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THE ECHO



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Love in action: Rahab's Rope

Celeste Forrest, Staff Writer

You are a 12 year old girl living in one of the poorest ghettos in India. Your family barely has enough money to purchase food, let alone send you to school. One day, a man comes by and talks to your parents and offers you a job as a maid. This job, he says, will give you the opportunity to create a stable source of income, an income that will be able to feed your family and give them a second chance at life.

"It'll only be a couple months," the man promises. "You will be able to see your mother and father in no time."

You reluctantly agree, knowing that you will be able to support your family and take care of them if you take this job. Your parents are so excited at this, that



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they throw a huge send-off party that night with the rest of your family members and friends. The next day, after packing what little belongings you have, you travel in a cart to a big city in India, never

even realizing that in only a couple weeks, you would discover this was all a sick lie. The man was not a business recruiter, but a pimp scavenging the poor ghettos for vulnerable girls to sell as pros-

titutes. You will never see your family again. You will never have a second chance at life. You have become a victim of human-sex trafficking. Your life will never be the same...

...Unless someone finally decides to step up and do something to change it.

While this account is completely metaphorical, the reality of human sex trafficking is far from fictional; this large-scale issue is affecting not only our nation, but affecting young men and women around the globe. It is estimated that every two minutes, a child is sold into sex slavery somewhere around the world. Thankfully, there are people all across America who do not sit by and let tragic stories like this take place. One organization

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Oklahoma City Airpark development and activities

James Tunnell, Staff Writer

Last year the Echo ran an article about the evolution of the OKC Airpark, located just south of I-40 on Western. The article talked about how the space on the north side of the property promised to become the premier location for upper to mid range size musical acts (think bigger than the Diamond Ballroom, but not big enough for Chesapeake Arena), to perform in Oklahoma

City. While the Airpark has certainly fulfilled this promise, hosting nationally celebrated artists such as Sublime, Nelly, The Lumineers and Motley Crue, the buzz surrounding the airpark is not limited to the world of music.

One of the most exciting developments happening within the Airpark is the creation of an urban farm on the south side of the property. The owner of the Airpark, Blair Humphreys, has leased

a small portion of the land to a group of local organic farmers and over the past year they have been cultivating the land so that it can one day be used to grow large amounts of organic produce. In the meantime, the land is being used to house a small number of pigs as well as chickens. These animals are kept, not only for their naturally produced fertilizer, but also because they will be used to feed local communities. The land

is also being used for composting, which helps to enrich the soil and is a large key in the process of successful organic farming.

Another lesser known activity happening at the Airpark is the Wheeler Criterium. The Wheeler Criterium is a local biking festival in which bikers sign up to compete in races throughout the USAC (USA Cycling) season, which runs from March 11 through Septem-

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SNU President announces changes on first of April



Photo from snu.edu

Patty Julison, Guest Writer

In a move that stunned the SNU community, President Loren Gresham announced today that he will resign his position immediately in order to join the Senior Professional Golfers Association Tour.

Gresham, who has served in a variety of faculty and staff positions since joining the university in 1920, cited his “killer backswing” and “rockin’ putt” as reasons for vacating his academic duties for the links.

“I’m really stoked about this whole thing,” Gresham remarked. “Linda and I are looking forward to this week’s tournament in Palm Springs. We’re gonna catch some rays and go for a win.”

Linda Brown Gresham, SNU’s

“First Lady,” will be joining her husband’s training team as fashion consultant and lead caddy. “I’m just all about the clothes, you know. I think I can get him a deal with Nike. It will be fabulous,” she remarked. “But I have no idea what a nine-iron looks like.”

When asked to comment on Gresham’s resignation, current Vice President of Academic Affairs and President’s Chair hopeful Dr. Melany Kyzer stated, “Well, I’m stunned. Just stunned.”

Gresham’s tenure as president saw the completion of several major campus improvement projects, including the Hills housing complex and this April Fools’ newspaper article.

Have something you want to see in The Echo?

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THE ECHO



Come to our meetings: Tuesdays at 5:30, room 221 in the Library

Send a letter to the Editor

Leave a comment on our website

Email Ronna Fisher (rfisher@mail.snu.edu) with questions

Oklahoma City Airpark development and activities cont.



Photo from Johnson & Associates/Howard Fairbarn Site Design/Studio Architecture

ber 9. Races take place every Tuesday evening starting at 5:30. There are multiple divisions to compete in, including men's and women's divisions, as well as multiple levels within those divisions. Local food trucks are stationed throughout the Airpark during the races, and attendees are encouraged to support them by grabbing a bite to eat

throughout the evening. The races are billed as an all ages event, and attendees are encouraged to bring their families along for the ride.

Of course, there will always be music at the Airpark, but there seems to be an evolution in that area as well. Instead of limiting events to either music or not music, upcoming events are attempt-

ing to create more of a festival atmosphere. One such event called the Rollin' Thunder Rally is taking place May 2-3 and promises both well-known musical acts and raucous fun. The two day event is hosting both Lynard Skynard and Big and Rich, as well as car shows, "freak shows," stuntmen and an attempt at the Guinness World Re-

cord for the largest poker run.

The Downtown OKC Airpark is one of the most exciting and versatile venues within the city, and as more and more people realize that this space is great, not just for music but for other activities as well, its process from abandoned airfield to thriving urban event hub will continue.

Love in action: Rahab's Rope cont.

is doing everything it can to bring human sex trafficking to an end.

Their name is Rahab's Rope.

Rahab's Rope is a Christian non-for profit organization that works with women who live in high-risk areas of prostitution, also known as the "red-light districts" in India. Why India? Because India is known for being a hotspot for "sex tourism" and it is a common place where women are sold and then trafficked to other countries. Rahab's Rope works with women who live in Indian brothels by providing food and protection, as well as a

safe place where they can minister to women with love, comfort and education. Not only does Rahab's Rope help free women from the horrid cycle of sex slavery, but they provide training as well. This training includes nutritional and financial education, and also allows ex-prostitutes to find a new, more stable source of income to support themselves and their families. This is done by teaching rescued victims how to sew, bead and craft in free workshops. In these workshops, the women learn crafting skills, like how to make purses out of rice bags, bead colorful

glass jewelry and weave ornamental blankets and scarves. Not only do these workshops give rescued victims jobs, it teaches them to be self-sufficient and well-equipped for life in Christ-centered, safe and loving environments.

These beautiful hand-crafted goods are then sent to Rahab's Rope headquarters, a non-for profit store located in Gainesville, Georgia. Then, the crafts are bought by consumers or sent out to boutiques all across the United States. All funds that are raised through selling the crafts are then sent back to India, where proceeds

are given to the rescued-victims and to the workshops so they can continue to minister to the other women currently in brothels. This ministry has been around since 2006, and is continuously growing, even within the United States.

If you are interested in sharing the vision of Rahab's Rope, or maybe even being "love in action" through purchasing crafts made by the rescued victims themselves, feel free to visit their website: <http://www.rahabsrope.com/>

STORMSPORTS

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Blade runner on trial



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Katelyn Lamb, Content Editor

Oscar Pistorius, affectionately dubbed Blade Runner by fans, has long made waves in the sports world as the first amputee runner to compete at an Olympic Games in addition to participating in numerous Paralympic games. The South African runner has won six gold medals as a paralympian, set and broken world records in

track and has also served as an ambassador for the Mineseeeker Foundation, a charity dedicated to the removal of dangerous landmines.

Having received his first pair of prosthetic legs as a toddler, Pistorius is familiar with navigating shaky ground. However, recent events have the athlete in new and unfamiliar territory.

In the early hours of February 14, 2013, Reeva Steenkamp was shot to death while in a bathroom by her boyfriend, Oscar Pistorius. Currently on trial for murder, the track star has pled not guilty of the charges. Pistorius continues to maintain his plea of innocence despite suspicious circumstances against him.

On the one hand, the Blade Runner's excuse for the murder seems illogical and weak. Claiming he mistook his girlfriend for an armed intruder, Pistorius justifies the killing as self-defense. Supposedly, the runner believed his girlfriend to be in bed next to him and, hearing someone in the bathroom, shot through the locked door four times. This supposed mistake lead to Steenkamp's death.

A few key points of evidence will greatly impact the verdict of the trial. According to CNN, four pieces of evidence - a series of loud bangs, screams, Pistorius' attitude towards guns and his interaction with a security guard - are aspects of the tragic night that will play a significant part in determining the truth. Were the bangs heard by nearby neighbors the sounds of gunshots or the sound of a hor-

rified boyfriend beating down the bathroom door? Were the screams emanating from a woman threatened by a violent fight with her companion or did the yelling come from a grief-stricken man who made a fatal mistake? Additionally, the prosecution notes two previous episodes involving Pistorius and firearms, questioning whether Blade Runner has a trigger-happy tendency that could more reasonably lead him to murder. Or is Pistorius' history with his gun nothing but a misunderstood, though legitimate, aspect of his personality? Finally, the runner's interaction with a security guard after the murder will

"...the death of Reeva Steenkamp has cast a long and dark shadow across the illustrious career of the Blade Runner."

be a crucial detail of the verdict. After neighbors alerted security to the sound of gunshots, did Pistorius lie and tell the guard everything was fine? Were these

words an attempt to cover up a murder or a thoughtless statement made in a moment of shock?

Since there are no direct witnesses to the murder, small details and circumstantial evidence will greatly affect the case's verdict. Whether found innocent or guilty, the death of Reeva Steenkamp has cast a long and dark shadow across the illustrious career of the Blade Runner.

SNU

Keep up with results and scores at
snuathletics.com

Athletics

SNU Tennis starting out the season strong

Carlos Font, Staff Writer

The 2014 tennis season has started and the team has had a really good start. As of March 24, the girls have an overall 4-2 record and 2-1 in conference play. The team is composed of six girls: Masha Andrianov, Haley Cantwell, Karina Katova, Natalia Moreno, Marina Shipilova and Bekah Stewart. The team is coached by Charley Hibbard. Hibbard is in her first season as the helm of the Crimson Storm.

The team began strong as they won their first two matches, 5-4 against Texas A&M Kingsville and the University of Central Oklahoma. The team went on to play Cameron in a match that they lost 2-7. The team opened up their conference schedule on March 14 when they faced the Henderson State Reddies, where Masha Andriova, Natalia Moreno and Marina Shipilova won their singles competitions. In the doubles competition, the teams of Andrianova and Moreno, as well as Shipilova and Katova, won their matches.

Following the victory against Henderson State, the girls played Ouachita Baptist the next day. The team routed the Tigers 7-2 for a dominant win in which Andriano-

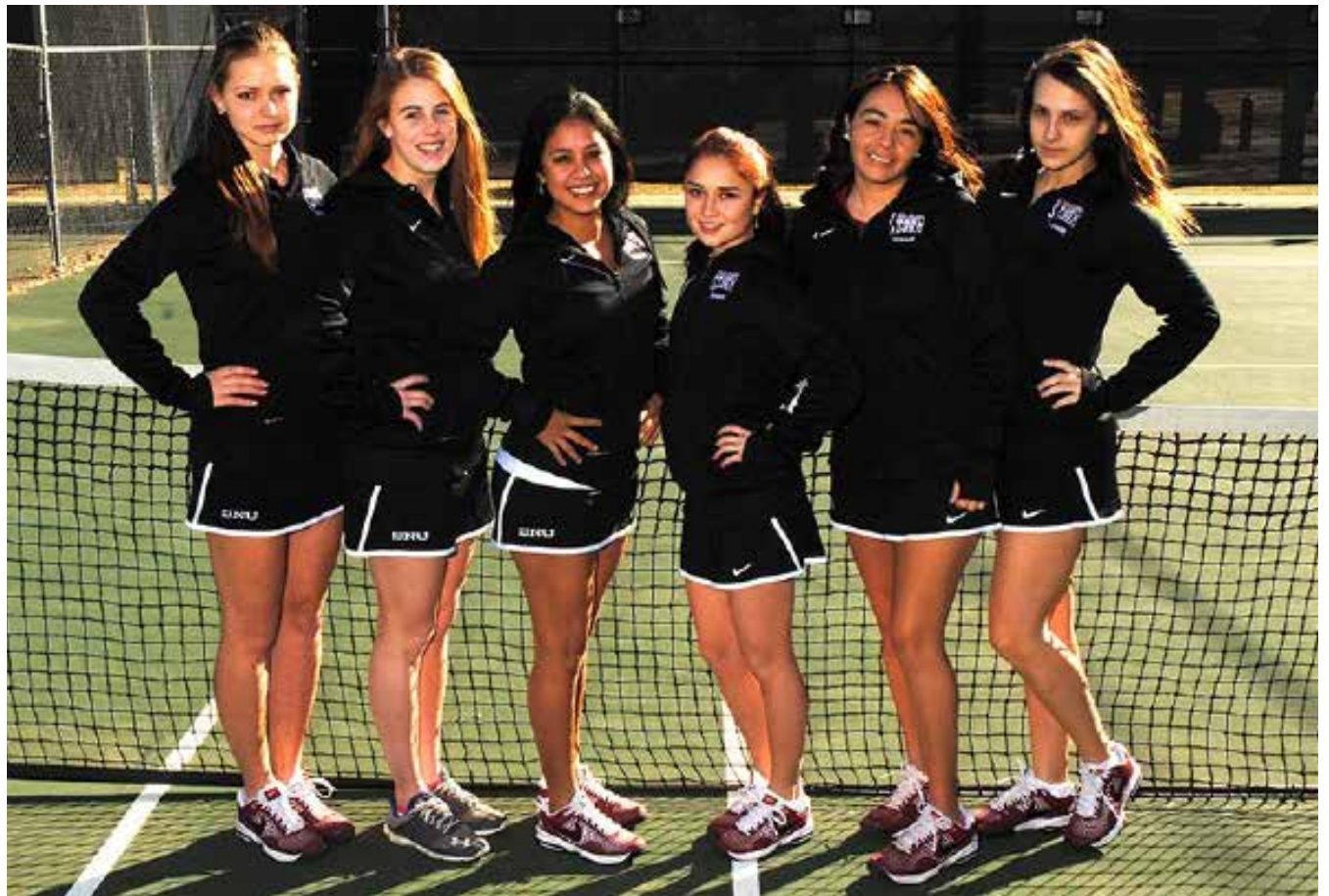


Photo from snuathletics.com

va, Moreno, Shipilova, Katova and Stewart won their singles matches. The team then faced Arkansas Tech. where they fell 3-6.

The Tennis team has already had a better start than they did last year, where they started the season off with a 2-4 overall record. This is the team's best start since 2011,

when that team posted the same record through six games.

The girls will get back into their schedule when they face East Central in Ada, Oklahoma, followed by matches against Harding (from Searcy, Arkansas) Oklahoma Baptist (from Shawnee, Oklahoma), South

Eastern Oklahoma State and John Brown (Siloam Springs, Arkansas). The team is looking into getting back into the NCCAA tournament where they performed really well last year, falling just one game shy of making in it into the national championship game. Keep up the good work, SNU Tennis!

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

SGA Events

April 2 - Eggstravaganza

April 4 - Flicks Film & Arts Festival

April 8 - Pros vs. Joes

Misc.

April 4 - Undergraduate Research Symposium

Sports

April 4 - Home softball game @ 2:00pm

April 5 - Home softball game @12:00pm

April 10 - Student life event at home Tennis match starting @ 1:00pm

OPINIONS

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How to not be an adult after graduation

Macy Sliman, Staff Writer

There are seven weeks left until graduation. Seven weeks until some of us seniors are considered adults in the eyes of society and the old people at church. I will be out on my own, without the responsibility that comes with this student role. What am I going to do with my life?

Let's be honest, I have no idea what I am going to do with the rest of my life. I have no desire to be an adult at this moment. The bills, the responsibility, the job interviews, all of it can wait. I will be in my couch cushion fort watching Disney movies and coloring in my coloring books. As you can see by my regressive behavior, I have come up with some alternative ideas to being an adult while coloring Princess Jasmine's tiara.

There are several opportunities that I considered to put off becoming an adult. The first is a very popular, yet expensive, one. For many students or those in the professional field, graduate school is an option. With all the perks of being a student in your early to mid twenties, like not having to pay back loans until you stop going to school, grad. school is a gentler transition to the real world. However, it also has its down side of still having to go to school.

My next idea was to become a beach bum surfer. This is a great means of escape and caters mainly to the adventurous nomad. There is so much freedom in living on the edge of an unstable force of nature. Waves and the power of the sea can turn a glorious sunny day into a massacring hurricane. However, since I have a strong dislike



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for sand where sand should not be and a generous lack of surfing experience (none actually, I can barely swim) this option is not looking good for me.

Moving on, the third option is my favorite: move back in with your parents. This option comes with all the promise of not having to pay your bills, your mom doing your laundry again (which may be in everyone's favor) and that ever tempting idea of renovating the

basement to make your very own Batcave. Sadly, this option also comes with that pesky "adult that lives in their mom's basement" stereotype. However far from your situation that may be, it's hard to shake the associations that come with returning home for too long. It also lessens the chances of you being in a serious relationship. For some strange reason, knowing mom and dad are right down the hall always seems to kill the mood.

If any of these plans sound appealing to you, then by all means, steal them. I have decided that I will not be using any of them. I will be an adult after graduation. I may not know where I am going or what I am going to be doing, but I do know that every little thing is gonna be alright. (Quite similarly to the song lyric you just sang as you read that line.) Anyway, good luck you adult, you. You are going to be just fine.

Teaching in South Korea

Stephany Reyes, Staff Writer

Teaching abroad is one of those opportunities that is available to most students. However, very few graduates actually take the time to look into it and recognize all that this job has to offer. There are several former SNU students who have gone to South Korea to teach English. This is a paid position, and, the way I see it, you're being paid to go on an adventure. A lot of people don't like being put outside of their comfort zones, but a challenge can be good for you! Plus, with this specific position, it's fiscally responsible.

I interviewed SNU alumni Nick Holmes who has been living and teaching in South Korea for a little over a year. Holmes gave me a few pieces of valuable information for those interested in the opportunity:

- People that want to teach English overseas can graduate with any major; having a diploma is the important part!
- Find a job through a recruiter with a program. Once you get accepted, they give you the information you need about your assignment.
- The salary range to teach English in South Korea is close to \$2,000 a month.
- Housing and utilities are paid for.
- You also pay a pension so it'll double when you leave South Korea
- Renewing your contract gets you extra money.
- Teachers are required to do a training once a semester.
- If you have never lived anywhere other than the United States, moving into another country will be really different; be prepared for change!
- Understand and be open



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- minded of the other country's culture.
 - When spending time with local people, don't be offended if they only speak their native language. Most likely, they just don't feel confident enough to speak to you in English.
- I know a few people who are teaching in South Korea and they absolutely love it. Not only do they teach there but they also learn a different culture and try new things. It would be a great experience, you get to live in a different country, save a lot of money, travel to other nearby countries inexpensively, try new food, read another language and possibly even learn to speak that language. Overall, teaching in South Korea or any other country would be an adventure of a lifetime. Trying new things in life can be scary but I hope people will seize this opportunity to learn more about the world and all the beautiful difference in it.

How to avoid distractions

Brett Smith, Staff Writer

Distractions are everywhere, and they have a bad habit of showing their faces at the worst times possible. If they do not show up while studying for a big test, then they will more than likely magically appear when taking said test. Either way, distractions are a big factor of college life and learning how to avoid them can be critical to success. However, how does one go

about life without getting distracted? While it may seem impossible to avoid distractions entirely, here are a few tips that can aid in severely reducing distraction.

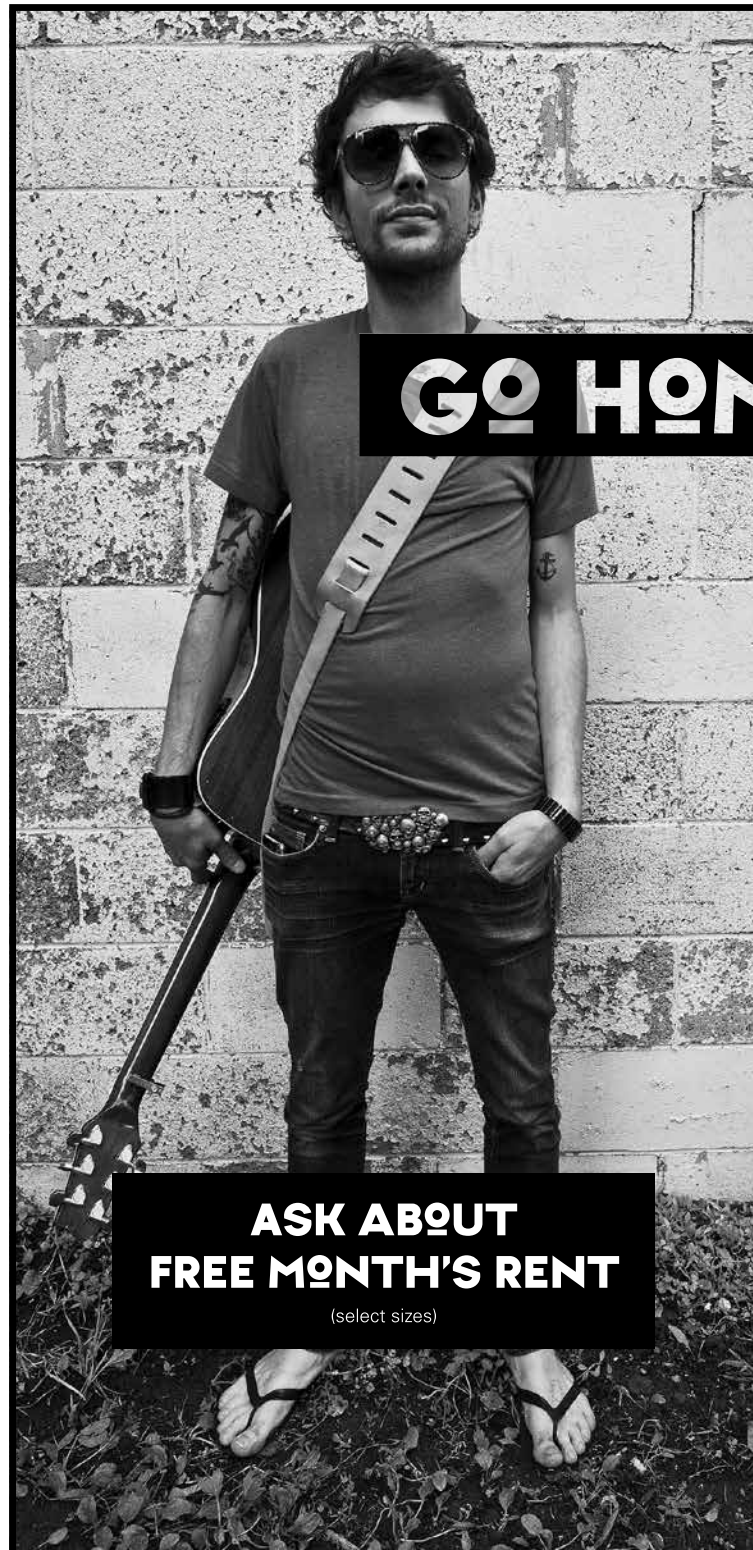
The first and foremost tip in dealing with distractions is to practice good self-control. If one can learn to discipline themselves well enough, then most distractions would be instantly eliminated. In addition to self discipline, a good

diet can help focus the mind and sharpen study skills. Eating fruits and vegetables before a study session or test can help to prime the brain and allow a higher level of functioning. For college students, a good diet can be a challenge, but it is very important.

Something else that is difficult for college students is getting enough sleep. Studies show that students who choose to get a good

night's sleep rather than stay up half the night cramming do better on tests than those who are sleep-deprived. If the choice is ever to sleep or study a few more hours, sleep is likely the better decision. Getting the right amount of sleep will help with schoolwork, and allow the brain to stay focused during study time, rather than being fatigued and distracted.

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How to avoid distractions cont.

Another tip is to let others around you know that distraction is to be avoided. This problem could be avoided altogether, though, by simply finding a place to be alone. Yet, even if silence and solitude is acquired, how does one stay on track? Writing out a game plan is a great way to track progress and stay on task. Before starting anything, write out a list of what needs to be done and

stick to the plan as written. This can be one of the most efficient tools when trying to remain undistracted.

However, the biggest and most demanding distraction of all is that little rectangle in the pockets of most every student. Phones can cripple any academic when it is time to get down to business. Everyone is guilty of doing it, but there is a simple solution. It

may seem crazy, maybe even dangerous, but by simply turning off your phone, endless distractions can be avoided. Everything will be alright for an hour or so, just turn the phone off and study.

Even though these tips may not eliminate all distractions, they can help to severely reduce the temptation. Perhaps the most important thing to do when avoiding distractions is to remember that everyone

is different. What works for one person, may not necessarily work for someone else. Likewise, distractions can be different depending on the day. One method to avoid distractions that worked on Tuesday, may not necessarily work on Wednesday. Avoiding distractions takes practice and focus. Once the art is mastered, studying and other matters will benefit greatly.

From disgust to fanaticism: a zombie love story

Ronna Fisher, Editor-in-Chief

I never would have considered myself a zombie person. Sparkly vampires? Sure. Werewolves? Yeah, whatever. Unicorns, fairies and mermaids? Sign me up. Zombies? No. Way. So, I waved off my first few experiences with fans of *The Walking Dead*; I knew it just wasn't for me.

After moving in with new suitemates at the beginning of the second semester, I found them enthralled by this zombie show. One night, joining them in the living room, I found my friends engrossed in an episode.

"So. Do you watch this show every Wednesday night?" I asked nonchalantly.

"No," my suitemate replied, absorbed in the show, "Why? Do you want to?"

"No . . . I just don't want to be here when you do watch it." I half-joked.

One episode later:

"So. Are you going to watch another episode?" I said casually.

"Why? Do you want to?" My eager roommate replied.

Abashed, I nodded slowly, "Yes."



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Three more episodes were enthusiastically consumed that night.

I became a *Walking Dead* zealot. The producers should have paid me to advertise. It was all I could talk about. Every friend and family member fell victim to my *Walking Dead* frenzy. "Have you ever watched *Walking Dead*?" and "Well, you should. It's so good!" became frequent conversation staples.

If I've piqued your interest but you are still on the zombie fence, below you will find some warn-

ings, tips and personal experiences with the show.

Before you dive into the show, you must first know that the series can be very dark, violent and gory. The main characters are trying to survive in this zombie-infested, post-apocalyptic world, and, oftentimes, that means killing: animals, zombies and sometimes even other people. In some ways, this type of violence can be easier to watch because the majority of it is directed towards the zombies, not humans. Although, violence

towards humans does increase around season 3.

The themes of the show can also be very mature, ranging from the psychological effects of survival mode to the ethics and morality of how to dispose of zombies or infidelity and murder. My values have become so twisted while watching. During one episode, I found myself angry at the characters for leaving behind an unknown camper calling out for help. During the next episode you might find me

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Brett eats out: Iron Starr Barbeque

Brett Smith, Staff Writer

Like always, I try to take suggestions for restaurants to visit, rather than just hoping to stumble across them at random. Multiple people have mentioned Iron Starr to me, but I decided to go when beloved professor Dr. Mark Reighard related how amazing the food was. Of course I would have to try it if an SNU legend was asking me to! I was expecting good food, but the

level of excellence still came as a surprise.

The atmosphere of Iron Starr was different than a barbeque restaurant normally feels. The interior had a modern twist of decorating, which gave the space a more luxurious tone.

The lighting was a little dark, as the blinds were shut for most of the time we were there. Eventually the blinds were opened and

this made a big difference, because the light was initially almost too dark. However, this wasn't a huge annoyance.

A Thursday night has potential to be a busy day for restaurants, but the dinner rush can be beaten if the timing is right. I brought my suitemate Brandon Hart with me, and we were seated quickly, just before a big surge of customers hit. Brandon has become a frequent

traveler to these restaurants, and it is always nice to have someone who knows something of the restaurant business on the inside. As a waiter, he knows the amount of time that it should take for a meal to come out in relation to the number of guests there are at the time. I can also ask Brandon the occasional pricing question, depending on the portions that are

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The power of exercising: why exercising is good for you

Summer Howard, Staff Writer

Do you ever feel exhausted or depressed? Do you constantly feel like you need to lose weight? Most college students would answer yes to both of these questions, considering that as young adults with newfound freedom, we tend to lack the discipline to get enough sleep and eat right. If you don't already exercise, however, you may want to consider starting. It might just make your college experience a little bit easier.

If you're like me, you dread pushing your body to its limit at the gym in front of those who make the hardest of exercises look easy. No matter how much you want to lose weight or get in shape, you can't motivate yourself to work out with others around. Studies show, however, that exercising improves sleep. For a college kid who has busy days and nights that do not include enough time to sleep, this should be great inspiration to get out there and exercise. While doctors still recommend getting seven to eight hours of sleep, exercising will cut falling asleep time and help you sleep more soundly in the usually short amount of time we have to rest. As a person who loves sleep, a method to sleep better def-



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initely catches my attention.

Getting a good night's rest is not the only reason exercising is good for you. Of course, there's the obvious reasons exercising is helpful to you: it helps you lose weight and it prevents heart disease. But exercising is not all about physical health. Scientists have found that the brain can retain more memories and perform to a higher degree in decision making when a person exercises regularly. Exercising's effects taps into the creative side of

the brain also, making your imagination more active for a couple hours afterwards. If your brain needs a boost, exercising is the answer!

However, exercise can have emotionally positive effects as well. For example, it has been proven that exercising improves mood and self-esteem because of the chemicals released in your body while exercising. Other chemicals released while exercising, such as norepinephrine, can help reduce

the stress, anxiety and depression that is present in the college world, particularly when finals week comes around. In addition, more oxygen is produced in your body while exercising, which helps your heart work better and also increases your energy level. Therefore, the simulation of all of these chemicals can make you feel relaxed and happy.

So when the end of the semester is making you pull your hair out, take a deep breath and go exercise. You won't regret the effects.

From disgust to fanaticism: a zombie love story cont.

growling at the screen, "Kill him! Just kill him, and everything will be fine."

The costuming and makeup are usually very detailed and realistic, adding to the violent aspect of the show. In addition, one of my least favorite special effects from the show is when the camera shots have "blood" splatter onto the screen. However, that is not very often.

The show can be intense, nerve-racking and, for lack of a better word, scary. However, I greatly dislike horror movies; I would say the show is more suspenseful than horrific. I have never turned

off the show, gone to bed fearful or had frightening dreams after watching. Neither has my watching partner.

There are a few sex scenes. In fact, there is one in the first episode. However, these are few and far between—trust me. They are somewhat tastefully filmed and not much is seen. You can always fast forward through them, but they are usually very short. This is a zombie apocalypse, people! Ain't nobody got time for that!

While I have used the word "zombie" ten times already, the "Z"

word is never mentioned in the show. Technically, they are called "walkers," "lurkers," "biters," "meat puppets," "creepers," "psychos," and, my personal favorite, "geeks."

The first couple of episodes are the worst. I jumped in around episode three and went back to watch the first two later. If you are not turned off by the violence or dark themes of the show, hold on until around episode five or six—in my opinion, that's when you really find yourself hooked.

Beyond violence, suspense and ac-

"I became a Walking Dead zealot."

tion, the show has a cast of strong actors and really interesting characters. Some of the best episodes focus on the back stories of the random group of people forced together to survive. There is also plenty of plain old people drama.

If you like a little suspense and depth from a show, try *The Walking Dead*. The characters are interesting and complex, and I don't think you'll be sorry. If you tend to shy from any sort of suspense, violence or gore, I might steer clear. Of course, it never hurts to try an episode. Like me, you might find yourself a devoted *Walking Dead* convert.

Fine Arts Student Feature

Tanner Smith

Hometown: Oklahoma City

Hobbies and Interests: Making music and making friends.

Most prized possession: I don't necessarily place value in possessions. I guess if I had to choose it would be my guitar.

Three words that describe you: meditation, music, jokes

Best advice your parents gave you: "Life isn't cheap."



A talent you possess: being a quick learner

Biggest fear: I fear a painful death.

I would like to have witnessed: Change

Best memory: too many to pick one out.

As a child you dreamed of being a.....tiger.

Pet Peeve: food smacking

Favorite Quote or verse: "Doing what you like is freedom. Liking what you do is happiness."

Brett eats out: Iron Star Barbeque cont.

being served.

After we were seated, our orders were taken with no problem. Brandon mentioned to me that the wait for our orders seemed a bit long. Although there was a dinner crowd, the wait did seem to be a little on the lengthy side. Our drink glasses were filled fairly regularly, showing their attentiveness, so the waiting staff may not be at fault for the slowness.

Our food did arrive after around 40 minutes. Both Brandon and I ordered a meat combo, which came with two meats, two sides and cornbread. Brandon had the brisket and chicken with mac and cheese and green beans. I had the brisket and ribs with mac and cheese as well as fried okra. For around \$13, this was a decent sized amount of food, but the quality that this was pre-

pared with was phenomenal. The brisket was cooked perfectly with a nice smoky flavor, the ribs had been prepared so that they literally fell off the bone when touched, and the okra and cornbread could not have been done better. However, the best part of this meal was the mac and cheese. I can honestly say that I have never had mac and cheese this good before, and this is absolutely no exaggera-

tion. It was incredible.

Iron Starr is located at 3700 N. Shartel Ave, a bit of a drive from SNU, but completely worth the trip. This restaurant is in my personal Top 3 for barbeque that I have ever eaten. If there is ever a doubt as to whether or not to try a new restaurant, ease your concerns with a visit to this local BBQ favorite. I will be back to Iron Starr soon, no question.

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