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Getting to know your campus Resident Directors

Ashlynn McGuire, Staff Writer

Every residence on campus has a person in charge of the details of planning and keeping up with the building and its residents. These people are the ones that send out emails about anything that might interest or inform their residents. These resourceful and driven people are called our Resident Directors and have more to them than meets the eye.

"I graduated from SNU and this place and the people here had an incredible impact on my life. I wanted to give back to a place that invested so much in me and hopefully provide the support for students that I appreciated so much

when I was a student. The Lord has been so faithful along my journey in Residence Life to continue to place me in situations to get to see and experience student's lives forever changed and that never gets old. I love every moment spent celebrating awesome news with students, encouraging and walking alongside them in the middle of tough life circumstances and seeing students create memories that will last a

"I am so excited to see all of our RDs and RAs pouring into and investing in the lives of their residents."

lifetime. I love my job," said Katy Bradley, Asbury and Imel RD and Director of Resident Life.

Tim Cole, AM Hills RD, is grateful to give back to the community. "I am excited to see what our amazing God is going to do with our students! That is why I love my job. Seeing students come to SNU as one person and leaving here as another. I know that is what happened in my life. SNU made me so much of a better man, and I am so grateful to now give back to this powerful community."



Davis Hodum— Photo by Jonathan Hane

Cole came to SNU because he was originally recruited to play baseball.

"When I decided to come here it was because of baseball, but then

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Having food frustrations? Let Sodexo know!

Grace Williams, Business Manager

Food in Sodexo is often likened to roads in Oklahoma--never good enough. Students have a plethora of wants and needs when it comes to Sodexo. Whether you have a special dietary need ranging from vegan to gluten free options or simply want something healthier, this is the year to voice your concerns as a new food contract is being negotiated for the 2015-2016 school year.

If you have an allergy or special dietary need this year, there are venues to voice your concerns about both Sodexo and Pops Lounge, which both fall under Sodexo's domain.

Tabitha Pope, director of Dis-

ability Services, said, "Special dietary needs are disabilities because if you are sick or hungry due to lack of appropriate food then it will affect your school work."

Two years ago, Pope organized a meeting between Sodexo staff and those with certain dietary constraints such as gluten intolerance. "People may not know that Wendy, one of the chefs at Sodexo, is also gluten intolerant. All of Sodexo's staff is willing to work with students."

Pope plans to organize another meeting this year for students who have any dietary concerns, whether documented or by choice, such as veganism. Email her at tpope@

snu.edu to be included. "Two years ago, the students who met with the staff were able to suggest products they liked and were able to give input into planning menus of food they liked and were able to eat. They were also given a phone number to call ahead of arriving at sodexo so a specific plate could be made. We are hoping to find more vegan and gluten-free options that are cheaper for Pops lounge."

Amber Noyes, Sodexo Manager, said, "Please communicate your special needs, whether chosen or biological, at any time during service or in the office between 2-4pm when the dining hall is closed [take the elevator]. We want to make

meals that fit your needs before you arrive. I want all students to fill out comment cards [located on the wall across from the cash register, next to the office door] for any problem about Pops Lounge or Sodexo."

Sodexo has a real incentive to be mindful of student requests due to the contract negotiation going on this year.

Scott Strawn, Vice President for Business and Finance, said, "Food contracts last 10 years, and Sodexo's will be up in 2014-2015. We are accepting bids from several companies and will choose 2 or 3 companies to come in and research our

Continued on page 2

Get to know your campus Resident Directors cont.

when I got here I fell in love with this school. [There are] so many incredible people here. I love the SNU community,” Cole said.

The opportunity to coach football at SNU and serve the young men of Snowbarger brought Hodam to SNU.

All three RDs interviewed look forward to the coming year.

“[I am excited for] the opportunity to build solid, content-filled relationships with the young men of Snowbarger and offer myself as a resource to them as they traverse an extremely demanding, challenging, yet exciting time of their lives. I am excited for this opportunity because I personally benefited from my dorm experience as well,” Hodam said.

Bradley is excited to see students continue to get connected and to find new ways for Residence Life to create community among the student body. She is excited to hear new ideas from students on what they want to see in the Residence Halls with programming, facilities, etc. and intends to do her best to

make some of those things happen.

“I am so excited to see all of our RDs and RAs pouring into and investing in the lives of their residents,” Bradley said.

RD Q&A:

Dream Trip:

Bradley: Swaziland, London or Australia

Cole: “If money wasn’t an option, I would have to say New Zealand or Scotland.”

Hodam: Scotland. “It’s the birthplace of golf.”

Favorite Movies:

Bradley: “My favorite movie is Hoosiers, Coach Carter, Remember the Titans and P.S. I Love You.”

Cole: Braveheart.

Hometown:

Bradley: McKinney, Texas

Cole: Wichita, Kansas “I was born and raised there. I left in the summer of 2008 to go play on a faith based baseball team here in OKC called the Ambassadors.

Hodam: Lansing, Kansas. However, he has spent the last ten years in Lincoln, Illinois working for Lubbock Christian University.



Tim Cole— Photo by Jonathan Hane

Travel Out of the U.S.:

Bradley: She has helped sponsor a Pine Cove family mission trip to Costa Rica. “Brett and I loved everything about it.”

Cole: “I went to Nicaragua on a baseball mission trip in 2008. It was incredible, and the experiences I had there were amazing. God worked so much in my heart on that trip. I also went to Mexico on a missions trip in 2009. We built a house for a family there. That was one of the most humbling experiences I have had as well. The family was so grateful, and it was so cool to see how much they were

thanking our amazing God for the house we built. I have also been to Canada a couple of times for baseball. I will say that they do have some pretty amazing maple syrup!”

Hodam: “I have been to Canada for fishing trips with my dad in the summers and the Bahamas on a cruise with Steph for our honeymoon.”

Favorite Food:

Cole: A medium rare steak at a restaurant named Country Bob’s.

Bradley: “My favorite food would have to be dirt cake and sushi.”

Hodam: “My favorite food is buffalo chicken wings.”

Having food frustration? Let Sodexo know! cont.

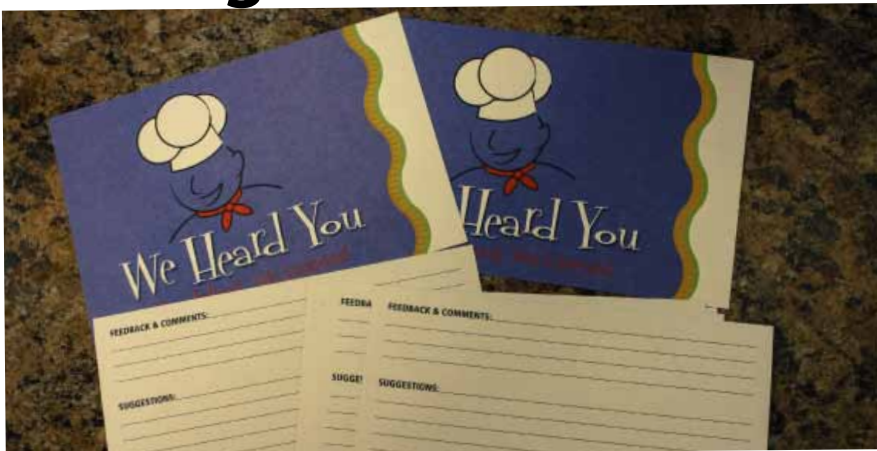


Photo by Grace Williams

campus. They will also do market research on teens 14 and up since they will be benefiting from our next contract as well.”

A student committee will be formed to give input on this decision. Speak with student development staff such as Michael Houston or Marian Redwine if you would like to be included on the

committee.

“We will evaluate our facilities as well as our dining options. We have seen that students like made to order options such as pasta bar and Pops, so we are looking in that direction.” said Strawn.

Your input this year may have a lasting impact on SNU’s foodservice for the next 10 years, but that

does not mean it cannot start this year as well.

Strawn said, “We have flexibility. If students really want sodexo open from 6-8pm and they tell us that, then we will look into it. We’ve changed things before, such as the meal exchange in Pops, which has only been going on for the past two years.”

Noyes said, “Our menu is developed by our head chef and re-evaluated at times based on student behavior. In Pops, we can track what people order and the substitutions they make, which gives us good input. We are willing to investigate any option if many students suggest it and will change if it is feasible. So, for example, if you want yogurt as a side in Pops, just let us know.”

Alan Baur, freshman Physical

Therapy major who has 15 meals a week, said, “I love the Sodexo staff; they are so nice. I wish Sodexo and Pops had healthier options, specifically real eggs. I think healthy, good quality food is the best investment.”

In an attempt to provide healthy food, Sodexo will begin a Mindful program which will provide fresh and healthy food primarily at lunch, and these items will be marked fresh. For example, instead of always providing hamburgers, some days in the classics area there will be Tilapia and hummus with pita chips instead.

Do not just complain about Sodexo any longer, grab a comment card or email Amber Noyes with all your suggestions and concerns about foodservice at SNU in Pops Lounge or in Sodexo.

Library presents storm search and ebrary

Katie King, Library Director

If you have been in the SNU Library this semester, you might have noticed some change already – the presence of 4 Andy Warhol-esque prints of people influential to this campus. You can recognize some of these people by their names as several SNU buildings carry their monikers: Don Beaver, Mrs. Cantrell, R.T. Williams and Wanda Rhodes.

We in the Library loved that idea for several reasons – the color scheme is fun and the style is modern, both of which would bring some color and life into the Library lobby. However (warning, I'm getting deep here), we also really like the idea of holding on to the essence of what built this campus (dedicated people who were committed to SNU) while reinventing and changing the form that communicates that essence (updating the color scheme and style to challenge our preconceived notions of what dedication to SNU looks like).

That principle – holding on to the essence but changing the form – is the very nature of what the SNU Library is doing this year and will be doing in future years. We are a library, which means we have



Photo by Jonathan Hane

print books, a checkout counter, physical items to organize, study spaces and research assistance available. However, we are a 21st century library, which means we have fun harnessing new technology, new teaching methods, new ways of organizing our space, new partnerships and new resources as best we can to better connect you, the students, staff and faculty of SNU, with the resources you need to succeed academically, personally and professionally.

One new resource to which we are subscribing this year is ebrary, a digital library that features over 70,000 full text academic books, which will almost double the amount of books we have in the

Library. You will be able to find, access, download, print and cite material from these ebooks anytime of the day or night. We hope access to these books will make research easier for all types of students at all times of the day or night (or early morning!).

The other new piece of technology we are really excited about this year is Storm Search – a brand new way to discover all the resources the SNU Library provides. This new method of searching will replace Encore and will pull all of our online databases, ebooks and our online catalog together, so you can search everything we have from one place (hooray!). Additionally, Storm Search will

make database recommendations based on your searches, will provide a seamless way for you to ask us questions without leaving your search and will deliver results to you in a simple, yet sophisticated, way.

Both ebrary and Storm Search will go live on October 1, 2013 (next week!). We hope that you will find both of these changes exciting, but, most of all, we hope you will find them useful. As with any major change, I am sure there will be some minor glitches, but we hope you will be gracious and patient with us as we change the form of what we do while holding on to its essence – providing you all with fantastic resources.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 28: Football @ Harding
- Sept 28: Men's Soccer @ Northeastern State
- Oct 1: Chapel -Dave Capes
- Sept. 29: Home Women's Soccer @ 12pm
- Oct. 1: Home Volleyball game @7pm
- Oct. 3: Chapel- Reggie Dabbs
- Oct. 3: Men's soccer @ Southwest Baptist
- Oct. 3: Women's soccer @ East CentralSept.
- Oct. 3: Kingdom Come @ 9pm
- Oct. 4: Pros vs. Joes @ 4pm
- Oct. 5 Cross Country Jamboree @OSU
- Oct. 8 Global Vision Week

STORMSPORTS

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Crowd noise with home field advantage



Photo from sproutsocial.com

Matt Scott, Staff Writer

Have you ever had the feeling that you are deaf and cannot hear a single thing someone is saying? Like when going to a rock concert on a Friday night or driving by construction on the way home from work. That same feeling you get can double in one night, and where is that you ask? Well, that would be an athletic event at a college field or arena.

Have you ever been in Cameron Indoor Stadium where Duke plays its home games or Death Valley at Clemson on a Saturday night? Places like those are so loud you cannot even hear yourself think. That is what home field advantage means to college sports, and it is everywhere you go. The players and Coach love it, and the fans get into it, so what about other people?

Home field advantage is one of the biggest differences in who wins and who loses an important game. According to Critical Ink by Nicky Axmann, "Home court or home

field advantage is a commonly held belief that is well supported by statistical evidence" (sites.duke.edu).

Take basketball for example. They build these arenas so small and compact that all the sound is in one area, and it creates the loudest building you will ever be in. Chesapeake Energy Arena where the Oklahoma City Thunder plays, is a perfect example of this. It is so small that a big game during playoffs makes it even harder to hear. It affects the game more than you think because a team gets on a run and the crowd gets loud; it can pump up the team and make them play better. Duke has 903 wins at home, compared to 188 losses, so that is a prime example of how this theory works.

With all that noise, how do you expect a referee to make a correct call on the field, especially when you have fans booing so loud they cannot hear? An article in

the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society says, "Descriptive statistics from our samples clearly show that home teams receive fewer yellow and red cards than away teams" (www.jstor.org). That is the effect of crowd noise. At many soccer games, the subject of the article, crowd noise makes hearing impossible.

So what goes through a referee or umpire's mind when a quick play happens that is important to the game? This call will make or break a team, and the referee is in a hostile area. They cannot hear themselves think, so they rush and make the call, which has been significantly influenced by the noise of the crowd.

"A large part of the regular season in many of the most popular American sports involves playing for home field advantage in the playoffs" said Axmann. With fans screaming and yelling, the odds of losing decrease. So, get those fans going and win some games.

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Athletics

Volleyball 2013



Photos by Jonathan Hane.

OPINIONS

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Internet safety: what you can do to protect yourself online

Rachel Whatley, Staff Writer

What is that fishy link and status doing on your Facebook profile? You do a double take and check again...yes, there it is. A post you do not remember uploading, right there under your name. A status so bizarre, so out of character for you. You wonder who could have done this. Who could have accessed your password...or figured it out? A mixture of curiosity and horror overtakes you and sends you warning your "friends," changing your password and logging out.

This scenario could very well happen to anybody, and it is certainly not limited to Facebook. Even large companies can – and have – become victims of hacking. If you think about all your accounts, it can add up pretty quickly. Email, Facebook, mySNU, Twitter, Ebay, Instagram...the list goes on. If your Facebook fell prey to a hacker, like in the above example, then the rest of your accounts had better not have the same password.

In addition to having multiple

passwords, you should change them often and make them hard to guess – stale passwords are more likely to get hacked. You should not include words from the dictionary, proper names or letters or numbers in sequence. And the longer it is, the better. www.password-generator.net will create a random password up to 23 characters and let you choose any combination of lowercase letters, uppercase letters, symbols and numbers. It even gives you a way to remember it.

Once you have a strong password, it is wise to memorize it as soon as possible. Also, be careful who you give it out to – better yet, do not give it out at all. In fact, I believe it was Benjamin Franklin who said, "Three men can keep a secret, if two of them are dead."

In addition to not giving out passwords, you should never post your home address or phone number on a social media site. Tamara Dawson, administrator of the department of Computer Science and Network

"Posts, tweets and pictures that may seem funny today may not be funny if they come up in a future job interview."



Photo by Rachel Whatley

Engineering, said, "Be careful not to give information out about personal habits and routines [because] cyber criminals can stalk victims based on what they post."

Generally, just think twice about what you post. For one thing, businesses are now more than ever investigating potential employees' profiles. So what does your profile say about you? Dawson said, "Posts, tweets and pictures that may seem funny today may not be funny if they come up in a future job interview." On Facebook in particular, other friends, or friends of friends, can tag you in their

statuses and photos. "If something seems inappropriate, remove yourself and explain to the other person your reason for doing so," Dawson recommended.

Also, be mindful of who your followers or "friends" are and post accordingly. Complaining about your job on a social media site could get you in trouble if a co-worker or even your boss is a friend or mutual friend. You can take further preventive measures by setting your privacy settings high, so that not everybody who stumbles upon your profile or googles your name cannot see everything.

Food choice: Sodexo's southwest watercress salad

Gabe Carr, Staff Writer

Southwest Watercress Salad

Love handles, a bulging belly and other downsides of eating in SNU's cafeteria every day of the week. It is apparent that many students become a little chubbier within a few months of starting their first semester. However, this is certainly not a predestined occurrence. In fact, there are usu-

ally some healthier cuisine options available that students pass over for the predominant fried entrée. This is a crying shame because, often times, these healthier choices are tastier than they appear. A remarkable example of one of these choices is the Southwest Watercress Salad.

When I first glanced at the salad, I did not exactly comprehend

what I was looking at. There was some moist, leafy grass stuff, that kind of looked like a wad of clovers, topped with a handful of wet corn, a few, soggy avocado wedges and some dark, sweet onion slices. It looked like a plate full of sweaty turtle food. Needless to say, I would not blame someone for electing to eat the corn dog option based solely on the appearance of

this salad. In spite of my trepidation when taking my first bite, I can honestly say that I enjoyed this dish.

The pungency and texture of all the ingredients complimented the overall flavor of the salad. As is the case with many entrées, the title of this salad contains the name of the primary ingredient. That clover stuff is the watercress in which

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Budgeting guide for the average college student

Macy Sliman, Staff Writer

There is always that point everyone comes to in their life when they panic about money. We all get there. There it is, at the end of the month where you are waiting on that paycheck to come in and save you from all the bills you have to pay, and then, of course there is that movie you want to see with your friends. You are sitting there wondering where the last paycheck went because there is no way you could have spent it all. Maybe there are ways to avoid this gut wrenching feeling every single month. Here is a simple way to start holding on to the money you worked hard for, be able to pay all your bills and have money left over to spend on fun things.

Now, the goal of this exercise is to make you more aware of what you spend and to help you not spend more than you make in a month. I like to put money away in a savings account each month. This helps if you get in a bind and need some emergency money. Open a separate account other than your actual bank account. That way, you can remember to leave it alone unless you absolutely need it.

I talked to business professor, Da-

vid O'Bannon, who can be considered a pro in the field of saving. He agreed with me, saying, "Putting the discipline of saving money and tithing into practice so early is such an invaluable skill, and you will see the fruits of this labor for the rest of your life. It also helps you see the fact that time [plays a role in] the growth [of] that savings."

Wise words. So let us begin. First, you will need a little money planner. They do actually have them at the store. I know, crazy. Invest in one. They are great.

Second, write down what you make each month. Now, the first thing I do is tithe. I know this is a super personal thing between you and God, but it helps to write it down in your budget so you will have it as part of what you are spending (I usually do 10% of what I make, but this is up to each individual). Then subtract what you will put in savings every month. I like to do 10%, just like tithing.

After you have done these basic steps, you can go even further and separate what you normally spend into categories. My categories are gas, fun stuff, food and pharmacy.



Photo from flickr.com used under Creative Commons License

Yours will probably be different, so just use whatever you normally spend the most money on over the month. You can probably find this info on your online bank statement if you use a debit card.

When you have separated the categories, set a limit for yourself on how much you will spend on each one. This limit should not necessarily equal what you have left of your paycheck. I usually like to see how much I spend on each cat-

egory and then set my limit smaller than that amount each time. This way you save more money and gain a little self-control in the process.

Something else that helps me is to write everything down in your little money planner. This physical act of being aware of what you are spending helps you not want to spend as much.

My hope is that my way of saving money helps! Spend well, my friends.

Sodexo's southwest watercress salad cont.

the title refers. This was amusing to me because I learned of a new, tasty leafy-green. For examples sake, I will compare the flavor of the watercress to that of raw spinach. The plant, when consumed alone, shares that acidic bite. Being an aquatic herb, it is best consumed when wet. This addition thoroughly justifies a squishy salad experience.

Though, the liquid upon the salad is not mere water. No, it is a fine vinaigrette composed of rice vinegar, soy sauce and vegetable oil. These saucy ingredients combined for an oriental zing within the context of other counterparts. Also, because it is a water herb, the wa-

tercress has evolved to stand strong while being submerged in whatever fluid the Good Lord wills upon it. In my serving, the watercress held firm against an utter, tangy drenching. I appreciated this collaboration due to my abhorrence of mush.

To address this salad's sidekicks, I can account for their excellent contributions. The avocado slices, already being squishy substances, fit right in to this sodden collection. I can say the same about their taste. Their uniquely plain, yet satiating, taste truly venerated their more audacious partners. The onion was sweet but in a more supportive sense. It wore the vinaigrette like a glove and spoke out,

just enough to be noticed, in every crunchy bite. The corn acted as corner to lean on. If you throw corn in any "salady" food, it seems to instantly become southwestern. In this salad, the corn was sort of a thoughtful aside to liven up the aesthetic appeal.

However, as far as texture is concerned, it is the firmest ingredient in the mix. I did appreciate this addition whenever my chompers chewed up all the other ingredients, and I had to put a little more effort in posturing the corn before swallowing. This aspect served a lingering appeal. The ingredients to this salad were genuinely considered, and, because of

this care, they all polymerize into a sensational final product.

Why not salad? I could go on and on about the health benefits of choosing this option, but I want, instead, to appeal to the *dégustateur*, the taster, in everyone. As my review of this dish points out, salad can be delicious. This salad in particular only consists of 110 calories a serving. This means one can afford to eat more food, taste more food without gaining weight. Is this not what everyone who likes to eat truly desires? On that thought, I believe it is possible to eat good, Sodexo prepared treats every day, without gaining the pounds to prove it.

Echo apology to the University Singers

Editorial Staff

The Echo attempts to always provide its readers with relevant and accurate information. However, mistakes happen. We would like to apologize for some inaccurate information that may have been misrepresented or misconstrued. We would like to clarify some of the information that was shared within the article: “U Singers:”

Laura Miller is not the leader of the University Singers, as was implied. Jim Graves is the head director of all choral activities at SNU. Laura Miller is a returning senior within the group and provides leadership in that way.

The new CD that U Singers is releasing is not a compilation of the past three albums. The latest CD features favorite songs that

has been sung or performed over the past three years.

U Singers is accompanied by its own Jazz combo featuring John McCall, Zach Sutton, and Jake Hergeshiemer. The SNU Jazz band is separate from U Singers.

Current U Singers are: Preston Owens, Anthony Tolbert, Andrew Sharp, Steve Stark, Caleb Siems, Ryan Smith, Emily Lauver, Sydney Surpan, Rebekah Jeong, Hannah Kinsey, Dannah Jo White, and Laura Miller

We would like to apologize for any inconvenience or offense because of this misinformation. Thank you for reading The Echo. Please continue to share any ideas, suggests, comments, or grievances with us. We appreciate and enjoy feedback from our reader; it allows us to understand how The Echo can better serve our community.



Photo by Jonathan Hane

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***Join us on Mondays at 6:15 in Room 307 with story ideas
you want to write about!***

Email Kira Roberts (kirarobe@mail.snu.edu) with questions

New 40-acre central park to go in downtown OKC



Photo from Hargreaves & Associates

Clay Milford, Staff Writer

In 2008, Oklahoma City's MAPS office began collaborating with San Francisco park planners Hargreaves & Associates in an attempt to bring a central park spanning 40 acres to the heart of downtown. This space will be the nucleus of a project referred to as The Core to Shore Plan; it, along with a planned 30-acre promenade park and the recently renovated Myriad Botanical Gardens, will be the centerpiece of a new Oklahoma City for the future.

Eric Wenger, the Program Manager for MAPS for the OKC Central

Park plans, says the plans for the area are already going strong. "The design of the new Central Park is underway, and we are expected to complete construction drawings in the next few months. Construction will be scheduled in phases, with different timeframes for the upper and lower park areas. The early phases will be completed in 2015/2016, the middle phases in 2017/2018 and the final phases in 2020/2021. The goal is to open portions of the Central Park as surrounding projects are completed like the new Oklahoma City Boule-

vard and new Convention Center."

The Core to Shore effort will prove to be a great step in order for Oklahoma City to solidify itself as a major American Metropolitan area. Wenger says that the Central Park is a part of a plan which aims to not only bring great attractions to the city but a bright future, which includes increased profit as well. "With the plans underway and construction pending on the Central Park, much opportunity will be provided to the areas adjacent to the park for future development. With these planned improvements,

an area that is currently considered a blighted area will be revitalized. The Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce projected that the City's first MAPS initiative which introduced \$350 million into the Bricktown and downtown areas generated over \$1 billion in private investments."

Although the words "central park" are within the working title of the new project, Wenger states that Central Park in New York City will share little to no parallels with Oklahoma City's upcoming botan-

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Everything is amazing and no one is happy

Kira Roerts, Editor and Chief

Everyone has little things that never cease to irk him or her. For me, those annoyances typically come from slow or malfunctioning computers and devices. I think I probably received this technologically inept condition from my sweet mother, along with my 'punny' humor, lanky physique and propensity to cry at every-

thing...but that is beside the point. The point is, everything is amazing and no one is happy. I know. I know. That is too profound of a statement to bring up so lightly. Truth be told I did not come up with it, but it has had a more significant effect on me than I would have expected. If you take Science, Technology and Society with Dr. Young,

you will probably watch a video of Louis C.K. on Conan at some point during the semester. In eight minutes and one radical statement, my perspective about life and our conveniences was totally altered. I have always known that I take most things in life for granted, so I do my best to treasure the relationships and commodities that I am blessed with. However, I realize even more now just how incredible everything is. We have machines to wash our clothes and dishes, heat our food and take us miles away

in a matter of minutes. We can relax in a seat 30,000 feet above the ground taking us across the world, and still we complain about the business of airports, delays and limited legroom. Wait, what? You are flying through the air like a bird people! That is amazing! We have everything, so why is no one happy? When did we start thinking that the world owed us something... like technology... like it's an actual human right? *Continued on page 10*

"We cannot allow our relationships and life to be defined by these devices."

Instagram Contest

Category: **Simplicity**

Prize: \$10 gift card and Echo tank top

Submission: Email photos to
kirarobe@mail.snu.edu

Winner: will be published in next week's issue
and will receive an email for prize pickup



Example photo by Kira Roberts

Everything is amazing and no one is happy cont.

“When you have a slightly slow signal on your PDA, or it takes more than 30 seconds to download a picture on your iPhone, and that irritates you, something is very, very wrong,” Louis said.

Maybe there is something wrong here, with our society, with our generation. We are so used to the conveniences that we have grown up with that the amazing has become the norm; we have no incredulity left for innovation and creativity, especially when it comes to technology. So what are we to do?

Obviously it is not a bad thing to use the commodities offered to us. In fact, in order to function and flourish in today's culture, it is actually important to utilize them on a daily basis. But we cannot allow our relationships and life to be defined by these devices. We can-

not stop intentionally seeking out face-to-face conversations and hands on entertainment. We cannot run our lives from behind a screen, organizing and dreaming and planning...we need to go, do and be what we were made to be in the world. It is my humble opinion that we will never truly be content until our joy is in Christ alone. No new invention or update will fill us with unfailing joy like he will. My challenge to you today is to realize just how amazing everything is and then think about just how much more incredible is the God who created the creators of all this stuff.

Have you ever tried going an entire day without complaining about a single thing? It is much harder than it sounds. Give it a try!



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New 40 acre central to go in downtown OKC cont.

ical esplanade. “The new Central Park is being designed by Hargreaves and Associates, in conjunction with several local consultants to be unique to Oklahoma City. Ideas from other parks across the world are being considered, but the final results will be a design that is original to the City.”

Wenger also mentioned the double dip effect both the central park and the overall goals and projects of Core to Shore will have on OKC. “As it relates to the MAPS 3 projects, the plans are for both pedestrians and businesses. With a mix of goals like Trails, Sidewalks and Central Park, which could be

considered for the pedestrian, the others like the Streetcar, Convention Center and Wellness Centers could be considered more for businesses. All are geared to serve the citizens and visitors of Oklahoma City.”

In other words, everyone, including tourists and business

owners, will get to enjoy the fruit of MAPS' labor when it comes to the capital of the Sooner State. From improved bridges and parks, to fairground renovations and a brand new convention center, the next decade will be one of expansion and profit for the great metropolis of Oklahoma City.

Fall 2013 Ice Blocking



Photos by Kira Roberts.

Fine Arts Student Feature **Laura Miller**



Hometown: Midwest City, Oklahoma

Hobbies and Interests: hanging with friends, trying new restaurants, watching classic movies, tennis, traveling

Most prized possession: items I've brought back from Laos

Three words that describe you: adventurous, easy-going, goofy

Best advice your parents gave you: When speaking of the Woulds and shoulds in life- "Laura, you can't 'should' all over yourself"

A talent you possess: speaking in

various random voices

Biggest fear: not being accepted

I would like to have witnessed: the whole 50s era...just in general.

Best memory: bathing with elephants in a waterfall

As a child you dreamed of being a..... professional soccer player, vet, and artist. I was a day dreamer.

Pet Peeve: insincerity

Favorite Quote or verse: "I have come so that they may have life, life in its fullest measure." John 10:10

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