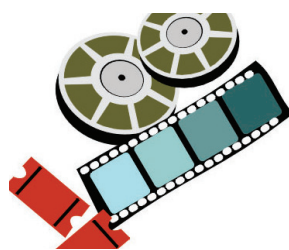


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*"The aim of education
should be to teach us
rather how to think,
than what to think
— rather to improve
our minds, so as to
enable us to think for
ourselves, than to
load the memory with
thoughts of other
men."*

- Bill Beattie

RIVALRY



Lady Mountaineers' head coach, Amber Taylor, talks with her team during a timeout in the Eastern women's win over rival Carl Albert. For more information on Eastern's rivalry games, see Pg. 8. Staff photo by Taylor Cox

Chancellor visits Krebs to present legislative agenda

PRESS RELEASE

KREBS — Strengthening Oklahoma's workforce pipeline through degree and certificate completion continues to be the state system of higher education's top priority. That was the message delivered by Chancellor Glen D. Johnson as he presented the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's FY 2016 legislative agenda to an audience of lawmakers,

community leaders and educators in Krebs on Jan. 22.

"Our system of higher education remains committed to college degree and certificate attainment," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. "We know that increasing college degrees and certificates is Oklahoma's pathway to jobs and prosperity, increasing our

SEE LEGISLATIVE PAGE 2

Eastern deals with statewide mid-year budget downfall

STATE NEWS Oklahoma makes budget cuts to make up for nearly \$1 billion revenue deficit, including cuts to higher education.

WYATT STANFORD
Editor

The State of Oklahoma is in the midst of a \$900 million budget shortfall, causing the state to cut all agencies three percent each month for the remainder of the remainder of fiscal year 2016 according to state budget changes.

"We will be required to redirect unencumbered dollars from agency revolving funds to general revenue and to make strategic budget cut at many government agencies," Governor Mary Fallin stated in the executive budget.

For Eastern, the three percent cuts mean \$32,000 per month for the remainder of the fiscal year, resulting in \$194,000 overall, according to an update from the president's office.

Eastern already took a 3.5 percent cut this year, equating to \$246,000.

"We are very concerned with the 3 percent cut that was recently issued to all state agencies due to the revenue shortfall, which includes Eastern Oklahoma State College. I am working with our staff to develop a plan of action on how we will address this unfortunate budget reduction," said Eastern president Dr. Stephen Smith.

In addition to these cuts, the state has also informed Eastern that there will be another five to ten percent cut for fiscal year 2017.

The president's office has also asked employees to streamline spending only to what is necessary.

The state declared the mid-year revenue failure in December. According to OkPolicy.gov, the state could expect another round of mid-year cuts.

Spring graduates need to submit application for graduation by Feb. 12

WYATT HUBBARD
Staff Writer

The spring semester at Eastern Oklahoma State College may have just started but if you're graduating in May, you only have until Feb. 12 to submit your graduation application.

Before you can submit your graduation application, you must first have your graduation check done.

"A graduation check is basically our way of checking to make sure the students have completed all the classes that

are on their degree plan," said Jennifer Labor, EOSC Registrar.

A graduation check is required to let the institution know which students are graduating.

To get started, students need to see their adviser. The adviser will then forward the completed graduation check to the Registrar's office.

After this is done, the student will then fill out a graduation application found on their WebAdvisor accounts. Remember, the deadline for a graduation check is Feb. 12.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Transferring? Know your school's deadline

Welcome back to campus for the spring 2016 semester. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break.

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—February 1 (priority consideration) July 1 (final deadline)

University of Oklahoma—March 1
University of Central Oklahoma—February 15

Northeastern State University — April 1

East Central University — February 1

Southeastern Oklahoma State

University—April 1
University of Arkansas, Fort Smith June 1

Important dates to remember:

Complete spring 2016 graduation application on WebAdvisor starting February 15

University Transfer Fair February 15

Eastern scholarship applications are

due February 21

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

FAFSA website is 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

**CAMPUS****NEWS**

OU Transfer Seminar is set for Feb. 5

On Feb. 5, the University of Oklahoma is hosting the Transfer Student Success Seminar on campus. The purpose of the seminar is to provide prospective transfer students with information about on-campus resources.

Transfer Days is an early enrollment event for admitted Transfer Students. The event will take place on March 23, 24 and 25. If any students are interested in this event, they apply for admission to the University as soon as possible.

Lastly, the transfer scholarship deadline for the fall 2016 term is March 1. Students interested in leadership/ community scholarships need to be admitted by March 1.

If you have any questions, contact Michael Hoggatt at (405) 325-2151.

TRIO Day at Capitol set for Feb. 24

SAVE THE DATE:

What: TRiO Day

When: Feb. 24, 2016

Where: Oklahoma City, OK

This is fun day spent at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City. We will leave early and arrive at the State Capitol for TRiO Day then have wonderful lunch in Brick Town. Once we are finished with the day we will head back to EOSC. If you are interested in attending please come by and sign up in Johnston Hall!

Legislative

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

state's per capita income and advancing economic growth. No entity in state government can help Oklahoma reach its goals of educational excellence and workforce development faster or more comprehensively than public higher education."

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education recently voted to request \$963.4 million for FY 2017,

which reflects no increase over the FY 2016 appropriation of \$963.4 million. The State Regents also approved an addendum acknowledging the need for \$22 million to meet campus operational fixed costs.

Another area of focus in the coming legislative session will be maintaining current law regarding weapons on higher education campuses. Oklahoma higher education does not oppose the second amendment or gun ownership. Under current law, campus presidents

have the discretion to grant exceptions to the weapons ban when an exception is warranted. The State Regents and the presidents of all 25 state system institutions strongly believe that there is no scenario where expanding authorization to carry weapons on higher education campuses does anything other than create a more dangerous environment for our students, faculty, staff and visitors.

The State Regents will also con-

tinue efforts to preserve the Oklahoma's Promise scholarship as an access program. Recognized by many as America's best college access program, Oklahoma's Promise is considered a model that combines emphases on academic preparation and financial support for college. More than 65,000 students have earned college tuition scholarships through Oklahoma's Promise since the program's inception in 1992.

OUR NATURAL GAS SYSTEM IS SAFE

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 ad-

vance.

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.

Join the *Statesman* staff

Are you a great writer? Photographer? Are you good with web design? If so, you may want to work for the Statesman newspaper this semester. If so, please contact Kristen Turner at 918.465.1720 or ktturner@eosc.edu. You do not have to be a Mass Communication major.



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The Afternoon Show with Dougo
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Colder weather brings cold and flu season with it

DERRICK JAMES

Staff Writer

Now that it's starting to get colder the cold and flu viruses will start to thrive and with that comes sick classmates and faculty.

Nothing makes college more miserable than being sick so here's some tips that can help you stay healthy this semester.

DO!

Get a flu shot. It's the best defense against the agony of the flu. Not sure where to get one? Most drugstores and health clinics offer flu shots. But although the flu shot helps, no vaccine can offer full protection against all viruses, so the next steps are im-

portant, too!

Wash your hands frequently. Your hands touch a lot of things and are bound to pick up some germs. Washing your hands for 15-30 seconds in hot water will kill bacteria. Make sure to wash your hands after touching doors, knobs, shared computers, water fountains, and, of course, before eating.

The next one is hard for us.

Get sleep. Can you give your very best effort when you're tired? Well, neither can your immune system. Sleep can help your body stay alert to fight viruses.

Disinfect frequently touched surfaces. This includes doorknobs, light switches, handles, etc. Germs tend to linger and

spread when unattended, so spraying disinfectant can't hurt.

Use a humidifier. Viruses and bacteria love cold weather because it's keeps them more stable and they can survive longer in it. But, a humidifier can help keep the air warmer and cleaner. It's a two-for-one...a heater and a germ fighter. You can't beat that.

Another hard one for most of us.

Exercise. Increasing your body's temperature prevents viruses from spreading throughout it.

DON'T!

Skip meals or eat unhealthy food. If you need a good reason not to eat flaming hot Cheetos, here it is. Skipping meals will only

decrease the amounts of vitamins and nutrients your body gets. Eating healthier will help prevent getting the sick too.

Forget your hand sanitizer! You can't always make it to a sink, so hand sanitizer is a portable way to beat the germs.

Hang around people who are sick. We all love our friends and family, but we love ourselves too. Being with people who are sick is likely to get you sick too, so unless you don't mind feeling crappy for few days, then you should limit your contact for the time being. They'll understand.

If you're too sick to get out of bed, then don't come to class, but remember to email your professors so it doesn't count against you.

PTK Society claims sixth straight victory in voter registration contest

PRESS RELEASE

Eastern Oklahoma State College's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society recently earned its sixth consecutive victory in Oklahoma Campus Compact's statewide voter registration competition.

Eastern PTK members registered an additional 12.8 percent of Eastern's student population to take home the top award in the small institution category. Members Kelsey Brown and Kareesa Kennedy of Buffalo Valley, Kelsey Chambers of Tushka, and Zach Torres of Melissa, Texas accepted the award at a ceremony during the December meeting of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

This year's competition set a new record for an off-election year. Twenty-three Oklahoma colleges and universities participated, registering 3,399 in-state and out-of-state students to vote.

The competition is comprised of three categories based on full-time student populations. Eastern is in the RED category for state universities and colleges with 1-3,000 FTE (full-time-equiv-



Representatives of Eastern Oklahoma State College receive award from Chancellor Glen Johnson (left) and State Regents Chair Gen. Toney Stricklin (right) at the December State Regents meeting. Pictured are faculty members Brenda Kennedy and Kellye Semeski, with students Kelsey Brown, Kelsey Chambers, Kareesa Kennedy and Zach Torres.

alent students). The runner-up for the RED category was Western Oklahoma State College with 5.1 percent of its students registered.

The WHITE category (3,001-7,000 FTE) winner was East Central University with 11.6 percent, followed by Northern Oklahoma College with 7.8 percent. The University of Central Oklahoma led the

BLUE category (7,001-30,000 FTE) with 3.8 percent of their student population registering to vote, followed by the University of Oklahoma with 3.0 percent.

Two additional categories award colleges and universities for the most out-of-state students registering to vote in their states. The University of Oklahoma registered 134 out-of-state students for

the highest number for the LIBERTY award. Murray State College registered the highest percentage of out-of-state students at 10 percent to capture the EQUALITY award.

Oklahoma Campus Compact is an organization of 38 public and private colleges and universities focused on the importance of civic responsibility.

Eastern president visits with student leaders in Idabel

PRESS RELEASE

IDABEL — Eastern Oklahoma State College administrators recently met with a group of student leaders attending EOSC classes on the Southeastern McCurtain County Campus in Idabel to discuss their experiences and plans for the future.

Eastern President Dr. Stephen E. Smith, Site Coordinator Preston Wheeler and Associate Vice President Cindy Shero hosted the luncheon to recognize each student's academic and leadership success.

Attending the event were nursing students Enrica Virani and Ashley Tapley of

Idabel; business administration students Kayla Thies and William Ulm of Broken Bow; and Kerynda Baker of Idabel, who is majoring in administrative office technology.

All of the students are Eastern Ambassadors, a group of student leaders who advance and promote the college by serv-

ing as a face of the student body.

The Ambassadors help organize and participate in all student activities, provide campus tours and promote Eastern in the community and at events such as career and college fairs. Eastern Ambassadors are selected by recommendation of faculty members.



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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.

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COLUMN

May graduates need to be in transfer process

WYATT STANFORD
Editor

It is the beginning of the spring semester, meaning that many of us will graduate in May. Some of us will enter the workforce but others, myself included, will transfer to a university to finish a bachelor's degree.

If you are going to be transferring, here are some helpful reminders and tips.

The first step in transferring is deciding which university to attend. Does this

university have a major program in which I am interested? Is it affordable? Is it close to home or far away?

To answer these questions, do some research. Go to the websites of potential transfer colleges and find out if a certain school is for you.

If you are very interested in a school, schedule a tour and meet with an academic advisor to see if you can smoothly transfer.

Next, after deciding upon a school, apply. Most universities in Oklahoma have transfer deadlines in March. Submit

your application, pay all necessary fees, and have all necessary documents sent to your school of choice. OU asks for an official transcript and if applicable, proof of Native American tribal membership.

After applying, you must be accepted. During this time, it would be a good idea to apply for scholarships. Most colleges and universities have scholarship applications.

Some universities, like OU, include the scholarship packet with the admissions application. Also, look for outside scholarships. Any funding helps.

If you are accepted, the next thing to do is find out when enrollment begins. OSU enrollment begins Feb. 1 by appointment. SOSU enrollment begins April 5 by appointment as well. When you enroll, be sure to meet with an advisor with a transcript and decide which courses you need to take.

Also, find out if you need to take any proficiency tests to meet any requirements. If you are going to be living on campus, apply for housing.

Finally, after enrollment and towards the end of the year, make certain that

your school of choice receives your final grades and anything else they might request.

For any information, contact your academic advisers or stop by the offices of Sandra Robertson or Tina Ray.

Eastern will be hosting a transfer fair on Feb. 15, from 11 am to 1:30 p.m. on the first floor of the student center. OU, OSU, UCO, NSU, ECU, SOSU, and the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith all have been invited to attend and answer any questions students may have about transferring.

COLUMN

Iowa Caucus kicks off official political season

JOANNA EASTERDAY
Staff Writer

As the presidential election draws near and the debates get more and more heated, the next big event we have to look forward to is the Iowa Caucus.

This has been known to "make or break" candidates in the past, so needless to say, it's kind of a big deal.

While a candidate doesn't necessarily need to win Iowa to win his or her party's nomination, it does set the stage for their first primary, eight days later, in New Hampshire.

So how exactly does the Iowa Caucus work?

Each party has their own way of voting. The Republicans simply vote by writing down their preferred candidates, while the Democrats gather with groups of other supporters of their chosen candidate while each group tried to persuade the voters to join them.

According to the most recent Iowa Voter Registration records, there are 584,111 registered Democrats and 612,112 registered Republicans in Iowa.

The Iowa Caucus is important because it's the first chance that we, as American voters, actually get a say in who we think is best suited to become our next president.

So, what can we expect out of our candidates in Iowa? Many polls have predicted for Donald Trump to not only take home the victory in Iowa, but also in the remaining three February Primary elections.

As for the Democratic Party, Hillary Clinton is the favorite for Iowa being how she came in right behind Barack Obama in 2008. She is also expected to win in Nevada and South Carolina, but Bernie Sanders may have a real shot at winning New Hampshire.

The Iowa Caucus is set to take place on Feb. 1 and this event, in the past, has played a major role in ultimately predicting which candidate will win the Presidency.

So set aside some time or set your DVR's and watch this historic event. We as American citizens and voters have a duty and a right to vote, and we need to know who we're voting for.

After all, one of these people is going to be your next President

TAYLOR'S TASTE TESTS



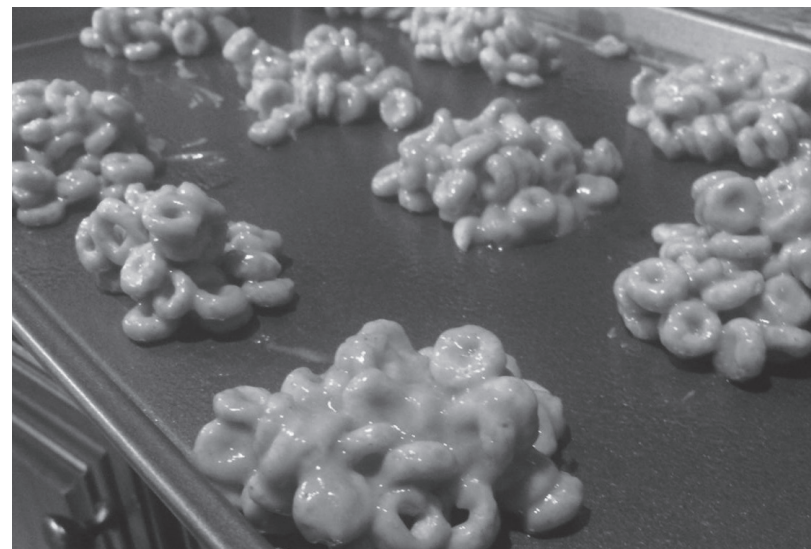
TAYLOR COX
Staff Writer

This month's Taste Test is Peanut Butter Cheerios. You will only need three ingredients: Cheerios, peanut butter and honey.

Put a half a cup of peanut butter and a half a cup of honey in a bowl. Microwave the peanut butter and the honey for one minute.

Take the bowl out and stir the peanut butter and honey together until it's smooth. Mix one cup of Cheerios in the peanut butter and the honey mixture.

Once the Cheerios are covered completely, scoop the Cheerios onto a cookie sheet and let it cool for one hour.



Star Wars: Episode VII — The Force Awakens

BRANDON GREEN
Staff Writer

PG-13 135 min. *Action, Adventure, Fantasy*

Aw yes, “Star Wars” is back.

The story is set thirty years after “Return of the Jedi,” and The Resistance led by General Leia (Carrie Fisher) is looking for a missing map to find Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill). However, The First Order is after the map as well. After the map is found on the desert planet Jakku

in the droid BB-8, a journey is begun that crosses the paths of the droid with a mysterious scavenger, Rey (Daisy Ridley), and a rogue Stormtrooper, Finn (John Boyega). With the First Order and the Resistance both looking for the droid, Rey and Finn embark on an adventure that intertwines them with our old beloved heroes throughout the movie.

The visuals are the best visuals that a “Star Wars” film has seen to date, as director JJ Abrams used a perfect blend of CGI and practical

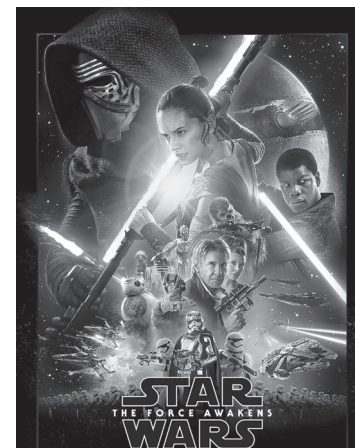
effects. The audio team was also fantastic, including John Williams who returned to do the score. There are many standout performances in this movie. Harrison Ford is incredible as Han Solo. Daisy Ridley has become an instant star. John Boyega is hilarious, but can instantly be taken seriously when the time comes, and Adam Driver as Kylo Ren totally captures the disturbed character that he is.

The biggest con to the movie is that audiences have pointed out that it is very similar to “Episode

IV: A New Hope”. There are a few times where I watched this movie and thought, “Yeah, I definitely have seen this before.”

However, this doesn’t break the movie. There are a couple scenes in the movie that feels like it goes against the continuity of “Star Wars” movie lore. Although, these scenes might be explained in later movies.

I give this movie a 4 out of 5 star rating, and I can say that I am extremely excited for what the next movies hold.



GAME REVIEWS

We should be accountable for social media

AUSTIN WHEAT
Staff Writer

“Fallout 4” is the most recent and fifth installment in the “Fallout” series. This thrilling post-apocalyptic video game is set in the year 2287, 210 years after a nuclear war destroyed the world. This game is made by Bethesda, who has made other high selling games like “Skyrim”, “Dishonored”, and “Rage”.

With next-gen graphics and a well-made story, the game has definitely left its mark with players. The story starts off minutes before the first nuclear bomb hits. Your character flees to a fallout shelter with his wife and newborn son, Shaun. Once they enter, they are frozen in chambers to be thawed out later. After some time passes, a man breaks into the shelter and kills your spouse and steals your son. As things usually go in games for



the sake of the plot, you witness the death and kidnapping but cannot confront the perpetrator. Eventually you’re unfrozen again and thrust into the Commonwealth, the desolate wasteland that is not as devoid of life as you might think.

Dangerous animals and people are scattered over the map, including deathclaws, rad roaches, raiders, and even the possibility of one of the four factions becoming one of your enemies. Luckily you have opportunities to obtain the firepower to back up any trouble you might get into.

The game supports many playing types and gives you alternate endings depending on how you play and who you choose to ally yourself with. Also if you don’t want to play the main storyline, there are plenty of side missions to toy around with.

Bethesda has made some incredible games but this one has really taken the cake. With so much packed into one game, it has solidified its place in gaming history. With hours of gameplay if you consider yourself a gamer, “Fallout 4” is a must to play and to own.

"The Last of Us" provokes unreal emotions

AUSTIN WHEAT
Staff Writer

“The Last of Us” from 2014 is a very well made game with a stellar story and very fluid gameplay. Made by Naughty Dog who’s made other great games, such as the “Uncharted” series, “Jak and Daxter” and “Crash Bandicoot,” you would think it would be hard to keep up the momentum with making another great game but they pulled through.

It starts off in 2013, when a fungal virus outbreak starts its sweep through the United States. Joel is a man living in the

suburbs of Austin, Texas, with his teenage daughter Sarah. With the help of his brother Tommy, Joel attempts to escape the city. But with the high infection rate of the fungus, chaos ensues.

As they try to escape, Tommy is separated from Joel and Sarah. In the attempt of fleeing, Joel and the now-injured Sarah meet a soldier trying to contain the outbreak. The soldier fires on Joel and Sarah and although the soldier is killed by Tommy before he kills Joel, they both notice that Sarah has been shot.

Twenty years pass and you learn, thanks to news reports, that the fungus

has killed roughly 60 percent of the world’s population and martial law has set in. Also a group of people calling for the return of all forms of government.

The game gets much better and the story provokes so many strong emotions that it is unreal. There are no side missions and it plays more like a movie you play than a game, but the story itself doesn’t need anything extra. With a game so good it really makes you wonder if Naughty Dog could make another equally great game. Only time will tell. I strongly recommend this game. you’ll be addicted within the first few minutes.

MOVIE REVIEW

DiCaprio delivers in "The Revenant"

BRANDON GREEN
Staff Writer

R 156 min. *Action, Drama, Thriller*

Ladies and gentlemen, Leonardo DiCaprio has given us a performance worthy of an Oscar win.

This film is about frontiersman Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) who is on a fur trading expedition in the 1820s in the American wilderness with his fellow frontiersmen. After Glass is brutally mauled by a bear, his own men leave him to die after trying to take care of his nearly-dead body for a short time. Glass then embarks on a fight for survival as he also looks to get revenge on John Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy) for personal reasons.

The film was beautiful, yet very hard to watch. There were so many shots of nature in this film that made me think “Wow. That is gorgeous!” However, it is a very gory film and is not for people that cannot handle blood. Animal lovers also beware: multiple animals are killed in the movie. The cinematography is some of the best I have ever seen. As I watched the film, on at least two different occasions I wondered how they pulled off certain shots.

Leonardo DiCaprio gave his all in this movie. While filming, he actually



ate raw meat, slept in animal carcasses and battled hypothermia by exposing himself to frigid waters. Other great performances in this movie came from actors Tom Hardy, Domhnall Gleeson, and Will Poulter.

I mentioned earlier how this film was beautiful. However, I think they may have overdone it in some instances. I love nature, but in a movie that is nearly three hours long, what felt like twenty or more minutes of screen time was practically pictures of the wilderness. Doesn’t make the quality of the movie any worse, but it felt unnecessary at times.

This film gets a 4.5 out of 5 star rating from me, and I will be rooting for it and DiCaprio at the Academy Awards on Feb. 28.

Eastern announces fall 2015 honor rolls

Eastern Oklahoma State College has announced honor rolls for the fall 2015 semester.

There were 95 students named to the President's Honor Roll, which requires a 4.0 grade point average in 12 or more credit hours during the semester. There were 223 students named to the Dean's Honor Roll, after completing 12 semester credit hours with at least a 3.0 grade point average and no grade lower than a "C."

Named to the fall 2015 semester lists were:

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL

ALABAMA

Lee County

Auburn – MarQuen Mitchell

ARKANSAS

Miller County

Fouke – Michael Brown

White County

Beebe – Bethany Farmer

Yell County

Dardanelle – Whitley Madison

OKLAHOMA

Atoka County

Atoka – Shaye Angel, Kelsey Chambers

Choctaw County

Hugo – Courtney Hamill

Haskell County

Kinta – Alexa Miller

Stigler – Sarah McKinney

Hughes County

Stuart – Zach Murdaugh

Latimer County

Red Oak – Calvin Alford, Jordan Campagna

Wilburton – Lee Baugus, Ashley Haney, Krystal Holbrook, Rebecca Johnson, Sara Reddin, Sabrina Stanford

Leflore County

Spiro – Christopher Fisher

Talihina – Kelsey Brown

McCurtain County

Broken Bow – Joyce Beggs, Jacob Delossantos, Katy Furneaux, James Muse, Sally Palmer, Cynthia Raub, Cynara Smith, Tracy Tisho, Mark Verace

Eagletown – Kendall Lawler, Ashley Porton, Andrea Willis

Garvin – Leslie Cammarn

Idabel – Tamra Beck, Ryan Hemm

Valliant – Hollyn Newsom

Wright City – Jessica Jamison

McIntosh County

Eufaula – Katie Thompson

Pittsburg County

Alderson – Patricia Hopkins

Canadian – Ethan Miller

Haileyville – Kaylinn Dawson

Hartshorne – David Roberts

Indianola – Roger Shirley

Kiowa – Tara Mabray

Krebs – Chelsie Peckio

McAlester - Abbie Abercrombie, Kelsey Brillo, Seth Burke, Joshua Duff, Brittany Elliott, Mathew Flanagan, Brandon Green, Sidney Griffeth, Tanna Heddlesten, Jenilee Herrick, Crystal Jacob, Emley Jacob, Trinity Johns, Justice Konsure, Rachel Lewis, Chalice Phillips, Lauren Ragan, Bryan Russell, Camryn Sanders, Meredith Saunier, Stephen Shropshire, Ashlee Skidmore, Ashton Smith, Wyatt Stanford, Philip Stephens, Billy Thibodeaux, David Thompson, Mikayla Tomasi

Quinton – Steven Jean, Samuel Simco, Madelyn Stanfield, Kaycee Turner

Savanna – Anthony Richison

Pushmataha County

Antlers – Deana Gonzales, Brandi Huffman

Clayton - Nicole Gilliam, Brittney Kitchel, Garrett Rogers

Nashoba – Rebecca Needham

Rattan – Brenna House

Tulsa County

Owasso – Mykaela Jones

TENNESSEE

Shelby County

Memphis – Keith Wilson

TEXAS

Collin County

Frisco – Kent Garrett

Melissa – Zachary Torres

Harris County

Houston – Rae'shawn Jones

Tarrant County

Ft. Worth – Desirea McGinnis

INTERNATIONAL

Nassau, Bahamas Islands – Marcel Joseph, Smarlin Tavarez

Ostrava, Ukraine – Patrik Metzner

Sao Paulo, Brazil – Joao Padovan

DEAN'S HONOR ROLL

ARKANSAS

Sebastian County

Ft. Smith – Brennan Dooly, Roy

Dean

Greenwood – Easton Stallings

Union County

El Dorado – Jalen Cunningham

Washington County

Springdale – Erick Batres, Roberto Castro

NEBRASKA

Lancaster County

Lincoln – Brittany Gentry

OKLAHOMA

Adair County

Westville – Shayden Snyder

Atoka County

Atoka – Courtney Cook, Amber Frazier, Jaeson Nutt, Cassidy Spradlin, Caitlin Tubby

Caney – Taylor Mobbs

Beckham County

Carter – Brock Carter

Bryan County

Caddo – Rebecca Henderson

Durant – Julie Layton

Choctaw County

Sawyer – Ashley Bosserman

Soper – Winona Rickman

Spincerville – Tesa Pitt

Coal County

Coal – Jared Price, Shacole Thompson

Haskell County

Kinta – Zana Johnson, Bailey Sexton

McCurtain – Brittany Knott, Savanna Lovell, Logan Shimp, Billy Welch

Stigler – Suzanne Derocher

Hughes County

Okemah – Jacob Briggs

Stuart – Ian Fulton, Amber Luttrell

Latimer County

Gowen – Christopher Ainsworth

Panola – Wesley Corcoran

Red Oak – Rhonda Adams, Bailee Davis, Pamela Holly, Taylor Odom

Wilburton – Morgan Ames, Alyssa Blackwood, Michelle Boddy, Fnu Djulinda, Bobby Eubanks, Brandy Hunnicutt, Dalton Jones, Bobby Kennon, Joshua Kirkendoll, Sydney Laudero, Ashleigh Massey, Sandra McCabe, Kristin Mitchell, Garrett Negen, Candace Nelson, Zane Nowlin, Claria Vandaveer, Courtney Wall, Anthony Whisenhunt

LeFlore County

Heavener – Charline Morrison, Monica Otero

Howe – Nicholas Martindale

Spiro – Hunter Wilson

Talihina – Wister – Amber Collins, Britanny England, Brenna Fry, Chad Goggans, Tara Sisk, Jordan Washburn

Wister – Tommy Wheat

Lincoln County

Prague – Jess Tolleson

McCurtain County

Broken Bow – Sherrie Aguilar, April Bray, Sherry Bruce, Darian Jazmyne Criswell, Jared Engler, Ethan Greener, Skylar Hall, Leila James, Siglenda Kilburn, Ashley Manning, Kelsie Pole, Aaron Porter, Jonathan Smalling, Kayla Thies, Nevada Williams

Eagletown – Chyan Billington, Kayla Bohanan

Garvin – Kristopher Hamilton

Idabel – Barbara Bagsby, Miguel Casarrubias, Benjamin Cawley, Isaiah Daffern, Bronson Freeman, Chelsea Humphrey, Zachary Ratcliff, Leslie Rios, Oscar Rivera, Curtis Taylor, Monique Threadgill, Miranda Voss, Wyatt Williams

Smithville – Desiree Johnson, Kaitlyn McBroom, Samantha Wyatt

Valliant – Megan Blair, Tara Cantrell,

Bradley Hill, Kali Robberson

Wright City – Kaitlyn Collins

McIntosh County

Eufaula – Kristina Ellison, Tiersten Fairchilds, Alexandra Heaslet, Michael Simonetti, Carmen Soriano

Muskogee County

Wainwright – Mary Barnard

Okfuskee County

Weleetka – Logan Proctor

Oklahoma County

Midwest City – Rathen Carter

Okmulgee County

Morris – Byjou Vaughn

Pittsburg County

Crowder – Joshua Motley

Haileyville – Caleb Cooper, Dylan Pingleton

Hartshorne – Brett Akins, Ernest Bedford, Katie Carlton, Lexen Cook, Dawn Ivey, Lavona Jackson, Jared Morgan, Cassidy Morgan

Indianola – Kaysee Thames

Kiowa – Sarah Hall, Abigail Mabray

Krebs – Jamie Cripps, Fred Hart

McAlester – Lindsay Alexander, Shiela Bethune, Kylie Bowman, Savannah Brannon, Caleb Carney, Miranda Chapa, Seagram Crenshaw, Tyler Dunagan, Devon Evans, Gretchen Fray, Alexis Goodwill, Austin Graham, Karena Green, Baylee Hearod, Regina Hilburn, Jonathan Hollingback, Brett Homer, Gwyn Honeycutt, Candace Hunt, Brittney Johnson, Madeline Kraft, Ruth Lawson, Jeanne Leflore, Stephen McClendon, Lauren McNally, Jonathan Mullins, Sarah Newell, Milisie Nunnelee, Destiny Parker, Ashlynn Por-

ter, Christe Quick, Casey Remedi, Aspen Scroggins, Courtney Smith, Teresa Smith, Morgan Smith, Cassie Spence, Brenna Dawnn Stanford, Renee Staples, Kendra Stites, Bailey Ward, Larissa Watson, John Williams, Cheyenne Wood

Pittsburg – Kaylin Kellogg

Quinton – Valarie Diaz, Shadoc Harshaw, Blayne Heath, Kirsten Monroe, Ada Woody

Savanna – Brandon Sherwood, Bernie Underwood

Pontotoc County

Ada – Austin Simpson

Pottawatomie County

Asher – Hunter Fowler

Wanette – Caleb Dubler

Pushmataha County

Antlers – Melissa Clem, Cheryl Hanley, Joshua Jenuine, Lorena Taylor, Alyssa Turnage

Clayton – Natalie Gilliam, Gilbert Nail

Finley – Kayla Ward

Nashoba – Monika Hamman

Rattan – Cassidy Courtwright

Tuskahoma – Mercedes Bozarth,

Daley Eduvigen, Kareesa Kennedy

Rogers County

Claremore – Cameron Smith

Tulsa County

Sand Springs – Morgan Spradlin

Wagoner – Alejandro Torres

TEXAS

Bowie County

Dekalb – George Woods

Cooke County

Gainesville – Amanda Eddowes

Denton County

Justin – Anastasia Herskind

The Colony – Morgan Foster

Harris County

Houston – Sydney Hayes

Katy – Kent Keeling

Pasadena – Sabrina Salias

Jefferson County

Groves – Madison Resch

Kaufman County

Forney – Ashley Brewton

Orange County

Orange – Hunter Uzzle

Wichita County

Wichita Falls – Garrett Martin

INTERNATIONAL

London, England – Nicholas Keyamo

Sao Paulo, Brazil – Danilo Crespo

Staffordshire, England – Natalie Eley

WHERE ARE THEY NOW...

Eastern Alumni making an impact on the world

Don Clifton

By MIKE CATHEY

EOSC 1983 OF INDIANOLA

Somehow it seems most appropriate to reflect the wit, wisdom, and creativity of Don Clifton (EOSC 1984 of McAlester) by sharing this recent statement from his Facebook timeline, "In times of trouble, people start spouting their biases in sickening, overly simplified bumper stickers. Here is my new bumper sticker: If bumper stickers fixed anything, everything would already be fixed."

Don earned an EOSC Associates of Arts in Music before studying Music Composition and Applied Psychology and earning a Masters of Human Relations/Professional Psychology at the University of Oklahoma.

Don resides in Seattle and has not one, not two, but three things going on in his busy life. He is a Guitar Counselor at The Guitar Store, "Overlord" Co-Creator at South Lake Union Trolley Apparel, and "Gun Slinger" at Bellevue Indoor Range & Wade's Gun Shop. He has previously been on the staff of the Seattle School of Music.

When asked about his EOSC journey Don had the following to share: "The music education I received at Eastern has ended up being a huge part of my life.

"None of it came easy to me. My homework often took hours. Come to think of it, while I learned many great things in my classes there, I learned even more from my struggles and failures. I didn't really appreciate how great my teachers were at Eastern until later.

"Peter Acaro was a great music

instructor. (Although when I ran into him later at OU, he acted like he didn't know me. Being a guitar player, I can't really blame him). One of the piano instructors there taught me to tune pianos to help me pay for school. It was a very gracious bit of above and beyond volunteering that I am grateful for to this day. I will add; tuning pianos is one of the most horrible jobs ever. Whatever you pay to have this done for you is a bargain!

"A couple of things that I learned a lot about during my time at E.O.S.C were the importance of perseverance and perspective. Sometimes, just refusing to quit something hard is all it takes. The willingness to persevere in the face of the difficult and uncomfortable will often take you further than any other skill.

"Also invaluable is perspective. A personal philosophy I try to keep present in my mind is this: Any problem I have that is not directly related to survival, (air, water, food, shelter from the elements and predators), is a sign of how good my life is that I can consider it a problem. Here is an example: there are still about 24,000 people a day in other countries that will starve to death today; every day. That is a real problem. To help grasp the scale of that, if you put that death rate on the population of Latimer county starting at noon everyone would be gone before 11 p.m. "

"Take anything that has you feeling bad today, say it aloud, then end the sentence with 'and yet I'm not one of the 24,000 people who starved to death today.' Yeh, you may feel bad, but you are in a country where you can stay alive to do something about it."

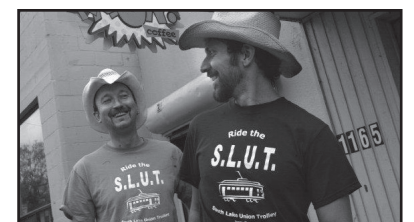
Also about his time at EOSC Don

had the following to share: "I loved playing in the jazz band there, especially at the basketball games! I made my best friend while I was there. The night we graduated we stole the moving van for all of the chairs and went on a short, low-speed chase around the campus. I was so paranoid that they would take my degree back that I ran over the hill through the woods in the dark into Wilburton. I ran into another rock guitar guy there who snuck me back to my car. I never went back.

"In retrospect, the time one spends in college sometimes feels like something you need to get done so you can get on with life. What I wish I had known was to savor that college life, that time with those friends, the privilege to learn; to know that it is a time in life like no other."

In the summer of 2009 this author was in Seattle for a conference on the opening week of the South Lake Union Trolley (S.L.U.T.) little did I know that the 'Ride the S.L.U.T.' shirts that were all over the place during that week were the co-creation of a fellow EOSC alum. Don shared, "Seattle spent 52.1 million on a 1.3 mile trolley through no man's land and they renamed my neighborhood. The least I could do was to get the world to call it the S.L.U.T. They now try to call it the Seattle Streetcar, but it's too late!"

Mike Cathey is a lifetime member of the EOSC alumni association. While at Eastern, Cathey was also a staff writer for The Statesman and the Vice President of the Student Senate. Cathey is also a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and resides in Chicago and Indianola, OK.



Eastern alum, Don Clifton, wears many hats. He is a Guitar Counselor at The Guitar Store, co-creator at South Lake Union Trolley Apparel and "gun slinger" at Bellevue Indoor Range & Wade's Gun Shop. Submitted photos

Health Department provides tips to avoid injury and illness during a power outage

The recent storms in the state have left a significant number of Oklahomans without power. Currently, the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) reports more than 50 storm-related injuries, including nine due to carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, and reminds those affected by a power outage to be mindful of safe practices to prevent illness and injury.

Heat Safety

It's important to use caution when

heating a home with a fireplace, space heater or wood stove, using them only when they are properly vented. Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, or similar devices inside the house, in basements, in garages or near windows. Don't use gas appliances such as an oven, range or clothes dryer to heat your home. Improper use of such devices can lead to carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Food Safety

OSDH recommends the following guidelines for refrigerated and frozen foods to citizens or food establishments which have been without power for more than four hours:

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible.
- Discard any potentially hazardous foods such as meats, eggs, dairy products and leftovers when the power has been off for more than four hours. When in doubt, throw it out.

• Frozen foods in a freezer can normally be kept up to 48 hours without power. A frozen product that has thawed should not be refrozen—it should be used immediately or thrown away.

Water Safety

Residents in rural areas may also be without water during a power outage. If the safety of the water is not known, it is recommended to vigorously boil the water for at least one minute to prevent potential waterborne illnesses.

Safe water would include store-bought bottled water, or uninterrupted city water. Untreated water should not be used to prepare foods, wash hands or brush teeth.

For more information about winter weather safety, visit <http://go.osa.gov/cZ454>. Preparedness information also is available in English, Spanish and American Sign Language by visiting the OSDH YouTube channel and selecting the Preparedness playlist.

Mountaineers bring home wins at Carl Albert

TAYLOR COX
Staff Writer

POTEAU — Eastern Oklahoma State College traveled to Poteau Jan. 25 to face the Carl Albert State College Vikings and Lady Vikings. By the end of the night, both teams came home with a victory over their rival.

The Lady Mountaineers got an early lead in the first quarter with a six-point lead, 18-12, and maintained that lead throughout the game. The final score was 74-61, giving the women of Eastern their twelfth victory of the season.

Leading the scorers on the night for Eastern was Hailey Bunch and Britany Thomas with 16 points each. Shoniquia Colman was right behind with 15.

The Mountaineers also jumped out to an early lead, ending the first half with a 10-point lead, 36-26.

The Mountaineers kept the lead going and ending the game with a nine point lead, ending the game 90-81.

Keith Wilson dominated on the offensive side, leading the team with the with 26 points. Davion Turner had 18 on the night as well. The men improved their record to 14-8 with the victory.

Both the men and women are currently in the middle of conference play, with a home game scheduled against Redlands Feb. 1. The men and women will then go on the road to Seminole, before hosting NEO on Feb. 8.



Eastern Oklahoma State College Mountaineers and Lady Mountaineers traveled to Poteau Jan. 25 to face rival Carl Albert. The Lady Mountaineers started the night off with a 74-61 win, followed by a 90-81 victory by the men. Staff photos by Taylor Cox

Eastern's 2016 Sapphire Ball scholarship fundraiser set for Feb. 20

Eastern Oklahoma State College will host its seventh annual Sapphire Ball on Saturday, Feb. 20 in the Student Center Ballroom in Wilburton. The annual black-tie event honors supporters of the college while raising funds for student scholarships.

In addition to the annual awards presentations for outstanding alumni, community supporters and employee's, the event will feature dinner, silent and live auctions, and dancing.

The evening will begin with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

Treva Kennedy, Eastern's director of Institutional Advancement, said the

event also helps connect donors with students.

"About 40 students will be involved at the event by serving dinner, assisting with auction items and providing valet parking," Kennedy said.

"Our students see it as a privilege to assist with the fundraising event that helps them pay for college. It's one of the few opportunities they have to connect with donors and show their appreciation."

Kennedy said in the event has raised approximately \$45,000 in the last five years and 100 percent of the event's proceeds go directly to the Sapphire Scholarship Fund.

During the evening, Eastern President Dr. Stephen E Smith will honor four individuals and one organization that have been instrumental to the success of the college.

Teresa Jackson of Hartshorne and Gary Wansick of McAlester will receive the Distinguished Alumnus Award, presented annually to alumni who have distinguished themselves professionally and through service to the college.

Jackson is the senior executive officer of Health Services for the Choctaw Nation and Wansick is the chief of police for the City of McAlester. Texas Instruments, Inc. will receive

the Community Spirit Award for outstanding support and service to Eastern, as well as about 30 area schools through their participation in Eastern's GEAR UP program.

The President's Excellence in Teaching Award will be presented to nursing professor Gina Bullock, while the J.C. Hunt Award for staff excellence will be presented to Julie Lawrence, administrative assistant to the Science and Math Division.

Tickets for the Sapphire Ball are \$50 each and are available at eosc.edu/sapphireball. For more information, contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at 918-465-1759.

"Our students see it as a privilege to assist with the fundraising event that helps them pay for college. It's one of the few opportunities they have to connect with donors and show their appreciation."

- Treva Kennedy
Institutional Advancement Director

www.statesman.eosc.edu