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The Echo

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Students attend local Shine a Light event for exploited women

Ronna Fisher, Content Editor

On Tuesday, October 15, SNU students and members of the Oklahoma City community gathered at Wheeler Park for Shine a Light. The event, held by national organization She's Somebody's Daughter, was created to promote awareness of and bring an end to the exploitation of women through pornography and human trafficking.

Students from this year's SPEAK theme house promoted and attended the event, including Allie Oakes, senior International Studies major.

"I think it is important to attend local events like Shine a Light because sex trafficking is such a pervasive and local issue. Oklahoma City is facing a huge problem, and it is vital that the community express concern and support for such prevalent issues in our backyard. This is something I care a lot about and

want to help eradicate. No woman should be subjected to sex trafficking, objectification or abuse. Men and women alike need to take a stand against the hyper-sexualization of our society and reach out to all the daughters out there who are manipulated into selling their bodies," said Oakes.

The website for Shine a Light claims that it will be the "the night the culture begins to change." In an interview with The Echo, She's Somebody's Daughter project manager Tammy Stauffer said, "It is our desire that the over-sexualization of our culture becomes part of history which will happen when we collectively begin to reject it using our voices to speak on behalf of all daughters and sons – simply starting with the words 'she's somebody's daughter or he's somebody's

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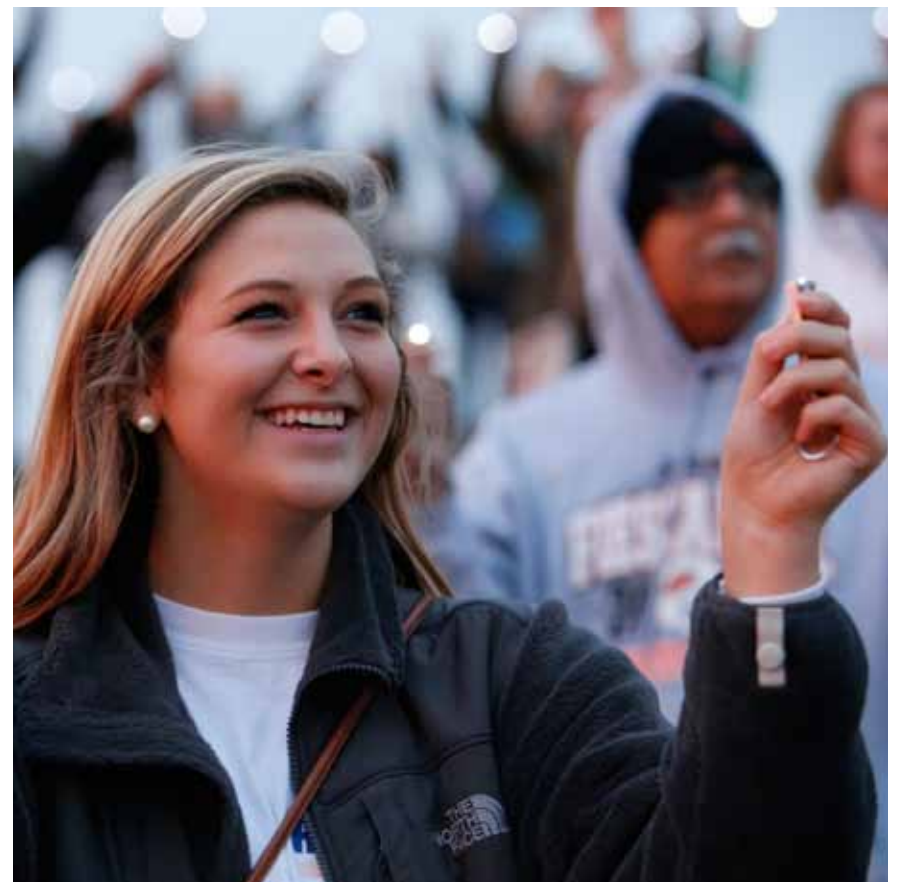


Photo provided by She's Somebody's daughter

Don't be bored: special class choices for the spring

Grace Williams, Business Manager

At SNU, we are required to take about 57 hours of general education classes. We are all forced to take Modern World, Christian Faith and Life, Health and Wellness, Integrated Software Applications and more.

After these classes are finished, we get to make real adult decisions about what classes to take that fit under certain categories. The requirement becomes a 3 credit hour class in Aesthetic Analysis, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving,

Civics, Ethics, and Stewardship, Effective Communication and Science and Technology. Some of the classes that fall within these general education categories for Spring 2014 may surprise you. So figure out the credits you need and find your options below:

Critical thinking and problem solving:

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10am, Dr. Lively will teach introduction to politics. He said "The purpose of this class is to help students learn: the outline and

particulars of the discipline of Political Science and its major sub-disciplines, the process of political thinking and the nature of political concepts, clarity and effectiveness of written and spoken communication and the variety of Christian perspectives on political life."

If online classes are more your speed, you can take Earth's Natural Disasters (END) or Intercultural communication. END will explore several different types of events and disasters and will con-

nect learning with pragmatic and personal actions to help others and ourselves deal with the array of natural disaster risks that we face. Intercultural communication introduces the concepts of culture and worldview and examines the many ways cultural differences can create obstacles to communication and mutual understanding.

Civics, Ethics and Stewardship:

Topics in American His-

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Students attend local Shine a Light event cont.



Photo provided by *She's Somebody's Daughter*

son' begins the kind of conversation that honors all involved."

The event began with a dance performed to a song about the value of a woman, how "she is somebody's daughter" and "a daughter of the Father." Oakes was inspired by the dancer. "[She] symbolized the restoration of value to all of the daughters out there," she said.

Congressmen James Lankford was scheduled to speak but was unable to leave Washington D.C. In his place was a representative who shared how Lankford first became interested in ending human trafficking in Oklahoma City.

Wanda Pratt, mother of Kevin Durant, basketball player for the

Oklahoma City Thunder, also spoke. She began with laptop in hand and notes to follow but soon felt compelled to "share from her heart" about her experience growing up and compelled young women to value themselves.

The night concluded with a "national photo opportunity." Participants held flashlights in both hands above their heads towards the photographer circling in a helicopter above. "We often do candle-lighting vigils and then have to extinguish those. With flashlights, we can continue shining the light on these not often talked about issues – sexual abuse, pornography, sex trafficking, and

encourage others to do the same," said Stauffer.

According to the website, "She's Somebody's Daughter is a movement initiated by concerned parents and groups who are committed to create national dialog about the truth of pornography and its role in driving the demand for sex-trafficking and violence against women and children." Their goal: "Let's create a culture that honors women—say yes to dignity and no to exploitation and sexualization!"

Misty Jagers, Director for student success, attended the event and helped promote it along with the SPEAK house. "I appreciate that the organization is not about 'shaming' pornography viewers but educating about the dangers of pornography," she said, "In order for real change to happen, we must educate in an effort to change a culture that promotes this idea that pornography is private and causes no harm."

For those who feel they have nothing to offer in the fight against human trafficking, Oakes begs to differ. "I think a huge part of participating in bringing an end to sex trafficking in Oklahoma City is devoting the issue to prayer. There is power in the name of Jesus, and he hears our cries for justice and mercy. Another way to help is by becoming more aware of the issue. A lot of people do not realize how severe sex trafficking is in Oklahoma City or how they may be contrib-

uting."

Jagers agreed that prayer is the most important way to play a role in ending sex trafficking. She added that students can be praying for "the individuals involved in sex trafficking (the victims, the pimps, the traffickers) and also those that are on the front lines working with these individuals daily."

Stauffer encourages advocates to educate themselves and "be ready to talk about it." "This is uncharted territory because most people don't want to talk about these issues. If we want to see trafficking come to an end, we'd better be ready to address what is driving the demand," Stauffer said. *She's Somebody's Daughter* began as a conversation by concerned parents in a coffee shop.

This year the SPEAK house is partnering with No Boundaries International. "There will be more opportunities in the future to give a dollar or two, participate in a toiletry drive for victims or buy some baked goods, all in an effort to support the work that No Boundaries International and other organizations are doing in the Oklahoma City community," said Jagers.

For more information about *She's Somebody's Daughter*, go to www.shes-somebodysdaughter.org.

Or, for more information on how to get involved with SPEAK and No Boundaries International, contact Malori McWilliams at mamcwill@snu.edu.

Summer 2014 Missions Information Meeting

Monday, October 28th
6:30 pm in Herrick

Don't be bored: special class choices for spring cont.

tory: American West will be offered by Dr. Clemmer on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:45am. She said, "This course is an introduction to the basic themes and events in the history of the American West and the clash of cultures from the arrival of the Europeans to the present."

Juvenile Delinquency will be taught by Dr. Colbert on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:00 pm. She said, "This course is an overview of the US Juvenile Justice System with an emphasis on the history and development of philosophical approaches to juvenile delinquency. Examination of theoretical paradigms, current issues and social problems."

Prof. Hughes will teach the Legislative Process on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. She said, "[It is] a study of state and national legislatures with their committee systems and pressure politics; legislative leadership; the legislator and constituents; lobbyist and special interest groups and the relationship between the legislative

and executive and judicial branches of government. Emphasis will be placed on the operation of the Oklahoma State legislature, which will be in session during the spring semester."

Effective Communication:

Technical Communications will be taught by Michelle Bowie on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 am. She said, "[The course will include:] practical experience with major forms of technical communication, such as letters, reports, instructions and proposals, used in professional fields related to science, business, English, mass communication, sport management and religion."

At 10:00 am, Dr. Broyles will be teaching Introduction to Organizational Communication on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. She said, "[It is] an introduction to the communication behaviors inherent in today's complex organizations. The course covers topics ranging from communication

networks to leadership styles to interviewing."

Aesthetics Analysis:

Introduction to Fine Arts will be taught by Dr. Reighard (as seen in SNL) on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:45 am. He said, "This course is designed to introduce the student to a variety of masterpieces in art, sculpture, architecture and music across many cultures."

Dr. Weaver will be teaching Survey of American Lit II at 10:00 am Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She said, "The course will feature selections from major American writers from 1860 to the present as representative interpreters of American life and ideas."

Prof. King, library director, will be taking students to Costa Rica for Literary Field Studies: Costa Rica beginning with a class on Wednesdays at 3:00 pm. She writes, "[This is a] special studies course that features a travel-study ex-

perience designed to acquaint students with the various geographical, cultural, and historical settings in which great 20th – 21st century Costa Rican writers produce(d) their literature."

Genre Studies: Global Cinema by Dr. Bracken on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. Global Cinema is a genre course in which students explore some of the major developments in world cinema outside of Hollywood during the last several decades.

If you like online classes, then check out Mythology with Dr. Hackler spanning from 3/24-5/2. She said, "This course provides an introductory exploration of classical and comparative mythology and an examination of the role of myth in society, the relation of myth to other disciplines and the relationship between myth and Christianity."

Additionally, Prof. Bowie will be teaching African American Literature. **Continued on page 4**

Strengths Finder: discovering your gifts

Rachel Whatley, Staff Writer

More often than not, it seems like we focus on areas that we are weak in. "I need to be more responsible," you may say, "I am not good with numbers." "People tell me that I am scatterbrained." In contrast, when asked what we are good at, some of us cannot really pinpoint it. "I think I am a good learner...so yeah." How would you like to tap into and make the best of what you already have? If you do not know your strong areas, would it be nice to know? The StrengthsFinder program can help you discover this and more.

Student leaders at SNU have had access to the StrengthsFinder test for several years, but this year was the first year that it was introduced to freshman students. The StrengthsFinder is used to complement New Student Institute

and the paired courses. It is free for the new students due to funding by Dr. Gresham, but returning students can take it as well for ten dollars. Think about that. For just ten dollars you can unlock your potential, discover the top five skills you are gifted with and get a better understanding of who you are. Chances are you will recognize something in your top five, but better yet, you might even discover something that you did not know you had.

StrengthsFinder, also known as the Clifton StrengthsFinder assessment, started back in 1998 by the Gallup organization (you may recognize the name from the Gallup polls). Since then, over four million people worldwide have taken the assessment in seventeen different languages.

Within the framework of this

test is the belief that everyone has a unique set of strengths – the possibility of someone else having your exact top five strengths, in that order, is almost impossible. There are thirty-four different strengths within four categories, which are relating (working with people), impacting (influencing people), striving (working harder) and thinking (working smarter).

Once you know your strengths, however, you cannot stop there. You cannot just say, "This says I have Activator. What is that? Oh, I turn thoughts into actions. Interesting" and forget about it. Misty Jagers, director for student success at SNU, encourages students to attend a forty-five minute one-on-one strengths insight session. These are available and will continue to be available throughout the school year. Students can

choose to talk about how they can use their strengths in a career, in a relationship, in academics or even how they are playing out in the student's life in general. Jagers said that students should be intentional in using their strengths and should "recognize their strengths and practice them."

"We should understand that we are naturally gifted with these strengths," said Jagers.

In addition to attending a strengths insight session, students are encouraged to attend the strengths workshops as well. There has been one strengths workshop for freshmen already, but Jagers said that SNU is planning to do more of those, including one coming up on November 12. In addition, there will be more workshops in the spring for all students to attend.

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

Oct. 25- Ugan- dan Chidlren's choir @ 2pm	Oct. 25- Wom- en's soccer vs ECU @ 7pm	Oct. 25- TWIRP @ 9:30 after soccer game	Oct. 26 - TWIRP
Oct. 26 - Men's soccer vs North- western @ 7pm	Oct. 28-Senior Spring Enroll- ment begins	Oct. 29 - Men's soccer vs Midwest- ern State @ 7pm	Oct. 30 - Musi- cal Matinee @ 10am
Oct. 31 - Junior Spring Enroll- ment begins	Oct. 31 - Musical @ 7:30pm	Oct. 31 - King- dom Come @ 9:00	Nov. 1 - Science Scholars Week- end

Don't be bored: special class choices for spring cont.

ture online. She said, "This special studies course is an overview of African American Literature from colonial times to the present and examines all types of literary works written by/for/about African Americans and is at once a study of literature, race and ethnicity."

Science and Technology:

Dr. Bentley will teach Intro to Biological Science at 9:25 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She said, "The purpose of this course is to introduce students to a variety of current issues in the field of biology. The scientific method will be demonstrated through hands on activities as well as case studies will be used to help students learn to evaluate biological events they may encounter in their everyday lives."

Origins will be taught by Dr. Winslow on Tuesdays and Thursday at 11:45 am. He said, "The course will be an exploration and Christian understanding of cosmological, geological and biological evolution."

Design Technology will be offered by Prof. Berens on Monday at 3:00 pm. He said, "[This is] a studio-based introduction to the design software, Adobe Creative Suite; projects will implement the creative problem-solving process which emphasizes observation, evaluation, communication and implementation while learning the Adobe programs: Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop."

Dr. York will teach Chemistry, Environment and Health on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00 am with a lab at 1:30 pm on Wednesday. She said, "[This] course [is] designed to help the student understand the role that chemistry has in modern living. Topics such as polymers, medicines, food, etc. will be discussed with emphasis placed on health and the environment. This course does not count towards a major or minor in chemistry."

Global Perspectives:

Cultural Anthropology by Dr. Young will be taught Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at 9:00 am. He said, "[This is] a study of the beliefs, practices and major institutions of selected groups around the world, with attention to the effects of missionary work."

Survey of World Lit: Classics of Western World taught by Dr. Poteet on Thursdays at 6:00 pm. "A study of major literary works of Western Civilization, such as Greek epics, Candide, The Divine Comedy, Don Quixote, Castle of Otranto, All Quiet on the Western Front--works that are often alluded to and works that an educated person should be familiar with."

If you want a class that is a hybrid Online class, then take International Economic Development with Prof. LaVigne. He said, "This course will be a detailed look into the international world of poverty and poverty alleviation and examine one current solution; microfinance practices."

These class times and professors may change so check with your advisor at enrollment on Monday, October 28 for Seniors, Honors, L.I.F.E. (formerly SSS) and Track 3, thursday October 31 for Juniors and Monday, November 4 for the rest of campus.

"classes that fall with in these general education categories for Spring 2014 may surprise you"

STORMSPORTS

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A day in the life of a student athlete

Zach Friesen, Staff Writer

His alarm goes off at five in the morning, a solid four hours before his first class begins and around four hours after he fell asleep. Blake Savage sleepily gets up and out of bed, puts on his practice clothes, grabs an extra pair of shorts to swim in and heads out of the door of his dorm room with his teammates to make their way to morning practice.

The sun is not yet up, so the walk to the gym is a cold and dark one. He and his teammates walk in silence, as they are still trying to wake themselves up for the workout they are about to undergo. They will begin their workout in the weight room of the Broadhurst Gymnasium, getting a 45-minute weight lifting session in before heading over to the swimming pool across the hall for the second half of their workout, which will consist of either treading water, swimming laps

or doing water resistance drills for 45 minutes.

After the workout ends around 7:15, Blake and his teammates walk back to their dorm room to shower and get ready for classes. Luckily, Blake has a little bit of time before his first class, so he uses the time to catch up on some much-needed sleep.

After a quick nap, Blake goes to his classes for the day. He is admittedly feeling a little sluggish today, feeling the effects of a long couple of days of classes and practices. He does not let this affect him, however, as he powers through every class on the day.

After he finishes his classes, he heads to the Commons to grab a quick bite to eat before heading to baseball practice. It is the middle of the week, so the thought of a weekend to rest up is still quite a ways off. This means he cannot

lose focus on the practice ahead of him, no matter how tired he is. He fights fatigue throughout the practice and the ensuing scrimmage, but he is able to make his way through it all to finish the day off right and build momentum heading into the last part of the week.

After practice is finished, Blake goes back to his dorm room with his roommates. They clean themselves up before going to get something to eat from Pop's. After dinner, they decide to head back to the room to call it a night and work on some homework. By the time Blake gets done with his homework, it is getting fairly late, and, thanks to his early morning, Blake is especially tired, so he decides to call it a night. He feels satisfied in his day's work, but he also knows that he has to do the exact same thing all over again the next day.

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Athletics



Student Athlete of the week

Michaela Osborne

Women's Golf

Osborne won the GAC Preview played at Lake Hefner's North Golf Course. The freshman shot a 150 two-round total to finish in a tie for first and then won the first playoff hole to capture the crown.

Class: Freshman

Hometown: Lawton, Okla.

High school sports compared to college sports



Matthew Scott, Staff Writer

Playing sports in high school is an awesome thing to do. However, so many athletes dream of playing sports in college and not every high school athlete pursues that, because either they are lacking in talent or they get hurt so badly they cannot play anymore. Then there are the few that decide that they want to focus on other things instead of playing sports, and that is an important decision. That is not a bad decision to make because the purpose of college is to get an education, not focus on sports. Yet, there are so many ways to be in-

involved in sports at a college that a student does not need to play for a college team. The Echo interviewed two former high school athletes to get their opinion.

There are many different reasons for people quitting competitive sports, but ask anyone and you will not get the same answer. "I need to focus on getting my degree and preparation for medical school," said Trey Polk, a junior who played basketball in high school. Not everyone goes to medical school, but they all come to school to get their degree. "SNU doesn't have a wrestling team," said Brandt William-

son, a senior who played wrestling in high school.

Playing sports is one of the best times a student can have because of the competition. "I miss participating and being a part of something bigger than myself," said Williamson. It is hard not to miss being involved with something the whole school is invested in. It is not just being active: Polk said he misses "the fun of playing the sport with other teammates." It is the idea of playing with other teammates on the court or on the field.

There are other ways to be involved with sports on campus. The main example is intramurals; they

can be a blast to play, and you still get the competition of playing sports without actually being on a team. Whether it is competitive enough depends on each person and how invested they become in the intramurals.

High school sports are a blast to anyone who wants to play, and college can be a great time too. If a student decides not to play college sports and, instead, focus on other things, like school and work, that is perfectly acceptable. Make sure you make the right choice for you that you will not regret, and have a blast in college.



Student Athlete of the week

Emilee Crawford

Volleyball

Crawford hit .312 on the week and averaged 3.12 kills per set in wins over Tabor and Arkansas Tech.

Position: Outside Hitter

Class: Junior

Hometown: Fort Worth, Texas

OPINIONS

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On music and life: connecting with each other



Photo from weheartit.com

Kira Roberts, Editor-in-chief

As much as I hate to admit it, I am a country music convert. In high school I wanted nothing to do with it. I called it twangy and thought it was only about beer and girls. Maybe it was because I just connected better with my rock at the time, or maybe we are severely influenced by the people around us. Probably it is a combination of both, but I am sure my move from Colorado to Oklahoma had a huge impact. When everyone around you likes country and lis-

tens to it all the time, you learn to like it or be miserable. I learned to not only tolerate it but to love it. The stories the songs tell, the feelings they describe, the pictures they paint...it is really quite amazing, not to mention they are so easy to sing along with!

That being said, I have one of the most eclectic music tastes of anyone I know. Music has always been something that has brought my family together. Between the six of us we have two flute players, two drummers, four pianists, three

guitar players, a saxophone player and four singers...not to mention I can play a mean kazoo. I grew up listening to my dad playing in coffee shops with his band, my mom playing music in the house whenever she had the chance and listening to every genre under the sun. I took piano lessons until early high school, sang in different choirs through freshman year of college, played percussion in band for four years and sang with my mom and sisters in church.

Aldous Huxley said, "Af-

ter silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music." I think we connect with each other more in the "inexpressibles" than that which can be expressed. Music is this medium where we can truly relate and understand each other on a deeper level.

I have this theory that a person's iTunes Library can tell a lot about who they are and what their journey has brought them through. This is not to say that anyone could tell who I am by looking at mine, but I can certainly remember the feelings I had years ago during a phase of music. Think about it... you remember exactly where you were and what you were going through when you listen to old music something you may have never thought about again if it were not for that one song.

Next time you have time to put in your headphones or go on a road trip, instead of listening to new releases, put your iPod or phone on shuffle and take a trip down memory lane. Let your mind wander to a different place, another time. Reminiscing can be one of the best ways to be reminded of all the blessings you have received on your journey through life!

What are you hungry for? I mean right now?

Celeste Forrest, Guest Writer

Does a juicy bacon-cheeseburger sound good to you? Or does the sound of hummus and pita bread make your mouth water? Perhaps you are craving a warm plate of freshly made pumpkin tarts with a glass of hot chai tea? Or are you even hungry at all?

Now, when your stomach does

begins to growl and you get that aching, empty feeling in your gut, what do you usually do to satisfy that hunger? Do you just sit there and expect your hunger to go away?

You might be thinking to yourself, "Well, duh, Celeste, you go and eat something."

Well, that is a no-brainer. When your belly is telling you it needs

food, you do what you can to fulfill that request, whether it is snacking on a granola bar or heading to Sodexo for (hopefully) a good meal.

Now, can I ask you another question? Have you ever been so extremely hungry, that nothing you ate could completely still that hunger? As in, you just finished a full plate of nachos and two bur-

ritos and your friend's half-finished pizza and you are still starving?

Now, I am guessing that very few of you have been there. I can honestly tell you right now that I know I have not. When I am hungry, I eat until I am full, and then I am done. Never have I eaten so much food, I was still starving afterwards. How-

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Vegetarianism/Veganism as a personal choice

Amy Lauver, Layout Editor

Choosing to live as a vegetarian is a personal choice. However, as a vegetarian in college, it can be difficult to avoid meat and animal products completely. Sodexo is where college students go to eat. As college students, we live in a world that is scheduled and often rushed, so sometimes it is impossible to take the time to be conscious of what is being put in our bodies.

Living as a vegetarian causes people to automatically be more conscious of what they are eating. It is not just about not wanting to eat meat because of the animals but also about taking care of our own bodies.

While most people choose to be vegetarian on the basis of animal rights, I have discovered that for my own life it is a better way to live. Now, sometimes I do just grab a plate of fries or bowl of cereal in Sodexo because it is quick and easy, but, for the most part, I have become more aware of what is going in my body.

Making the switch to a vegetarian diet was not as difficult as I expected. I braced myself for random meat cravings and relentless temptations. I expected a struggle in Pop's to just go for the popcorn chicken. However, this was not the case. With a little help from my friends who were already vegan

and vegetarian, I learned how easy it can be.

Now, I am not going to lie and say it was the easiest thing I have ever done, but it was definitely simpler than thought to be. What was hard had nothing to do with food at all. I felt pressure from those who were helping me make the switch. I had already committed in my head to the cause, but the possibility of giving into cravings and temptations gave me an overwhelming sense of responsibility I had to my friends, the fight against animal cruelty and even myself. With responsibility being my second top strength, I had to make every effort to not cheat or

give up.

As I learned how to substitute meat in my diet with things like beans and nuts, I realized how much healthier I could be. While I am still new to the vegetarian lifestyle, I often have to make sure I am getting enough iron and protein daily. It is a repercussion of the choice I made to live as a healthy vegetarian instead of just living on potatoes.

We should be looking out for the earth as a whole, including animals, the environment and each other. If we all make an effort to change something in our lives, the Earth can be made better.

I miss chicken the most.

What are you hungry for? I mean right now? cont.

ever, I can tell you about one thing that I am still starving for, and no matter what I do, I just cannot seem to satisfy this particular hunger.

This hunger is the desire to spread the love of Jesus Christ.

Whoah. That escalated quickly.

But let me explain where I'm going with this. Hunger is so easy to satisfy. All we have to do is eat something to make our stomach happy. On the other hand, if we have a Lord and Savior living in our hearts, why can we not just as easily express the love

of the Living God in order to make His heart happy?

The hunger in your heart, the desire to demonstrate love to others, should never be the type of hunger you want to still. It should be a continuous hunger, a burning hunger. All human beings were created with the desire to be loved and to give love, and God has called us to express His love to others through our words and actions. This is not a request, this is a commandment. (Mark 12:31 ESV)

"The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

There are people starving in our neighborhoods, our communities, our country and our world. We are so privileged in this nation that most of us do not understand the true meaning of starving, as food is so easily attainable. In the same sense, there are people starving for love, and, as Christians, we have exactly what we need to help those people satisfy the emptiness they feel in their hearts.

By demonstrating God's love for others, we are helping others

find the thing they are hungering for--a transforming, faultless love that can only be found through the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross. Let the hunger in your heart not only be the hunger to show love but to tell others about Jesus' ultimate sacrifice, for what is greater than expressing your love to someone than through leading him/her to salvation?

I may not be hungry for a cheeseburger or a slice of pumpkin pie, but what I am starving for is to spread God's love through expressing His Word.

So, today, I challenge you:
Be hungry.

Creative Writing Club

First meeting on Tuesday, November 5th

7:00 p.m. in the SGA Office

Guest Speaker: Susie Shellenberger

Carey Place

Macy Sliman, Staff Writer

The air is getting crisp. Leaves are falling. Children are fighting over who will be the better Princess Cinderella. The smell of candy and desperation is in the air. It is Halloween again. While Halloween is a pagan holiday, it is still observed by most as a time for candy, costumes and--best of all--scary stories.

While better known for costumes and trick or treating, Halloween can also be quite scary if that is what you are into. Not only are there the usual freaky stories but also the local ones that can be even worse.

One of Oklahoma City's local horror stories is the sad tale of Carey Place. Now, the story actually takes place on the corner of Carey Place and NW 18, in a quiet little suburban neighborhood. There is very little traffic near this neck of the woods, almost like Carey Place is in a different time completely. This particular neighborhood is home to quaint gardens and lovely houses. Even the "Hatchet House" is darling in the daylight.

Hatchet House is one of those haunts that attract guys that take their girlfriends to see if they can scare them. They will walk by the school to see if Carey's swing is still swinging and tell ghost stories in the moonlight. Carey Place is one of the most visited places in Oklahoma City on Halloween night due to the horrible story. The streets are packed with milling children and parents in costumes enough to have the police or fire department come and direct traffic. It can easily be assumed that the horrific story of little Carey will be told for years to come.

The Hatchet House has a much more sinister past than the other shuttered places on this stretch. It is rumored that a girl named Carey lived in this house with the hatchets carved in the shutters in the early 1920's. No one really knows what happened to her exactly, only that she was taken from the nearby school and murdered violently with a hatchet, like some twisted irony. It is said that a man went into a



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homicidal craze after seeing the hatchets on the shutters. Back then, hatchets were a symbol supposedly used by devil worshipping cults who brainwashed their followers into committing violent works.

The driveway and front porch are painted red to hide the existence of the crime to this day since the blood from Carey's head wound

could not be cleaned up. The little girl is said to have been buried in one of the yards on the street, but no ones knows which. According to legend, she haunts the surrounding houses to this day. Since she was taken from the playground at the school, rumor has it that on some nights she can be seen swinging on the swings and sobbing uncontrollably.

Gravity movie review: a greater message

Amy Calfy, Guest Writer

Gravity pulls objects towards the Earth. It is what keeps us grounded. In space, there is no gravity, nothing to keep you from floating farther and farther into the universe, the great unknown, until you run out of oxygen. This endless drifting, with death hovering at the bottom of an oxygen tank, is what Dr. Ryan Stone (Sandra Bullock) faces in the movie Gravity.

Dr. Stone is hundreds of miles above the planet Earth when debris from a Russian missile strike comes

hurtling at the team of astronauts. Their shuttle is ripped apart by the impact. The only survivors are Dr. Stone and astronaut Matt Kowalski (George Clooney).

With their communications to Earth cut off, Dr. Stone and Matt Kowalski must make their way together to the International Space Station, where they hope to find help. They have only 90 minutes before the debris, which is caught in orbit around the planet, reaches them again.

As they drift through space teth-

ered to one another, they reveal the deeper, core traits of their personalities. Kowalski, introduced in the movie as someone who is easy-going and humorous, succeeds in calming Dr. Stone, while remaining level-headed and methodical himself as he establishes and follows a plan to get them both to safety. Here also, Dr. Stone reveals to Kowalski some of the fears and sorrows that emerged in her own life after the death of her daughter. She displays her inability to let go and move on.

The movie really only has these two main characters. Bullock and Clooney carry this movie from beginning to end. Being stranded in space means you are isolated from every other living thing, from everything but silence, which is emphasized by the movie having only two characters floating in front of a vast darkness.

The two characters are rarely ever able to touch each other or to be closer than a few feet apart. Also, because of their spacesuits,

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Gravity movie review: a greater message cont.

for a lengthy amount of the movie all you can see are the actors' faces. Though there are some close-ups, this means a majority of the time emotions are expressed through what the audience hears.

Space is silent, and at several points throughout the movie all background noise stops completely. All you can hear are the characters' talking to each other, or even sometimes just their breathing. The lack of noise builds up the tension of the movie by emphasizing the isolation from everything except the present moment, the current struggle to reach the closest space station. The music starts again or escalates suddenly during and right before scenes that involve some new catastrophe. The music fits into the movie well, serving to increase the intensity and suspense of many scenes.

On the surface, Gravity is a movie about an attempt to survive being stranded in space, but on a deeper level it is about a woman's struggle

to survive life. As I said at the beginning, the force of gravity is what keeps us grounded; it pulls us back to Earth. Drifting in space, with only a limited amount of oxygen, Stone has to find a gravity of her own, something to help her pull herself back not only to the planet but to her own life.

It was great to watch Gravity in IMAX, which added a whole new level of depth to the vastness of space. In the end, though, it was the underlying messages about survival and hope that sold Gravity to me. All I had wanted going into the theater was a thrilling ride through space. I got what I wanted, and I also got a message I had not anticipated but definitely appreciated. Whatever motivates you to see Gravity, be it the plot, the actors, the underlying themes or your friends dragging you along, I hope that you enjoy the ride and, just maybe, get something deeper out of it.



Photo from IMbd.com

Walk The Moon strolls into Tulsa, leaves town buzzing

Clay Milford, Staff Writer

On October 10, 2013, Cincinnati-based indie pop rock band Walk the Moon performed at Cain's Ballroom as a part of their national tour. The band is fresh off of a festival-filled summer and has torn through America, making a stop in Oklahoma much like several other alternative acts this fall, including Local Natives, The Silversun Pickups, Vampire Weekend and The Lumineers.

Jared Seitz, freshman, was able to attend the show a few weeks ago. According to Seitz, the concert was worth the two-hour drive up Interstate 44. "The atmosphere of the show was so energetic. Everything was so upbeat and it was just fun being a part of the crowd."

Although they are known as a college band, Walk the Moon does not seem to worry about labels that

have been put on their music. The sound on their self-titled album ranges from drum-soaked anthems to disco-tinged songs about lovely girls. According to Seitz, their concerts are a reflection of the fun-loving spirit found in their music and lyrics. "The crowd was so crazy. You could just tell that everyone in the building wanted to be there and that they were having a blast. Towards the end of the concert, during the closing song, they played their most famous song, 'Anna Sun,' and the crowd just went nuts. Everyone in the building was screaming the lyrics and jumping up and down like crazy. It was an awesome ending to the show. The venue was smaller, but still had great sound. It is a standing room only kind of venue, so people jump up and down and get into the music. Also, you can get really close up

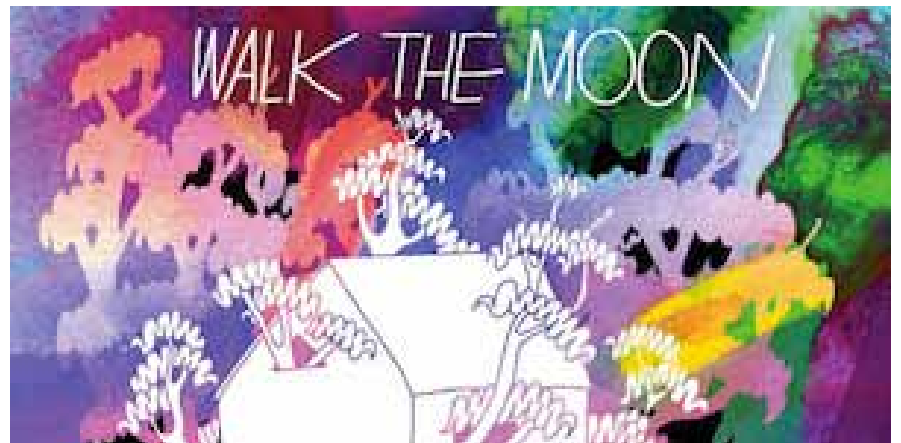


Photo from walkthemoonband.com

for the show."

When asked if he would pay to see Walk the Moon again, Seitz answered, "In a heartbeat. I definitely want to go again." Seitz also made his way to see Local Natives a few days before at the Diamond Ballroom in Oklahoma City, saying, "It was also an amazing show. There are a lot more bands out there like Walk the Moon and Local Natives that I would love to see

live (in Oklahoma)."

Judging by the treasure trove of bands that have visited Oklahoma in the past months, the state is quickly becoming an ideal in-between oasis for bands that are making their way across the middle of America. Hopefully, we will continue to see an influx of great acts as Oklahoma City and Tulsa get a little bigger each year on the map.

Fine Arts Student Feature: **Steve Stark**



Hometown: Oklahoma City

Hobbies and interests: On top of being a vocalist and actor I also play piano and violin. I also enjoy sketching and painting on occasion. I am addicted to nerdy television shows like Dr. Who and Supernatural. I also enjoy cooking when I get the chance.

Most prized possession: Probably my violin because it is very expensive and it was a graduation present from my parents.

Three words that describe you: Funny, artistic, sarcastic

Best advice your parents gave you: Do everything you do for Christ

A talent you possess: I have a talent for understanding other peoples perspectives

Biggest fear: That dragons don't exist

I would like to have witnessed: Moses parting the waters

Best memory: Going to see my first off-broadway show As a child you dreamed of being a: film actor

Pet Peeve: the incorrect use of "a" and "an"

Favorite Quote or verse: "It is well with my soul"

Write for **The Echo!**

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

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