, as well as Sean's current girlfriend, Ariana Grande, who has had a year of musical experiences herself.

Grande recently performed at the 2015 Grammy Awards and was nominated for Best Pop Vocal Album.

Sean released a series of photographs online anticipating the release of his album as well as several singles from "Dark Sky Paradise" prior to the release date.

Monday night hosted a pair of releases, including a video for the opening song of the album, "Dark Sky (Skyscrapers)" and a free-style track entitled "Me, Myself and I."

Other singles released, include; "IDFWU", "Blessings", "One Man Can Change The World", "All Your Fault" and "Win Some, Lose Some."

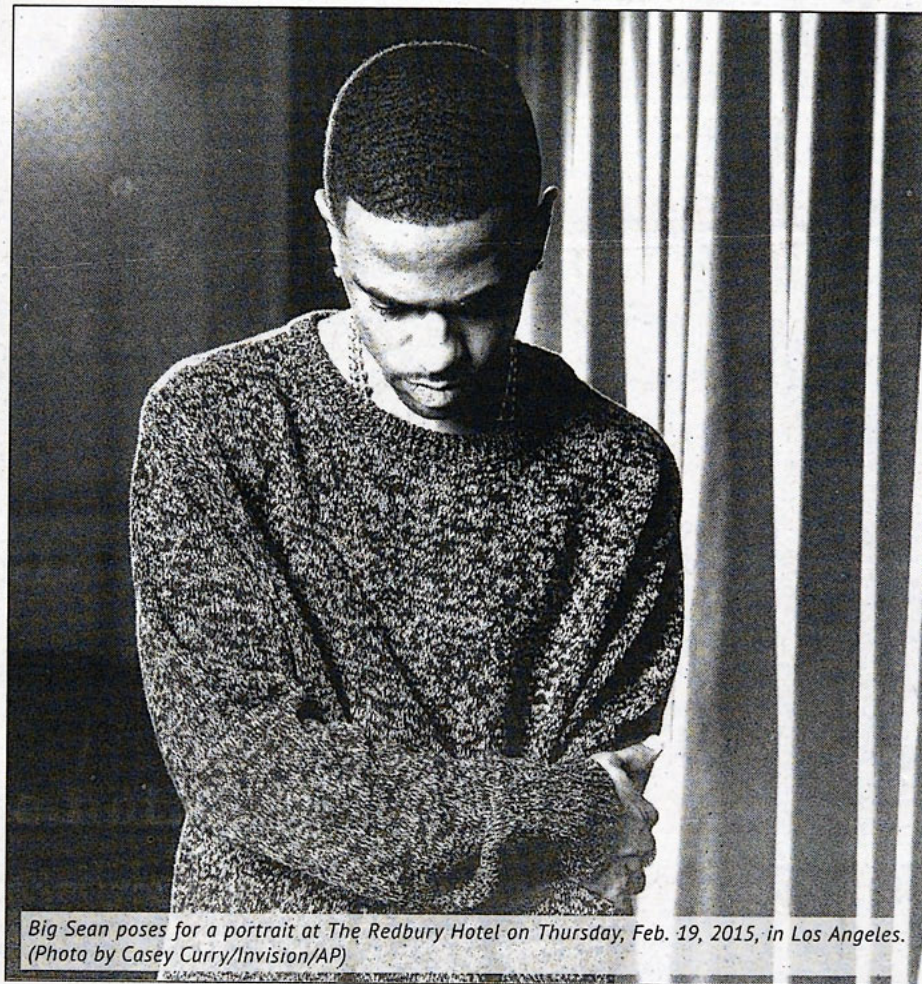
Released in mid-September, "IDFWU" has sold more than 1 million copies and been certified Platinum. The single features San Francisco Bay Area rapper E-40, in what seems to be the present-day relationship breakup anthem.

Big Sean slows it down with his single "One Man Can Change The World," while reflecting on his childhood upbringing as well as the death of his grandmother.

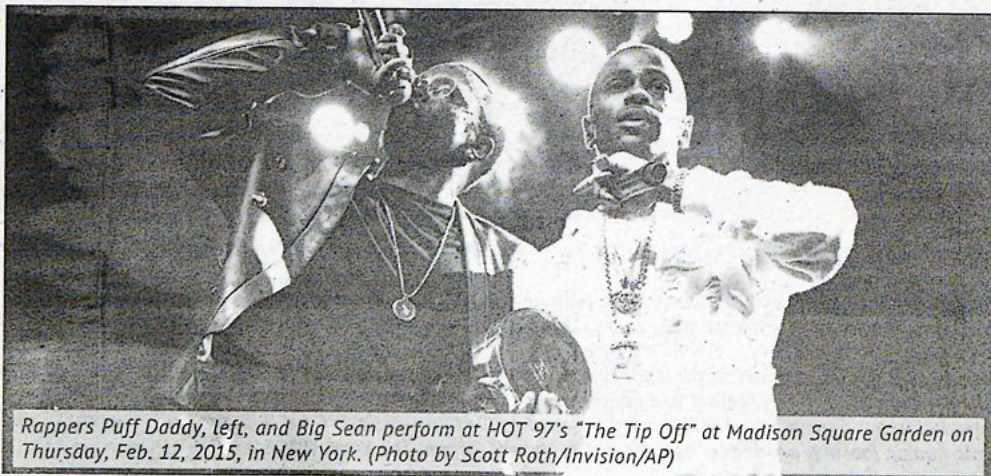
Sean took to his Instagram days after her death last year to mourn his loved one and he said, "When I was growing up, there were people interviewing my grandma about her life because she's done and seen so many amazing things. She supported me so much in every aspect and part of my life, even when I went against what was becoming traditional in our family, and didn't go to college to pursue music. She made a better life for me and the rest of my family and I will forever be grateful I got to know and be loved by such an amazing woman."

Sean's grandmother was one of the first black female Captains in World War II. She received degrees from West Virginia State University and the University of Michigan before becoming a police officer in Detroit.

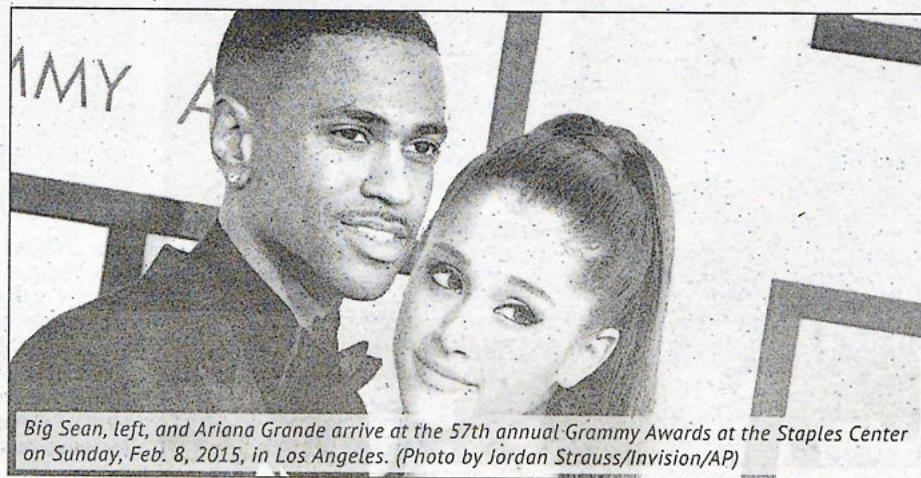
"Dark Sky Paradise" is available now on iTunes and Amazon.



Big Sean poses for a portrait at The Redbury Hotel on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015, in Los Angeles. (Photo by Casey Curry/Invision/AP)



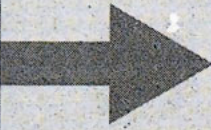
Rappers Puff Daddy, left, and Big Sean perform at HOT 97's "The Tip Off" at Madison Square Garden on Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015, in New York. (Photo by Scott Roth/Invision/AP)



Big Sean, left, and Ariana Grande arrive at the 57th annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Center on Sunday, Feb. 8, 2015, in Los Angeles. (Photo by Jordan Strauss/Invision/AP)

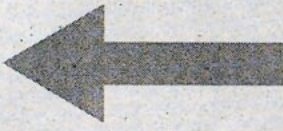
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1. Follow @TheVista1903 on twitter!

2. Tag us in your next tweet!



Two winners will be notified via twitter.

That's all! We will tweet you back to let you know you have been entered.

Random giveaway will take place April 28th - May 1st!

Vista promotion Contest rules:

1. No purchase necessary to be eligible to enter giveaway 2. Contest is open to all UCO students, faculty and staff 3. All followers of @TheVista1903 on Twitter are eligible to win the \$50 prepaid debit card. Winners are voided from further entries until promotion is completed. 4. All students associated with The Vista, UCentral Media, UCentral Radio are not eligible to win 5. Winners will be notified via private message Twitter 6. Winners must pick up their prize in the Vista Newsroom (Mass Communications building, Room 151 within 24 hours of notification) 7. Odds of winning depend on total number of @TheVista1903 followers at the time of the giveaway 8. The Vista, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to disqualify any person for tampering with the entry process

UCO shudders in the wake of winter weather for the second time in two weeks



Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.



Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.



Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

Slavery still exists in the world today, and we have the tools to stop it for good



Queila Omena
@ queilaomena

Managing Editor

Slavery existed before written history, and since then it suffered many alterations. Nowadays some people might argue that slavery still exists to some extent, but some might say that slavery is completely over.

I believe it still exists, just in a different way.

Slavery is the legal or economic system where people are treated as property. People can be forced to work or they can be owned by an employer that usually abuses them mentally or physically.

It can also be dehumanization, where slaves lose their identity and become mere property. Slaves are restricted from all kinds of freedom of movement.

Does slavery still exist today? What is it called?

Modern slavery, or contemporary slavery, is harder to be spotted due to its more discreet nature.

Children that have been in arranged marriage at a very young age are included in the category of modern slavery. There are many countries where marrying at a young age is a traditional way of living, except they don't think if it as slavery.

"Marriage involving children under 18 years old remains a widely culturally accepted practice in many corners of the globe. Estimates suggest that 11 percent of women worldwide were married before reaching the age of 15 (UNICEF 2012). Although boys can be affected by the practice, a great majority who suffer slavery as a consequence of child marriage are girls," stated an Anti-Slavery U.K. website.

Human trafficking is also

included in the modern slavery category; human-trafficking is where men, women and children are brought to a situation by the use of violence, and are usually forced to work against their will.

Sexual exploitation is the most usual form of human trafficking, even though there are many other forms. Unfortunately, many people fall into human trafficking as a way of escaping poverty and discrimination-- they're just trying to find a better life.

"Because many trafficked persons are never identified, it is difficult to get accurate statistics on the numbers affected, but the International Labour Organization estimates that worldwide, at any one time there, are some 2.5 million people who have been trafficked and are being subjected to sexual or labour exploitation," proclaimed the Anti-Slavery website.

Even though some people may deny it, it has been proven that children are being pushed to work in factories, mines, bars, restaurants and even other environments. Most of them are forced to work long hours with no permission for breaks.

According to the International Labour Organization, there are 215 million child laborers aged between five and 17 years old. Worldwide, nearly 10 million children are in slavery, debt, bondage, trafficking, pornography and other illicit activities.

What do you think about modern slavery? Do you think slavery still exists? Write us back and share your opinion online at ucen-tralmedia.com.



Children at the Lenggeng detention center, south of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, face the possibility of being sold into slavery as a result of over-crowding. (AP Photo/ Mark Baker)

HOROSCOPES

February 2015 — Week 4



December 22–
January 19

Ugh, Capricorn. You despise drama, yet it seems to follow you wherever you go. Remove yourself from the picture completely and see if that doesn't help.



March 21–
April 19

Try as you might, Aries, little will come to completion this week. Don't let it get to you. Keep plodding along, and progress will come. An idea is sound.



June 22–
July 22

Affairs of the heart take precedence this week, Cancer. Attend to matters at home, and then you will be able to tackle tasks at work with ease.



September 23–
October 22

Spruce-ups at home make for a quick week, Libra. Coworkers begin to lose steam. Plan something fun to break up the monotony and boost spirits.



January 20–
February 18

A dear friend has good days and bad. While there is nothing you can do to improve the situation, Aquarius, you can be there to offer your support.



April 20–
May 20

Money matters come to the forefront with a small windfall. Save some for a rainy day, Taurus. A party is transformed with a novel idea. Enjoy!



July 23–
August 22

Stranger things have happened, Leo. Don't get bogged down in the details. Accept the situation for what it is and move on. A buddy makes an offer.



October 23–
November 21

A change in weather leads to a flurry of activity at home. Join the fun, Scorpio. A news piece motivates you to help out with a worthy cause.



February 19–
March 20

Want to be closer to someone? Make the effort, Pisces. Take the time to visit with them and listen to what they have to say. There is so much to learn.



May 21–
June 21

Golden Gemini. There is nothing out of your reach this week. Dreams come true and friendships are built. A project at home is in need of reevaluation.



August 23–
September 22

Victorious Virgo. The competition heats up and you, the underdog, will emerge the winner. Celebrate with a night on the town. A text is received.



November 22–
December 21

Seniors prove to be a good source of inspiration this week. Look, listen and learn. So many amazing opportunities are in store, Sagittarius.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

BFF Performance Shoe store (NW OKC) is now accepting applications from College students for part-time employment. 15-20 hrs. per week. Evenings and Saturdays. No retail experience needed. Call 608-0404.

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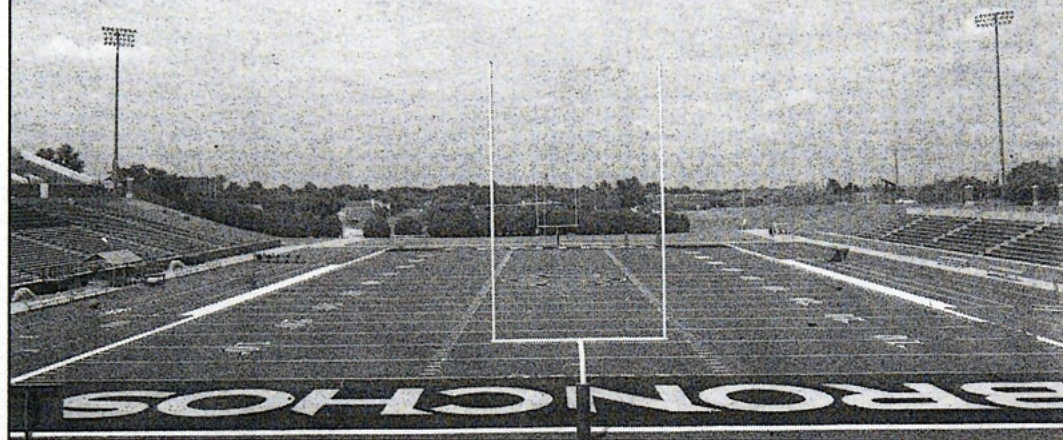
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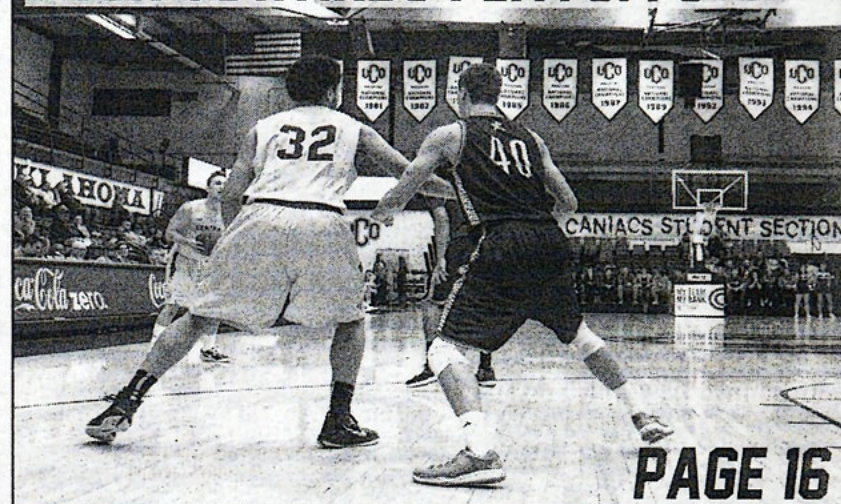
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VISTA SPORTS



MENS BASKETBALL BEGINS TO PUSH TOWARDS PLAYOFFS



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ACHA MEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET



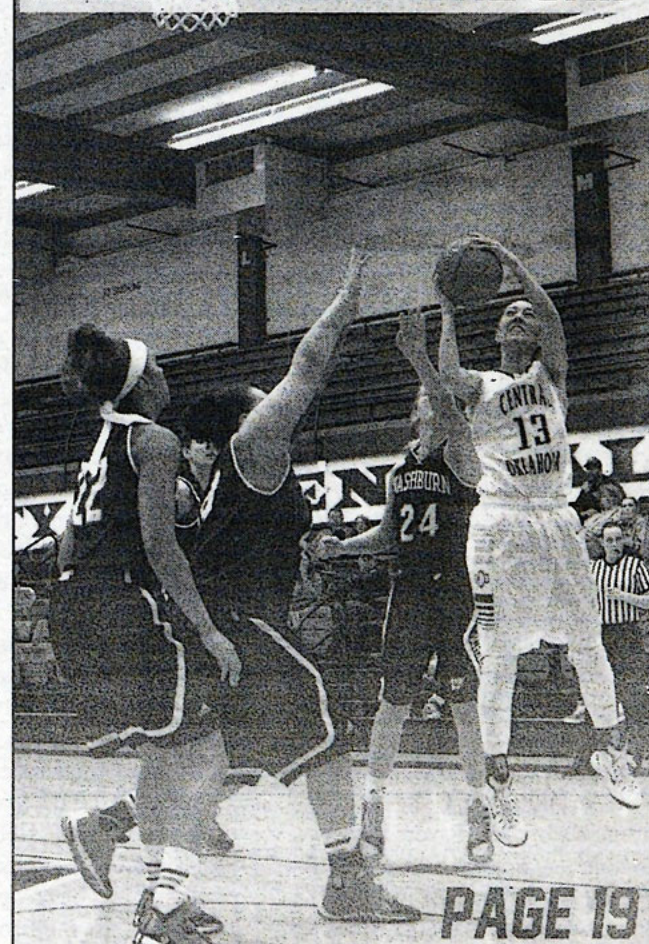
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BASEBALL STARTS WITH FOUR GAME HOMESTAND



PAGE 18

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TRIES TO RIGHT THE SHIP



PAGE 19

Men's Basketball begins the push to the playoffs



Andrew Baker
@Andrew_Baker22

Contributing Writer

The post-season push is in full swing for the University of Central Oklahoma's men's basketball team for winning their last two games against Emporia State University and Northeastern State University. The Broncos won both games by a combined 11 points, making key plays down the stretch to keep their post-season dreams alive.

The Broncos beat Emporia State by 18 points in January, now going up I-35 to Emporia they came up with a much needed win 74-69. The Broncos completed the season sweep of the Hornets, led by senior forward Phillip Brown who had 23 points on the night.

Brown scored 15 of his 23 points in the second half, leading the Broncos to victory. Cal Andrews chipped in with 13 points, and he was 2-2 from the 3-point line. Brown and Andrews were the only Broncos in double figures for the night, but a lot of players contributed in other ways.

The Hornets were led by Jay Tema at who scored a team-high 20 points. They, like the Broncos, only had two players scoring in double figures.

The key factor for both teams in this game was bench scoring; the Broncos got 35 points from their bench while the Hornets got 19.

It was a game the Broncos could not afford to lose to a lowly Hornets team that had only recorded 11 wins on the season.

The Broncos had a week to prepare for their next game against NSU in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. The Broncos beat the Riverhawks by 28 points in Edmond earlier in the month, but this contest in Tahlequah was much closer with the Broncos

winning 63-57.

This game turned out to be another must-win for the Broncos if they wanted to play in the post-season, with the Riverhawks only winning six games this season.

The Broncos had three scorers in double figures, led by guard Mahlon Jones with 14 points. Jones went 3-5 from the 3-point line for the night to continue his good play for the season.

Brown and Andrews both had 13 points each to chip in with the scoring. The Broncos didn't shoot well for the night, but they out-rebounded the Riverhawks by 13, getting second chance points.

Brown had a double-double for the night with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Demone Harrison was the lone bright spot for the Riverhawks by scoring 20 points. He was the only player for NSU to score in double figure scoring.

The Riverhawks shot miserably for the game shooting 39 percent for the game, and 20 percent from the 3-point line.

The Broncos are 17-9 overall and 10-7 in conference on the season with two more home games remaining on the season. The Broncos will host FHSU and Nebraska-Kearney at Hamilton Field House for the last two games.

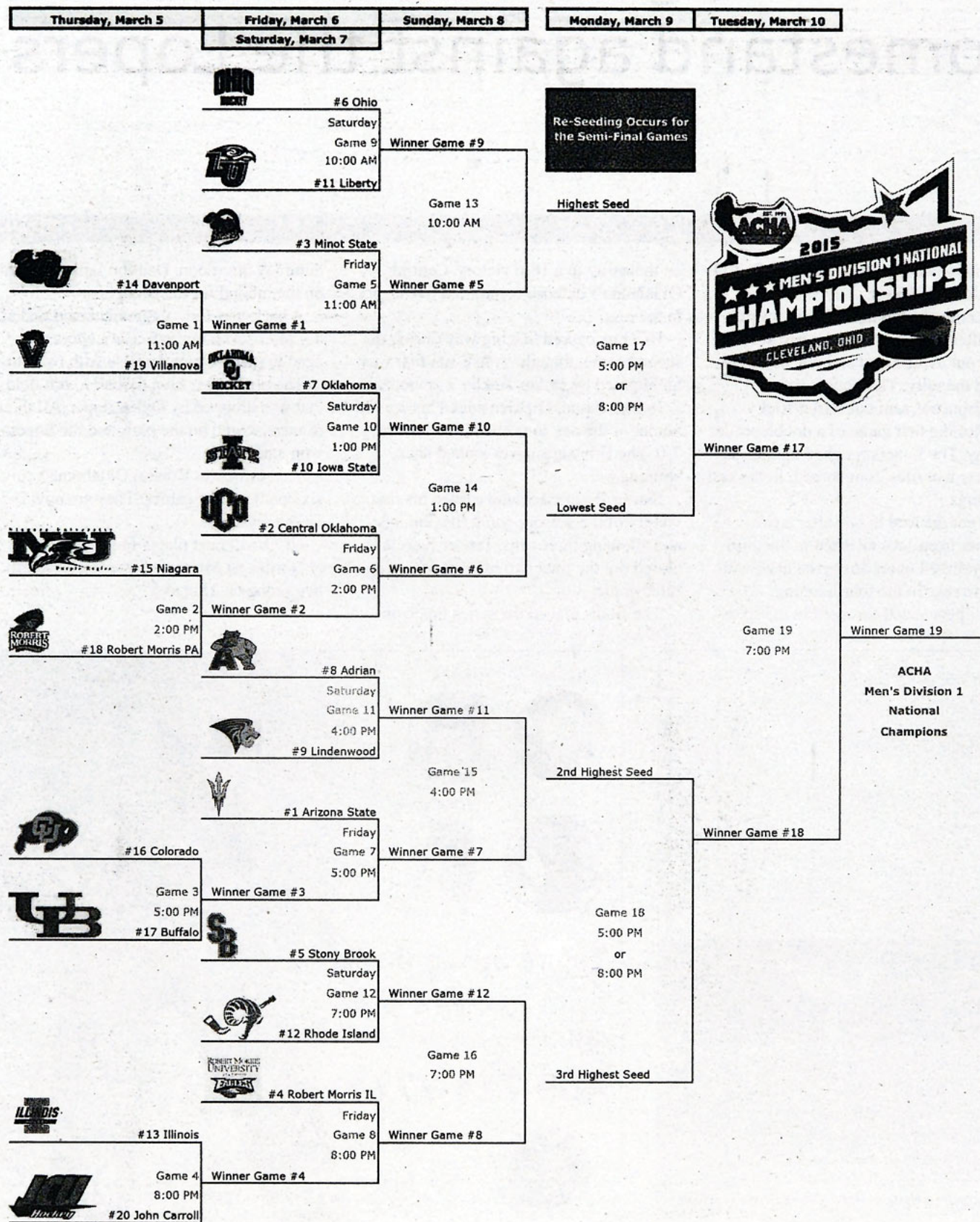
These are two winnable games for UCO, and with post-season play just two weeks away, every game is a must-win for a Broncos squad on the post-season bubble.

Feb. 28 will be Senior Night for the players against Nebraska-Kearney. The Broncos have three seniors that will be recognized, Bryson Darrius, Jones and Brown.



UCO junior Forward Cal Andrews elevates for a corner three against The Oklahoma City University Stars on Saturday Nov. 22, 2014 at Hamilton Fieldhouse. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.

2015 ACHA MEN'S DIVISION 1 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Broncos on Ice have made another step on their dominating path to a national championship. After dispatching almost everyone on their way through a difficult regular-season schedule, the Broncos have now found themselves in the National Championships, which start next Thursday (March 5) in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Broncos, who with their number 2 seeding have a BYE through the first round, start playing the next day on Friday March 6 at 2:00 P.M. They will play every day for the next four days and if all go well will come back to the southern plains with a little extra hardware in the form of the ACHA National Championship Trophy.



UCO Hockey player Shane Khalaf concentrates as he brings the puck up the ice. Photo by Ryan Naeve, The Vista.

Baseball starts the regular season with a four game homestand against the Lopers



Joshua Palmer
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Contributing Writer

After a tough 1-4 road trip to begin the season, the Bronchos hoped to bounce back with a four-game homestand against conference opponent University of Nebraska-Kearney.

Back in the safer confines of Wendell Simmons Field, the University of Central Oklahoma handed the ball to Carson Corff on Thursday afternoon for their home opener of the season. The starter threw 89 pitches in 4.2 innings, giving up four hits and three earned runs.

The Bronchos led 4-3 after five innings, thanks to a three-run homer from Josh Ingram and a solo shot from Tyler Hatcher. However, the Lopers took the lead in the

sixth, with a two-run home run off of UCO reliever Konner Kyser.

UCO failed to capitalize in the seventh inning after having loaded the bases with just one out. A strikeout and pop out quickly ended the rally; The Lopers won 5-4.

The Bronchos sent out starter Ricky Reeves for the first game of a doubleheader on Friday. The Lopers roughed up the star pitcher for five runs, four earned, in the first two innings.

UCO cut the lead to one after a two-run homer from Jake O'Brien in the third inning, yet the Lopers answered back with four more runs in the fourth inning.

The Lopers added six more in the sixth

on their way to a 16-6 victory. Central Oklahoma's defense committed five errors in the loss.

UCO recovered in a big way during the second game, though. A five-run first was highlighted by Dylan Tinkler's grand slam.

In the second, O'Brien added his second homer of the day to push UCO's lead to 7-0. The Bronchos never looked back, winning 8-3.

Starter Brent Backlund earned his first victory of the season, going five innings and allowing three runs. Tanner Ferrell closed out the final two innings in the run-ruled game.

The teams played the series finale on

Saturday afternoon. Daulton Leiker started on the mound for the Bronchos.

A back-and-forth game remained tied at 4-4 after seven innings. The Lopers managed to get two men on base with two outs.

The next batter hit a fly ball to left field that was dropped by Dylan Raper. All three runners scored on the play, and the Lopers won again 7-4.

That error was Central Oklahoma's sixteenth in nine games. They are now 2-7 on the season.

UCO will next play a four-game series at Northwest Missouri State University, beginning on Thursday.



UCO senior pitcher Ricky Reeves throws a curve-ball against the University of Nebraska-Kearney on Friday Feb. 21, 2015. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.

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ARE YOU BEACH READY?

Women's Basketball tries to right the ship



Ryan Fields
@ RyanFields92

Contributing Writer

The University of Central Oklahoma's women's basketball team has been struggling down the stretch of the season. The game against Northeastern State last Saturday looked like a great opportunity for the Broncos to get back on track.

UCO had already beaten their rival once this year and the Riverhawks came into the match-up 10-13 and 7-10 in conference play.

Unfortunately, without leading 3-point shooter Olivia Mason, the Broncos struggled to score all night. Shooting a combined two for 21 from behind the arc and just 29 percent overall.

The Broncos started the game aggressively and jumped out to a 10-9 lead early. That would be the only lead of the game for UCO though as their offense dried up and shots stopped falling.

Northeastern State led in the second half 41-30 with 14:28 until the Broncos went on a 10-0 run and pulled within one point. Julia Mason sparked the run with five straight points of her own.

Julia Mason was one bright spot for Central with 23 points, nine rebounds, and three blocks while shooting seven of 13 from the field and making eight of her 10 free throws. Chelsea Robinson also chipped in with 13 points of her own.

The Broncos rallied several times throughout the game to cut the deficit to one, but never tied or took the lead. Every time they would get close they would go cold, and the Riverhawks would take advantage by scoring a couple in a row to stretch the lead back out to six or eight.

UCO trailed 54-52 with 1:15 to play before missing three straight shots and allowing Northeastern to clinch the game at the free-throw line.

Central Oklahoma now falls to 15-11 on the season and 8-9 in conference play.

Fortunately for the Broncos, they close out the regular season with two home games. Unfortunately those two games are against Fort Hays and Nebraska-Kearney both of which UCO has already lost to this season.

UCO senior forward Kylie Mayes puts up a lay-up after driving to the hole against Washburn University on Jan. 22, 2015. Photo by Cooper Billington, The Vista.





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