Golden Eagle Awards for February, March and April

Rachel Oliver

By Erin M. Hawks
Student Ambassador

February's Golden Eagle Award recipient is Rachel Oliver. She has been attending NWACC for eight semesters and is a Public Relations and a History major. Oliver and her best friend and mother, June, often go to movies and spend a lot of time together. Oliver loves traveling and photography.

Oliver

She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the Cultural Exchange Club, Students In Free Enterprise and is in her third semester as a Student Ambassador.

Almost everyone knows Oliver because she has been involved in such a wide variety of activities at NWACC. Rachel said, "I would not have all the opportunities before me today if it hadn't been for all of the activities and organizations NWACC offered me."

Oliver is a positive role model for students, maintaining a high GPA while staying busy with other school activities. Congratulations to Rachel for winning this award. It is a high achievement and she deserves it for all the hard work she has put in around the college.

Mitchell Robbins

By Vinicio A. Gil Torres
Student Ambassador

Mitchell Brent Robbins, the March Golden Eagle Recipient, is a Springdale resident who is attending NWACC to obtain his 2-year Associate of Arts degree, and then hopes to transfer for his Bachelor's and Master's degree.

Robbins

His passion is reading and he works 15-35 hours a week at a bookstore. He also serves as a Youth Pastor. He enjoys playing guitar and sharing music. He moved here from Mississippi last year where he worked with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. He enjoys attending school here at NWACC and enjoys being involved in the community.

These and many other reasons are why he was chosen to be the Golden Eagle for the month of March. Congratulations Brent!

Laura Dye

By Kayla Raymer
Student Ambassador

April's Golden Eagle Award recipient is Laura Dye. Dye, who is originally from Kansas, moved here to Northwest Arkansas when she was eleven.

Dye

She attended and graduated from Rogers High School in 1995.

In 2003, she decided to go back to school and began attending NWACC.

Dye is majoring in education and will be graduating in May. After graduation she will continue her education through the Elementary Education program here at NWACC and receive her B.S.E.

She has a strong passion for working with and teaching children. She currently works at a local Elementary School in the third grade ESL classroom. "It is so exciting to see them learn," she said.

With all of the hard work that Dye does, she is also the single mother of two daughters.

She is very family oriented and in her free time, they usually go to the park and at her parent's home. Dye is also involved in her church and teaches the five-year-old Sunday school class.

Dye is a great example of a hard-working and dedicated student. Her passion for children shows greatly through all of her work and she will make a great Elementary teacher.

Spring play kept under wraps by 'Secret Act'

By Alycia Allen
NWACC Student

I have investigated cases before that were hard to crack, but I've never encountered a secret like the one associated with the spring play, "What on Earth was That?" written and directed by student Clint Ford. When I am not allowed to know something; that is when I want to know it the most. So last Wednesday I tried to sneak into rehearsal, dressed as a microphone stand. I'm not as thin as I used to be so I was quickly noticed and rudely thrown out of the theatre by a ninja. I was then greeted by the Pirate. Just between you and me, the interview with the pirate was a bust. All I could make out were the "Arrrghs" that were screamed boisterously after every sentence.

On Monday, I tried again to get a solid interview with the cast and find out "What on Earth" was going on with this play. I sneaked into the ventilation system in the cafeteria and crawled on my stomach until I was right above the backstage area. After a rather nasty fall, I was able to find the majority of the cast. I asked each cast member who they played. Niecy Fiene responded by saying that she "cannot disclose that information" because "it falls under the 'Secrets Act.'" I was intrigued and asked her what the 'Secrets Act' was, to which she responded, "It's a secret." I got similar responses from the entire cast. Mary Smiley told me that she did not "play a who" she played a "what." When asked what it was that she played, she evaded the question and then went off to find Clint, so I made myself scarce.

While the cast seemed unable to reveal any details of the play, they were more than willing to give their opinions. I asked them to think of one word that would describe the play, and I got a rather interesting list. Jessica Alvarado blurted "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." Mary Smiley asked "yourwhathurts?" Fiene greeted me with "Gutentag" (which I believe is either Spanish or Italian). Now that I think about it… some of those aren't even words. They may well have been playing me as a fool just to protect their secrets! Lousy 'Secrets Act!' The public has a right to know! On that note, I also spoke with the crew about the lighting, sound, props, and costumes. They would only tell me that they did indeed have lighting, sound, props, and costumes.

Moving on, I was also curious about how the cast viewed their director. Alex Joseph holds him in the highest esteem describing him as "a good honest hardworking man who has more integrity than anyone we've ever met…" Mary Moore, the only person who wanted to be serious, said that she thought that Clint was "exceptionally talented . . . easygoing . . . easy to work with." Smiley described him as ""Not exactly like the Greek gods, but close to Loki." I was slightly confused, and I soon became even more confused after asking Saunders, who responded: "A Keanu Reeves lookalike whose life stopped at Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure. Forget Neo, it's all Clint." Clint refused to respond to his alleged similarity to Keanu Reeves. Instead, he yelled, "I don't have time for this. I have to go. I have performers waiting. Can someone get her out of here?" I was then accosted by Rachel Oliver, who is in charge of the play's publicity. She called the ninja and had me, once again, thrown out.

Well throw me out as many times as you want! The public will know the truth soon enough! There are more reporters like me, willing to dirty their trench coats in search of the truth, despite the dry-cleaning bill. I suppose I will have to see the play for myself. I just can't decide whether I want to go on April 21,22, 28, or 29 at 8 p.m. or whether I want to attend either of the 2 p.m. Sunday shows on April 23 or 30. You should really be considering this too, avid reader.

*Note: Due to the 'Secrets Act!' I was unable to get any photos.

FORUM

Continued from Page 1

west Arkansas," with emphasis on, Socio-Cultural Dynamics, Reshaping Education for a Diverse Community, and Economic Effects of Diversity. These forums are designed to bring the community in to discuss and help students address needs in these areas. Students will then take the results of these forums and implement Service Learning projects that will continue with future students.

After several weeks of planning, the students were ready to host their first forum to a group of high school students from the Upward Bound program. Upward Bound is a program designed to help low-income, first-generation college students master the skills and motivation necessary to enter college. These high school students were eager to listen as well as speak on the topic. The Upward Bound students were full of insight and many outstanding suggestions. The honors students are in the process of compiling suggestions that for service learning projects.

Honors students will host this same forum two more times this semester. The next one will be to a group of college students on April 13, 2006 at 2:00 pm in the Wal-Mart Auditorium at the Shewmaker Center for Workforce Technology. The final presentation will once again be in the Wal-Mart Auditorium, at 7:00 pm on April 24, 2006. This event will involve the entire community. Honors students hope to get a diverse attendance so that they can hear from all concerned.

Both of these events are open to everyone and all are invited. The more people attend, the more ideas for projects we can generate. This is our community and our community college, lets all come out and help our students make a difference.

2006 Graduation Information

The 2006 NWACC graduation is coming up on May 12th. The ceremony will be at 7:00pm at the Springdale High School Performing Art Auditorium. For those who will be graduating, don't forget:

- **Rehearsal on May 8th from 1:00-3:00 in the Donald E. White Auditorium.**
- **Purchase your regalia from the NWACC Bookstore after April 24th.**
- **Keep number of guests to a reasonable number due to space.**
- **Bring one can of food or children's book to rehearsal for Phi Theta Kappa's Project Graduation.**
- **Arrive by 6:30pm, don't be late!**

Congratulations to all graduates!

www.nwacc.edu THE STUDENTS' NEWSPAPER Free

Greg Kiser

Faculty Spotlight
Greg Kiser has a passion for teaching students the relevance of history, Page 2

■ Shelley Neimeyer and Ruben Chavez tell us why they like NWACC, Page 2

NWACC TODAY

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Dr. Mike Kirk likes helping students as the Dean of Learner Development Center, Page 2

■ Golden Eagle winners named for February, March and April, Page 4

Volume 9, April 2006

Dateline

- April 21 - Student Music Recital, BH 2303, 7:30 p.m.
- April 21, 22, 28, 29 - NWACC Drama Presents: "What on Earth Was That?," White Auditorium at 8 p.m.
- April 23, 30 - NWACC Drama Presents: "What on Earth Was That?," White Auditorium at 2 p.m.
- April 25 - NWACC Honors Seminar open forum, "Immigration to Northwest Arkansas," 7-9 p.m. SWCT.
- April 27 - Chamber Singers Spring Concert, Shewmaker Center, 7:30 p.m.
- May 4 - Last Day of Classes
- May 5 - NWACC Honors Convocation, 7 p.m. SCWT
- May 8 - Commencement Rehearsal, 1:30 p.m. White Auditorium
- May 5, 11 - Final Exams
- May 10 - Marketing Analyst graduation, 6 p.m. SCWT.
- May 12 - NWACC Commencement, 7 p.m. Springdale Performing Arts Center
- May 13 - Nursing Pinning Ceremony, 2 p.m., Springdale Performing Arts Center
- May 14 - Adult Education graduation, 2 p.m. Arend Art Center.
- May 26 - Apprenticeship Programs graduation, 6 p.m. SCWT
- May 29 - Memorial Day, NWACC closed
- June 6 - Last Day of School for RTC

Summer 2006 Session I

- April 3-May 30 - WEB (On-line) Registration Available.
- April 3-May 30 - On-Campus Registration Available.
- May 17 - Last Day to Pay Tuition/Fees for Summer 2006 for students registering on or before May 17, 2006.

NWACC Today is a quarterly newspaper by the Student Ambassadors and Activities Board, produced by Mattie Watson, graphic and design editor. For more information or to submit an article, call Mary Odima at (479) 619-2224 or e-mail at modima@nwacc.edu. Deadline to submit articles is August 31.

Honors Students Host Forum

By Becky Hudson
Student Ambassador

Honors Program members

Photograph by Jim Hall

From left to right, are Christopher Cuchia, Maria Pulido, Dr. Chris Huggard, Allyson Ransom, special guest-Liping Zhu, Melanie Beal, Valerie Learned, Amanda Culmer, Caleb Mosby, Becky Hudson, Ian Robertson, Inder Pal Singh. They are members of NWACC's Honors Program.

New to the Honors program this semester is the Cultural Diversity in America Seminar. This seminar is a three credit hour course that gives students the opportunity to explore many different cultures and hear exceptional speakers. To date, students have discussed Native Americans, White Americans, African Americans, and the Civil Rights Movement. They have also learned about Japanese society, and modern Judaism. These students have been excited to listen to guest presenters as they offer their individual knowledge in many cultures. The students are looking forward to more exciting speakers such as Liping Zhu who will speak on Chinese Americans, Choogie Kingfisher the Cherokee Storyteller, and Rosario Nolasco whose presentation will be about the Spanish-speaking immigrants.

As a requirement of the seminar, each student will prepare and present a PowerPoint presentation concerning a culture other than their own. These presentations will then be available for everyone to view on the Honors Program website. We can look forward to viewing presentations that will enlighten us on cultures such as Chinese, Hindu, Muslim, Marshall Islands, Mexico, and Gays and Lesbians, to name a few.

Another section of the seminar required that students learn how to moderate a forum regarding "The New Immigration to Northwest Arkansas." After a day of training, the students were left completely on their own to make arrangements, plan organize, and moderate three forums at the college. The students chose to name their forum, "Building Blocks: Constructing Lives in a Diverse North-

See **Forum** on Page 4

Looking forward to graduation, congrats to SIFE

With final exams and the traditional celebrations connected with the end of another successful academic year just ahead of us, we're planning for future semesters at NorthWest Arkansas Community College.

A Letter from the President

This is a great time to be a student, a faculty member or part of the great support staff we have in place at NWACC.

Some of the year-end activities we are looking forward to include Commencement, Honors Convocation, Adult Education Graduation, the Nursing Pinning and other program ceremonies.

I look forward to sharing these celebrations with our graduates.

Among our greatest hopes for those graduating and/or moving on in their educational careers are that you have found your educational experience with us to be a worthwhile endeavor, an investment that rewards you with great dividends in the future.

Dr. Paneitz

Whether you will continue to be an active member of the NWACC community, or will be leaving at the end of the academic year for life beyond NWACC, I encourage you to stay in touch.

We always enjoy hearing about student's experiences at NWACC and beyond. Please share your success stories with us!

Let me share one with you.

The 820-spot parking deck will be completed and opened this summer.

Our college's Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) group recently returned from St. Louis with their second straight Midwest Regional Championship.

This is quite an accomplishment and they are to be congratulated. SIFE is an organization that cuts across multiple academic disciplines and I encourage all students to explore the opportunities to become involved in the organization.

For those students who will be back with us next fall, you will see a number of improvements and enhancements at the college.

First of all, the 820-spot parking deck will be completed and opened on the east side of the Burns Hall campus this summer. This should alleviate the parking problems for a while.

Next, look for construction to wrap up next fall on the 84,000 square foot student center, bookstore, food court and library. This new building is going up just north of the College Commons. The occupancy date is January 2007.

Finally, the best of all news:

You may have read or heard about the annual NWACC Foundation Gala that was held in March. More than 500 community leaders – along with our hard-working SAAB leaders – at-

See **LETTER** on Page 3

Random Student Spotlights

By Rachel D. Oliver
Student Ambassador

Shelley Neimeyer moved to Rogers, Ark., from Escondido, Calif., when she was in second grade. She is 19 and in her first year at NWACC. She plans to complete the graphic design program and then transfer to a four-year school to continue her education.

Neimeyer

In her free time, Shelley enjoys making music videos of friends and turning them into DVDs.

She also enjoys photography. Her fiancé, Steven Ernst, is currently stationed in Iraq.

She really likes NWACC because of the small classes and the one-on-one interaction with the instructors. She says, "I'm really glad that I decided to go to NWACC because I love it here and a lot of my friends that are going to other colleges are going to transfer here because they think NWACC is better."

Chavez

Ruben O. Chavez moved from Mexico City to Springdale, Ark., in 1999. He is a native Spanish speaker and has been speaking English for 5 years.

For the last two years, Ruben has been attending NWACC, where he is a member of the Cultural Exchange Club.

He eventually plans to transfer to a four-year institution where he will study dentistry.

As a 20-year-old college student, he enjoys listening to music and playing the guitar and the piano. He also likes volleyball and soccer.

His favorite part of being a student at NWACC is the classes. He says, "I enjoy the small classes, the interaction, and the freedom to express myself. The teachers really encourage you to think and to give your opinion. I like that."

Faculty Spotlight - Greg Kiser

By Inge Watkins
Student Ambassador

If you do not already know Greg Kiser, he is the professor who always wears a smile. If you need a history class, enroll now! You are guaranteed to depart from his classroom wearing a smile. His sense of humor and smile are contagious. Weaving humor into his history lectures is inevitable. When asked if his humor is a mask, Kiser commented, "No, that's just the way I am. History is the one course many students dread, which is a real shame. I want to make the subject more approachable, more enjoyable. What I enjoy most about teaching here at NWACC revolves around the small class size."

Kiser

Reflecting upon his four-year teaching experience as a grad student in a class with an average of 90 students, he now appreciates the smaller class where his teaching falls on a more personal, intimate level and allows a real connection with each student. "It also is easier and more effective for the students and allows me to put the emphasis on the quality of teaching, rather than have research take center stage," said Kiser.

Kiser began his college career in 1969 at the U of A, received his undergrad at MSSU and later returned to the U of A where he completed his graduate work. After working as an insurance rep for Allstate for 11 years, and teaching part-time since 1980, he came to NWACC part-time in 1990 and later accepted a full-time position in 1996.

Reflecting on why I enjoyed Kiser's lectures, I recall he has an obvious affinity for and demonstrates a strong sense of passion for history, which prompted the question, "Why teach history? Why not mathematics?"

Kiser replied without hesitation, "I'm no mathematician, and I love a good story: reading, telling, listening. Having sat through my share of 'boring,' I want my students to have fun while learning the relevance of historical topics." He claims history should be a guideline, a roadmap. "You can't know where you are if you don't know how you got here." This is one reason why he believes in his essay exam format. He feels that, "Anyone can memorize a name and a date, but it is of greater importance to understand the 'so what:' who, why, where, how; the consequences of the events."

Outside of the classroom, Kiser enjoys playing golf and camping, "outdoors even!" he added with a chuckle. A native of Missouri, he resides in Fayetteville with his wife Pam, of 28 years. Pam is employed as a Human Resource Administrator for Fayetteville public schools. Together they have three children: Aaron, a pharmaceutical rep; Kate, a registered nurse; and Zach, currently attending the U of A. Although he doesn't publicize this, Aaron and Zach have appeared in Sports Illustrated and Cosmopolitan Magazines. He is proud of all their successes.

His biggest pet peeve is "people who intimidate other people." His favorite movie is "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World." Kurt Vonnegut's novel, "Slaughterhouse Five" is a favorite book, and Paris is his preferred vacation spot. Kiser's role model in life is his father and when asked what thing, trait or person contributes to his success, he replied, "I feed off all kinds of people, good and bad. So, I guess the answer would be - everyone I've ever known."

Dept. Spotlight - Architectural Computer Aided Design

By Joshua Kuykendall
Student Ambassador

Technology continues to grow rapidly in the United States, requiring careers of the past to jump on board. NorthWest Arkansas Community College provides opportunities for students and future employees of these careers by offering technology in the classroom to teach students how to perform well in these careers.

One of these programs is the Architectural Computer Aided Design program.

The program utilizes a computer lab located on the second floor in room 2420, and top of the line AutoCAD software to help prepare students for a future within this field.

Most students will eventually transfer to a four-year institution to complete their degrees. By going through the CAD program, students receive the knowledge to design buildings that can resemble works of art. If you ever have a chance to pass by the classroom, check out the bulletin board with the display of the Chapel that the class designed.

For more information, contact Nathan Ellington at nellington@nwacc.edu. The program is an example of the standards NWACC sets for itself in educating students.

Staff Spotlight - Dr. Mike Kirk

By Li Mounce
Student Ambassador

One of the most distinct noises you will hear when walking through the halls of NWACC is probably the laugh of this month's staff spotlight member, Dr. Mike Kirk. Kirk has a jolly laugh that echoes throughout the building, and is a welcome sound, especially when a person is having a rough day. Kirk is always willing to help students, and it is rare to see him without a contagious smile on his face.

Kirk

Kirk is the Dean of Learner Development at NWACC, and this July will mark his seventh year here. His primary duties are to supervise student services and to facilitate services for students with disabilities, which he admits, is his first love.

He got involved with working with disabled students when he did an internship with Arkansas Rehabilitation Services. Kirk serves on 10 different committees here, which look at everything from policies and procedures to implementing new technology, courses, and services for students. He stays very busy, but is always willing to make time for students and faculty, because he wants NWACC to be a true learning college.

Originally, from Pulaski, Tenn., Kirk graduated from the University of Memphis with a B.A. in Zoology, with a minor in Chemistry. He worked for Kraft Foods in Tennessee for 14 years.

He and his wife, Elizabeth, moved to Arkansas in 1995. They have two daughters, Sarah, who is a sophomore at Oklahoma State University and Elizabeth, who is currently attending Springdale High School. Kirk acquired his Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas, and he has a Masters in Community Agency Counseling.

Kirk is a big sports fan, and in what little spare time he is able to find, he enjoys watching college and pro football and baseball, and college basketball. He is also an avid reader and just finished a book called "Bleak House" by Charles Dickens. He read another book recently called "A Brief History of Time" by Dr. Steve Hawking, who is the Newton Chair of Physics. He still misses science quite a bit and tries to keep up with what is going on within the scientific world.

When asked what the best thing about NWACC was, Kirk replied that it is "the attitude of the faculty and staff to see students succeed." He believes that because of the small atmosphere within the college, the faculty and staff are able to form closer relationships with the students. He hopes that will remain the same as the college grows, because he really thinks that is the key to making NWACC such a wonderful place to attend.

Kirk is a valuable asset to the college, and he really works hard to see that the students' are able to get the help they need. He mentioned the Learner Development Center staff and wanted everyone to know that they work very hard because they truly care about the students who attend NWACC.

He does not think he could find a better group of people to work with, because they are "always willing to go above and beyond to help students."

Thank you to Dr. Kirk and the LDC staff for all of your hard work. The students appreciate having people that care about them, and it really puts the community into NorthWest Arkansas Community College.

Students In Free Enterprise look for members

By Vinicio A. Gil Torres
Student Ambassador

SIFE is a nonprofit organization that gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation.

SIFE challenges students on more than 800 college campuses nationwide to take what they are learning in the classroom and use their knowledge to better their communities. SIFE is guided by faculty advisors who are titled the Sam. M Walton Free Enterprise Fellows, in honor of the late Wal-Mart founder.

The advisor here at NWACC is Theresa Neal.

SIFE teams establish a variety of community outreach programs that teach free enterprise. SIFE teams present the results of the projects in National Competitions that were held on April 4th in St Louis.

Students asked to update information

Attention Students:

Starting this April, while registering for your fall 2006 semester, you will be asked to update you address/telephone information and your major information.

You will be prompted to do this every fall and spring semester.

The purpose of this is to make sure that your information is listed correctly in the data system here at NWACC.

This will allow us to provide more efficient and accurate service to you.

The most important thing you need to know, is that if you do not understand or are unsure about what you are being asked, just select the unsure option and someone will follow up with you.

This will not prohibit you from registering. Once you have selected your responses to update your information, you will proceed onto registration.

The information you provide in this update will be reviewed and processed by various offices on campus.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Student Records office at 479-619-4388.

Sigma Kappa Delta New on Campus

By Li Mounce
SAAB Member

There is a new organization on campus this spring semester called Sigma Kappa Delta. This is an English Honor Society for two-year colleges. It originally came from the International English Honor Society for four-year colleges, Sigma Tau Delta. The official motto of SKD is "Sincerity, Knowledge, and Design" and the colors are green and gold.

Advisors Audley Hall, Angie Albright, and James Laughton, all of which are in the English department here at the college, lead this new addition to NWACC. The president of the group is Li Mounce, vice-president is Ian Robertson, and secretary is Kelly Morrill. SKD consists of an exceptional group of students, who met all of the requirements to enroll. In order to enroll into this organization, a student must have completed six hours of English credit with a G.P.A. of 3.5, an overall G.P.A. of 3.0, and must have completed 15 hours of credit classes.

Meetings are very informal, with refreshments. They talk about literary events that they could attend as a group, and are at this time planning to attend the Arts Center of the Ozarks showing of the "Merchant of Venice" as well as the NWACC production of "What On Earth Was That." They are also in the planning stages of a trip to Kansas City for the fall semester.

Anyone interested in more information about this group can contact any of the SKD advisors in the Communications and Art department, or you can contact Li at vmounce@nwacc.edu.

Beware of payday advance places

Special t o NWACC Today

It's easy to fall into the trap: You have bills looming, and you just don't have enough money to take care of them until payday. Or maybe you don't even have enough funds to get groceries to last your family for the week. It's at that point that some of us turn to our neighborhood or online payday advance place.

For those of you not familiar with them, payday advance places appeal mostly to people living paycheck to paycheck. These places offer a convenient, but extremely expensive, way of borrowing money. For example, if you needed to borrow $100 for 14 days, a payday advance place may require you to write a personal check for $115. You would receive the $100 in cash, and when the 14 days would be up, you would have the option of allowing the payday advance place to deposit your check for the full amount of $115, or allowing it to roll over the loan for another 14 days and another $15 fee. If you rolled it over twice more, you'd pay $45 on a loan of $100. As a result of the Truth in Lending Act, payday advance places must disclose the actual yearly cost of the loan they are providing you. In the previous example of a $15 fee charged on a $100 loan for 14 days, the APR would be 391 percent.

Credit Counseling of Arkansas advises against getting into the payday advance pattern, and suggests looking for alternative ways of dealing with a cash shortfall. It's best to be proactive. This means adjusting your budget before you get into a cash-strapped situation. Always draft a realistic budget, and match your daily and monthly expenditures against your income. It's also advisable to set aside money for savings.

Of course, all this is good in theory, but doesn't always happen in real life. If you find yourself in a cash shortfall, try these alternatives:

- Check with your employer or family or friends for a payday advance. Sometimes it's difficult to swallow our pride, but it's much more financially prudent.
- Ask your creditors for more time to pay your bills. Some will grant extensions, but even for the ones who don't, the fees usually don't compare to what is charged by a payday advance company.
- If you have unsecured debt that is causing you to rely on payday advance services, check into reputable non-profit debt management companies.

If none of these is an option for you, and you still choose to take on a payday loan, make sure you know what you're getting into. Borrow only as much as you can afford to pay with your next paycheck and still have enough to make it to the following payday. This way, if unexpected expenses arise, you have a better chance at not getting into the situation where you'd need the services of a payday advance company.

CCOA can help you improve your financial health with free financial seminars, free budget counseling, and a debt elimination program that can waive fees, lower interest rates, and stop collection calls. To take the first step toward improving your financial fitness, call CCOA at 1-800-889-4916.

CCOA has numerous money savings tips at www.ccoacares.com.

Spring Fling 2006 a success

By Erin M. Hawks
Student Ambassador

The NWACC Student Ambassadors put together another successful Spring Fling on campus the week before Spring Break. SAAB members and Eddie the Eagle sported sombreros to display the event's south of the border "fiesta" theme. Vendors, including Pack Rat, Arbonne Skin Care and Telecomp Computers filled the lobby of Burns Hall. They talked with students about their products, job opportunities, and handed out a lot of freebies. Tim & Jeff in the morning from Power 105.7 were live on the radio interviewing many of our students, including Clint Ford, the author and director of this year's drama production "What On Earth Was That?"

The Student Ambassadors timed this annual event to occur the week before Spring Break in order to give students a little extra encouragement to hang on through mid-terms. SAAB members begin soliciting businesses two months before the big day. Student Ambassador Rachel Oliver said: "We all agree it is the hardest time in the semester because of our stressful mid-terms. Everyone is anticipating Spring Break and daydreaming about the beach."

Aside from the many vendors sitting at booths on location, even more businesses donated gift-cards and/or prizes for a drawing. The Crescent Hotel in Eureka Springs supplied a complimentary two night's stay, Rose-Art donated hundreds of pencils, pens, markers, and other miscellaneous school supplies, and Telecomp raffled off a brand new computer. Chili's, On the Border, Johnny Carino's, Dixie Café, Charlie's Chicken and Jimmy Johns all furnished gift-cards for the drawing. Sugar Creek Theater in Bella Vista, Rogers Towne Center, Springdale Bowling Alley and Rocky Mountain Man Fruit and Nut Co., all donated items as well. NWACC Student Alycia Allen liked the free food. "It's nice to grab a free slice of pizza and a soda on the way to class," Allen said.

As enrollment at NWACC increases, Spring Fling will continue to grow. By all accounts, it was a success. The Spring Fling is for you, the students. We hope to see you next year to enjoy the food, fun and to learn about area organizations.

LETTER

Continued from Page 1

tended as we presented "Quality of Life Awards" to Mr. Dick Trammel, Mrs. Pat Walker and to J.B. Hunt Transport.

A total of $100,000 was raised at the Gala. All of that amount will be used by our students for scholarships! Wal-Mart and Sam's Club Foundation paid the expenses of the Gala, enabling 100% of the proceeds to benefit our students.

A total of $100,000 was raised at the Foundation Gala.

These are exciting times at NorthWest Arkansas Community College. We're proud you're a part of it!

Good luck on final exams!
Sincerely,

Becky Paist