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## Oklahoma City hen law struck down

*James Tunnell, Staff Writer*

While it might not seem like the most pressing issue to most people, up until December 31st, citizens of Oklahoma City were involved in a heated discussion about whether or not people would be allowed to own and raise chickens on their property. Though the bill was struck down, it had garnered quite a bit of support by many locals looking to live the ever more popular organic lifestyle, including even the recently in the spotlight Councilman, Ed Shadid.

To help the average citizen understand just what exactly the bill entails, an FAQ was released that addresses most of the questions at the forefront of people's minds about what the bill passing would mean for the city. One of the main

concerns was that the chickens would become an unwanted noise problem (think roosters crowing at dawn all throughout the city). The bill addresses this issue by specifying that the only types of chickens that would be allowed within city limits would be hens, excluding the more boisterous roosters of weathervane fame.

Another concern was that the amount of waste produced by these chickens would become unsanitary and create an unwelcome smell. The bill provides for this by saying that lots less than one acre would be limited to housing six chickens. To put that into perspective, that's about the same amount of waste that two dogs on average would produce per day.

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## Bill introduced to legalize marijuana in Oklahoma



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*Saydi Dowd, Staff Writer*

Colorado's status as the first state to legalize recreational marijuana sales has taken its desirability to a new "high." They are now opening up shops that sell marijuana, making it available for public consumption. You can now purchase weed just like you would walk in and buy a bottle of Coke or a package of gum. The law has some restrictions, though. Customers are only allowed an ounce per transaction, and it is not allowed to be smoked in public places.

All this talk of Colorado's sud-

den "green rush" must have gotten Oklahoma state Senator Constance Johnson (D-Oklahoma City) thinking. Recently, Senator Johnson has introduced a bill to legalize marijuana in Oklahoma, saying that marijuana should be legal since alcohol is more dangerous than marijuana. She also believes that a number of people are in prison because Oklahoma has criminalized marijuana, forcing the state to pay for people's living expenses in prison. In her bill, being caught with marijuana outside of the regulations only results in

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# Violence against women in India persists



Photo by Katelyn Lamb

**Katelyn Lamb, Content Editor**

It all started with a bus. The infamous December 2013 rape case in New Delhi, India sparked controversy and adamant protest across the nation and international community, bringing to light the problem of rape and

sexual violence in the country. The woman in the New Delhi incident was a 23-year-old student who was fatally gang raped on a moving bus in the nation's capital. The brutality of this attack, paired with the fairly secure, middle class environment it took place in, outraged both Indi-

ans and observers worldwide. While gender-based violence and harassment existed long before last December, the Delhi case appears to have opened the floodgates for the protest and reporting of problems such as rape, honor killings and molestation. Accord-

ing to an article in the Washington Post, many women do not speak out against violence because they have no support, with family and law officials too prone to ignoring complaints or ostracizing women who are victims of rape. In fact, women who suffer from rape or abuse may be labeled as "morally loose" if they speak out about their attack, making tasks such as securing a job or marrying more difficult.

Since the incident in Delhi, many groups in India are working to make life better for women. In March 2013, a new set of laws promoting harsher punishments for sexual assault was passed in hopes of curbing the high rate of gender-based violence.

Despite the new set of legislation, public outrage and the work of activists, the problem of rape and harassment persists. Another article from the Washington Post blames the continued presence of sexual violence in India on issues such as the low status of women, lack of female police officers, poorly operating judicial systems, an acceptance of domestic violence and stigmatization of victims. Additionally, the large population and gender disparity in the

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## UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

### SGA Events

Feb. 21- SGA Exec apps due

### Sports

Feb. 18- Home Baseball game @ 2:00pm

### Misc.

Feb. 15- Spiritual development service project

Feb. 17- President's visit day

Feb. 20- West Texas College days

## Bill introduced to legalize marijuana in Oklahoma cont.

finest and slaps on the wrist, a lot like parking tickets.

Sen. Johnson pre-filed Senate Bill 2116, which was introduced on February 3rd when the 2014 legislative session took place. The bill would legalize the possession of up to an ounce of marijuana by adults 21 or older, and allow for the regulation and taxation of

marijuana sales at a rate of \$50 per ounce.

The bill also legalizes the sale of marijuana paraphernalia to adults 21 or older. It states that any minors attempting to purchase or caught possessing weed can be fined between \$200 and \$400.

If passed, the Department of Health would oversee the mari-

juana industry. If the bill passes, the DoH would have 180 days to adopt rules and regulations for the industry including licensing and application requirements, security protocols and tax collection.

In the past, other proposed bills about the legalization of marijuana have barely been glanced

at before being tossed in the trash. Johnson's bill, though, could be the one that gets a second look. Sen. Johnson believes that Colorado's close proximity to Oklahoma may help push the bill along. So what's it gonna be? Is Oklahoma ready to make the change or will the bill get rejected like the others? Only time will tell.

## Violence against women in India persists cont.

country leave many young men unmarried, unemployed and unoccupied, heightening the risk of rape. These factors, regardless of recent attempts on the contrary, continue to create an attitude of entitlement and objectification towards women in India. One study, cited by the New York Times, notes that 73% of rape perpetrators claim "entitlement" as their motivation, while 59%

of men claim to have raped in the pursuit of entertainment.

Interestingly, the problem of rape and violence is not experienced exclusively by native Indian females. Indian women have long suffered and continue to suffer violence from their countrymen and attacks on foreigners, especially Westerners, have traditionally been extremely rare. Recently, though, foreign visitors

have been victims to the dark side of tourism. In 2013 alone, a Swiss, British and American were all victims of rape while visiting northern India. In addition, earlier this month, a Danish woman was gang-raped in Delhi, making the attacks on foreigners a central issue in international discussion. Due to this progressively common violence, India saw a 35% drop in

female tourists in early 2013, a crucial economic area for the country.

It appears that women are increasingly reporting harassment and rape crimes, a crucial first step if the nation is to protect its mothers and daughters. With a traditional preference for sons and privileging of men in society, progress for India will require a change of heart as well as a change of law.

## Oklahoma City hen law struck down cont.

While these concerns are definitely nothing to scoff at, supporters of the bill would argue that the benefits far outweigh its perceived inconveniences. One such supporter is Emily Fite, mother of two and resident of south Oklahoma City. Fite lives in a community that strives to live simply, growing as

much produce as they can on their own, and is conscious of the harmful effects that things like GMOs have on a person's health.

Said Fite, "I was really upset when I heard it was shot down. I think we are doing our city a great disservice in not allowing people to raise their own chickens. I would really love to

be able to not have to go to the store for eggs and to know exactly what is being put into the food that I eat.

"So many people in our city are striving to be more organic and local friendly, and shooting this bill down really seems to go against the popular sentiment of the di-

rection that people want to see our city go in."

At this point, there are no bills on the horizon to challenge the city ordinances preventing people from raising chickens. But one thing is certain: this is an issue that people care about, and the controversy is not likely to die out any time soon.

# SGA Exec applications now available

Apps Due: 2-21

Candidate Meeting: 2-24

Exec Elections: 3-6

Contact Jordan Leibold, SGA President at [jleibold@mail.snu.edu](mailto:jleibold@mail.snu.edu) or Marian Redwine at [maredwin@mail.snu.edu](mailto:maredwin@mail.snu.edu) for more info.

\*for SGA President [only], you must have previously served on an SGA council. For all other exec positions, you must have attended LEAD retreat in some capacity.

# STORMSPORTS

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## Giving sports a chance, or how I changed my tune and started cheering

**Ronna Fisher, Editor-in-Chief**

Sports and me? We just don't mix. Growing up, PE was my least favorite class in school. Days we had PE, my stomach would clench, and I would be worried sick. What were we going to do that day? Would I have to run? Will I be embarrassed? Will someone else ask the PE teacher why my face was so red? (Yes, that actually happened). I was uncoordinated and slow. When people were excited to go to PE and run around, I was wishing I was the girl with the broken leg and crutches who had to sit out. PE was the first class I ever got a B in.

Recess meant sitting under the playground reading while everyone else ran around playing tag or soccer. In Kindergarten I chased the boys with the other girls in my class, but I eventually gave up because I could never catch them.

There was one time I played soccer during recess and ended up getting slammed in the face by the ball. Never again.

Why anyone would enjoy running around kicking, throwing or pushing a spherical object on a large field was simply a mystery. When I was forced to go to football games with my parents, I would try to tune out the yelling and music and get lost in a book. At high school football games, I was goofing off behind the bleachers with my fellow band members. There may have been one or two games where I actually got into the game and cheered, but it was rare. The football games on tv at home were simply annoying background noise for the homework I was doing or, again, the book I was reading. I just didn't understand sports. I didn't understand the rules. I didn't understand the



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point. I knew that I couldn't play them, so why watch them?

College was different. Not only were sporting events a social thing, but, at one point, I was even required to attend a certain number

of athletic events. Additionally, I had friends on teams that I wanted to support. Over the years, my indifference to sports has crept toward tolerance, and my tolerance

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## Adventure was tackled at state fair grounds

**Claressa Cortesio, Staff Writer**

The Oklahoma Tackle, Hunting and Boat Show at the Oklahoma State Fair ran January 31 through February 2 in the Travel and Transportation Building. The event aims to promote a variety of services and products for a range of outdoor sports.

According to Becky Minton from

Waukomis, Oklahoma with RKM Designs, this event has something for everyone. "There are so many things to look at here," she said. This was Becky's first year at the show. She and her husband Randy sell handcrafted bearded hats and other accessories. Yes — you heard right — bearded hats. These hats cover a person's face in the shape of a beard. They come in all colors. Kendra Nipper from Oklahoma State University assisted at the booth. She said their bearded hats did not originate from Duck Dynasty; "It started way before the show."

Other vendors also made an appearance at the show. Big Bucks Plus by Tom and Kris Schleichardt

exhibited a grand display including antlers and specialized deer and elk feeders intended to "reduce waste and protect the rack." The antlers on display weighed up to twenty pounds apiece. Schleichardt said that their goal was to "create a new deer feeder for the ease and safety of the deer." This new feeder can hold up

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# Adventure was tackled at state fair grounds cont.

to three hundred pounds of feed. It is an upside down cone shaped feeder with a horizontal feeding box that sits at a deer's head level. This design enables the deer and elk to look out for predators as they stick their mouth in the feed box. This is the Nebraska couple's second year to attend the show. Their goal is to generate "more specific clientele." When comparing Oklahoma to other state shows, this show has "a very good group of people to work with," stated Schleichardt.

The kid-friendly activities included the kid's fishing pond and Fetch and Fish Dog Jumping Show. Over a quarter of the building was occupied with colorful lure displays and stoic fishing poles, a delight for fishermen



Photo by Claressa Cortesio

and curious children alike. The most "exciting" of the displays was a tie between the "Get your picture made with a bear" booth or the "Bow and Arrow Razzle Archery Show!" A real live black bear was kept quietly feeding in a small enclosure allow-

*"This event has something for everyone."*

ing brave onlookers to enter and sit beside, separated only by a thin wall. At the bow and arrow show, professional archer Frank Addington impressed crowds by splitting an eighty-one milligram aspirin with an arrow before it hits the ground. In addition, raffles kept the mood exciting and visitors hope-

ful with a variety of giveaways. One hundred percent of the Firearm Frenzy and Gun Giveaway Raffle Promotion proceeds went to Oklahoma Youth Shooting Programs and the FNRA. Overall, the Tackle, Hunting and Boat show provided informative entertainment for people interested in the outdoors or those just looking to have a good time.




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Currently reading *Jesus Feminist* by Sarah Bessey

# Dennis Rodman vs. the American people

**Carlos Font, Staff Writer**

When you talk about Hall of Famers, for the most part you talk about guys that have exceeded both on and off the field. To be selected into any Hall of Fame, the press chooses players based on their contribution to their team and how they excelled as a player. In 2011, the most controversial player in the National Basketball Association (NBA), was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Dennis Rodman, a five-time NBA champion, has always been known for his antics on and off the court. Rodman has been known for showing up to a book signing dressed as a bride, fighting on the basketball court and being accused of hitting his ex-wife. Rodman was a very emotional basketball player yet arguably the best rebounder/defender of all time. Over the course of his career, Rodman got the privilege to play alongside players like Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen, Isiah Thomas, Joe Dumars and David Robinson. During the Hall of Fame ceremony, an emotional Dennis Rodman said, "I didn't play the game for the money... I

didn't play the game to be famous. What you see here is an individual that is very colorful."

Just because Rodman has been exalted into basketball immortality, does not mean he is done being the most controversial basketball player in the league. It appears that Dennis Rodman has become the most controversial American citizen.

On February 26, 2013, Rodman took a trip to North Korea with Vice Media, an international magazine that focuses on arts, culture and news topics. While in North Korea, Rodman got the chance to visit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. After his meeting with the leader, Rodman said that Jong-un was "a friend for life" and suggested that President Obama should give him a call.

Once again Rodman was surrounded in controversy. Due to North Korea's constant threats towards the United States, the American press ripped Rodman apart for his support of Jong-un. Rodman followed with two more trips to North Korea. His visits to North Korea brought Rodman critics commenting that what he did was "un-American."



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The NBA star's behavior begs the question, is it unethical and un-American to visit North Korea? Here is my answer: why does it matter? Yes, North Korean leader, Jong-un, has threatened the United States multiple times, but why can't we as citizens of this world go out and explore other countries and be friends with who we want to be?

If we can't visit the countries that have ever threatened the world then we shouldn't be able to visit places like Germany because

Adolf Hitler almost made a whole race go extinct. Why was it okay for Gandhi to be friends with Hitler, but a basketball player can't be friends with this North Korean leader?

I'm not saying that what North Korea is doing is right; but if we get too caught up in politics, then perhaps we should not be allowed to leave our respective countries. There will always be conflict between countries, but I don't think it's fair for the press to criticize Rodman for his visits to North Korea.

## Giving sports a chance cont.

eventually nudged past the line to novice sports enthusiast. First semester freshman year I attended almost every home soccer game. I've clapped and hollered at multiple basketball games and discovered I really loved volleyball games. I've voluntarily attended football games and a few softball games here and there as well.

If you think you ardently hate sports, I seriously urge you to give them a try; you might be surprised to

find yourself actually enjoying a sporting event.

Here are some tips for the game-attending rookie:

**"I was wishing I was the girl with the broken leg and crutches who had to sit out."**

1. Focus: I usually enjoy games more if I am actually paying attention. It's hard to be excited about something that you didn't even see. Plus, it's annoying to have to constantly ask, "What happened? What'd I miss?" (Speaking from experience here).

2. Ask Questions: It's okay to ask

questions. Go with someone who knows what they are talking about and is willing to answer your questions without being a sports snob. "A corner kick is when they kick the ball from the corner." You're new to this. It's okay to admit you don't understand something.

3. Keep Going: It might take a couple of times to really understand or enjoy a game. Don't let one bad, boring or uncomfortable experience ruin games for you.

4. Be honest, be comfortable, don't force anything. Football still isn't my favorite sport to watch. I usually don't get really into it until around the fourth quarter. If I try to be excited the whole game,

I get tired of it... football games are long, okay? If you don't feel like actually watching something, that's okay. It's alright to go to a game just so you can hang out and chat.

Also, make sure you're comfortable. If you get overwhelmed in the crowded student section at basketball games, that is okay. Personally, I love the energy of the student section, but when I'm over there all I can think about is how I want to sit down, I'm about to fall over or how packed in I am.

So go, watch, sit and do what feels right. Otherwise, you'll continue to give sports the cold shoulder.

# HEARTPAL COURT 2014



## *Madison Busic:*



She is an early childhood/elementary education major from Bethany, Ok. Madison is currently serving as the Class Secretary/Treasurer representative for the Junior class and also works as a nursery worker at BFC. Madison is also a chapel checker, a member of early childhood young professionals, a member of Kappa Delta Pi and a member of Alpha Lambda Delta. She has also served as a small group leader on campus and has been an NSI mentor to incoming freshman for two years.

## *Avarilla Anfuso, Heartpal Queen:*

She is a theology and ministry major from Shawnee, Oklahoma. This year, Avarilla was an NSI mentor for incoming freshman. She spent her freshman and sophomore years serving as the Social Life representative in SGA. She has also worked in the admissions office as a student worker. She is currently a campus chapel intern for Spiritual Development, a ministerial intern at OKC First in the children's department and works at Bethany First Church's after school program.



## Holly Willard:

She is an early childhood/elementary education major from Oklahoma City. Holly is currently a Resident Advisor in Bracken. She is a part of choir at SNU and has been for the past three years. She is also a member of the SPEAK theme house and has been a small group leader for middle school the past two years. Holly has been a member of SNU Crew the past two summers and was also an NSI mentor.



## Allison Pardue:

She is a nursing major from Austin, Texas. Currently, Allison is an RA in Hills, a member of the SPEAK theme house and a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society. While at SNU, Allison has been an NSI mentor to incoming freshman and a special needs mentor. Allison is also a secretary at the Hair Boutique and attends Lakeview Park on Wednesday nights and Frontline Church on Sundays.

## Kate Srader:

She is a nursing major from Nacogdoches, Texas. Kate is currently an RA in Hills, a member of Mortar Board Honor Society and Alpha Lambda Delta, runs Cross Country and Track and is a member of the SPEAK theme house. She attends BFC and is involved in the college life program.



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# OPINIONS

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## A book revolution: dysotopian literature

**Summer Howard, Staff Writer**

In the course of the past six years, a trend has been set in young adult literature with trilogies such as *The Hunger Games*, *Divergent*, *The Maze Runner* and *Matched*. What do all of these books have in common? They are all dystopian novels, or novels in which a futuristic society is controlled by a government instilling fear into its citizens. But why is our culture so obsessed with the idea of a heavily controlled society? The answer may be just within our grasp.

For a person that loves science fiction crossed with romance and sacrifice, these books are pure heaven. Ever since I was old enough to read, my nose has been stuck in a book. By the time what we could call “The Dystopian Age” of literature came about, I had already torn through many books, namely the *Harry Potter* series, a series classified as science fiction/fantasy.

What the majority of people were interested in was the topic of what life would be like after a worldwide disaster or the second coming of Christ. Therefore, it was no surprise that books such as *The Hunger Games* got worldwide attention, especially among its targeted young adult audience.

Yet *The Hunger Games*, which seemed to start this book revolution, does not simply focus on a post-apocalyptic world. It highlights violence and the repercussions of it. In fact, the author, Suzanne Collins, made the trilogy to speak out against violence. This is a nice refresher compared to the many books, video games and television shows these days that seem to advocate violence. But there are only a handful of people that know why Suzanne Collins wrote *The Hunger Games*.

So what else has attracted millions of readers to this series? Alina Scott, a freshman history major from Belize, enlightened me on why she thinks the United States, in particular, is fascinated with books in the dystopian genre, despite the injustice within these fictional societies.

“The Hunger Games is about a revolution,” Scott said. “From the creation of the United States, America has been about standing up for what they believe in. Even when people came across the ocean from England to start the colonies, it was a silent revolution; they were fighting for their rights to practice their own religion or



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start a new life. Books like *The Hunger Games* remind Americans of how much they love revolutions and the freedom they have to challenge the government’s policy.”

Americans definitely have something to be proud of; other countries around the world have tried to overthrow their totalitarian governments in favor of a democratic government with some successes and failures. Yet Americans and people of other nationalities do not just see *The Hunger Games* as simply a reminder of how important it is to stand up for what they believe in, either. They also see it as

a love story riddled by tragedy and hardship. If Internet mentions of “Team Peeta” and “Team Gale” are any indication, people adore a love story within the restraints of a controlled society. This is because stories such as these give us hope that love is possible in any circumstance. Maybe the hope of a long-lasting relationship is what attracts so many young adults to this genre.

Regardless of what draws us to the dystopian genre, all of us can learn one thing from this book revolution: when literature changes, the world notices.

## Demystifying homeschooling

**Rachel Whatley, Staff Writer**

Whenever people learn that I was homeschooled, there are usually two distinct reactions. Some people respond with sparkly-eyed interest and surprise: “Oh, really? That’s neat!” However, I often get the dreaded question: “But how were you socialized?”

Sometimes I just want to groan because they really have no idea. I was part of a school-like atmosphere with other homeschool-

ers, as well as participating in band, concurrent college classes and music lessons. You bet I was socialized! I still have two really good friends from my middle and high school era.

The beauty of homeschooling, as you may have noticed already, is that there are so many options. Or too many, I might say. Yes, you can keep it all at home, even do school online, but you can also fill your week with so many activities that you do

not have time to breathe. Name an activity and, chances are, homeschoolers are banding together to do it. Every extra-curricular, every sport. Chess? Probably. Drama? Definitely. Football, volleyball... I had a couple of friends who even did fencing (which I would have loved to do if I was not so busy. See what I mean?). A little Googling or word of mouth did the trick. Even some groups like honor bands will let homeschool-

ers participate. Also, to foster a more “typical” high school experience, a homeschool formal takes place every spring.

The “school-like atmosphere” I mentioned before is also known as a co-op, but instead of requiring parents to lead classes, like most co-ops do, I had the same set of certified teachers every week. Once a week classes were all it took, which left the homework to

*Continued on page 13*

# Letters to my future husband

**Celeste Forrest, Staff Writer**

“Dear Future husband...”

I was probably only thirteen years old when I first wrote those words down on paper. I didn’t know how to feel about those words...every syllable was filled with uncertainty and inked with a bit of doubt, but the hopeless romantic inside me would not let me stop from writing letters throughout middle school and high school.

I remember writing my first letter just about this time of year, around Valentine’s Day. Believe me, those adolescent days were no fun. While most of my friends were receiving chocolate in heart-shaped boxes and riding off to fancy restaurants with their boyfriends, I was alone, in my house, contemplating life and wondering why I felt so lonely. It was those moments when my mind drifted and I began to daydream. I daydreamed of someday finding a young man who would sweep me off my feet and take me to fancy restaurants and surprise me with little gifts. I imagined myself not being left alone on Valentine’s Day and being able to share it with someone special. I imagined the day I would date the right man, and marry him.

It was during this time in my life when I wrote to my future husband. I wrote not only to record my day, but I talked about my dreams, my fears, my accomplishments and my

failures. In many letters, I expressed my struggles. I told my future husband about the worst of days and the best of days. I figured if I’m going to marry this guy, I might as well tell him everything about the girl I once was before I met him. The whole concept of writing to my future husband allowed me to not only focus on the “bigger picture” of my life, but it also challenged me to trust God in the “bigger picture.” After all, I had no idea who this guy was going to be and where I would meet him.

There were moments in my life when I felt completely loveless. I was worried and afraid. I doubted I would ever find the perfect man. There were nights I was deep in prayer, and I cried impatiently to God, “Why am I always the one who is alone? Everyone out there has a boyfriend, except for me. Where is this ‘prince charming’ I’m supposed to meet?” However, I knew that the love story of my life was being written by God’s hands, and as I was writing those letters to my future husband, God was telling me quietly in my heart, “Why are you worrying, my daughter? I got this.”

I asked a couple girls around campus to give me their thoughts and feedback about writing letters to their future husbands. Freshman Summer Howard suggested that some girls may write letters because

it creates a more personal connection to the man they will eventually share the rest of their lives with. “The concept is great because it enables the girl to tell her emotions plainly to her husband, possibly before she ever meets him,” Howard said. “Also, this gives the opportunity for the husband to know his wife at an earlier stage in life and know how she communicates through writing.”

Kyndal Jayroe, a sophomore, shared with me her experience with writing letters to her future husband. “That summer I wrote my first letter to my future husband; it was simple and sweet. I told him that I would save myself for him and him alone. That

I would pray for him, and that we would live happily ever after.” However, as much as any girl would love to someday meet her prince charming, Jayroe expressed to me that the most important relationship any girl should have is a relationship with Jesus Christ: “God is my first love and the only one who has always been with me,” Jayroe said.

Even though writing letters to your future spouse might not be your thing, or perhaps you might find the whole notion ridiculous, it wouldn’t hurt to keep your future spouse in your mind and prayers this Valentine’s Day. Who knows, perhaps he or she is somewhere out there, thinking and praying for you too.

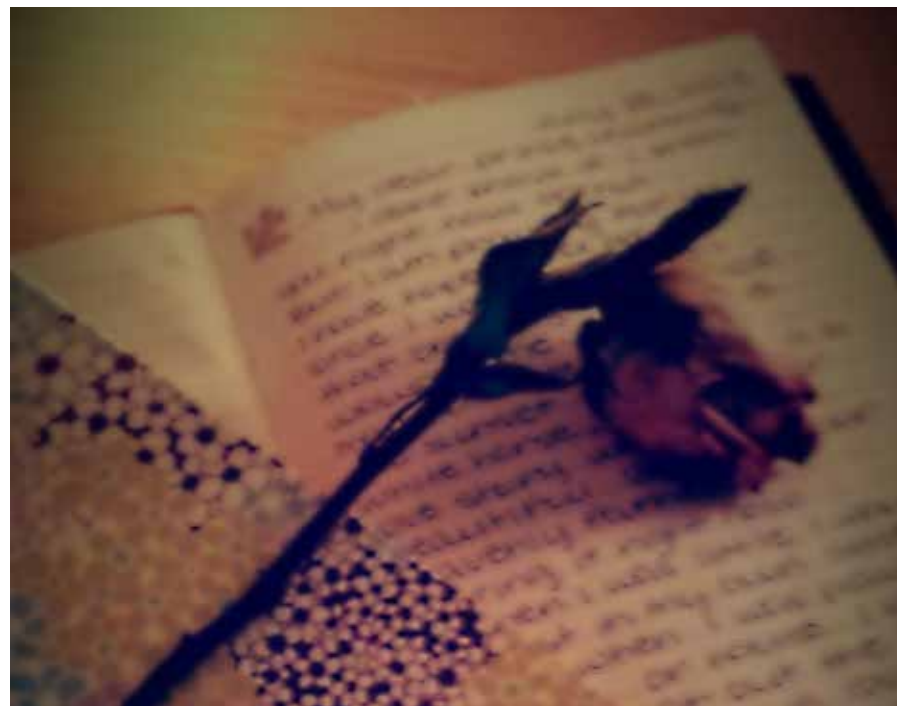


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## Demystifying homeschooling cont.

be done at home.

Although my program was rigorous – and most are – there is a broad range of students that develop from different methods of homeschool education. For me, there was plenty of college-preparatory work: critical thinking, questioning the world around me and research papers – they were all there. On the other hand, I have heard of some families that let their kids do whatever they want for the day. No regulation. No supervision. Nothing. In some cases, that may turn out well if the students are extremely motivated achievers. Other students, though, wouldn't be so successful in this atmosphere. If it were me, well... let's just say I need some structure.

Due to the nature of my rigorous education, I have done pretty well in college so far. A lot of homeschoolers do, after all, having received the benefit of work-

ing at a fast, challenging pace. However, the college course load is a bit heavier than what I am used to. The biggest change for me is going to school every day, sometimes from eight to six, versus just one full day of class plus a concurrent course a few times a week.

Another change from homeschool life is the size of the university. Coming from my "high school," it seems to me that SNU has a lot of students. However, I know that it is quite small in comparison. Just to give you an approximation of the size of my "high school," there were nine seniors at my graduation ceremony. I know, tiny.

It is true that each type of education has its advantages as well as drawbacks. When it comes down to it, you have to pick what works best for you. Homeschooling, for some, offers greater flexibility, inflicts less social pressure and encourages individuals to achieve.

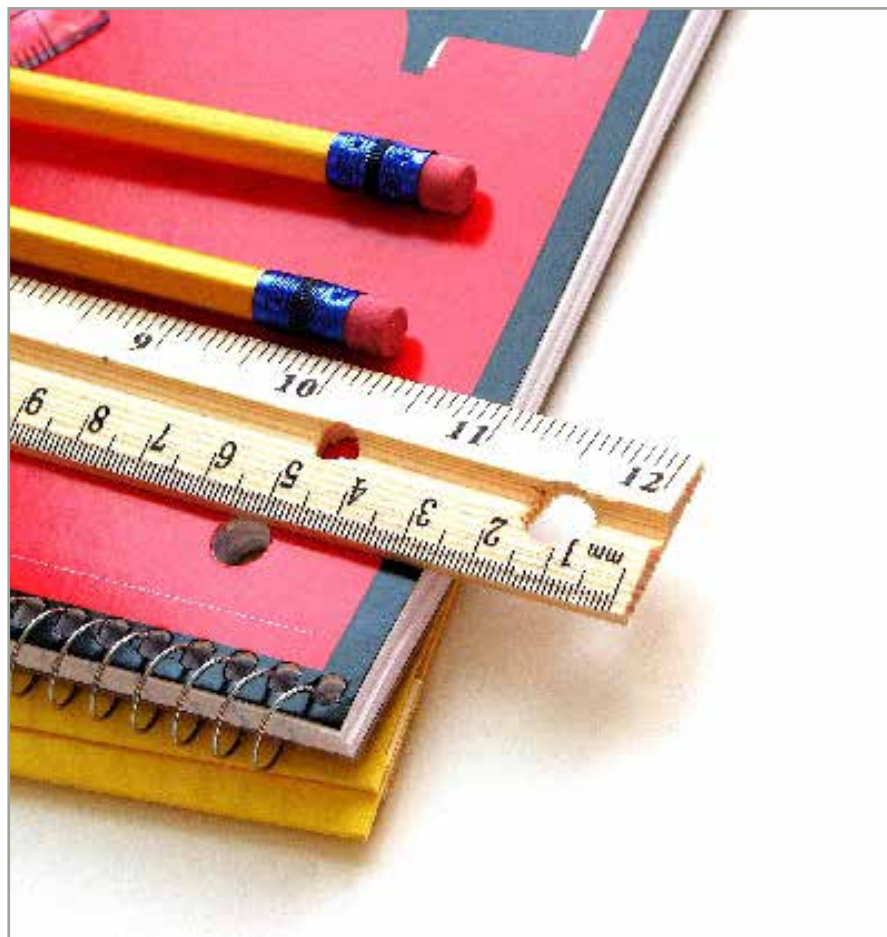


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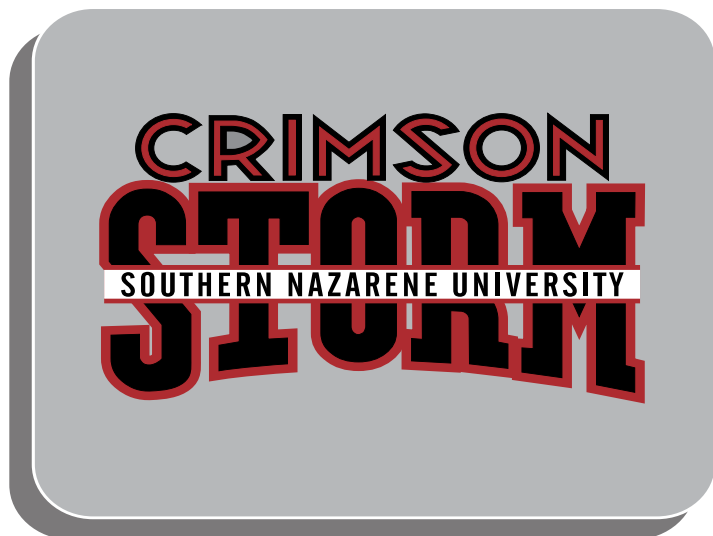
### App

Pick of the Week



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## Advice about romance from someone who's forgotten

**Jim Wilcox, Guest Writer**

Dear Professor Wilcox,  
I'm a freshman here at SNU and really love it. I especially like not having you for a class this semester. I'm so less-stressed. Anyway, I was wondering if you could give me some sage advice about a boy-girl thing I'm going through. Here's the deal: I'm in love with a senior who will be graduating in May and I'm not sure she'll be able (or willing) to wait for me for three years. She's headed to France for the summer and if she loves it there, she'll probably stay until I graduate.

Do you think I have a chance of keeping her with all those dashing and debonair Frenchmen hitting on her? She's a stunner.

--Signed, Sleepless at Southern

Dear Sleepyhead,

You've got about as much chance that she'll stay faithful to you in France, for crying out loud, as Payton Manning has in passing an "Omaha-audible-Omaha" touch-down. Forget about her. That older woman has strung you along all this year because either you have a lot of money or you're the son of one of her professors.

Maybe you should start scoping out the high school girls at a big church nearby. They would think that that blue and yellow high school letter jacket with all the band instruments on it that you still wear looks fantastic with your LeBrons.  
--Good luck, Cheese Boy

Dear Prof. Jim,

I've been going to school for five years and I still don't know why the Valentine's Day

Big Night is called "Heart Pal," do you?

--Signed, Clueless at Southern

Dear Sophomore,

You have really been here for five years or are you counting those AP courses you took in Texas? I wish you luck, Swiss Brains, as you finish up your criminal justice degree in prison. I really don't know why the school calls it "Heart Pal" unless it's short for "Heart Palpitations," which I used to get BIG-TIME

when Tena Leopard walked by. It's probably called "Heart Pal" because "it's always been called Heart Pal." (That's the standard line.)

Did you know, however, that the event was originally dubbed "The Reveille Echo Marathon Dance and Koolaid Challenge"? The R.E.M.D.K.C.(spelled backward

it means "Check da mirror") court elected its queen solely based on the number of red Koolaid

tumblers she could slam. For weeks, people could pick her out in a crowd because of her fire-engine red tongue. So I suppose it could be worse.

--Good Luck, Rose Bouquet

Dear Professor Wilcox,

Are you the old sociology proff or that English proff everybody hates? I'm not very good at this romance thing, but I really think the guy who sits behind me in algebra is a dead-ringer for Justin

Bieber, not the new one, but the old one.

Anyhoo, I was kinda wonderin', you bein' a man and all, what you could tell me that would get his attention and ask me out.

--Full-lipped Shyness

Dear Shy Lips,

What grade are you in, child? Your spelling is atrocious, and so I imagine you'll have to look up that word in a d-i-c-t-i-o-n-a-r-y to know how bad your spelling really is. Are the letters A, C, T, and I, Q in your alphabet? I think the first thing Mr. JB-Lookalike would want in a date is one who doesn't drool.

Anyhoo, you could sing one of Bieber's "big hits" if you can remember one. You could comb your hair forward without using a mirror. You could have your teeth laminated. You could drive cars that cost a \$zillion. Wrecklessly fast. And act like you're entitled. He might or might not notice you, but he sure will be jealous of you. Now you have good day, Miss Lips, OK? And buy a Webster's app for your sellfone.

--I'm outta here.

## PREHISTORIC LEGENDS

## In review: Tiger Lily- Won't Let This Kill Me



Photo provided by Always Empty

**James Tunnell, Staff Writer**

When a person hears the term "pop-punk," their mind will either instantly be flooded with fond memories of songs like "My Friends Over You" and "First Date," or they are going to think to themselves "Ugh, I hated Bowling for Soup in high school." Ten years ago, pop-punk was the en vogue genre for angsty teens looking for a buoyant voice to express themselves, even if it now is a bit outdated

as a whole. It seemed at one point that it was almost a rite of passage to go through a heavy pop-punk stage somewhere around puberty. But tastes change and pop-punk seems to have had its day in the sun and is now resting in the evergreen fields of Mark Hoppus' ranch in the sky. Every once in a while, though, a band comes along and revives the spirit of a fallen genre for one simple reason: they're just plain good. Enter Tiger Lily, the

**Continued on page 15**

## Spring fashion advice

**Macy Sliman, Staff Writer**

Spring is a super wonky time for Oklahoma. I have just decided to accept the completely wild mood swings when it comes to weather around here. Literally two days ago, it was sunny enough that people were out wearing shorts, and today they are calling for snow. That's enough to drive your allergies insane. Plus, these crazy weather patterns make getting dressed each day in a cute, weather-practical outfit extremely difficult.

So here are some hints about dressing for the spring. Hope they help!

Personally, I really love cardigans. I cannot get enough of them. So put yours to use. When the weather is chilly in the morning and then slightly warmer in the afternoon, it is always a good idea to layer. If you are cold natured like me, you can keep the cardigan on all day and be comfortable. If not, you can always shed it in the afternoon sun.

I also adore scarves. You can always pair them with a cute cardigan, blazer or light jacket. The light breezy printed ones are good "pop" pieces for a casual school day outfit. If you look online,

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## Review: Tiger Lily- *Won't Let This Kill Me* cont.

current torchbearers for the spirit of pop-punk in Oklahoma City.

With the release of their album *Won't Let This Kill Me*, Tiger Lily has given fans of pop-punk something to cheer about. Taking their cue from genre stalwarts like Sum 41, Brand New, Saves the Day, Blink-182 and New Found Glory, the list of perceivable influences on Tiger Lily are obvious to the initiated. It's all there: the palm muted guitars, the snarling vocals, the pop melodies.

Let's be clear though; *Won't Let This Kill Me* does not reinvent

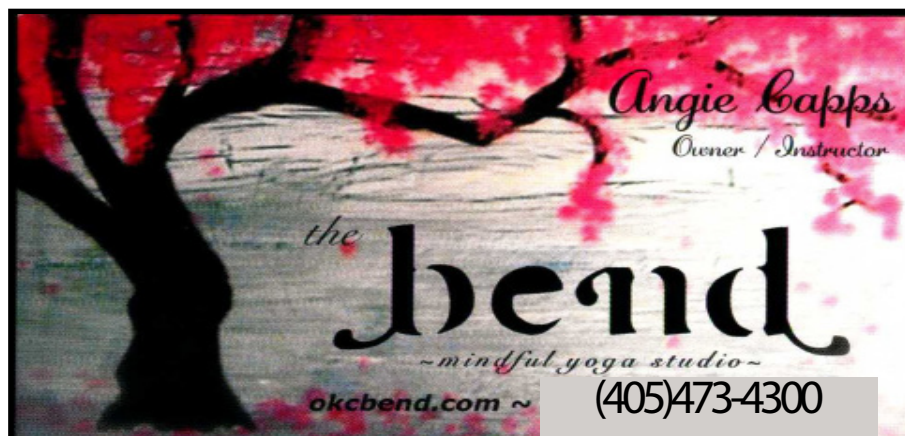
the wheel. Instead, it smartly takes the more appealing aspects of the genre and avoids many of the pitfalls that its predecessors have so often fallen into (see: Bowling for Soup).

Something that has often plagued pop-punk bands and their emo brethren is that the lyrics are often seen as overly self indulgent or whiney, which is partly why *Won't Let This Kill Me* is so refreshing. While many of the themes of the album certainly deal with classic pop-punk issues (feeling alienated, inability to communicate, relation-

ship troubles), the lyrics come off as genuinely honest ("I'm scared of dying/I think you are too/ what if I leave, will all my words come true") and optimistic (the entirety of "Won't Let This Kill Me").

The instrumentation and tone of Tiger Lily is, for the most part, standard pop punk, with the exception of one guitar line at the end of "Ghost of What I Had," which sounds a little more post-rock influenced. The musicianship of the various members of Tiger Lily is surprisingly solid, and the production value doesn't leave anything to

be desired. Though it only clocks in at around 12 minutes, each song propels into the next. While this album is obviously on the short, it's kind of like eating your favorite candy bar from when you were a kid; you know it's not going to last long, but it's awfully good while it lasts. Fans of pop-punk have no reason to miss out on this album (especially considering that Tiger Lily contains several former SNU students). For more information on Tiger Lily or to purchase *Won't Let This Kill Me*, go to [tigerlilyokc.bandcamp.com](http://tigerlilyokc.bandcamp.com).



*Be you and change the world!*



## Spring fashion advice cont.

there are between two and twenty ways to tie a scarf. For those of us who do not follow directions well, there are some pretty simple tutorials.

Now, spring is also a good time for skirts. However, please for the love of all that is holy, wear something underneath. Tights, boy shorts or, better yet, panty-

hose. We do not want that beloved Oklahoma wind to come sweeping down the plains and blow your cute little flower print a-line up around your ears. That is never a good look for anyone.

One good thing about spring is you can keep wearing those darling short boots you wore all winter and still get away with wear-

ing your flats and sandals. Try and look ahead at the weather, though. It is never fun to go out in sandals, expecting a sunny day, only to have frozen toes by the end of it.

For some, spring can be somewhat annoying because you are stuck in the clothing in between. You pretty much have to keep

everything out of storage and in your closet ready for wearing at a moment's notice. However, it is the perfect season for mixing and matching. Not only are the options for colors brighter but also you can pair a cute sweater with a skirt and boots or sandals. The options are literally endless. Do not let it overwhelm you; just have fun with it!

## Brett eats out: Backdoor BBQ



Photo by Jonathan Hane, Staff Photographer

### Brett Smith, Staff Writer

Being from the south, I have had my fair share of barbecue over the years. So when Backdoor BBQ was brought to my attention, I made sure to put it on the top of my list of restaurants to try. It takes about 20 to 30 minutes to get there, so if you make the trek, don't be scared that your GPS is acting up. That thought crossed my mind several time but, rest assured, the location does indeed exist. In order for the crowd to subside, we visited Backdoor for lunch around 1:30 on a Thursday. Parking was not bad at

all, but on a busy weekend day it could be a problem.

As usual, I asked some friends to accompany me for this trip. Jonathan Hane has become a constant companion for these trips because he takes such amazing pictures. Two others that joined me were Mikayla Gulley and her roommate Emily Brown. This restaurant is not unlike many other barbecue places when it comes to ordering. When entering, we walked up to the counter and placed our order there. We then sat at our choice of table and waited for our orders to be called.

The wait for our food was roughly 15 to 20 minutes, which I thought was a decent time for a group of four.

The meals were priced well for their portions. You can order signature entrées or combo dinners. Jonathan ordered the Big Okie Burger, which priced at \$8.50. It definitely lived up to its name, because it was a lot of food. Mikayla, Emily and myself all ordered combo dinners. Mikayla and Emily chose a one meat combo, while I ordered a two meat combo. These came with two sides as well. The combo dinners were priced at \$10 for a one meat combo, \$12 for a two meat combo, and \$15 for a three meat combo. For the portions, it was definitely a good price; it was so much food that I was unable to finish my order of brisket and pulled pork.

Both of these meats were prepared pretty well. My only negative comment is that the pulled pork could have been a little more tender. Other than that, the meat was smoky and had excellent flavor. I

personally enjoy barbecue sauce on my food, and I was pleasantly surprised at the variety of sauce flavors that were offered. The barbecue sauce ranged from classic, sweet and hot, to mustard and espresso. Whatever you like, they offered it. My sides were coleslaw and potato salad. The coleslaw was made from scratch and tasted very fresh. It was a nice contrast to the acidity of the barbecue sauce and seasoning of the meat. The potato salad was also made from scratch. Creamy and smooth, this was one of the best potato salads I've had.

The atmosphere of the restaurant complimented the food. It was warm and welcoming with an old barn house feel. A range of country music was playing in the background. Some were popular hits and others were fiddle melodies. Backdoor BBQ is a well-planned restaurant. I would highly recommend a visit there if you are in the mood for barbecue. It was a great experience for me, and I think I can speak for Jonathan, Mikayla and Emily when I say that we enjoyed our time there.

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