



### Relationship weekend to minister to students

This Feb. 3-4 will see SNU's 16th annual Relationship Weekend, formerly known as the Premarital Retreat, a way for serious couples thinking about marriage and newly-weds to learn how to keep their relationships strong and long-lasting. [Read more on page 2](#)

### SGA to sponsor spring dodge ball tournament

Miss last semester's intramural dodge ball tournament? Sign up as a team to play in this semester's SGA-sponsored event.

[Read more on page 9](#)

**January 27, 2012**  
**Volume 83 Issue 13**  
echo.snu.edu

# The Echo

**Southern Nazarene University – Bethany, OK (405) 491-6382**

## Math and science division hosts campus visit for senior applicants

Hannah Marchant, Opinions editor

Today marks the start of this year's Science Scholars Weekend, an annual event hosted by the Math and Science Division for prospective students interested in a math or science degree. The division invites high school senior applicants with a minimum ACT score of 24 to come visit campus and experience two days in the life of an SNU student.

Activities of the weekend include a good amount of exposure to the science and math departments with a group lab exercise and faculty interaction, but the scholars experience much more than the classroom. Along with meeting the panel of current science and math majors, the scholars stay with a host student overnight. Past scholars are encouraged to help and participate in the weekend, giving a name and face to SNU.

Through the division's close partnership with admissions, the weekend includes campus tours and informational sessions on financial aid and the Honors College, features usually included in a "college day." Parents, however, are invited to attend the Friday night and Saturday morning introductions and informational sessions.

Science department professor Dr. Mark Winslow said the weekend lets prospective students see "what makes us tick as a faculty and what's unique about SNU's science and math departments."

"The collegial and community aspect makes the most impact—when a

student walks away, they can see what it would be like to be an SNU student," Winslow said.

Past "weekends" have hosted anywhere from five to fourteen scholars, with about 25 to 30 student volunteers. When the event first started, larger scholarships were awarded to fewer students. In more recent years, the division decided to give smaller scholarships to a wider range of students. These scholarships range from \$500 to \$1500 a year for four years.

Senior Jared Evatt, a previous "scholar" awarded a scholarship said, "The weekend was

mainly composed of essays and group activities all the while being actively interviewed based on our interactions with others (not to mention the real interviews in front of about four faculty members). My favorite part of the weekend was probably interacting with all the other students who were invited. I didn't know anyone before attending so meeting new people with very similar scientific interests was very enjoyable. I can honestly say that I wouldn't be at SNU today if it weren't for the Science Scholars Weekend."



*Students participate in activities at last year's Science Scholars weekend. Photo courtesy of Mark Winslow.*

## NEWS BRIEFS

**PENN STATE PAYS TRIBUTE TO PATERNO AT PUBLIC MEMORIAL**

Thousands packed Penn State's basketball arena Thursday to honor Joe Paterno, the university's longtime football coach who died this week after a battle with lung cancer. The legendary coach's career with the Nittany Lions abruptly ended last fall amid criticism of his response to alleged child sexual abuse by a former assistant.

cnn.com  
CNN Wire Staff for CNN

**BACHMANN WILL RUN FOR REELECTION**

U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann, the Minnesota congresswoman who dropped a bid for the GOP presidential nomination in January, will run for re-election to Congress in 2012, her campaign said Wednesday. Bachmann's future had been in question ever since she suspended her presidential campaign Jan. 4.

cnn.com  
Deirdre Walsh / CNN

**REMOTE TRIBE HAS SOCIAL NETWORKS LIKE OURS**

People in Hadzaland may not use Facebook or drive cars, but they have something in common with the Western world: Their networks of social ties look like ours. Researchers report that the Hadza tend to be friends with people who are similar to them in the behavioral traits of cooperation and egotism.

cnn.com  
Elizabeth Landau / CNN

## Relationship Weekend: an excursion into marriage

Brian McNatt, Staff Reporter

Valentine's Day isn't going to be the only date making people think about love and romance at Southern Nazarene University this February. This Feb. 3-4 will see SNU's 16th annual Relationship Weekend, formerly known as the Premarital Retreat.

As explained by Kimberly Campbell of SNU's Student Development, the relationship seminar is a way for serious couples thinking about marriage and newly-weds to learn how to keep their relationships strong and long-lasting. The entirety of the seminar will be approached from a Christian standpoint in accordance with the tenets of Southern Nazarene University.

Events scheduled for the first day include in-depth discussions on love language, family baggage, and a panel discussion with previous attendees of the event. The second day will cover topics as diverse as spiritual perspectives, finances, correct communication and conflict resolution, and sexual intimacy in marriage.

Several of these discussions will be led by names familiar throughout the campus, including Brad Strawn, Scott Strawn, Kimberly Campbell, and the rest of the staff at SNU's Counseling Center. The

panel discussions, attendees will also be able to take a few professionally-made tests to gauge their relationship readiness and marriage preparedness. The total cost for these tests will amount to no

more than \$60.

This will be the 15th year SNU has done the Relationship Weekend. Attendance varies from year to year, with the average being 12 to 15 couples. The 2011 re-

treat reached a record number of 18.

"My favorite part of the weekend was being given the opportunity to talk about difficult issues including conflict resolution and weaknesses in our relationship. It was a stretching experience," junior Jordan Sloan said. Sloan attended last year's Premarital Retreat.

Though it is traditionally held in the Spring semester, many years have seen the Relationship Weekend held in the Fall semester as well thanks to large numbers of attendees, and it would be say something interesting about the romantic scene on campus if this happens again this year.

**"My favorite part was being given the opportunity to talk about difficult issues including conflict resolution and weaknesses in our relationship."**

seminar itself is run and organized by the combined expertise of the Counseling Center, Student Development, and Spiritual Development, so students can expect to see plenty more recognizable faces during the two days of activities.

The two-day seminar will be held this year at the Hampton Inn, Edmond, from 4 p.m. Friday to evening the next day. Throughout this time, the men and women will be housed separately, with an exception for married couples, who will have their own rooms provided to them. Meals will be provided to guests on both days, with the final dinner a night out on the town

In addition to the informative



## High school girls to glimpse life as Southern Nazarene University students

Brenda Rivera, Staff Reporter

SHINE Girls Weekend is an interactive event for all high school girls, and will be taking place Feb. 2-4. This is an event where female high school students can visit campus and learn about many opportunities. While here, they will be able to meet with female faculty to learn about potential post-graduation jobs, ask questions, and receive information about scholarships. SHINE is an event that has never been tried before and is unlike any other college days experience.

“What makes this event special is that it’s not a lecturing event; it’s very interactive and the girls have very little “seminars” to sit through,” special events coordinator/admissions recruiter Laura Kessler said.

One particular event taking place during the weekend is the alumni visit, about which Kes-

sler is excited that the girls will experience.

SHINE participants will be traveling around the city and visiting alumni in their places of employment. While participating in question-and-answer sessions, these young women will be able to see what their career choice will look like in the future. They will also be experiencing times with female students in their dorms and forming relationships with girls they will potentially be in school with.

Besides all of the games, crafts, and junk food, it is expected that they will also have all questions answered about their school and career choice. This all girls event is a time to focus mostly on girls’ needs.

“We’re hoping that the girls that are going to be coming will learn three things: How to SHINE Academically, SHINE Spiritually and SHINE Professionally,” Kessler said.

The idea for this event came from D. Linda

Cantwell, after she participated in a Girlfriends Getaway. 125 high school girls are currently registered for the event, but 150 are expected to show. Deciding on a college is an important life decision, and it is hoped that through the meeting of several influential women on campus, these girls can find the right match for them.

“I’m just really excited about SHINE! I have a strong heart for high school girls and love to work with them, while answering questions about where their lives are going to lead after high school. It’s such a scary and unsure time in their lives and I’m hoping that this weekend reassures them that by coming to SNU they will be loved and guided in to being beautiful and professional young ladies,” said Kessler.

It is hoped that while the girls are on campus, they will form new friendships and decide if SNU is the right school for them.

## Bethany police officers apprehend former student

Mary Haikin, editor-in-chief

Three Bethany police cars parked in the circle drive by Snowbarger Hall on Monday evening, apparently to apprehend a former SNU student. The young man, a former freshman football player, was handcuffed and led out to

a patrol car. He was put into the back of the squad car, which took him away. It is unclear on what grounds the man was arrested. One squad car did bear the insignia “K-9 unit.”

Students also reported seeing police cars at the A.M. Hills Residential complex that same night.

At the time the young man was taken into custody, the SNU security office was completely empty, and no further information could be gained from that office.

The young man was apparently living on campus without being formally registered as a student.

# Apply now to be *EDITOR* of:



If you would like to receive an electronic version of the application, please e-mail one of the following:

*Melany Kyzer*, [mkyzer@snu.edu](mailto:mkyzer@snu.edu).

*Rhonda Crutcher*, [rcrutche@snu.edu](mailto:rcrutche@snu.edu)

*Marian Redwine*, [maredwin@snu.edu](mailto:maredwin@snu.edu)

*Kaitlyn Orwig*, [kaitorwi@mail.snu.edu](mailto:kaitorwi@mail.snu.edu)

*Mary Haikin*, [mhaikin@mail.snu.edu](mailto:mhaikin@mail.snu.edu)

**Applications are due Friday, 10 February, by 5:00 p.m to Melany Kyzer.**

in Religion 201. Applications may be submitted in person or electronically.

**Minimum requirements include: completion at time of selection 3 full semesters of University class work, currently attending Southern Nazarene University, and a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 or maintained at least 2.50 for each of the two preceding semesters. Both positions provide a scholarship.**

# OPINIONS

TheEcho • January 27, 2012 • Page 4

## A campaign to stand behind: a much needed addition to the science program



A virtual tour of the new building can be found on [snu.edu](http://snu.edu).

### Madison Ferrell, sports editor

We need a new science building. One can easily see how the Don W. Beaver Science building, which has hosted more than 3000 students over the past 40 years of its existence, is slowly dilapidating—in some small ways, like giant pieces of carpet falling off of the stairs, to larger ones, like the excavation of the pit last year due to a toxic mold infestation. The activity in this building surpasses most on campus; with a myriad of departments and an active summer research program, this edifice is in constant use.

This is where the Campaign for the Sciences emerges. This campaign, championed by Michael Crabtree, Associate Vice President for University Advancement, is hoping to raise funds to renovate our current premises as well as construct an adjacent building to

be called the J.D. and Mary West Science Laboratory, which will house a plethora of up-to-date science facilities. Overall, the new building will harbor five biology labs (including a cadaver lab), three chemistry labs, two research labs, five office spaces, six student gathering areas, an atrium area, and a greenhouse all in a 25,891 square foot space. A virtual tour of it can be found at [www.snu.edu/campaign-for-the-sciences](http://www.snu.edu/campaign-for-the-sciences).

“I think an update is well overdue,” senior Environmental Studies major Collin Whitsett said. “The facilities aren’t as accommodating as they could be, and newer, updated facilities will go a long way to improve the kinds of experimentation and research that can take place here at SNU.”

Whitsett is about to join the other teachers, medical doctors, dentists, researchers, nurses, and skilled professionals in allied health

fields around the world who have graduated from SNU. Because our Division of Science and Mathematics has had an astounding success rate, including a Pre-med program which has over a 90% admittance rate into medical schools throughout its 50 year history, we must advance our technology and laboratories to continue in this manner. The Science department offers other strengths, like full academic partners and networking certification with both Microsoft and Novell and a science education program for teaching high school biology, chemistry, and physics, that need the West Science Lab to continue the quality of education it has had in the past.

A ground-breaking date for the J.D. and Mary West Science Laboratory has yet to be announced, however, I anxiously await this great improvement of the SNU campus.

### State of the Union Address Statistics

Hannah Marchant,  
Opinions Editor

It would be nice to be the President of the United States—have that special time once a year where all the cameras are on you and about 38 million people are waiting for you to mess up, except for the lovely members of congress, who applaud the Commander-in-Chief at the drop of a hat. The applause most likely takes up at least a third of the air time. Here’s a few statistics on the stand-ups, the sit-downs, and the awkwardness that every bipartisan event entails:

Congress applauded 65 times  
There were 37 standing ovations in an hour.

There was sustained applause on supporting the troops: “As we meet here tonight, our men and women in uniform stand watch abroad and more are readying to deploy. To each and every one of them, and to the families who bear the quiet burden of their absence, Americans are united in sending one message: we honor your service, we are inspired by your sacrifice, and you have our unyielding support.”

There was awkward laughter on Bi-Partisanship: “I know that we haven’t agreed on every issue thus far, and there are surely times in the future when we will part ways.”

There was genuine along with confused laughter when he mentioned the Vice President: “I have asked Vice President Biden to lead a tough, unprecedented oversight effort – because nobody messes with Joe.”  
I laughed because everyone else did. You understand, right?

Statistics from the Huffington Post

# STORMSPORTS

TheEcho • January 27, 2012 • Page 5

## Graduate Sharmeda Johnson plans to finish season strong

Jaclynn Gray, Staff Reporter

The 8-3 Crimson Storm ladies basketball team is half way through their season and continues to finish strong. The team will continue to light a fire at each game. Graduate Sharmeda Johnson plans to finish this season out strong personally too. Johnson has been a key player for the Crimson Storm, as well as a player who leads by example.

“We just have to continue to work hard in practice and push each other; that way things will be second nature in games,” small forward Johnson said. “There are still a lot of games left to be played and we have to continue to stay focused on our overall goals and believe that we can achieve them.”

Midway season changes are vital and can cause a turning point for the outcome of the rest of the season.

“We just have to keep fighting through adversity, mentally and physically,” Johnson said.

For Sharmeda, her end of the year goals remain the same.

“My personal goals haven’t changed much; I just need to make sure that I am sticking to it, Johnson said. “My main goal is just to come out every day and work hard

in practice, and to be able to lead my example for my teammates and do whatever it takes to win.”

As for the team, they have their eye still on the prize and plan on achieving their goals.

“No, our team goals haven’t changed, although there are some that we have not been able to live up to (i.e. being undefeated on our

home court, free-throw percentage, taking charges, etc.),” Johnson said. “We just want to continue to be able to meet the other goals that we have set for ourselves.”

Finding a second wind to continue to push through and play their hardest makes it easier with supportive fans.

*continues on page 9*



Sharmeda Johnson shoots a free throw shot. Photo from Sports Information.

## SCORE BOARD

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saint Gregory's  
L 68-79

Oklahoma Baptist  
W 69-67

Oklahoma City  
W 76-70

Mid-America Christian  
W 93-64

Science & Arts  
L 73-77

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Saint Gregory's  
W 56-53

Oklahoma Baptist  
W 84-69

Oklahoma City  
L 31-87

Mid-America Christian  
W 93-64

Science & Arts  
W 78-59

Results and scores at  
[sports.snu.edu](http://sports.snu.edu)

## ON DECK

### BASKETBALL

Thurs, Jan 26, W: 6PM  
M: 8pm @ Wayland  
Baptist

Sat, Jan 28 W: 1PM, M:  
3pm @ Lubbock Chris-  
tian

### TRACK & FIELD

Jan 20-21, MSSU Invita-  
tional @ Joplin

# Crimson Storm downed by Drovers

## Sports Information

BETHANY, Okla. — Despite having four players in double figures, No. 14 Southern Nazarene dropped its second straight meeting with Science & Arts as USAO picked up a 77-73 win over SNU inside the Sawyer Center.

The Crimson Storm (15-5, 8-4) couldn't hold off Phillip Harris and Kyle Hunt, who combined for 47 points as Harris scored 25, with 15 coming from five 3-pointers, and Hunt had 22 and nine rebounds.

The Storm nearly match USAO bucket for bucket in the first half as the Drovers were 17-for-32 while SNU was 15-for-30. Neither team missed much as the two exchanged four leads and tied for times in the first half. The

Storm even held an 8-point lead early in the first half at 24-16, but the Drovers charged back with a 15-6 run to take the lead at 31-30. Neither team led by more than four the rest of the half as USAO took a 42-40 lead into the break.

The Drovers held a 48-47 lead early in the second half when they went on a 20-6 run to take their biggest lead of the half at 68-53 with 10:37 left to play.

The Storm began to chip away from there. Aaron Jones buried a long jumper before Horace McGloster and Daniel White each hit a pair of free throws to cut the lead back to single digits. Hunt made it a 70-59 game, but McGloster got a huge put back slack and Jon West scored on back-to-back lay ups as SNU was within five at 70-65 with two minutes left.

SNU cut it to three on two different occasions with 32 seconds left at 73-69 and with 24 seconds left at 74-71, but USAO sank free throws done the stretch to secure the win. The Drovers were 17-for-23 at the line and now own a possibly tiebreaker with the season sweep of the Storm.

Southern Nazarene will now make the longest trips of the year as it heads out to the Texas panhandle for the last time in the Sooner Athletic Conference. SNU



OCU shot over 60 percent from the floor in the win. Photo from Sports Information.

will play at Wayland, Thursday, at 6 p.m. before heading to Lubbock Saturday.

# Turning the corner: womens basketball

## Sports Information

BETHANY, Okla. — No. 16 Southern Nazarene got a combined 40 points from Logan Martin and Oumoul Thiam as SNU rolled to a 78-59 win over Science & Arts.

Logan Martin had a game-high 23 points on 9-of-17 shooting from the floor and was 3-for-5 from 3-point range. She also notched her third double-double of the year with 10 rebounds. Omoul Thiam added 17 points as well.

The Crimson Storm (15-5, 9-3) now hold a two-game lead on Rogers State for third place in the Sooner Athletic Conference and have won seven of their last nine.

Abbey Marra added 10 points and nine rebounds after having just five boards in the first half.

Sharmeda Johnson also chipped in with 11 points going 3-for-3 from the field and 5-for-5 at the free-throw line.

SNU struggled in the first half, shooting just 37.5 percent and were just 2-for-11 from the outside. The Lady Drovers fired 44 percent from the field and were 6-for-10 from beyond the arc, but the Storm still carried a 30-29 lead at the half. SNU lead 27-17 late in the second half before USAO closed the half on a 12-3 run to make it a one-point game at intermission.

The Lady Drovers took the lead right off the bat in the second half at 31-30, but Martin answered right back with a bucket in the pain to start a 16-4 run to lead 46-35 and SNU didn't trail the rest of the way.

Martin had 13 points in the second half as SNU turned the tables,

firing 50 percent from the field in the final 20 minutes and held the Lady Drovers to just 31.3 percent shooting. SNU also scored 25 points off of 18 USAO turnovers.

The Storm also pulled down 18 rebounds on the offensive end with seven coming from Ashley Mantooth. SNU scored 17 points off of second chances.

Southern Nazarene will now get set for its longest road trip of the year as it makes the West Texas road trip Thursday and Saturday and then heads to



Logan Martin Dribbles rapidly down the court. Photo from Sports Information.

John Brown, Feb. 2. First up, SNU heads to Wayland Baptist for a 6 p.m. game Thursday.

## Johnson, cont'd from page 5

"I love watching the girls play basketball; they bring so much energy and emotion to the court," junior Jennifer Huffhines said.

For Sharmeda, finding her second wind seems to come naturally.

"Some days more than others I just try and focus on the things that I can control such as playing hard and picking up my teammates," Johnson said.

While they still have a tough rest

of the season ahead, they will play to the best of their abilities. They have the chance to play Lubbock Christian again, which is the undefeated team in the conference.

"I am looking forward to playing Lubbock again because they are the only team in our conference that is undefeated this far," Johnson said. "I also want to play OCU

again; because they completely embarrassed us both times we've played them this season. Also, the five seasons this year have never beaten them (OCU) since we've played together. I feel like once we get over that hump we'll finally feel confident and a burden will have been lifted off of our shoulders."

## Shining start: track and field excel in first meet of the year

### Sports Information

JOPLIN, Mo. — After opening the indoor track & field season over a month ago, Southern Nazarene got back in full swing, Friday and Saturday, with some top early season performances.

On the women's side, Jackie Stevens picked up where she left off last year as she finished fifth in the weight throw with a 13.82-meter toss and took fifth and took fifth as well in the shot put with a 12.05-meter throw.

Chesney Burgweger took sixth in the 800-meter run at 2:31.76 while Catalina Keo was in 11th at 2:37.46.

Jamie Hope took 10th in the high jump as she cleared 1.52 meters.

Rilwan Jimoh took fifth in the

200-meter dash as he was just a fraction off his personal best with a 22.75 and Kentrell Miller and Gerrod Coney were right behind in eighth and ninth with respective times of 22.94 and 23.07.

Travis Boyd launched a 14.92-meter throw in the weight toss to take fourth and took sixth in the shot put with a 14.21-meter toss. Jake Stephens also took 12th in the shot at 12.69 meters.

Andrew Leahey and Dustin Barrier ran a 4:30.43 and a 4:35.24 in the one mile as they finished back-to-back in fourth and fifth. Collin Whitsett was close behind in 10th at 4:42.99. Nigel Hampton took third in the 800 meters as he was one of just three guys to complete it in under two minutes. The freshman ran a 1:59.53.

The distance medley relay team took third as Leahey, Corey Lulko, Hampton and Barrier combined for a time of 10:46.57. Both 4x400-meter relay teams placed in the top 10 as Coney, Jimoh, Miller and Wright all combined for a 3:24.99 to take third while Jacob Cervantes, D'Andre Vick, Chad Mathis and Lulko totaled a 3:33.04 to take eighth.

The Crimson Storm will now

get set to compete at the OC Invitational #1, Saturday, in Norman, Okla.



## In loving memory of Reverend Wally Renegar

Reverend Wally Renegar, a graduate and former employee of our university, was fatally struck on 39th Expressway after attending a basketball game this past Thursday. He was well known by many faculty and staff, and he was an active part of SNU's community. As a former pastor in the Church of the Nazarene and a spiritual leader of the Bethany Police Force, he was an active citizen of Oklahoma City, involved in many peoples' lives. His presence will not be forgotten in the SNU and Bethany areas.

He is survived by his wife, Waulea, daughter Taryn, and son Todd, all of whom are SNU alumni.



# Isola Bella

**AWESOME  
HOMES....**

**MEALS  
INCLUDED**

**DORM  
PRICES**

## **DISCOVER ISOLA BELLA**

2, 3 AND 4 BDR APARTMENT HOMES JUST COMPLETED

live among friends in a  
community

focused on students

Bring your roommate or let us match you  
rent, utilities, meals, furniture, parking, gym  
membership, newly completed apartment homes

**\$500 to \$650 per month**

Enjoy HOT Breakfast and Dinner Monday  
through Friday, and Weekend Brunches  
included in our low monthly rate

incredible 30,000  
sf gym \* personal  
trainers \* indoor  
pool \* indoor  
basketball

6303 NW 63rd Street, OKC

405-721-2194

[www.MyIsolaBella.com](http://www.MyIsolaBella.com)

## SGA to sponsor spring dodge ball tournament

Kira Roberts, A&E editor

Win triumphantly or lose painfully. That's the way it goes in the game of dodge ball. Friday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m., students will gather to take each other out in the Broadhurst gym. There will be eight teams, each with 12 people. Two members of the opposite sex will be required for each team.

If you are competitive and want to show off your throwing arm, sign up today. If you are too scared to participate, make sure to come watch and cheer on your favorite team.

"Everyone enjoys seeing people getting racked in the face with a rubber ball, no matter who it is.

It is great fun to see," sophomore Cameron Hobson said.

The winners of the intramural sponsored tournament were Ashley Harrell, Jordan Eibel, Kurtis Young, Ethan Fruehling, Blake Boen, Chad Jones, Kailiana Odom, and Cameron Hobson. If you didn't sign up in time or have the chance to play in that tournament last semester, you should participate this time around.

"People should play because you don't have to be a great athlete to be a great dodge ball player," Hobson said.

Come to play as a team and compete individually for the MVP award. Duck, jump, throw, run, dive, and catch to knock of the

other teams players as you lead your team to victory! Each team will be themed and the students are asked to dress up like in the movie *Dodgeball*.

When asked what makes dodge ball so great, Hobson said, "the simplicity of the game makes it fun for all ages, genders, and races. It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from, or how different you are, dodge ball is an awesome experience for all."

Whether you get a team together and go all out to dress like the movie characters, or just come by to cheer on your friends as they knock out the other teams, this semester's dodge ball tournament is sure to be a blast!



Photo from sophomore Blake Boen.

## Local Events

- 1/27: Dave Dobson Classic Pop (Full Circle Bookstore) 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
- 1/28: Freestyle Motocross (Chesapeake Energy Area) 7:30 p.m.
- 1/29: Write On! Writing Workshop (Ronald J Norick Downtown Library) 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- 1/30: Acoustic Oklahoma (Picasso Cafe - Paseo) No cover charge Acousticoklahoma.com
- 1/31: RIVERSPORT Yoga/Pilates (Chesapeake Boathouse) 7:15 to 8:00 p.m.
- 2/1: Heart of Edmond Holiday Art Show (Conversations Gallery) All Day

## SNU Events

27

Scholars Weekend

28

Men's and Womens bball @ Lubbock

29

30

31

Chapel: Rhonda Crutcher

1

2

SHINE girls weekend  
Chapel: Michael LaVigne

# Jake's movie review of *The Tree of Life: Who are We to You?*

Jake O'Bannon, Staff Reporter

Job 38:4-7 says "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" These are the opening words to the Terrance Malick film *The Tree of Life*, starring Brad Pitt and Sean Penn.

It is not too difficult to see that the film industry isn't exactly what you would call "religious." Spiritual maybe, but not religious. With that in mind, I was perplexed to see this Hollywood film start out with a quote from one of my favorite books from the Bible: Job.

Do you ever wonder what it means when you hear someone say that God is always with you? Always watching you? *The Tree of Life* hits on this question with brilliant subtlety. The film is centered on one family, a mother and a father with three boys. In the opening sequences, we see an image of the mother getting a note saying her nineteen-year-old son has died in war. Her boys meant the world to her, and this news broke her in a dire way. After the tragically

touching sequence of the mother mourning her son, we hear her faintly pray, "Who are we to you?"

What happened next led me to begin longing I had a mind half as creative as writer and director Terrance Malick. There is a ten-minute scene depicting the creation of the world, going from images of

***"Even though God created the volcanoes, filled the oceans, and brought life to the world, He still cares about all of His children. Hollywood didn't mean to convey that through this film, but God likes to work in mysterious ways, right?"***

volcanoes, to space, to the oceans and many other beautiful landforms. It is a truly beautiful progression of images. But just as the director intended, all I could think about as the images gently flowed across the screen was the mother's prayer. Who are we to you? You, God, made this entire universe. Endless creation. So who was that boy who died in the war to you?

Honestly, I could take this review in three different ways. I could focus on the psychology of it all, describing the child rearing taking place between Brad Pitt's character and his sons. Or I could talk about the setting of the film, focusing on

how the kids did not have our current technologies to distract them from exploring the Earth around them and learning through experience. And, of course, I could talk about the theme of nature versus grace; describing how nature tries to please itself while grace accepts being slighted. But that's what Hollywood wants us to focus on. That's too easy. Personally, I can't get away from my Christian perspective of the film.

Who was the boy who died in the war to God? How could he have any significance to God himself, the creator of all things? That's the funny part. He does mean something to God. No, I am underestimating God by saying that. The boy means everything to Him. Even though God created the volcanoes, filled the oceans, and brought life to the world, He still cares about all of His children. Hollywood didn't mean to convey that through this film, but God likes to work in mysterious ways, right?

As a side note, this is one of the most visually stunning films I have ever seen. If anything, just watch this film to experience moving art. It truly is a masterpiece.



**FINE ARTS**  
**Kaitlyn Orwig**  
Valley Mills, Texas

#### Interests & Hobbies:

Rock climbing, Watching movies, Baking

#### Most Prized Possession:

My cellphone

#### Three Words that Best Describe Me:

Hardworking, Conscientious, Spontaneous

#### Best Advice My Parents Gave Me:

Stay away from boys

#### What Motivates Me:

Passion

#### As A Child, I Dreamed of Being:

A Ballerina

#### I Would Like to Have Witnessed:

The First Church in Acts

#### Pet Peeve:

People driving under the speed limit

#### Favorite Quote/Verse:

Matthew 6:34

#### A Talent You Possess:

Playing the Guitar

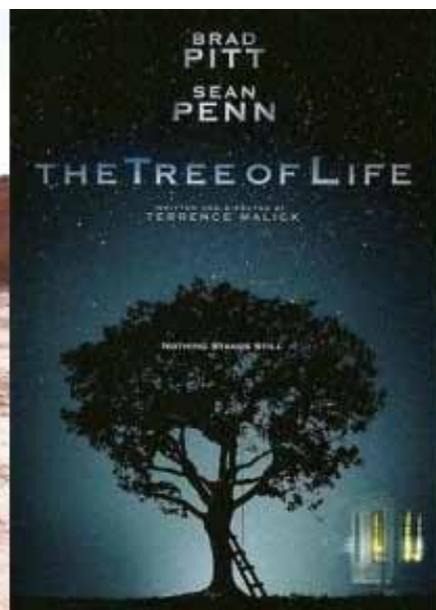
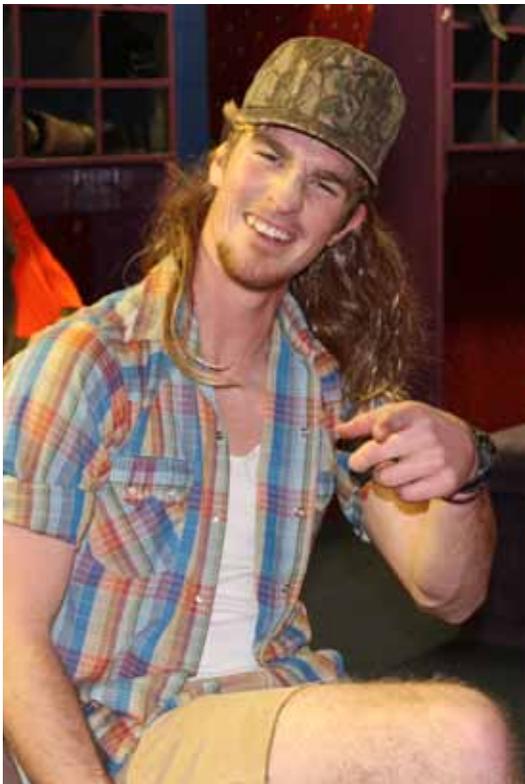


Photo provided by teaser-trailer.com

# Roller Rag 2012



All photos by Stephanie Reyes.

Editor: Mary Haikin  
 Adviser: Melanie Kyzer  
 Business Manager: Audra Marston  
 Photo Editor: Stephanie Reyes  
 Sports Editor: Madison Ferrell  
 Opinions Editor: Hannah Marchant  
 A & E Editor: Kira Roberts



The ECHO is the weekly student newspaper of Southern Nazarene University and is a long-standing member of the Oklahoma Collegiate Press Association. Viewpoints expressed in the paper are not to be considered official standard-bearers of the university or its sponsoring denomination.

Editorials on the op/ed pages that are generated by the ECHO staff—and therefore have no byline—express the opinions of the editorial staff but not necessarily of the administration, faculty or staff of Southern Nazarene University. Personal columns with bylines as well as opinions reprinted from subscription wire services or other publications by permission express the opinions of the writer and not necessarily of the editorial staff of the ECHO or the administration, faculty or staff of Southern Nazarene University.

The ECHO publishes a public forum called "Letters to the Editor" and invites readers to express themselves here. The editorial staff requests that letters not exceed 250 words and reserves the right to edit them for clarity and brevity. All letters must be signed. Send them to The ECHO, SNU Box 2541, or through e-mail at [echo@snu.edu](mailto:echo@snu.edu). Letters will not be returned. Unless otherwise marked, letters received by The ECHO that deal with newspaper content or practice will be considered for publication.

Information on advertising and subscriptions can be obtained by contacting the business manager of the newspaper at (405) 491-6382 during regular business hours. Subscriptions are \$20/annually.