SNOWMAN ENJOYING NINE HOLES ON OPSU’S GOLF COURSE

Enroll in 12 hours or more for spring by December 4 for a chance to win a Toshiba laptop!

Happy Thanksgiving

Aggies

Vol. 90 No. 12
Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Successfully Celebrating 100 Years—Oklahoma Panhandle State University

Just Around The Corner

Wednesday, November 18
OPSU Choir rehearsal
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Centennial Theatre

Thursday, November 19
Mas Basketball
7:00 pm
Cameron
Home

Friday, November 20
Women’s Softball

U of CO at Colorado Springs
2:00 pm
Alamosa, Co

Saturday, November 21
Mas Basketball
New Mexico State
Las Cruces, NM
Alamosa, Co

Saturdays, November 21
Women’s Basketball
Adams State College
Alamosa, Co

Thursday, November 26
Women’s Basketball
New Mexico Highland
Goodwill, Ok

Thanksgiving Break
Wednesday, Nov. 25 to Friday, Nov. 27
No classes; Nov. 25-27
University offices will be open Nov. 25.
University will closed Nov. 26-27.
Straight From the Horse’s Mouth

What is your favorite thing about Thanksgiving?

“Sharing moments with my family members and giving thanks.”
Paige Wooten

“Getting away from school and getting to see the family.”
Alex Galgust

“Losing people I haven’t seen in a year and getting on our Thanksgiving boating trips.”
Kara Nugent

“Flying back to Seattle in my red pants.”
Max Younkin

“POOP.”
Brandon “Snacks” Moore

“This year it will be traveling with my second family (the basketball team) and thanking God for another day.”
Nefeteria Davis

“Having spent with my family and arguing about football.”
Collin Esqueda

Chili Cook-Off Feeds Crowd

By Laura Hays

Oklahoma Panhandle State University’s 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off proved to be a huge success on Saturday. Held just prior to the final game of the football season, the contest has grown each year. As the bright sunshine warmed the air, approximately 200 OPSU fans, supporters, and students tasted chili and voted for their favorites. The fifteen entries offered a wide variety of chili tastes and textures made with an assortment of different meats. While the competition was tough, the Methodist certificate to the OPSU Bookstore. Thanks to all who entered as well as all who tasted and voted—OPSU is already planning next year’s competition!
More Than a Face

Damian Saenz

Damian Saenz is a Guymon High School graduate, and he chose to attend OPSU because of the close distance. Damian wants to major in Architecture, but right now he wants to get his basics and transfer. When asked why he wants to major in architecture he replied, “It’s fun to create real-life objects, and you will leave something behind.” Maestro Saenz loves to interact and meet new people. Some words that describe this young man include spontaneous, friendly, sexy, and energetic.

One quote of his is, “Death is always lurking, so live a life.” A sad but interesting story of Damian’s just happened recently during this semester. His grandfather passed away about a month ago, and when they shipped his body to Mexico they lost track of the casket containing his body! “He traveled more in death than when he was alive,” Damian laughed. They did end up finding his grandfather, and he is now at rest in Mexico.

Damian has many future plans. He wants to open up a club, an arcade, a restaurant, and make a park along with creating his architecture. He would like to move to a big city someday to pursue his career, but right now he is enjoying life at OPSU. As for today and every day to come, know that everyone, including this young man, is more than just a face.

History of the Sower

By Renee Dickens

Have any of you ever wondered what the statue on campus is or what it even means? Did you know that it has been on campus since 1915 and is the only statue? It honors the men and women of the High Plains who wrestled with Mother Nature to make their livings from the soil. The Sower has an interesting beginning of how it came about.

F. J. Taft of Enid, Oklahoma, created the centerpiece of the campus. Ingles, who had relatives in Texas County, attended Northwestern Teacher’s College and while there met Professor Lorado Taft form the Art Institute of Chicago. Taft was very impressed with Ingles’ artwork and for ten years, Ingles worked in Taft’s studio in Chicago. Ingles is known for his paintings and architectural designs and his Fountain of Time may still be seen on display in Chicago.

In order to raise the money for the pay for the talent and labor would be an absolute impossibility.” The unveiling of The Sower was on July 3, 1915. It was very impressive, for “no educational institution in the state had a more splendid work of art at that time.” Since 1915, the statue has been photographed repeatedly, dressed as Santa Claus for Christmas, painted to support Aggie athletic teams, decorated with stripes and polka dots, and adorned with cages to flutter in the spring winds. Now knowing the history of The Sower is all the more appreciation for our one of a kind artwork.

One Act Action

By Chaney Latham

Actors and actresses work very hard to get into the character they play, and in the two one act plays that the Department of Communication presented this weekend, the students had to work even harder to portray very different roles in each play.

Midnight Train was the first one act play followed by Small Degrees of Clarity. Andrea Mendoza-Williams wrote both plays and watched them come to life under director Professor Tito Aznar. “Midnight Train was inspired by a story my grandma used to read to me, and Small Degrees is based on real life events just dramatized,” Andrea said.

Andrea and her family moved to Guymon in October of 2007. She received her Master’s degree in Dramatics at the University of Oklahoma and this talented writer calls Chickasha, Oklahoma her home. A great young cast of five OPSU students brought her plays to life: Alexander Anderson, Amber Foster, Owen Larson, Elizabeth McCulloch, and Angelina Reid. “It went well,” Tito exclaimed. “The cast worked very hard, and I am very proud of them.” “I couldn’t have been any better even if it had been on Broadway to watch it come to life,” Andrea stated.

Mrs. Andrea Mendoza-Williams would like to extend her thanks for the commitment, joy, and focus everyone had in performing the plays. This will definitely not be the last time we see Mrs. Mendoza-Williams, she is very interested in teaching some creative writing classes here at OPSU in the future and is currently working on a full length play.

OPSU 28th Annual FFA Interscholastic Contest

By Chaney Latham

On November 11-12, the OPSU School of Agriculture and the OPSU Collegiate FFA Chapter hosted the 28th Annual OPSU Interscholastic Contest. Over thirty-two schools competed from across the area including Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado. All in all, 500 students were on campus for this contest.

On Wednesday, students competed in three different speaking events: public speaking for the 9th graders who had to know the FFA Creed, extemporaneous speaking, and memorized public speaking which is a speech that is already prepared over an agriculture topic and must be presented orally. Thursday was comprised of 14 different CDEs (Career Development Events). Competitors had to visit. Competitors were judged from livestock judging to take place at the college farm to nursery landscape in the greenhouse. These competitions not only challenge students, but also help them for their future in agriculture. Others include contests in farm business management, crop identification, and a job interview contest.

Katie Lindsay of the Guymon FFA chapter stated, “It’s fun to see how many people...

Noble Center Hours Fall 2009

SUNDAY: CLOSED
MONDAY-THURSDAY: 9:00am-6:00pm
FRIDAY: 9:00am-6:00pm
SATURDAY: 9:00-4:00pm

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From an Old Red Barn to Oscar Williams Fieldhouse
(A Glimpse of OPSU Women’s Basketball History)

By Chaney Latham

Not only has the court advanced over the years, but women’s uniforms and means of transportation to and from the games has changed dramatically as well. In 1909-1910, the girls’ basketball suits were comprised of bloomers, long skirts, and blouses with high necks and long sleeves. As for transportation, the faculty, townspeople, and students provided it for several years. Many out-of-town ball trips were made on the train, along with buggies and eventually, automobiles. When the team went in wagons, the girls usually stayed at someone’s home where they played and were royally entertained there with parties, card playing, or visiting with younger people. “The Blue Goose,” a new Chevrolet, became their main transportation after the buggies.

During WWII, basketball came to a halt at OPSU or PAU as it was called then, and not until 1919 did the sport resume. Practices were still held on an outdoor court, but the boys worked on converting a red barn into a gym. During the women’s 1919-1920 season they only lost one league game and won the League Cup as well as the Tournament Cup. In 1921, the girls competed in the state semifinals just coming up short when they lost to Cogan. The girls won six cups however by the year of 1922. In 1922-1923, the girls’ team actually played upper grade school teams because there were very few high school teams in the area to play. Naturally, a victorious season of 19 consecutive games for PAMC (another OPSU name change) occurred during the 1923-1924 season. And the old red barn was successfully converted and caused outsiders to ask, “Where do they put the cattle when the get ready to play a ball game?”

The Aggie Girls Basketball Team of 1975-1976 was the first PSU women’s team that played a heavy intercollegiate basketball schedule. A new competitive team that would help bring even greater potential for future teams to come, OPSU Women’s Basketball has undergone many changes over the past 100 years. From gravel ground to a wooden court, from bloomers and long skirts to shorts and jerseys, from buggies to buses, from an old red barn to Oscar Williams Fieldhouse, it has been a great 100 years of OPSU Women’s Basketball. (Information from Heritage of the Panhandle by Kathryn Sexton)

The Oklahoma Panhandle State Aggies were in action on Saturday against the Rangers from Northwestern Oklahoma State University hoping for a victory and earn the team its first winning season since 2004. The Rangers started off the game strong and never looked back scoring 49 of their 68 total points in the first half. Both of them touchdown passes from senior quarterback Vincent Gay to junior wide receiver Doug Williams, and the score at half time was 49-14 in favor of the Rangers. The second half the Aggies once again scored 2 touchdowns. One of the touchdowns was a 15-yard pass from Gay to Williams, and another was a 1-yard touchdown run by Jose Mendoza and the final score ended up 68-28 in favor of the Northwestern. Gay went 16 for 21 passing for a total of 172 yards and 3 touchdowns. Williams was once again the leading receiver for the Aggies, catching 10 passes for 138-yards and 1 touchdown. Darryl Brister led the way on the ground with 28 yards on 10 carries. For OPSU’s defense, Joe Huerta had seven tackles and Quintin Green had 6. Seven seniors played their final college game for the Aggies Saturday, quarterback Vincent Gay, defensive lineman Austin Caid and Miguel Fonseca-Urra, linebackers Saul Jimenez and J.C. Ramirez, wide receiver Chad Saucedo, and fullback Michael Voss. The Aggies went from zero wins in 2007 to 5 wins in 2009, and has the majority of their players returning for the 2010 campaign. The offense will have to replace Gay at quarterback, but will be returning 1000-yard rusher Darryl Brister and 1000-yard receiver Doug Williams. OPSU’s defense loses standout linebacker Saul Jimenez, but key defensive lineman Gus Overstreet, William Turman, and Andrew Walker return to go along with a strong set of defensive backs who will all be returning.

Although the Aggies ended the 2009 football season with a loss, it was a very successful year for them. They always played with a lot of heart, and it was truly fun to watch. Congratulations for putting the Aggie football program back on the map, and we all look forward to watching next year’s team.