

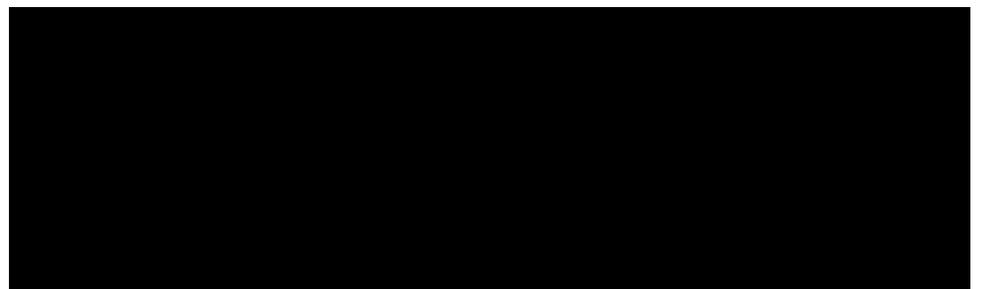
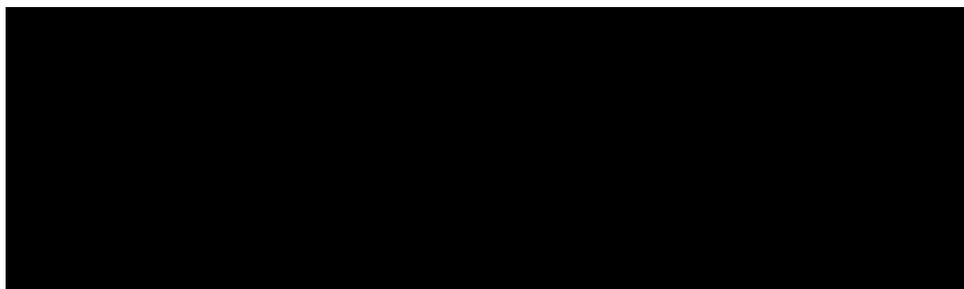
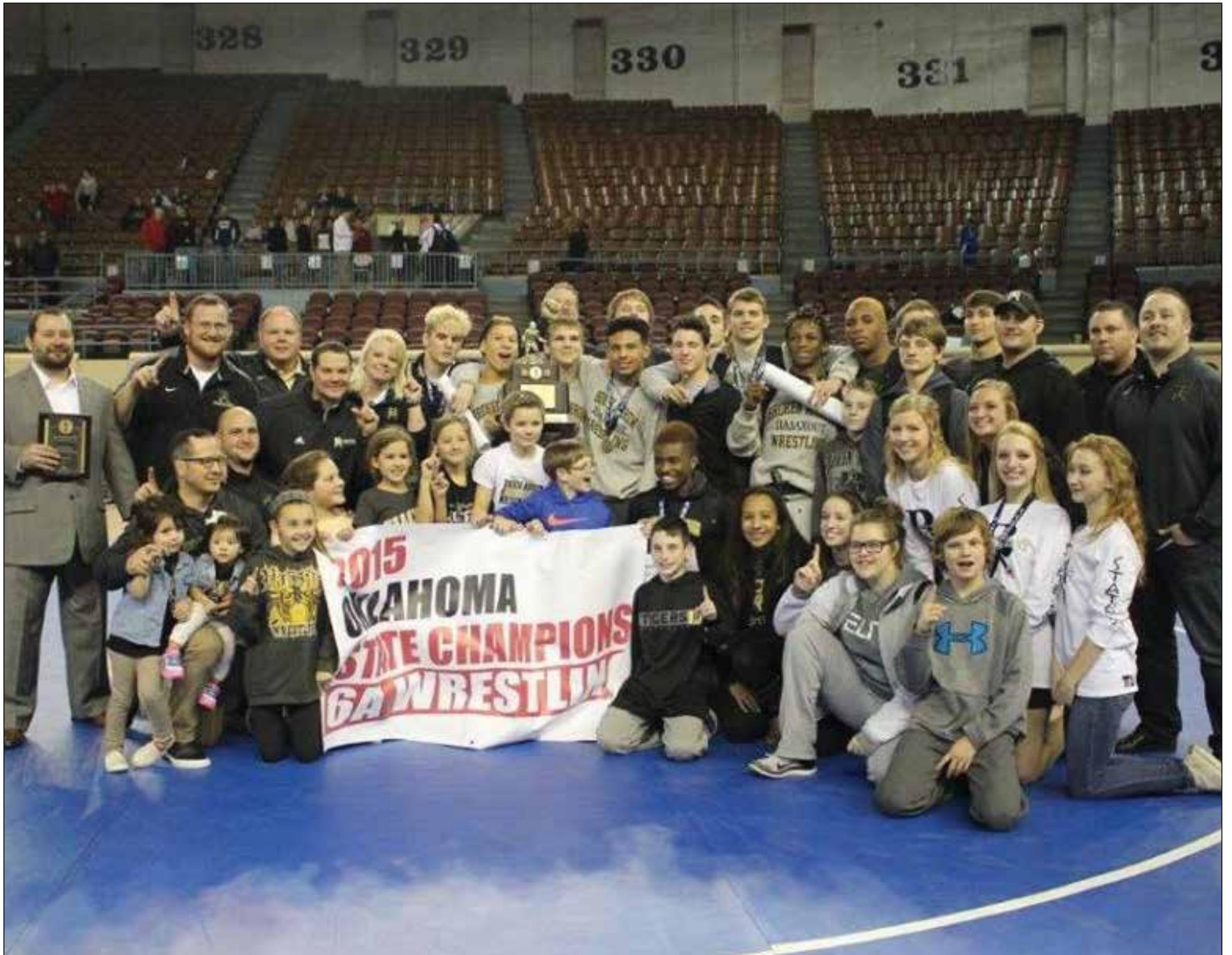
# THE ARROW

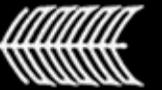
VOLUME 1

ISSUE 9



## Wrestlers win state championship





## Wrestling takes home trophy

by Abigail Yang

On Feb. 28, Broken Arrow wrestlers traveled to the State Fairgrounds Arena in Oklahoma City and came home with the state championship title.

After three years of competing, Broken Arrow wrestlers were successful in winning the trophy.

"Winning state was the best feeling in the world," senior Markus Simmons said. "To know that all my hard work paid off in the end was great."

Simmons and his teammates prepare for these matches by attending every practice, staying after practice, and working their bodies to achieve their physical goal.

Markus Simmons (126lbs), Paden Bailey (152lbs), Christian Kaser (160lbs), and Steven Allen (195lbs) all won first in the individual state

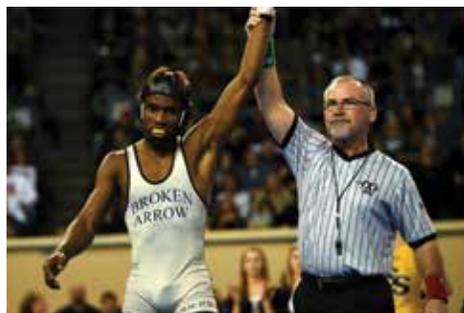
championship. In second place were Davion Jefferies (138lbs) and Skyler Haynes (182lbs).

"Winning state felt like a weight was lifted from my shoulders; all my hard work finally paid off," senior Steven Allen said.

Though motivation is very important in every sport, it is key in the sport of wrestling. Motivation for each wrestler comes in support by coaches, family, friends, and the pride they have built for themselves.

"Motivation to me is to keep going and hope that one day I can be a state champion, be the best, and make my coaches proud," sophomore Tyler Lawley said.

This win has been the biggest since 2012. Wrestlers like Jefferies, Simmons, and Allen have rejoiced in the win and are preparing for post-wrestling matches and college.



PHOTOS FROM THE TULSA WORLD

## What's your favorite thing about wrestling?

"The best part of wrestling is my team, who have become family to me."

**Markus Simmons, 12**



"I enjoy that it's a man-versus-man sport, only depending on me."

**Isaiah Page, 11**



"Competition season is stressful, but spending time with my friends makes it all worth it."

**Steven Allen, 12**



PHOTO BY ADAM FOREMAN

Sam I Am and Thing 1 read *Green Eggs and Ham*, by Dr. Seuss during Read Across America Week.

## Read Across America rolls through Broken Arrow

by Jessica Laughlin

Every year on March 2, or the school day closest to March 2, public schools across the United States take part in Read Across America. In 1997 the NEA (National Education Association) started the tradition of celebrating this event in schools.

The NEA states, "Motivating children to read is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated and spend more time reading do better in school."

The significance of March 2 is that it is Dr. Seuss's birthday. Typically, elementary schools plan the whole day around it. Students dress up as their favorite Dr. Seuss characters, play reading games, and even eat green eggs and ham at lunch in some areas.

"I've never liked reading but some of my favorite memories from elementary school are dressing up, being silly, and read-

ing my favorite stories for Dr. Seuss's birthday," Zachary Gauna, sixth grader at Sequoyah Middle School, said.

Known as a student favorite here in Broken Arrow, the Cat-A-Van travels to four different elementary schools each year for a special assembly, and features a guest appearance from Cat in the Hat, Thing 1 and Sam I Am. This year the Cat-A-Van visited Aspen Creek, Highland Park, Arrowhead and Lynn Wood Elementary on March 2, and Spring Creek Elementary on March 6.

"I think Read Across America is a great program for letting young kids discover the adventures and wonders of reading," senior Sarah Vue said.

Read across America is a great way to encourage the younger readers as well as teens and young adults to spend more time with books. Dr. Seuss is a beloved figure in the literary community and his legacy will surely live on. Next year on March 2, "grab your hat and read with the cat."

## BAHS is home to five National Merit Finalists

by Kelly Johnson

Becoming a National Merit Scholar is something that only the most motivated and scholarly students achieve, and even to be a finalist is a high qualification and skill-building honor that will help students in their future academics, as well as careers. Five Broken Arrow students have been named finalist this year: Rachel Pribble, Garret Morton, Rett Parker, Tram Le, and Brian Shell.

"I'm so excited," senior Rett Parker said. "This victory is so rewarding, but I'm more excited by all the support my friends, family, and teachers have shown me."

Each of these students took the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) to qualify. The PSAT tests students' competency in critical reading, math, and writing skills. Each finalist prepared for months before the test.

"I took the PSAT summer camp and looked over booklets," senior Rachel Pribble said.

The test is grueling, but each of these students excelled. This accomplishment will help each of the students with their futures in not only

their academic lives, but also their future work lives.

"Being a National Merit finalist has given me a full ride to Oklahoma Christian University, where I will get to study to be a minister for free," senior Rett Parker said.

This honor is only the beginning for these students. Their teachers and classmates are excited to see where the future will take them.



PHOTO BY KELLY JOHNSON

**Seniors Tram Le, Rachel Pribble, Garrett Morton, Rett Parker, and Brian Shell were named National Merit Finalists.**

## New year, new start times BAPS proposes staggered times

by Molly Bunyard

Since the tremendous student population growth, BAPS is trying to propose new start times for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year.

The proposed start and end times are 7:50 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; 8:30 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.; and 9:10 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. This separates bus schedules between the elementary, middle and high schools, allowing the right amount of buses to make their rounds.

This change may have an effect on sports, child care, students with jobs, after school activities or just students' schedules in general.

"I'd be happy waking up later, of course," junior Aubrey Humphrey said. "But if we got out at 3:50 that would really mess up my schedule, especially since I have to go into

work at 4."

Research has shown that starting school later may increase learning for high school students, and starting earlier in the day helps elementary students stay more focused in the classroom.

To make sure BAPS picks the right times for the right grade they have opened up a survey for both staff and parents. To take to the survey, go to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BAPS\\_start\\_times](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BAPS_start_times). The end date for this survey is 5:00 p.m. on March 13.

After the survey has ended and the district has received the final results, a collection of parents, teachers and district staff will make recommendations to the Board of Education.

## Urban Outfitters is open

by Alex Sams

On Feb. 19 Tulsa got the first Urban Outfitters in Oklahoma. The stylish, sleek, and unique store is located in Downtown Tulsa.

"I like how Urban Outfitters has unique decorations and how they sell record players and cool vinyls that aren't that expensive," sophomore Abigail Yang said. "They also have Tumblr-like clothing which is different from other places."

Many of the students at Broken Arrow have already made an appearance at the store to check out the clothing, vinyls, books and knickknacks that so many people are fond of. The clothing sold at Urban Outfitters is described as modern hipster, but still manages not to look cliché and "mainstream".

"My favorite part about working here is that our merchandise and store culture all revolve around

art, music, literature and culture," senior Liz Watts said. "It's so unique, and exactly what Tulsa needs."

Opening night for Oklahoma's first Urban Outfitters hosted many shoppers and also hosted some small shops and a restaurant. Clean Hands was on site for a screen-printing pop-up, along with food from The Lone Wolf food truck and drinks from Prairie Artisan Ales.

"I went to Urban on opening night and it was packed," senior Lily Hombach said. "There was almost no room to walk around."

Urban Outfitters is located at 3340 S. Peoria Avenue, and store hours are 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday - Saturday, and 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Sunday. Next to Ida Red and small coffee shop Shades of Brown, Urban Outfitters will fit right in with all of the urban and stylish shops of the area.

## Leaving for lunch

by Cheyenne Pauls

Broken Arrow High School is one of the few privileged schools in Oklahoma who have open campus lunch schedule. Having open campus allows students to come and go at their own free will in a 47-minute lunch period.

"I love open campus lunch," junior Alex Wisdom said. "The school I came from never had one, so it was actually nice for once to have a chance to get different kinds of food instead of eating the same food over and over every week."

Wisdom has second lunch and usually spends his lunch time hanging out with a group of friends at McDonald's or other fast food restaurants. Wisdom usually hangs out with 10-20 people at lunch, and juniors Tyler Thomas and Coty DeMauro are just a couple of them.

"I feel like open campus is a good idea for students to have a break off of school for a few min-

utes or so, so they don't spend all day at the school," senior Kayla Tweedy said. "If students have time off school during the day maybe they won't be as stressed as if they stayed all day."

Tweedy spends her first lunch off campus and hangs out with two of her friends every day. Tweedy expresses that she enjoys having open campus because it lets students be able to choose the type of food they want that day.

"I think open campus lunch is a good idea," teacher Shaunna Atchley said, "Open campus allows the students freedom. If I could change something about open campus, it would be to allow all the grades to leave campus, rather than just juniors and seniors."

From wasting time shopping at Target or grabbing food at a nearby fast food joint, students can be found almost anywhere during the 45-minute lunch period they're given.



## Can you escape?

by Ally Coldwell

Imagine this: you find yourself in a strange room packed with mysteries and secrets, and you have to solve them all in order to escape. You can bring any five friends you want and any resource you think would help you solve the puzzle. One more thing; you only have an hour.

That is exactly the experience a brand new attraction in Tulsa hopes to provide.

The Escape Tulsa is a live action game set up by founder Andrew Gipson and business partner Jonathan Cox. Visitors pay around \$75 for a group of up to six and have an hour to try and escape whichever one of the three rooms is chosen. The game has a less than half-percent escape rate in every room.

The three rooms that The Escape Tulsa offers are: The Four Brothers

with a 38% escape rate, The Forgotten Outpost with a 34% escape rate, and The Uptown Murder with a 9% escape rate.

In The Four Brothers room, attendees are participating in the study of an alchemist who went crazy. Visitors must figure out what made him go crazy and find a way to escape. In The Forgotten Outpost room visitors find themselves in an old soviet bunker that holds a modern assassination plan. The code must be cracked to save the victim. In the Uptown Murder room a murder investigation must be conducted and successful to stop future murders.

The Escape Tulsa is located at 1448 S. Carson Ave., and the phone number is (918)574-8995. Those interested in attending or for more information, visit [www.theescapetulsa.com](http://www.theescapetulsa.com).

## Rival Rugby

by Reid Smith

Rival Rugby is the only girl's high school rugby team in the Broken Arrow area. The program is three years old and continues to draw more and more attention every year. Traveling across the nation, Rival Rugby plays in places including Nashville, Tennessee, and all throughout Texas.

"Rugby has given me opportunity after opportunity to succeed in life," senior Autumn Jones said. "It keeps me focused and excelling on the right path."

The two main games rugby teams play are 15's and 7's. The names of the games are self-explanatory on what the difference is between the 2. One is when each team has fifteen players on the field per inning, and the other is when there are only 7 players.

"I love going to rugby games

because it's always fun watching the girls play it out," rugby fan Dallas Morton said. "It's kind of scary how fast and strong some of those girls are."

Rugby is a full contact sport enjoyed by people across the globe. Although it is played year-round, rugby is mostly played in the early spring months. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to be a rugby player. You must be physically fit and not afraid to get hurt.

"Compared to other contact sports like football, rugby doesn't require a lot of gear," rugby fan Dillon Morgan said. "I'm surprised the girls don't get hurt more often than they do."

Rugby season is among us and Rival Rugby is getting ready to play. Putting in hours of hard work, the team is looking forward to another successful season.

## THE STUDENT SCOPE

### Ross Dees, the artist

Senior Ross Dees enjoys taking photos in his spare time. He's always had an interest in art, and his enrollment in Graphic Design with Mrs. Michelle Lewandowski inspired him to do more with his photos.

"I found that I really enjoyed photography when we went over it in Graphic Design," Ross said.

Ross takes a lot of photos of nature and enjoys the outdoors in general.

"I enjoy wandering aimlessly outside and finding things that are pretty or intriguing to capture," Ross

said.

These photos, taken and edited by Dees, will be published in the spring literary magazine.

In addition to art and photography, Ross also writes. He is currently a student in Creative Writing, taught by Mrs. Ashley Spencer.

"Ross has such a creative mind. He is very talented in art and photography, as well as in writing," Spencer said.

Dees is looking forward to finishing his year and creating new pieces of art from all mediums.



PHOTOS BY ROSS DEES

Senior Ross Dees takes photos inspired by nature, including these two photos: "Snail" (top) and "Fat Bird" (bottom).

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The Arrow is a student-produced publication produced by the newspaper class of Broken Arrow High School.