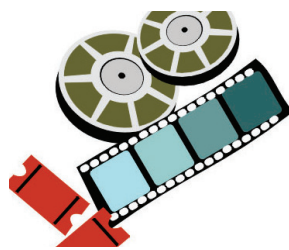


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““I was not tired physically... No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in.”

~Rosa Parks

“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.

# Eastern Statesman

Vol. 93 Issue 7 April 10, 2015 EASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE COLLEGE EST. 1908

## Eastern on Heightened Cash Monitoring List

Chelsie Peckio, Editor and  
Wyatt Stanford, Staff Writer

Eastern Oklahoma State College is currently being monitored by the United States Department of Education (DOE). This comes after the Department completed a program review of Eastern 13 months ago.

Because of the DOE's findings, Eastern is currently under what it calls Heightened Cash Monitoring 2 (HCM2). The DOE review found that Eastern had enough findings to warrant being placed on this list.

Heightened Cash Monitoring is a delay in financial aid money. The Department requests and reviews a batch of random Eastern student financial aid files, then, once those



The U.S. Department of Education has placed Eastern Oklahoma State College is under Heightened Cash Monitoring 2 status. Staff file photo

files have cleared, it sends the money to Eastern in small intervals. This has led to delays in Eastern students receiving their financial aid and loans

disbursements throughout the year. And in some cases, students are still waiting on funds.

According to certified mail from

the DOE dated July 14, 2014, there were 21 findings from a review that was conducted March 24 - March 28, 2014. This letter was dated more than 45 days after Eastern was informed that it was being put on the HCM2 status.

“The findings were not just in financial aid,” stated Smith. “Some of the findings included things like one student-file missing a transcript. They [DOE] reviewed, probably 30 or 40 files out of 100, and one was missing a transcript.”

“On our crime statistics on our website,” added Smith. “We had something under one title and they required two.”

According to Smith, the most serious finding from the DOE was that

SEE DOE PAGE 3

## DENMARK VISITORS



Signs of spring are popping up all over campus as students return from Spring Break. With only six weeks of class remaining before finals week and graduation, Eastern Oklahoma State College students, staff and faculty will be busy with many end-of-year activities. Statesman staff photo by Derek Hatridge

## Eastern welcomes Denmark students

**DENPALS** Wilburton campus welcomes students in second cultural exchange program

Wyatt Stanford  
Staff Writer

Eastern is planning to hold its second annual cultural exchange program with the students from Denmark.

They call the program DenPals. The DenPals program consists of assigning students from Eastern, to a pen pal from Denmark. The students exchange introductions through the internet, and will meet when the students arrive on April 10.

The students from Denmark will be residing in Choctaw Hall which has been cleaned up and readied to

SEE BOOK CLUB PAGE 3





## McAlester campus showing "Resilience" for 20th anniversary of OKC bombing

MCALESTER — April 19 marks the 20th anniversary of the Oklahoma City Bombing. OETA and The Oklahoman have produced a documentary titled RESILIENCE. The documentary includes first person reports from survivors, witnesses, first responders and community members.

You are invited to a special screening of RESILIENCE at the EOSC McAlester Campus on Thursday April 16 at 6 p.m. in the Conference Center. After the screening there will be a panel discussion with film makers, survivors, first responders, and community leaders.

For more information about the RESILIENCE Project and the trailer for the documentary, please visit [oeta.tv/resilience/#SCREENINGS](http://oeta.tv/resilience/#SCREENINGS).

## Eastern graduates may purchase caps and gowns at Wilburton campus bookstore

Cap and gown sets are now at the Wilburton campus bookstore. They have all sizes, so ordering is not necessary.

If unable to visit the store, call (918) 465-1713 and the transaction can be done over the phone and shipped directly to your address.

# RESILIENCE

THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING \ 20 YEARS LATER

screening & conversation

## McAlester

Eastern Oklahoma State University

(Clark Bass Building)

thursday \ 4.16.15 \ 6pm

Join us as we remember 4/19/95 with a new documentary premiere event and Q&A with survivors, first responders, community leaders and filmmakers.



free & open to the public

RSVP: [oeta.tv/resilience](http://oeta.tv/resilience)

**OETA** \ THE OKLAHOMAN

## PUBLIC AWARENESS NOTIFICATION

### OUR NATURAL GAS SYSTEM IS SAFE! **HELP 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 happens, 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.



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.,  
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### The Afternoon Show with Dougo

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

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Studio requests  
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### Advertising Opportunities

(918) 465-0883 or  
[nlesnau@eosc.edu](mailto:nlesnau@eosc.edu)

## ACADEMICS

# Eastern enhances Oklahoma's Promise scholarship

EASTERN PRESS RELEASE

Eastern Oklahoma State College is offering a new opportunity for high school seniors receiving the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship. The college will provide a \$400 per semester residential housing scholarship to the recipients of Oklahoma's Promise.

This scholarship can be used for a total of four semesters. It may be used in addition to receiving institutional, Foundation or academic scholarships.

"Oklahoma is dependent upon a highly skilled, highly educated workforce as the economy becomes more knowledge based," said Dr. Stephen Glazier, Vice President of Student Affairs. "Eastern is committed to helping make a college education possible for students that study and work hard."

Glazier said that the new scholarship will help bridge the college funding gap for many Oklahoma students.

**"Oklahoma is dependent upon a highly skilled, highly educated workforce as the economy becomes more knowledge based. Eastern is committed to helping make a college education possible for students that study and work hard."**

For additional information about the Oklahoma's Promise Residential Housing scholarship or other scholarship opportunities at Eastern, contact the Office of Scholarships at 918-465-1768.

## Denmark schedule of events

Friday 4/10 @ 8p.m. –  
Movie & popcorn in Miller  
Sat. 4/11 @ 2 p.m. –  
Home softball game  
Sat. 4/11 @ 6:30 p.m.  
– Game night Choctaw  
Hall (2nd floor lounge)  
Monday 4/13 @ 6:30  
p.m. – Volleyball & Soccer  
(in the gym if it rains)  
Tuesday 4/14 @ 7 p.m.  
– Human Hungry Hippos in  
the Gym  
Thurs. 4/16 @ 1p.m. –  
Denmark Presentation in  
Sullivan 102

## Join the Statesman staff

If you would like to work for the newspaper next semester, please contact Kristen Turner at 918.465.1720 or [ktturner@eosc.edu](mailto:ktturner@eosc.edu). You do not have to be a Mass Communication major.

# Major Ed Pulido addresses Eastern crowd

**Wyatt Stanford**  
Staff Writer

Decorated veteran Major Ed Pulido spoke on March 25 as part of the annual Julian Rothbaum Lectureship series. Pulido's speech focused on several key themes, like challenge, triumph, and change, while he related several key events of his life.

Dr. Smith welcomed students, faculty, and guests to the lecture and discussed some of the history of the Rothbaum Lectureship Series. Afterward, Eastern student Gilbert Nail, who has had similar experiences, had the honor of introducing Major Pulido.

Major Pulido served nineteen years in the U.S. Army. In August 2004, Pulido was involved in a roadside Improvised Explosive Device explosion. Because of his injuries, doctors had to amputate his left leg. For his heroism and valor, he was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, and Joint Service Commendation and Achievement Medals. His story has been featured in many several publications and on several television stations, such as Time, Fox News, and CNN.

According to Major Pulido, losing his leg was "the greatest thing that ever



Decorated veteran Major Ed Pulido speaks to students, staff, faculty and community members during the March 25 Julian Rothbaum Lectureship.

happened to him" because it allowed him to live up to his full potential and make a difference in many areas such as the treatment of veterans and helping injured veterans. Major Pulido says that if he would have never lost his leg that he would not have become what he is today.

Afterward, Major Pulido entertained

questions from the audience, pertaining to subjects such as U.S. foreign policy and personal subjects, like what kind of advice he gives to develop one's full potential.

Many students and faculty attended the lecture. The Rothbaum Lectureship series was established with a \$25,000

gift from the late Julian Rothbaum of Hartshorne. Rothbaum was a longtime oilman, banker, lawyer, philanthropist, and former member of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. He was a strong advocate for higher education and remained an integral part of politics and public affairs during his life.



## Eastern Statesman Staff

**Chelsie Peckio**

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**Robert Bedford**, Staff Writer

**Jordan Allen**, Staff Writer

**Derek Hatridge**, Staff Writer

**Brittney Helmert**, Staff Writer

**Wyatt Stanford**, Staff Writer

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Members of the Oklahoma Collegiate Press Association, Community College Journalism Association, Student Press Law Center and Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association.

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.

The publication is issued by EOSC and is printed at a cost of about \$50 per page. Telephone is (918) 465-1714. E-mail: [statesman@eosc.edu](mailto:statesman@eosc.edu).



A visiting Denmark student introduces himself during a welcome meeting held in the Johnnie Wray Little Theatre.

## Denpals

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

host them.

They will be participating in various activities on and off campus that includes the option to attend church services, participating in ropes courses, and exploring Oklahoma and all it

has to offer.

The program was a success last year that they were eager to bring more students back.

The Denmark students are not the only ones who benefit from this program, as it allows the students from Eastern to learn more about a culture different from ours.

## DOE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Antlers site offered more than 50 percent of a degree program.

"There were no findings that were illegal, or any misappropriation of funds," added Smith.

According to an April 6, "Inside Higher Ed" article, Eastern is one of only 20 colleges "whose access to federal funds they have restricted because audits of those institutions uncovered various problems, most of which were 'severe.'" Eastern is one of only three public institutions on this list that mostly named for-profit colleges and beauty schools.

Eastern is currently unaware of the time frame in which they will be removed from this list. They need to comply with every requirement that the DOE has for

them before they can be removed from this HCM2 status. Smith hopes that Eastern will be off of this list in the next 60 days.

According to Smith, about 80 percent of students at Eastern receive some form of financial aid. Eastern is expecting a reimbursement on April 13, of \$1.4 million from the DOE. This reimbursement will include Pell Grants and subsidized and unsubsidized student loans. The monetary amount will vary depending on the individual student based on individual loans.

As of press time, the Statesman had received no comment from the DOE. Please look to future "Statesman" issues for more in-depth coverage of this process and the DOE'S findings.

## Join the *Statesman* staff

If you would like to work for the newspaper next semester, please contact Kristen Turner at 918.465.1720 or [ktturner@eosc.edu](mailto:ktturner@eosc.edu).

You do not have to be a Mass Communication major.



## Wolfenstein: The New Order one of the best FPS games of the decade

**Robert Bedford**  
Staff Writer

"Wolfenstein: The New Order" is a 2014 video game that continues the excellence of the Wolfenstein series with a new and compelling story that pushes what First-Person Shooters are truly capable of.

Starting off, this game is both a continuation and a completely different game from the games before it. Characters are used from previous entries, but it's treated as its own independent story.

The story truly shines in "The New Order" because it manages to create a compelling main character. The Nazis won World War II and this created a nightmarish future where our hero B.J. finds himself after being stuck in a coma for 14 years.

Taking place in 1960, B.J. fights back in a resistance movement against the Nazi overlords and attempts to finally end the evil experiments conducted by his nemesis General Deathshead.

B.J. has introspective moments throughout the story and as you play, giving the player insight into how he is feeling about everything going on around

him. These moments show a care and thought that is rarely put into the story of an FPS game.

Gameplay-wise this game succeeds phenomenally. The shooting is tight, with many different weapons to use in order to combat the Nazi threat. Brutal gunplay and varied levels bring out the best of this hellish Nazi world.

Every weapon feels distinct and suits a different way of playing. Stealth is absolutely an option in this game thanks to the silenced pistol and your trusty knife. In fact, some segments of the game almost require a stealthy approach thanks to the fact that running in guns blazing would signal a quick death for the player.

Should more people play this game? Absolutely yes.

"Wolfenstein: The New Order" is one of the best FPS games of not just this current generation but the past decade as well.

A story that genuinely invests the player and combat that is both brutal and satisfying blends together to create a package that is well worth having inside your platform of choice.

## New student enrollment is set for April 14

EASTERN PRESS RELEASE

New student enrollment for the summer and fall semesters at Eastern Oklahoma State College opens Tuesday, April 14.

Students interested in attending Eastern are encouraged to meet with an academic counselor to discuss admission requirements, academic and career goals, and class schedules.

Eastern offers a variety of day, eve-

ning and online classes in Wilburton, McAlester, Antlers and Idabel.

Summer classes start June 1 and fall classes begin Aug. 10. Visit [www.eosc.edu](http://www.eosc.edu) for more information and to view a class schedule.

To schedule an admissions or enrollment appointment, call Wilburton at 918-465-1813; McAlester at 918-426-5272; Antlers at 580-271-0471; or Idabel at 580-286-9431

## Faster than Light is an addictively fun game

**Robert Bedford**  
Staff Writer

"FTL: Faster Than Light" is a well-known PC game of the Rogue-like variety that has been massively praised for its difficulty and addictiveness.

What is FTL exactly one might ask? FTL is part of a genre of games known as Rogue-likes, games where a RNG (Random Number Generator) determines many factors during a playthrough and death is permanent, meaning that should one die they will have to start all over again from the beginning.

Players choose a ship and name their crew, then are tasked with traversing through eight randomized sectors to deliver information to the Federation before the Rebels catch up with them. A typical run of the game, from start to finish, should last 1-2 hours.

However, unless one knows what they

are getting into and has a good understanding of when to run and when to fight then they will lose mercilessly. It is not atypical for a person to lose before they even exit the first sector of the games eight sectors. This difficulty should not deter newcomers though.

Paying attention to all of the resources at your disposal, such as your crew members and their health levels, will lead one to a hard fought victory.

The story of the game is more like a guide that says why you are here rather than a set line for the player to follow. Random events, determined by the RNG of course, occur throughout the game and will gift players with weapons and resources or punish them for no reason with the death of crewmembers or a loss of health to their ship. You will jump from point to point within a sector trying to reach the end point and escape to the next sector before the

Rebel ships catch up with you. Occasionally, you will run across other ships that will trade resources with you, ask for help, or try and force you to surrender or die.

Battles are not uncommon and are the real meat of the game. Weapons charge over time and must be used strategically to knock out the systems of the enemy ships, shields will fall and have to recharge, and sometimes you will dodge shots from the enemy (depending also on the RNG, just like everything else in the game).

FTL is a game meant to be played over and over again with numerous deaths and retries. Even after playing the game for well over 35 hours myself, I have only managed to beat it once.

This, however, should not deter newcomers. FTL is an addictively fun and entertaining game that will infuriate and excite you beyond all measure.

### ROTHBAUM LECTURE



Students listen intently as Retired U.S. Army Major Ed Pulido has been described as a real American hero. His story of courage and sacrifice after a devastating injury while on duty in Iraq, as well as his mission to assist veterans was the focus of Eastern Oklahoma State College's 11th Julian J. Rothbaum Distinguished Lectureship Series which was held March 25 in Mitchell Hall Auditorium.



Choctaw Hall

OPINION

## Another option for getting more students to live on campus

**Chelsie Peckio**  
Editor

It has been rumored that the dorms, currently being prepared in Choctaw Hall for the DenPal students visiting in April, will then be used to house boys soccer and baseball.

While this may be a rumor, we also know that Eastern is always asking the question: "How do we get more students to live on campus?"

It is my belief that this rumored use of the dorms will be inefficient and not result in any higher population of students living on campus.

I would never point out what I believe to be a problem without proposing a solution, and there are many reasons why I believe that the Choctaw dorms should be turned into Honors and Academic scholars housing.

While athletes on campus are put on the same floors as their teams, creating a sense of unity, Honors/Academic scholars on Eastern's campus are not afforded the same sense of unity. They are thrown into the mix of the other students and not given the amenities they need.

Many college campuses provide high intensity, Honors dorms or floors for their students, and Eastern has many bright and talented young

students that are in need of something to this effect.

A floor that has requirements that include quiet time for studying, and a curfew can be really helpful to students who are disciplined in their studies that need time with reduced noise to increase their concentration.

Many of our athletes do double duty as athletes and Honors students or academic scholarship recipients, and they should have the option of being able to stay in these dorms as well. The dorms themselves would be opened up to students that are enrolled in Eastern's Honors Program, who are recipients of any of Eastern's academic scholarships, or students that have joined Phi Theta Kappa.

Many of our brightest and most talented students are opting to stay *off campus* because they feel like they don't have many options of getting a place that provides the quiet environment that they need. Most athletes choose to stay on campus anyway to be closer to their team, so creating the dorms for Honors students and Academic Scholars would, in my opinion, cause an increase in student life on campus.

There have been requests for Honors dormitories for several years. This would be a valuable addition to our wonderful campus, and it is my hope that our administration will see fit to provide this incredibly beneficial housing for our hard working and bright Eastern students.

COLUMNS

## Restaurant etiquette from the point of view of a server

**Jordan Allen**  
Staff Writer

Here is an easy process to have a great dining experience. This is to alleviate stress for your server, which will in turn, give you a better experience. When your server approaches your table, give them your attention. Put your phone down and take out your earphone. Respond to the server's greeting.

The server will probably make a generic comment such as "How are you?" They are trying to initiate a conversation to develop a rapport with you. A simple response such as "I'm doing great, thank you" will suffice. If you simply start demanding food, you will be considered rude.

After your server has taken your drink order, this is the time for you to decide what you would like to eat. Use the menu; that is what it's for. When you know what

you would like, close your menu and place it on the table. This signals to the waiter that you are ready to order.

Now it's time to place your food order, be audible and concise. Do not make the server try to decipher your incoherent noises, and do not simply point at the menu. Use your words. If there are children at the table, order for them. Avoid saying "Tell the man/woman what you want, sweetie." We do not care if your child is "adorable" or the best in their 2nd grade class. Please refrain your whole table from yelling out what they want at the same time.

This is also the time to ask any questions you have about the food. Ten minutes later is not the time to inform him of your peanut allergy. Be patient. Enjoy the conversation with your friends and/or family and understand that your food is coming.

You do not need to call your waiter over to see if it is done yet. Trust your server; they want your food to

get to you quickly just as much as you do. The sooner it comes out, the sooner you eat and the sooner they can turn the table over and help the next group of customers.

When they bring you the ticket, simply pay it. Do not argue amongst yourselves about who owes whom or who paid the last time. Do not thrust several credit cards at them, shouting over others,

"No, take this one!" They will take which ever one touches their hand first because they do not care who pays for the check as long as it gets paid.

Tip your server appropriately. This means 15 to 20 percent: more if you'd like. Remember, twenty percent of one hundred dollars is twenty dollars. If you just follow this process you are sure to minimize the server's hassle.

If you follow these tips, you will be able to create a pleasant experience for yourself, and your hard-working waiter or waitress.

## Race scandal at OU draws national attention

**Wyatt Stanford**  
Staff Writer

NORMAN — A video of members of the University of Oklahoma's Sigma Alpha Epsilon singing a racist chant surfaced on March 8. The ten-second-long clip has gained widespread attention throughout the country, and OU has stepped in to take action.

The video shows members of SAE singing in unison a chant that used several racial slurs, violent language, and in short promoted African American exclusion within the fraternity. It was reported early on March 9th that the OU Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter would be closed by its national headquarters and its members suspended. The fraternity's national president stated that he was "disgusted and shocked" by the video. Some of the members may lose their privileges permanently,

according to Sigma Alpha Epsilon. The University is taking action as well.

"We are investigating to determine if the video involved OU students," said President David Boren in a statement on Twitter, "If OU students are involved, this behavior will not be tolerated and will be addressed very quickly. If the reports are true, the chapter will no longer remain on campus. This behavior is reprehensible and contrary to all of our values." So far, two students involved have been expelled. The fraternity was shut down the day after the video surfaced, and Boren released a statement demanding that everything in the house be removed by midnight the



next day.

The video was first posted by Unheard, an African American activist group dedicated to fighting racism at OU. The group has filed several grievances with the University for not having enough African American faculty beyond the African-American Studies department, having low African American retention rates, and not giving equal opportunities to African American students, according to a document found on the group's Twitter page.

This is not the first reported act of racism by Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Sigma Alpha Epsilon has had chapters at the University of Cincinnati and Baylor University who have been reprimanded for hosting mock Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations, according to the Washington Post. The group was founded in Alabama in 1856, and had links to the Confederacy.

Follow us on Twitter at @EOSC\_Statesman



# Remembering the victims of the OKC bombing

This April 19 marks the 20th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing. In honor of this, we remember the 168 people who lost their lives in 1995.

## OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD BUILDING

Trudy Jean Rigney  
Robert N. Chipman

## ATHENIAN BUILDING

Kathryn Elizabeth Ridley (Job Corps)  
Anita Christine Hightower

## RESCUE WORKER

Rebecca Needham Anderson

## ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING

### U.S. SECRET SERVICE (9th Floor)

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Kathy Lynn Seidl  
Linda G. McKinney  
Mickey B. Maroney  
Donald Ray Leonard  
Cynthia L. Brown

## DRUG ENFORCEMENT

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Carrie Ann Lenz (and baby Michael James Lenz III)

Rona Linn Kuehner-Chafey  
Carrol June "Chip" Fields  
Shelly D. Bland  
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Michael D. Weaver

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Peggy Louise Holland

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Larry James Jones

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Lucio Aleman Jr.

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Claudette (Duke) Meek  
Kathy Cagle Leinen  
Valerie Jo Koelsch  
Alvin J. Justes  
Christi Yolanda Jenkins  
Robbin Ann Huff (and baby Amber Denise Huff)  
Linda Colleen Housley  
Sheila R. Gigger-Driver (and baby Gregory N. Driver II)  
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Harley Richard Cottingham  
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Scott D. Williams

## OSDH supported by volunteers during tornado recovery efforts

### OSDH RELEASE

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) provides a number of support services for those affected by tornadoes and other natural disasters. These services are made possible in part by a dedicated group of statewide volunteers.

Following storms which hit Oklahoma on March 25th, state and local health department staff partnered with volunteers from the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps (OKMRC) to provide services including immunizations, first aid, psychological support and assistance to families transitioning from a shelter into temporary housing.

Nearly 100 volunteers with the OKM-

RC provided animal, medical and mental health services at the disaster site in Sand Springs, the American Red Cross shelter in Sapulpa and at the service centers in Moore and Sapulpa.

Volunteers also worked with the Humane Emergency Animal Response Team (HEART) to provide animal rescue and pet supplies such as food, collars, leashes, dog beds and cat litter.

HEART volunteers also provided a mobile, on-site animal shelter for residents who were dislocated and not able to keep their animals while staying in a shelter.

Tulsa volunteer Terri Nordstrom has been working with OKMRC, serving in various capacities, for the last few years. However, her first experience working a

disaster site was after the March tornado which struck a mobile home park in Sand Springs where she served as a staging liaison.

Her job was to ensure clients received the necessary services in addition to supervising staff and providing first aid. She said she was moved by the attitude and appreciation of the clients she served.

"They were so positive," said Nordstrom. "Even though they've lost everything, they still took the time to show appreciation for everything being done for them. It gives me chill bumps and brings me to tears. Hearing their stories was heartbreaking and humbling."

OSDH Emergency Manager Darrell Eberly said the quality level of expertise

which is donated through the volunteers of the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps allows for the highest level of appropriate care to be brought to Oklahomans affected by disasters.

"The people of Oklahoma have an incredible generosity that is inherent to the way we respond to all types of disasters," said Eberly.

"It is through the efforts of these local volunteers that we can get Oklahomans on the path to recovery following all types of disasters as rapidly as possible."

Currently, there are more than 5,000 OKMRC members throughout the state. Many are volunteers who are practicing or retired medical professionals such as doctors, nurses, emergency medical

technicians, pharmacists, hospital-based workers, nurse assistants, veterinarians, dentists and others with health/medical training. However, it's not a requirement for a volunteer to have a medical background.

Community citizens without medical training can assist the primary health teams with administrative assistance, communications, record keeping and other support functions.

Upon entering the program, volunteers are trained about a community's emergency procedures, trauma response techniques, use of specialized equipment and other information.

For more information about the organization or to become a volunteer, visit the website at [www.okmrc.org](http://www.okmrc.org).

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

# A most flamboyant teacher: Remembering “Stoney” Hardcastle

**Guy Folger**

*Senior Staff Writer*

The purpose of this article is twofold or maybe even threefold. It all started with a visit to the Eastern Oklahoma State College book store. There, on the used book table, were three “Stoney” Hardcastle books, one of which I had never seen, “The Law of the Gun.”

So, what started as possibly a book review, is now a bit of a remembrance, instead. For the younger generations and maybe others not aware, Hardcastle was once a legend at Eastern, in Wilburton, in Oklahoma and even nationwide.

Norman “Stoney” Hardcastle was born July 13, 1920 in Ozark, Arkansas, but grew up in the Stigler area. He continued his schooling in Muskogee and at the University of Tulsa, the University of Oklahoma and Colorado State University.

Recently, his widow Sue Lewis Hardcastle, told me that she and “Stoney” met while she was working as a soda jerk in a Muskogee soda fountain. For those not familiar, a soda jerk was like a present-day bartender, but mixing soft drinks and ice-cream delectables. They were married in August 1943. She also said that she did not know the origin of his nickname, but that he had it since childhood and his

mother did not like it.

He left the area to find work elsewhere, but returned and settled in Wilburton in 1976, after retiring from business. Shortly afterwards, he started teaching creative writing classes at Eastern.

With emphasis on expression and creativity, his instruction techniques were not conventional. In Clyde Wooldridge’s “A History of Eastern Oklahoma State College 1908-2008,” Hardcastle was quoted as saying, “Students must be taught to write and express themselves before they learn many of the grammar skills they later find necessary for a clear understanding.” “Traditionally, grammar comes first, but it tends to bog down the creativity as important as it is,” he said.

Wooldridge’s history of Eastern described Hardcastle as flamboyant, innovative, non-traditional and unique in his teaching methods. Truth be known, though, those characteristics are probably what lured new students to the EOSC campus, produced published authors and made his program one of the best in the nation.

One of his students, Brett Cogburn, started at a very early age, first attending Hardcastle’s adult education creative writing class at Talihina’s Vo-Tech. Cogburn is an award winning author,

great-grandson of Rooster Cogburn and husband to Eastern political science instructor and department chair Cathy Cogburn.

In a 2013 Statesman Alumni Feature by Mike Cathey, Cogburn shared his story, “My mother had seen me writing stories and took me to Stoney’s night class, and asked if I could participate in the course. I was only 11 at the time, but Stoney read a sample of my work that my mother had provided to him which was handwritten on a piece of yellow legal pad paper. Stoney allowed me to attend the class.”

“A year later, he convinced the EOSC Academic Dean to grant me permission to take his creative writing course on campus,” he added.

In discussing the writing of this article with Professor Kristen Turner, The Statesman advisor, she revealed that she had always wanted to attend Hardcastle’s class, but never had the opportunity. “I only knew him for a brief time (we were Lions together) and I admired him greatly. He called me his ‘sister in ink,’” she said.

Hardcastle authored many books and many more articles and was published in many publications including “True West”, “Pioneer West”, “True Indian Territory”, “Eufaula Indian Journal”, “Old West”,

“Real West” and “Frontier Ghost Stories”. His book, “Okie Joe & His Cousins” was selected as an Oklahoma Centennial Classic. In 1993, the Oklahoma Writers’ Association awarded him one of their highest honors, a lifetime membership. In their 52 year history, they had only presented 10 such awards.

Though he had many achievements, his legacy lies in the people who are now authors or journalists because of what they learned from him.

In reading “The Law of the Gun” and “Katy Flyer”, I found that the latter was a duplicate of the first with an addition of four short chapters. Though I don’t know for certain, I suspect that the two novels were examples of writing for different markets. Hardcastle was well known for educating his students in the art of getting their work published.

Visiting with EOSC Librarian Maria Martinez and Kim Pendergraft, one of the Assistant Librarians, I found that they have six of Hardcastle’s books available for checkout. The library’s collection even includes his “Western Frontier Cook Book” which I have been told contains some delicious dishes.

If you are diligent in your efforts, you may find a large majority of his books still available. A recent check of “Amazon.com” revealed a new copy of “True



**Stoney Hardcastle**

Last Wild West Frontier: Indian Territory” on sale for only \$2,432.64, but further exploration found a good used copy at \$2.80.

Now for the “folds” of the article. First-fold, you can never tell what you might discover at your at your EOSC book store, check them out.

Second-fold, check out your EOSC Library, also, as you can never tell what you might there. Reading is fun, there’s no telling what you might discover, enjoy or learn.

## Kiowa High School FFA continues aquaponics

**Derek Hatridge**

*Staff Writer*

Sometimes the sweetest victory comes from the fruits of your own labor, and the agriculture department at Kiowa High School is learning that first hand.

An Eastern Oklahoma State College professor of business administration had himself idea and presented it to Todd House, teacher and advisor to Kiowa’s FFA program.

“Kaban Smallwood was talking to his aunt, one of our community members, about this idea he had but he didn’t have a greenhouse,” House said. “He came and talked to me and talked to the administration and explained what it was.

“He just needed a greenhouse to try it out on.”

Dr. Smallwood and his company

introduced a brand new aquaponics system, totally renovating the KHS greenhouse and completely changing the way they grow a lot of their plants.

Aquaponics is a special, inventive way to water, fertilize and grow plants. Using goldfish or another like fish and a state of the art watering and filtration system, a symbiotic relationship is produced. This process has shown many promises with its higher crop yields and lower use of water than traditional methods.

Now, said House, students at Kiowa are becoming accustomed to this new greenhouse lifestyle.

“The students do the everyday maintenance, do the basics, take care of the water. We’ve had to put down sticky traps and they make us aware of pests, and they take care of

the plants,” House said.

“Whenever they’re ready to harvest, we harvest the fruits and vegetables and herbs. (The students) will harvest them, put them in containers to dry and now we are currently selling them to Fit to Feast in McAlester that is providing organic meals to folks around the area.”

The fruition of this learning lab experience has already shown itself, with students in the program already attaining state and national awards. The students are also paving a path for themselves to continue to pursue higher education in a greenhouse setting.

After all, Kiowa isn’t the only place that is seeing success with aquaponics. Smallwood and his brother, Shelby, have also set up the same system at EOSC in 2013, opening up an entirely new world

of horticulture. And it’s that system that Kiowa has mimicked with success.

“After they built the one at Eastern, it worked very, very well. So they came back and copied Eastern’s to build ours. That’s eliminated a lot of problems we had initially,” House said.

But the greatest success for the students, and for House himself, has been that the students can share their hard work and dedication with their peers.

“We have grown lettuce and tomatoes that we have used in our own school lunch program,” House said. “Which was very unique because the students could harvest the lettuce and essentially that same day or the next day be eating it on the salad bar. They see immediate satisfaction.”

“Whenever they’re ready to harvest, we harvest the fruits and vegetables and herbs. (The students) will harvest them, put them in containers to dry and now we are currently selling them to Fit to Feast in McAlester that is providing organic meals to folks around the area.”



ATHLETE PROFILES*Meghan Dodson*

Hometown: Pasadena, Texas  
 Major: General Studies  
 Class: Sophomore  
 Position: Third Base  
 Favorite Athlete: Jose Altuve  
 Favorite Food: Pizza!  
 What got you started playing softball:  
 My parents signed me up for it! And now  
 here I am playing college ball.

*Connie Gilliland*

Hometown: Dewey, Okla.  
 Major: General Studies  
 Class: Sophomore  
 Position: First Base  
 Favorite Athlete: Mike Trout  
 Favorite Food: You name it  
 What got you started playing basketball:  
 I wanted to be like my mommy.

*Hope Martin*

Hometown: Edmond, Okla.  
 Major: Elementary Education  
 Class: Sophomore  
 Position: Outfield  
 Favorite Athlete: Mike Moustakas  
 Favorite Food: Chicken and rice  
 What got you started playing basketball:  
 My mom put me in it when I was about 5.

*Rebecca Scott*

Hometown: Lewisville, Texas  
 Major: General Studies  
 Class: Sophomore  
 Position: First Base/Catcher  
 Favorite Athlete: Jason Witten  
 Favorite Food: Italian  
 What got you started playing basketball:  
 My older sister started to play and I wanted  
 to be like her.



Reggie Wright is greeted at home plate after hitting a homerun during the Mountaineers April 10 game against Rose State College. The Eastern baseball team won 7-5. *Statesman staff photo by Taylor Cox*

## Eastern Oklahoma State College to host alumni baseball event

EASTERN PRESS RELEASE

Eastern Oklahoma State college is set to host the "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" alumni event on Saturday, April 18 at 1 p.m. The Mountaineers will be playing against Connors State College in a Region II double-header matchup.

All EOSC alumni will be recognized between the games and will have a chance to win prize drawings throughout the competition. Prizes for the drawings include an EOSC watch, EOSC

designer pen, T-shirts and more. The drawings are exclusive to alumni and require registration upon arrival.

"We are proud to bring alumni back to Eastern and recognize them for their achievements," said Treva Kennedy, Eastern's Director of Institutional Advancement. "It is also a great opportunity to show students what life is like after graduation."

Admission to the game is \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.