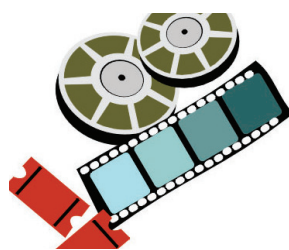


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"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

"A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a university education, he may steal the whole railroad."

~Theodore Roosevelt

# Eastern Statesman

Vol. 93 Issue 5

January 30, 2015

EASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE EST. 1908

## Eastern launches KWLB 93.1 FM radio station

**Derek Hatridge**  
Staff Writer

The people of eastern Oklahoma now have a news sound taking over the radio dial.

Eastern Oklahoma State College's Mountaineer Radio has finally made the transition from "the web" to "over the air." The station is being broadcast on 93.1 FM, reaching out to all the towns and communities among the hills of the Ouachita Mountains.

General Manager and host Doug Sims is excited about the new direction, but also said it didn't come without a few hiccups.

"We've been on the internet since 2010, basically doing the same thing. The difficult part of going on-air was the engineering work, getting it hooked up to the tower, getting the transmitter hooked

up, getting the antenna on the tower, getting everything tested out and correcting any issues or problems," Sims said. "So, the engineering side was complex, and the FCC paperwork was complex. All of that behind-the-scenes stuff was complex, and was difficult. But as far as transitioning, that was pretty seamless."

To honor the milestone, EOSC held a "Flip the Switch" celebration on Jan. 29 at 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom on campus. Eastern President Dr. Stephen E. Smith, too, is excited about the opportunity and what it could mean for the college and community.

"This is a unique partnership between two organizations that will benefit the greater Latimer and Pittsburg County

SEE KWLB 93.1 PAGE 3



## EXCELLENCE



Eastern professor Ruth Askew Brelsford recently received the Excellence in Experiential Learning award from Jim Ruebel (Left) and Gene Alpert with the National Collegiate Honors Council.

## Brelsford receives honor

**Wyatt Stanford**  
Staff Writer

Eastern's own Ruth Brelsford was honored recently by the National Collegiate Honors Council as a recipient of the Washington Center Award for Excellence in Experiential Learning at a Two-Year Institution. The

award, which honors one educator at a four-year institution and another at a two-year institution, was presented at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference in Denver this past November.

The award recognized Brelsford's

SEE BRELSFORD PAGE 2

## May graduates must complete application by February deadline

**STUDENT SUCCESS** Application for graduation is a requirement to graduate from Eastern

**Robert Bedford**  
Staff Writer

A graduation application is something that all students will eventually need to do if they are going to graduate from Eastern Oklahoma State College, and it's actually quite simple to do.

First, if you're a student and believe that you've completed all the required courses for your degree program, then you must complete a graduation application.

All one needs to do is talk with their advisor to do a degree check and complete a Graduation Application in WebAdvisor. One can find the application under the "Academic Profile" section in WebAdvisor.

Any students that are attend-

ing this semester and are ready to graduate in May need to have their application finished by Feb. 20.

For anyone who may be wondering, yes, filling out this application is a requirement to graduate. According to Eastern's registrar, Jennifer Labor, it helps the school identify those who are eligible for graduation.

If you're planning to graduate in May, Labor suggests that you get an application done as soon as possible.

Graduation ceremonies for 2015 take place on May 8 at the EOSC Wilburton campus. Graduates will be able purchase caps, gowns, and tassels from the Eastern bookstore in the weeks leading up to the event.

Form more information or questions, contact the Registrar's office at (918) 465-1813.





## Student Success Center workshops scheduled

Student Success Center/Student Support Services (SSC/SSS) program participants: The required workshops for the Grant Aid Scholarship will be offered on Blackboard only during the following dates:

Feb 8-16

Mar 1-9

Mar 29-Apr 6

SSC/SSS participants will need to contact Kathy Howe in Johnston 118 or at [khowe@eosc.edu](mailto:khowe@eosc.edu) to get enrollment instructions to do the workshops. These workshops will close at 11:59 PM of the last day.

Participants will not be eligible to apply for the Grant Aid Scholarship without completing both workshops and having at least one other contact with our program.

For those who completed only one workshop last semester or during the last session, let me know that you did that and I will send you the correct workshop for you to complete.

## Join the Statesman

Contact Kristen Turner at 918.465.1720 or [ktturner@eosc.edu](mailto:ktturner@eosc.edu).

### Story ideas?

Contact the Statesman at [statesman@eosc.edu](mailto:statesman@eosc.edu)



Eastern professor Ruth Askew Brelsford makes notes during a bus trip last year. Brelsford recently received the Excellence in Experiential Learning award from the National Collegiate Honors Council.

## Brelsford

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

work in experiential learning through the Honors Program at Eastern.

One part of the Honors curriculum, Honors Seminar, challenges students to become involved in civic engagement. Some of the topics of Honors Seminar have included bullying, recycling, mentoring, immigration policy and drug policy. Each semester, Honors students are also required to go on "cultural field trips," where they participate in a variety of culturally enriching activities.

Brelsford was nominated by two former students, Dalton Fazekas and Chelsea Hofegartner, and Dr.

Karen Harrison. "The fact that I was nominated by former Honors students was very meaningful to me," said Brelsford. Both Fazekas and Hofegartner are now attending the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University respectively. They accredit Brelsford with "opening their eyes to numerous issues- both campus and worldwide."

"I am impressed with the number of students that have gone on to do law school, medical school, vet school, or any other profession that involves helping others or civic engagement," Brelsford commented.

"I always encourage my students to go into the world and make it a better place."

## COLUMN

# Time information dilemma: We can't write stories when we can't get facts

**CHELSEIE PECKIO**

Editor

We all want to be heard.

Newspapers provide an excellent way for people to get out information about campus and community events. Often time's people have excellent ideas for what they want to put in the newspaper, but not a lot of information is ever given to the person who wants to write the article.

A good article often provides the who, what, when, where, and why. These are important things to remember when you are suggesting a story idea.

If you do not have this information, we cannot put together the story for you by simply making up facts.

So much is expected of our writers from the gathering of ideas, information, and thoughts to the composing and

editing these thoughts into articles that are fit for our standard of publishing.

Reporters are not mind-readers nor should they be. We hear many suggestions for news stories every day, but there is only so much we can go on with an idea. When people demand that their stories be put into the paper, but they have no information in regards to that particular story, it makes it impossible for us to write a thorough story, if anything at all.

People have complained many times that their event or story did not make it into the paper, but they didn't provide us with any information on where to begin. There isn't much we can make out of only a topic.

If you want a story in our paper, we urge you to provide us with not only the idea, but also with the information and the time.

## PUBLIC AWARENESS NOTIFICATION

### OUR NATURAL GAS SYSTEM IS SAFEHELP US KEEP IT THAT WAY!

Eastern Oklahoma State College operates its own natural gas pipeline system, independent from our supplier, CenterPoint Energy. This means that we are in complete control of the system and strive to provide a safe and reliable means of energy for gas-burning appliances on campus.

#### Ongoing safety compliance

In an effort to ensure that our gas system is operated in a safe manner, EOSC performs various annual safety inspections, such as checking the system for leaks and corrosion.

#### Notification of digging

To further ensure that our gas pipeline is safe and protected from damage, anyone who plans to do any digging on EOSC property must get approval from the Physical Plant office at (918) 465-1801 and is also required to notify Call OKIE at 811 at least 48 hours in advance.

#### Awareness of possible hazards

It is important to know that, although our gas system complies with all government safety regulations, there is always the potential for natural gas to escape from any gas system for various reasons. If that hap-

pens, its flammability becomes an immediate concern.

#### If you smell the odor of natural gas....

Report it to the EOSC Campus Police immediately so that it can be checked out and action taken, if necessary, to prevent a potentially hazardous situation.

- **Do not call CenterPoint Energy or 911.**
- Do not ignore your senses -- get out of the building immediately!
- Do not use your cell phone or telephone, flip any light switches, turn on or off any electrical devices, or do anything to create static electricity. Once away from the natural gas odor, notify the EOSC Campus Police of the suspected leak.
- Do not return to the building until an EOSC official tells you it is safe to do so.

EOSC Campus Police phone number **(918) 448-2365**. Emergencies are responded to 24 hours a day.

#### For additional information

This message is posted in buildings to meet a regulatory requirement. If you would like to know more about our gas system, please contact the Physical Plant Director at (918) 465-1802.





Top, Eastern graduate and musician, Kyle Williams, provided the entertainment at EOSC's Flip the Switch event held Jan. 29. Kristen Turner, Professor of Mass Communication; Doug Sims, Mountaineer Radio General Manager; Stephen Brinlee, Wilburton mayor; Steve Hahn, President Oklahoma AT&T; Jason Winborn, AT&T; and Dr. Stephen Smith, Eastern president spoke at the event.

## KWLB 93.1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

areas," Smith said in a press release. "Oklahoma AT&T brought the much-needed 4G LTE cellular service to the region, while Eastern is providing music, local news and sports to the surrounding communities as well as enhancing learning opportunities for students preparing for careers in the broadcast industry."

The station had its first airtime on the afternoon of Jan. 23, and Sims said the reception since has been nothing short of phenomenal, especially because people enjoyed the content.

"We went on (air) Friday at 2 p.m., and we expected with a 25,000 watt station about a 60 mile radius. We started getting phone calls and texts through the weekend of people in different areas," Sims said.

"This is the fun part. Because people are listening to music differently than they were 10 years ago. It's rare for them to buy an entire album for one group, so therefore we wanted to make a station that caters to the way people listen these days.

"We're heavy with Top 40, pop, adult contemporary and light rock. We've also put in some lighter classic rock and some of the country-type pop crossovers in our mix too. We want people, when they tune in to our station, to think 'Hey, I'm listening to my own tunes on my own phone.'"

## 93.1 FM RADIO INFORMATION

The Best Mix of Top 40, pop, adult, contemporary, light classic rock and today's cross-over country music.

### The Morning Show with J.Rowe

Weekdays 7 - 11 a.m., Saturdays 8 - 11 a.m.

### The Afternoon Show with Dougo

Weekdays 2 - 6 p.m., Saturdays 2- 5 p.m.

### To listen free on your smart-phone:

1. Search for TuneIn Radio in your phone's App Store.
2. Download the free app to your phone.
3. Open the app on your phone and search for Mountaineer Radio.
4. Select Mountaineer Radio and start listening.
5. Save Mountaineer Radio as a preset for future listening.

### Studio requests

(918) 465-6000 or  
radio@eosc.edu

### Advertising Opportunities

(918) 465-0883 or  
nlesnau@eosc.edu



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Letters to the editor are not only welcomed, but encouraged. All letters must be able to be verified with the author's phone number, address, and e-mail address. The editor reserves the right to edit to fit space limitations and to comply with libel laws and good taste.

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## PTK claims fifth consecutive victory in statewide contest

Eastern Oklahoma State College's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society recently earned its fifth consecutive victory in Oklahoma Campus Compact's statewide voter registration competition. Eastern PTK members registered an additional 11.2 percent of Eastern's student population to win in the small institution category. Members Erin Frazier and Haley Myers of Wilburton, Jordan Holder of McAlester and Sherry Holman of Broken Bow accepted the award at a ceremony during a December meeting of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Twenty-one Oklahoma colleges and universities participated in the competition, registering 3,312 in-state and out-of-state students to vote. More than 27,000 students have been registered to vote as part of the contest since its inception in 2003. The competition is comprised of three categories based on full-time student



EOSC students (front row, left to right) Sherry Holman, Haley Myers, Erin Frazier and Jordan Holder receive the group's fifth consecutive first-place award in Oklahoma Campus Compact's statewide voter registration competition from Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. Also pictured are (back row, left to right) PTK Advisor and instructor Brenda Kennedy, State Regents Chair Michael C. Turpen, EOSC instructor Kellye Semeski and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Karen Harrison.

populations. Eastern is in the RED category for state universities and colleges with 1-3,000 FTE (full-time-equivalent

students). The runner-up for the RED category was Carl Albert State College with 8.2 percent of its students registered.

The WHITE category (3,001-7,000 FTE) winner was East Central University with 6.8 percent, followed by Northern Oklahoma College with 5.3 percent. The University of Central Oklahoma led the BLUE category (7,001-30,000 FTE) with 4.9 percent of their student population registering to vote, followed by the Oklahoma State University with 2.6 percent. Two new categories were introduced to the competition this year for out-of-state students registering to vote in their states. Eastern registered the highest percentage of out-of-state students at 0.1 percent to capture the EQUALITY award. The University of Oklahoma registered 101 out-of-state students for the highest number for the LIBERTY award. Oklahoma Campus Compact is an organization of 38 public and private colleges and universities focused on the importance of civic responsibility.



## Chancellor presents legislative agenda to southeast Oklahoma

With the demand for employees who have certificates and degrees continually increasing, college completion remains the top priority in the state of Oklahoma. That was the message delivered by Chancellor Glen D. Johnson as he presented the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's 2015 legislative agenda to an audience of lawmakers, community leaders and educators at Pete's Place in Krebs on Jan. 21.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education recently voted to request \$98.7 million in new state appropriations during the upcoming legislative session. The total budget request for FY 2016 is 9.99 percent higher than the current year's appropriation.

"Oklahoma's higher education system remains committed to producing a quality, educated workforce, which strengthens our state economy," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. "We have exceeded our Complete College America degree completion goals to date, and we know that meeting our ultimate degree completion goal will be a marathon, not a sprint. These

additional funds would empower our institutions to continue achieving those degree completion benchmarks as we work toward a 67 percent increase in the number of degrees and certificates earned by 2023."

Increased financial aid funding will also be a priority for the State Regents in the upcoming legislative session. The State Regents are seeking \$1.2 million for the concurrent enrollment program, which provides tuition waivers to high school seniors who enroll in college coursework during their senior year.

The State Regents are also requesting an additional \$500,000 for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) initiatives, including the Summer Academies program, which provides interactive learning opportunities for Oklahoma eighth- through 10th-grade students in high-demand STEM disciplines.

The State Regents are seeking \$8.7 million for debt service obligations to complete the refinancing obligations undertaken in 2010 for the 2005 higher education capital bond issue.

The total appropriation request for FY 2016 is \$1.086 billion.



Eastern Oklahoma State College students, regents, faculty and staff gathered with local legislators to attend Chancellor Glen D. Johnson's presentation of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's FY 2015 legislative agenda on Wednesday. Pictured at the event are (left to right) Eastern President Dr. Stephen E. Smith, Representative R.C. Pruett, EOSC Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Janet Wansick, EOSC Regent Burl Williams, EOSC sophomore Rebekah McIntosh of Kellyville, Representative Ed Cannaday, Betty Ford with Representative Markwayne Mullin's office, EOSC Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Stephen Glazier, EOSC Regent Loise Washington, EOSC sophomore Lucas Adams of Soper, Senator Larry Boggs and EOSC Regent Brian Lott. Also in attendance, but not pictured, was Representative Donnie Condit.

## USDA grant providing new distance learning equipment



Hartshorne High School ITV supervisor Melinda Morgan (center) gathers with students (left to right) Colton Tubbs, Caleb Holt, Braxton Curliss and Lexus Sewell in front of the school's new distance learning equipment provided by Eastern Oklahoma State College through a USDA grant.

Eastern Oklahoma State College recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that provides new distance learning equipment to the college and three area high schools.

Eastern received a \$455,475 USDA Rural Development Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant to purchase videoconferencing equipment and software for the college's McAlester campus, as well as Talihina, Quinton and Hartshorne High Schools.

"We applaud the USDA for investing in education and technology for students in rural, southeast Oklahoma," said Eastern President Dr. Stephen E. Smith. "Distance learning provides students with a convenient avenue to complete college courses without leaving their high school. We're excited for the educational opportunities this equipment will provide for students in Talihina, Quinton and Hartshorne."

Each high school received a portable teleconferencing unit, software and

professional installation services worth \$11,615. The interactive television (ITV) equipment will give students virtual access to classes taught from Eastern's campuses in Wilburton and McAlester. ITV courses are structured like traditional courses except students view the class on TV monitors. Students and instructors are able to interact throughout the class although they are in different locations.

"The ITV class brings the college to us," said Lexus Sewell, a student at Hartshorne High School. "I think it is just as effective as being in a class on campus."

Through Oklahoma's concurrent enrollment program, qualified juniors and seniors can take college-level courses and earn college credit while still in high school. High school seniors can take up to 18 credit hours tuition free and are only responsible for fees and books.

"I think this prepares students for college," said Hartshorne ITV supervisor Melinda Morgan. "It gives them an idea of what a college class is really like."



## EOSC celebrates the anniversary of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and its roots in Wilburton

A little more than 60 years ago, a young Eastern Oklahoma State College basketball coach felt that God had placed a dream in his heart. His goal was to start an organization that would feature professional athletes professing their Christian faith in order to change the youth culture in America. That dream eventually turned into reality and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) was born. Former Eastern men's basketball coach and athletic director Don McClanen was the young coach who created a movement in 1954 that would change the lives of countless athletes and coaches through his dream. The FCA, now an international organization, recently celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. While coaching at Eastern, McClanen began to wonder why athletes endorsed products, but not a Christian lifestyle. "If athletes can endorse shaving cream, razor blades and cigarettes, surely they can endorse the Lord," McClanen once said. In 1954, McClanen sent 19 letters to prominent sports figures across the nation, including football stars Doak Walker and Otto Graham; baseball players Carl Erskine, Robin Roberts and Alvin Dark; Olympians Bob Mathias and Bob Richards; coaching and front office legends Amos Alonzo Stagg, Bud Wilkinson and Clarence "Biggie" Munn; and even broadcasters Tom Harmon (the 1940 Heisman Trophy winner) and Red Barber. He received 14 replies from those that were interested. That summer, McClanen mortgaged his



Fellowship of Christian Athletes founder Don McClanen was the men's basketball coach at Eastern Oklahoma State College when he first took action to begin the organization. The FCA recently celebrated its 60th anniversary.

car in Wilburton and set out on a cross-country trip to meet with those individuals and solicit funding to establish the FCA. He was able to schedule a five-minute meeting with Branch Rickey, then the Pittsburgh Pirates general manager notorious for inventing baseball's affiliated minor league system and knocking down the game's color barrier while with the Brooklyn Dodgers by signing Jackie Rob-

inson. His meeting lasted five hours and less than three months later on Nov. 10, 1954, the FCA was chartered in Oklahoma. While still at Eastern, McClanen brought Walker, Richards, Bob Fenimore, Pepper Martin, Warren Spahn, and Carl Allison to Eastern's campus in 1955. The group spoke to students about Christianity during the Sports Jamboree event. During the past six decades, the FCA has

grown to more than 1,000 staff members and has launched an international ministry outreach through coaches and athletes in other countries such as Mexico, Ukraine, Japan and many more. The organization continues to have a presence at middle school, high school and college stadiums, gyms and ballparks around the world. Eastern President Dr. Stephen E. Smith said the college has recognized both

McClanen and the organization's roots in Wilburton in multiple ways. During a ceremony in 2008, Eastern invited former players and dignitaries to a ceremony to commemorate McClanen's role in founding the FCA. The college also commissioned a larger-than-life bronze bust of McClanen for display in the Student Center in Wilburton. "It was probably the best event I have been a part of since I have been at Eastern," Smith said. Eastern also recognized McClanen and the FCA with its Heritage Award during this year's Homecoming events. The Heritage Award honors individuals and organizations that have had a significant impact on Eastern's history. "We were honored to recognize Don and his accomplishments during the organization's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary year," Smith said. "The FCA has a great history at Eastern and we're very proud of Don and what he's achieved through his ministry for athletes around the world."

Photo: Former Eastern men's basketball coach Don McClanen is pictured at a ceremony in 2008 with a bronze bust that was commissioned in honor of his role in founding the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Photo: Fellowship of Christian Athletes founder Don McClanen was the men's basketball coach at Eastern Oklahoma State College when he first took action to begin the organization. The FCA recently celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## OSDH reports an increase in flu cases; vaccinations encouraged

As the number of flu-related hospitalizations continues to increase, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) reminds Oklahomans there is still time to get a flu shot.

OSDH reports a total of nine deaths and 517 hospitalizations associated with the flu since the season began in September. Okfuskee, Payne and Carter counties have each had one death, while Garfield, Stephens and Oklahoma counties have each had two deaths so far this influenza season. More than half of hospitalizations have occurred among individuals 65 years and older.

Public health influenza vaccination clinics are available at county health de-

partments, medical providers and retailers throughout the state. OSDH wants to remind Oklahomans that everyone is at risk for influenza and the flu vaccination is recommended for anyone 6 months of age and older.

Vaccination is especially important for people at high risk for serious illness from flu including: pregnant women, children younger than 5 years of age and people with asthma, diabetes, chronic heart and lung disease and other chronic conditions. Parents and family members of babies younger than 6 months of age and people who live with or care for anyone at high risk for complications from the flu, including health care workers,

should also get the vaccine.

The following types of flu vaccine are available:

The traditional flu shot which protects against four strains of flu.

The nasal spray flu vaccine, which protects against four strains of flu, is for healthy people who are not pregnant and are ages 2-49. Studies have shown this vaccine was more effective among younger children. However, if the nasal spray vaccine is not immediately available, parents should not delay in getting children vaccinated.

The high-dose flu shot for persons age 65 years and older which protects against three strains of flu.

It is important for those experiencing flu-like symptoms to consult with a provider as soon as possible. A provider may prescribe antiviral drugs to treat the flu. These drugs work better for treatment when started within 48 hours of noticing symptoms. Antiviral drugs may be indicated as a prevention measure to prevent especially vulnerable persons such as infants less than 6 months old, or persons of any age with a medical condition which severely suppresses their immune system.

In addition to getting a flu shot, public health officials recommend the following prevention tips:

Frequent hand washing using soap and water, or alcohol-based products such as hand gels when hands are not visibly soiled.

Make "respiratory hygiene" a habit, including use of tissues to cover coughs and sneezes, then disposing of them and washing hands at once. When tissues are not readily available, use your sleeve, never your hands.

Stay home from work, school, and other public places when a person is ill.

Visit the OK Flu View at <http://flu.health.ok.gov> for weekly Oklahoma flu updates and additional information about the flu.

**Would you like to see your club featured? Contact us: [statesman@eosc.edu](mailto:statesman@eosc.edu)**



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

# Transfer process for May 2015 graduates begins now

SUBMITTED REPORTS

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break. Now it is time to continue with the hard work to see you through the spring 2015 semester.

If you are planning to transfer to a university this upcoming year to further your education, now is the time to complete admissions and transfer scholarship applications. If you need our assistance, we would be glad to give you guidance.

Here is a listing of transfer scholarship deadlines for area universities:

Oklahoma State University—Feb. 1 (priority consideration) July 1 (final deadline)

University of Oklahoma—March 1

University of Central Oklahoma—

Feb. 13

Northeastern State University—April 1

East Central University—March 1

Southeastern Oklahoma State University—April 1

University of Arkansas, Fort Smith—

June 1

**Important dates to remember:**

Complete Spring 2015 graduation application on WebAdvisor starting Feb. 16

Eastern scholarship applications are due Feb. 21

Complete FAFSA early in the year to be eligible for state grants

FAFSA website is [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Come and see us, we are here to help.

Tina Ray and Sandra Robertson

Located in Library Building,

Enrollment Center, Offices 156 and 157

# Bookstore offers more than one option for books

ROBERT BEDFORD

Staff Writer

The Eastern Oklahoma State College bookstore is something all students know of, but not all are quite sure how exactly it works.

The bookstore on campus is where many students purchase, rent, and sell their books needed for class.

If a student desires to they can rent a book from the bookstore, which actually lowers the price from buying it anywhere from \$60 to \$80, although sometimes the difference can be as small as \$20.

Only certain titles are rentable though, not all. The store will also pur-

chase books from students, even books that came from sources other than the store itself.

When a student sells a book to the store it won't be worth as much as when the student purchased it, but it will be worth about half the original value if it's a book that will be used the next semester. Unless the condition of the book is extremely poor, it won't affect the value.

Students are able to use their financial aid to purchase books from the bookstore.

One can visit the business office and acquire a voucher, which verifies the student has financial aid, to purchase their books.



Theatre Eastern will travel to Texas Feb 24-28 in order to participate in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

# Theatre students traveling to Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Jordan Allen

Staff Writer

Theatre Eastern is once again traveling the distance to the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Department Head Sarah Klocke along with Marshall Carby, Department Head of Humanities, will be taking eight students, six of whom will be competing in the Irene Ryan Acting Competition, seven hours away to Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas on Feb. 24 through 28 to celebrate the education and creative process of college theatre.

Started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy American College

Theater is a theatre program involving thousands of collegiate students nationwide.

Through state, regional, and national festivals KCACTF has brought celebration to the creative development and shared experiences of art within the regions of theatre artists.

In February of each year, regional festivals showcase selected productions and offer a variety of activities including: workshops, symposia, and regional-level award programs.

When asked about how KCACTF is beneficial to our students, Klocke replied with a three part answer. "Number one, it exposes our students to a wider variety of styles.

"Number two, because we are seeing work that is being honored in our region the idea is that our students will see that high quality of work and aspire to reach the same in their own work.

"Number three, it's really good for our students because when we graduate students with a two year degree, we hope that the go on and seek a four year degree in theatre.

"At the regional competition for KCACTF there are wonderful schools from around the nation, so they are exposed to universities in our six state region and universities and acting conservatories all across the U.S."

For more information about Theatre Eastern contact Sarah Klocke at [sklocke@eosc.edu](mailto:sklocke@eosc.edu).

## Longtime and distinguished faculty member, Minnie Walker, dies at 91

Minnie Walker received the 2012 Distinguished Former Faculty award. Walker taught at Eastern from 1956-1986, including courses in accounting, shorthand, typing, business English, word processing, business communications and secretarial procedures. Upon her retirement, Walker said the thing she enjoyed most about teaching was to see her students master a skill and then use in their profession after leaving Eastern. She earned a bachelor's degree in business education from East Central University and a master's degree in business education at Oklahoma State University.

Minnie Ivabelle Walker, 91, died Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015, in Okemah.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Assembly of God Church in Okemah with the Rev. Jeremy Fairres officiating. Burial will be at Highland Cemetery in Okemah. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home of Okemah.

Born June 30, 1923 in Okfuskee, she was the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Bynum) Walker. She was known to the Walker family as "Aunt Minnie".

She was raised in the Okfuskee community, attending Okfuskee School through 8th grade, then high school at Nuyaka, graduating at the age of 16 as the Class of 1940 Valedictorian.

Her first year after graduating she stayed on the farm, then enrolled at the University of Oklahoma in the fall of 1941.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor, she joined the war effort work force at Douglas Aircraft Company in Tulsa as secretary in the reimbursement department, until the war ended. Her boss encouraged her to stay, but she was determined to pursue an education.

She spent the fall of 1945 at Oklahoma State University, then the spring of 1946 at East Central State College.

She returned to Okfuskee School for the 1946 to 1947 school year to teach 5th and 6th grades, teaching 29 pupils and coaching girls' basketball

on an outdoor court.

In the summer of 1947, she attended East Central again and obtained enough credits to teach high school, then taught at Mason during the 1947 to 1948 school year along with directing the school play.

She studied in the summer of 1948 at East Central, then went to Sunnyvale, California to work in Libby's Cannery during the fall canning season. With her prior experience with Douglas, she obtained a position in Libby's personnel office.

In the spring and summer of 1949, she studied at East Central, achieving a bachelor's degree in business education and a minor in English.

After graduating, she went to work for Carnation Milk Company in Tulsa as an accountant, keeping in touch with the county superintendent regarding open teaching positions.

In February 1950, an opening came in Liberty Mounds for an English and business teacher, which she accepted. She finished that school year and the next four teaching, directing school plays, and coaching grade and high school girls' basketball. While at Liberty Mounds, she began work on her master's degree by attending summers at East Central and Oklahoma State and night classes at Okmulgee Tech.

During the summer of 1954, a superintendent from Mossyrock, Washington came calling, and she, her sister, and two other friends went to teach in Washington in the 1954 to 1955 school year. Along with teaching business subjects, she taught a journalism course that produced the school newspaper and yearbook.

Studying at Oklahoma State University in the summer of 1955, she received her master's degree in business education, then returned to Washington to teach the following school year.

She began her 30-year Eastern Oklahoma State College teaching career in the fall of 1956. When the college president interviewed her, he told her he thought he needed a man teaching accounting, but was so impressed with her creden-

tials, he hired her as the only full-time teacher in the business department. In five years she became the chairman of the business division over eight professors.

In 1964, she began work on her doctorate, taking a one year sabbatical to study at the University of Nebraska, completing the course work in the summer of 1967.

During her tenure at Eastern, she was awarded many honors including Eastern Oklahoma State College "Teacher of the Year", "Outstanding Educator of America", "Who's Who of World of Women", "Personalities of the South", and in 1986, "Oklahoma Junior College's Business Teacher of the Year".

She also served two years as the secretary of the Oklahoma Junior College Association. In May 1986, she retired from Eastern and was honored at a reception by naming the business lounge in Mitchell Hall, as the "Minnie Walker Lounge". She became a life member of the Retired Educators Association, serving as treasurer and secretary in various years.

She also was active with memberships in En Avant Study Club, National Business Education Association, National Honorary Professional Graduate Society in Business Education, Delta Kappa Gamma, and Delta Pi Epsilon.

In 1993, she was recognized by the Oklahoma Retired Educators Association as "Very Important Member".

In 2012, she was awarded the first "Distinguished Former Faculty Award" of Eastern Oklahoma State College at a banquet in the college Student Union.

In 2013 she was honored as a "50 Year Member" of Delta Kappa Gamma at a luncheon held in Oklahoma City.

She enjoyed retirement by traveling to many places across the United States, Europe, and Israel. She loved to visit, read, travel, cook and do crafts.

Survivors include 14 nephews and 27 nieces.



Minnie Walker

She was preceded in death by her mother and father; nine brothers, Ora Walker, Frank Walker, Bill Walker, Vernon Walker, Paul Walker, Horace Walker, Alva Walker, Travis Walker and George Walker, and four sisters, Nettie Walker, Gladys Woods, Alza Buie and Kathryn Ingraham.

Pallbearers will be Darrell Walker, Wayne Walker, Clyde Walker, Joseph Walker, Keith Stanton, Justin Wayne Stanton, Arville Baldrige and Norman Richards.

Honorary pallbearers will be Ricky Walker, Kenny Walker, Gallen Walker, Roger Walker, Howard Walker, Bill Walker, Harold Matthews, Tom Flemming and James Walker.

## February Aquaponic certificate course open to the public

Those interested in learning about sustainable agriculture are encouraged to participate in a one-day aquaponic certificate course on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Eastern Oklahoma State College's Greenhouse in Wilburton. The class will be presented by Eastern faculty in conjunction with Symbiotic Aquaponic, a nationally-recognized company.

Since installing an aquaponic system in its greenhouse, Eastern has experienced an increase in public interest in the sustainable agriculture technique. Aquaponic agriculture is an innovative

method of growing all-natural produce and fish using a re-circulating water system. Using this approach, water from the fish habitat provides all the necessary nutrients for growing a variety of plants such as cherry tomatoes, leafy greens, herbs, strawberries and even flowers. As a result, the plants clean the water for the fish.

"Aquaponics is especially valuable in places like Oklahoma where drought and water-shortages are constant concerns," said Kaben Smallwood, Symbiotic Aquaponic CEO and co-owner.

Smallwood said their patent-pending

aquaponic systems use approximately 1/95th of the water of traditional agriculture. The reduced water usage, increased crop yields and expanded growing season has resulted in a growing interest in aquaponics in the region.

"Aquaponics can be done at home by the hobbyist home-gardener or on an even larger commercial scale by skilled farmers," Smallwood said. "However, it does require knowing what you're doing and some understanding to do it right."

Based on the interest in aquaponics and the need for continuing education,

Smallwood and EOSC are cooperating to provide the first one-day, aquaponic certificate courses in Oklahoma. The course will provide an introduction to aquaponic topics such as system designs, scientific principles of aquaponics and the selection of plant and fish species. Participants will engage in classroom discussions and hands-on experience in Eastern's Greenhouse. All course materials will be provided on the day of the class. Participants will also sample produce from the aquaponic greenhouse for lunch.

Smallwood said the class is a good start towards positive, social changes in

Oklahoma.

"We're excited to bring aquaponics to Oklahoma," he said. "There's a real need for sustainable agriculture and access to nutritious foods to address Oklahoma's issues such as water shortages, food deserts and diabetes. I think people realize that and that's part of why they're interested."

The cost for the program is \$129 and includes materials, refreshments and a light lunch. Special group rates are available for groups of four or more. Online registration and payment is available at [www.symbioticaquaponic.com](http://www.symbioticaquaponic.com).



## ATHLETE PROFILES

### *Kadajah Allen*

Hometown: Brooklyn, New York

Major: Biology

Class: Sophomore

Position: Forward

Height: 6'3"

Favorite Professor: Mrs. Green

Favorite Athlete: Dwayne Wade

Favorite Food: Lasagna

What got you started playing basketball:

I've loved basketball since I was younger.

I've always wanted to play.



### *Damion Parker*

Hometown: Tulsa, OK

Major: General Studies

Class: Sophomore

Position: SG/PG

Height: 6'3"

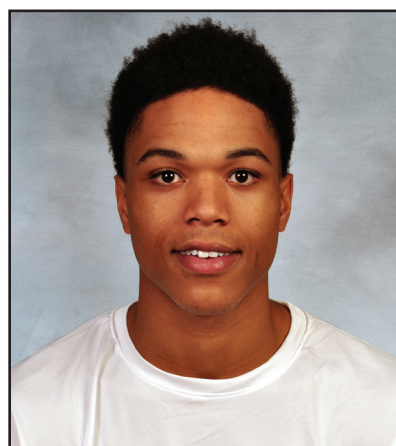
Favorite Professor: Mrs. Duncan

Favorite Athlete: Carmelo Anthony

Favorite Food: Fried Chicken and Mac and Cheese

What got you started playing basketball:

My cousin.



### *Shoniquia Coleman*

Hometown: Pflugerville, Texas

Major: General Studies

Class: Freshman

Position: Guard

Height: 5'9"

Favorite Professor: Ms. McBeath

Favorite Athlete: Kevin Durant

Favorite Food: Chicken Alfredo

What got you started playing basketball:

My dad put me in little league at 4.



### *Rjuan Diggs*

Hometown: Tulsa

Major: General Studies

Class: Freshman

Position: Shooting Guard

Height: 6'0"

Favorite Professor: Mr. Sandefur

Favorite Athlete: Janes Harden

Favorite Food: Chicken and Rice

What got you started playing basketball:

My dad.



## TWO-POINT SHOT



Eastern's Charles Shaw Takes a jump shot at home. The mountaineers and Lady Mountaineers are in the middle of Conference play, hosting Connors State College Feb. 2, followed by Northern Oklahoma College-Enid on Feb. 5. The women tip-off at 6 p.m. followed by the men. The men are currently 15-7 and the women have the same overall record.

## Eastern adding collegiate pom and dance squad

Eastern Oklahoma State College's growing athletic program will add a pom and dance squad for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The addition will create opportunities for students seeking a quality education to continue to perform at the collegiate level. Eastern hopes to field a squad of approximately 15-20 students during the first year of the program.

Cheerleading coach Lindy Morgan will also serve

as the pom and dance team's coach.

"I'm excited to bring back a program that was very popular at Eastern in the past," Morgan said. "The pom and dance team will provide a fun and exciting atmosphere at home games and other college events."

Morgan said scholarships will be available for the fall 2015 semester. Students interested in Eastern's dance team can contact Morgan at 918-465-1876.