Sublime Dissonance

By Ryan Bramblett

On Thursday, March 11, the first, and hopefully not last, OPSU Composer’s Concert took place. After a brief introduction by Amber Foster, several students demonstrated their musical talents by performing original pieces.

First up was Joseph Williams with two pieces written for guitar and vocals. One was a reworking of the Green Day song “Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)” which he had adapted into a Christian rock song. The second was a completely original piece called “Every Breath You Breathe.” Next up was Errian Flanigan, a self-taught pianist. The first was entitled “The Ups and Downs of Life” and the second was untitled. The third composer was David Vaughn with a snare drum solo called “Critical Mass”. Next was Caleb Clark with a song he wrote titled “Accept My Past or Become It”. Mr. Flanigan returned, this time joined by Daryl Brister on drums. The two combined three songs into one duet. Finally, Errrian and Daryl were joined by Jaydan Roseboro, who performed one of his famous freestyle raps, this one entitled “Lucy”.

Unfortunately, there was a disappointingly small turn out for this quickly arranged event. Hopefully, this event will become more organized, larger, and better attended in future years. This will only happen if students like you and me show interest in attending these events, so if you feel that you missed out, don’t hesitate to attend events like this in the future.

Fotos: Hector Cobos

Nursing Program Announces 100% Pass Rate

By Dawn Hemphill

Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City’s Associate Degree Nursing program at the Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU) Campus in Goodwell is pleased to announce a 100% pass rate for December 2009 graduates taking the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for the first time. The NCLEX determines registered nursing licensure for new graduates of nursing programs. The nursing program based on the OPSU campus is an online program with students receiving their lectures streamed over the internet and coming to campus for skills labs and exams. The students complete their clinical rotations in area facilities.

Nine students graduated from the program in December 2009 and are now registered nurses. This is the largest number of graduates and first time test takers holding a 100% pass rate that the OPSU portion of the program has had in the past ten years. The online program has made many students’ dreams of becoming a nurse a reality in a region of the state that is very remote.

If you would like more information about the nursing program, contact Dawn Hemphill by phone at 580-328-1024 or by email at dawn.hemphill@gmail.com. Congratulations to the December 2009 graduates and new registered nurses!

Class of 2010
Movie Corner: Scorsese’s Latest a Hit

By Ryan Bramblett

Fans of psychological thrillers like 1408 and Secret Window will enjoy the latest film from director Martin Scorsese, Shutter Island, based on the 2003 novel by Dennis Lehane, takes place in 1954 and is the story of Edward Daniels (Leonardo DiCaprio), a World War II veteran turned U.S. Marshal. He must travel to Shutter Island, home of the Ashecliff Hospital for the Criminally Insane. There he and his partner, Chuck Aule (Mark Ruffalo), must help track down an escaped patient. During their investigation, the two marshals learn that there is more happening on the island than the treatment of various psychological disorders.

The rest of the movie doesn’t so much keep you guessing. It leads you to believe you know exactly what’s happening until the very end. Fans of fast-paced, action-packed movies should be advised to avoid this movie. While the plot moves along fairly quickly, the story itself requires you to pay attention at all times and think about what is going on constantly. If, however, you are like me and prefer at least the occasional thought-provoking movie, I would definitely recommend this one.

Picture: Paramount Studios
To All The Wonderful People at OPSU:

March, 31 will be the end of work for me here at OPSU with Johnson Controls. My time here has been a truly great experience and each and every one of you has made me feel so much a part of the school. I can only say “thank you” to all the staff and students that I have come to know in these past five years and wish the best for each and every person. My plans are to retire to San Angelo, Texas where the winters are a bit warmer. However, I do plan on coming back to see friends, so don’t think I am going to abandon all of you.

Thanks again,
Ken Campbell

Avery Hits Three Homers, but Aggies Fall 18-14

By Scott Puryear

Oklahoma Panhandle State University’s Josh Avery tied a school record with three home runs on Friday, but the Aggies were unable to hold onto the lead in what proved to be a wild game.

The Aggies (6-23) and St. Mary’s (21-19) met in a double header on Thursday, and OPSU came out on top with a 13-1 win in the first game, followed by a 6-3 victory in the second.

On Friday, St. Mary’s continued to show their offensive power with 18 hits and a like number of earned runs. However, the Aggie bats were also alive and well on Friday featuring a three-for-five performance by designated hitter Avery (all of his hits were home runs and accounted for a total of six RBIs). Outfielders Andy Klaus and Bennie Cardozo also smacked homers for OPSU. Klaus drove in three runs, while Cardozo and infielder Colton McKithan each drove in two.

Next up for the Aggies (6-23) in the season will be a single game with West Texas A&M set for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday in Goodwell. They will stay at home for a Friday and Saturday set with Texas A&M International. Two games are scheduled for Friday (with the first game starting at noon) and there will be a single game on Saturday, also set for a noon start.

OPSU’s SOEA Demonstrates the Value of Service

By Connie Butler, SOEA member

One of the most active and dedicated groups on the Oklahoma Panhandle State University campus is the OPSU Chapter of the Student Oklahoma Education Association (SOEA). The OPSU chapter is works in several areas and one of those is in service to communities in the school’s service area. Recently, the chapter received a national grant that will benefit the Goodwell public schools.

SOEA is a pre-professional organization of undergraduate and graduate students preparing for careers in education. The OPSU chapter has been in service for over a decade and 25-35 students participate each year.

The grant, through the National Education Association (NEA), provides $1,000 to be utilized for the purchase of science equipment for the school. Freida Burgess, Superintendent of Goodwell schools, said, “I am very excited to be receiving the benefits of this grant.

This is the second grant in the last two years SOEA has received that directly benefits the Goodwell public schools. Over 140 chapters from around the country applied for this grant and only 50 were chosen.

This grant will be utilized in various ways. It will help supply the school with additional science lab equipment, promote community involvement, and give SOEA members hands-on teaching experience within the subject area of science. SOEA will not only be able to purchase equipment for the science department, but they will also host a science fair at Goodwell High School in April, providing an opportunity for SOEA members to work directly with the students as they prepare their projects for the science fair.

Jerry Mihelic, the sponsor for the chapter, said, “I want us to be a service learning organization. The benefit of building a service organization has been demonstrated by the chapter through several projects, including the group’s participation in the “Adopt A Highway” program. In addition, they are set to assist in the Oklahoma Highway Department’s “Keep Oklahoma Beautiful” project; and the chapter has hosted a book fair at OPSU for the last several years with the proceeds from this project benefiting a local school library. Over the last four years, SOEA has raised over $1,500 to purchase books for the chosen schools’ library.

The SOEA chapter at the University sees the value of community involvement and the organization is a reflection on the excellence and quality of the Education Department at Oklahoma Panhandle State University.
Send In Your Letters

Editor needs letters immediately

Much like a government, a newspaper is by some people for the rest of the people. The difference being we actually listen to what the people say. Newspapers are supposed to catch and preserve a snapshot of what life is like and the most important part of life is the people!

Tell us if you’re tired, sick, or poor; give us your letters.

If you’re interested in becoming a National Weather Service Storm Spotter or just want to know about severe storms:

On Monday, March 29, 2010, Storm Spotter training will be held in room 101 of the Science and Ag building on the OPSU campus. Sessions start at 3pm and 7pm and last about 2 hours.