Meet...Pat Simms



Place of birth?

Port Huron, Mich.

What town do you live in?

Bismarck

Your Occupation?

College Instructor/Administrator

Your family consists of?

My lovely wife Mona, sons Parker and Austin

Your favorite time of year?

Fall

How far is too far to drive for a meal?

45 miles

Best advice you can give someone?

You are responsible for your own happiness

I miss Hot Spring County's...

Mazzio's pizza 1

Which hobbies do you enjoy?

Deer hunting, golf, watching my kids play sports

The most over-rated movie?

Twilight series

Your favorite childhood memory?

Getting a new motorcycle for my 14th birthday

What do you think Hot Spring County

should get?

Paintball facility

Your favorite holiday?

4th of July

Your favorite TV show?

"Big Bang Theory"

The most famous person from Hot Spring County?

Billy Bob Thornton

The best place to spend a day outside within 50 miles?

DeGray State Park

Don't go speeding through?

Life....

The greatest influence in your life?

My mom Vicki and my stepdad Pete

Three people living or dead you would like to have dinner with?

Willie Nelson, Ted Nugent, Ron White

Favorite teacher in Hot Spring County?

The entire College of the Ouachitas faculty

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Meet...Stephen Schoonmaker



Place of birth?

Burlington, Vermont

What town do you live in?

Malvern

Your Occupation?

College President

Your family consists of?

Wife, three children - two daughters, one son

Your favorite time of year?

Autumn, when the leaves change color

How far is too far to drive for a meal?

It isn't about distance, it's all about taste

Best advice you can give someone?

Those who are smart enough to give advice worth giving are usually smart enough to realize it is best not to give advice!

Which hobbies do you enjoy?

Composing songs, decorating Ukrainian Easter Eggs, writing, photography, golfing, hiking, boating The most over-rated movie?

"Lost in Translation" I usually like this kind of movie, but in this case I think maybe the translation just wasn't worth finding?!

Your favorite childhood memory?

I have too many to really choose as a favorite!

What do you think Hot Spring County should get?

More family-oriented activities to keep our families entertained and fulfilled.

Your favorite holiday?

Christmas

Your favorite TV show?

M*A*S*H

The most famous person from Hot Spring County?

Senator John L. McClellan

Don't go speeding through?

LIFE. Too often we want it to hurry up and get here, so we end up missing the best parts of life waiting for our idealized version of life to show up.

The greatest influence in your life?

My parents

Three people living or dead you would like to have dinner with?

I would want to be amazed, to laugh, and be inspired, so I would like to have dinner with Benjamin Franklin, Bill Cosby, and the reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

Favorite teacher in Hot Spring County?

The faculty at College of the Ouachitas!

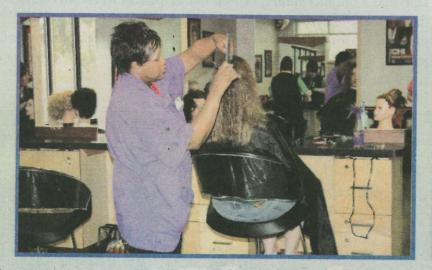
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COLLEGE OUACHITAS





Educating the Future!





A Special Supplement to the Malvern Daily Record.

A letter from President Schoonmaker

Greetings from College of the Ouachitas:

As a comprehensive two-year College, we are not only your local option for gaining workforce skills, we are also THE affordable place to start a four-year baccalaureate education.



Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker

President

We hope you enjoy exploring the articles and photographs in this section that tell the stories about the most important part

During our 42 year history, we have been known by several names, but one thing has remained the same: our commitment to providing a high quality education that is accessible and affordable to all. Whether our students' are pursuing one of our professional technical programs in allied health, business, and other applied sciences (such as cosmetology, computer information systems, criminal justice, etc.) or acquiring an Associate of Arts or Science degree to transfer to a four-year university; enrolling in our concentrations in medical office, welding, electrical apprenticeships, internships, small engine and automotive; or participating through our outreach efforts with the local high

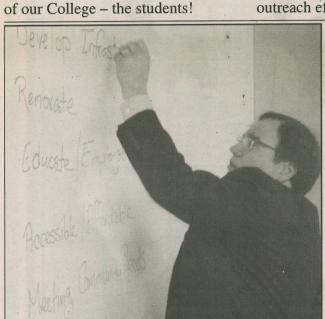
schools, career center, workforce or adult education classes – the opportunities we offer are varied, robust, and relevant to both the students we educate and the communities we serve.

College of the Ouachitas is truly the kind of college where the dream of "a higher degree of you" comes true. My selection as president of College of the Ouachitas last fall was the realization of my own dream of a higher degree of me – giving me the opportunity of leading a college into a brighter future, especially during these uncertain and tumultuous times. Moving to Arkansas and starting to make Malvern my home has been full of transitions, full of hospitality and warm welcomes, full

of firsts as a new college president and Hot Spring County community member – and ultimately – fulfilling as each day as president I affirm that this was the job I was born to have. Leading College of the Ouachitas and, through that leadership, serving the communities that comprise Hot Spring County, is a perfect fit for me.

I hope you enjoy reading about College of the Ouachitas. As the stories in the special section will attest to, College of the Ouachitas is a perfect fit for this community as well.

(Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker is the president of College of the Ouachitas)

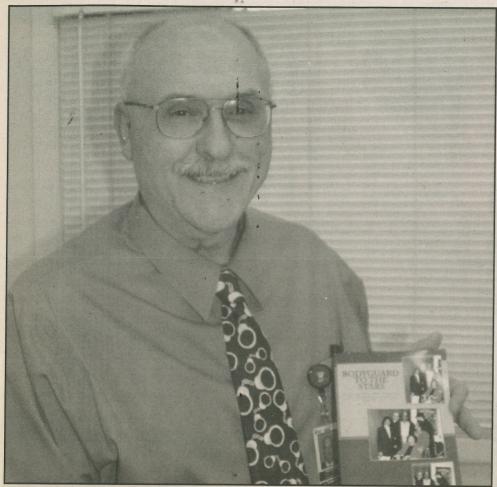


Dr. Stephen Schoonmaker, president of COTO, has become a fixture in the community.





The CIS program of College of the Ouachitas participated in the Computer Information Systems Non-COBOL Division Contest Sponsored by Acxiom at Hendrix College in Conway. Pictured are (left to right) Computer Information Systems Instructor Daniel Moix, students Adam Poindexter and Uriah Adams.



COTO to host author Dr. Fred Campbell

College of the Ouachitas' library will host Dr. Fred Campbell, Deputy Warden at the Ouachita River Correctional Unit to speak Tuesday, March 27th at 10:15 a.m. in the Lecture Hall. He has just recently published his second book, Bodyguard To The Stars. It's non-fiction book published by Motivational Speakers Institute featuring pictures of Campbell and many of his celebrity clients. Campbell is a member of the North American Bodyguard

Association and has over 34 years of law enforcement and executive protection experience. He has been a bodyguard to Joe Frazier, Stevie Wonder, President George H. Bush, Daisy Bates, Rosa Parks and many others.

His first book was Life's Lessons from Behind the Badge.

The public is invited to attend. For more information, please call the library circulation desk at 501-332-0210.

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Lauren House is a Cosmetology Instructor at College of the Ouachitas.

CCAP program has first graduate

The College of the Ouachitas CCAP Program (College and Career Access Program) had its first graduate in December – Ella "Cole" Stokes.

She met the requirements to complete the CCAP program and completed all requirements to receive the WAGE Employability Certificate. Ella is enrolled in 12 hours at College of the Ouachitas this semester. She attends school Tuesdays and Thursdays while working at Saline Memorial Hospital in Benton the rest of the week. Cole states

that her classes are going quite well this semester – thanks in part to the training she received while enrolled in CCAP.

The College and Career Access Program was started in the fall of 2011. The CCAP program is free and is designed especially for incoming students who lack many of the basic skills to succeed in the rigor of college classes. The program helps these students build reading, math, and language skills while also helping them to acclimate into the college setting.





Instructor Lois Williams offers instructions in the Cosmetology Program at COTO.

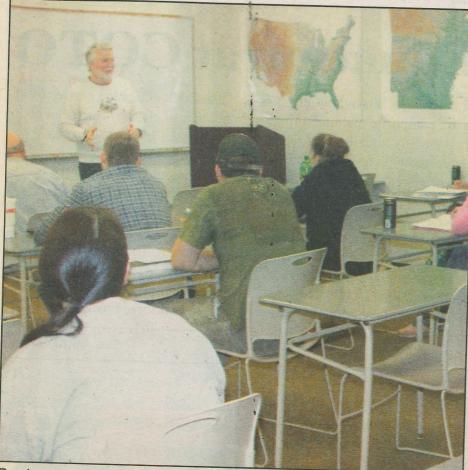
COTO Library set for'Money Smart Week'

The COTO Library will participate in Money Smart Week, April 21-28, 2012, sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank, and partners with the American Library Association. Money-Smart Week® is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances. This is achieved through the collaboration and coordinated effort of hundreds of organizations across the country including businesses, financial institutions, schools, libraries, not-for-profits,

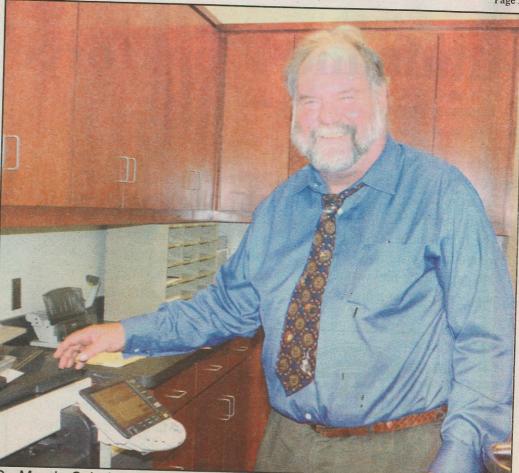
government agencies and the media.

College of the Ouachitas Library will participate this year, along with the Financial Aid Department and TRiO. Financial Aid director Teresa Avery will share the Dave Ramsey DVD set in a presentation during the week, date and time to be announced later.

National Library Week will be observed in the COTO library the week of April 8 – 14, with library questions and drawings each day for a prize.



Dr. James Young is a professor in physical and chemical science at COTO.



Dr. Marvin Schultz is a History professor at College of the Ouachitas and has been on the faculty for years.

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Adult and Workforce Eduation at COTO

By Gretchen Ritchey Staff Writer

College Of The Ouachitas' Adult and Workforce Education program wants to help local students and 'adults be successful.

The high school program is designed to give students a hands on lab experience they would not typically receive on a high school level.

COTO currently offers an aviation class to local high school students, which helps them learn the procedures of aviation from fabrication to piloting and aircraft maintenance.

Fabrication and composite classes are taught using the rivet, mold and English wheel method.

Students and adults enrolled

in a fabrication or composite class can put skills they have learned to work after graduation in the workforce community. Many companies, such as the windmill factory in Little Rock, glass and auto body shops in Hot Springs, and other companies throughout the state use composite manufacturing. There are many high demand jobs available and having the education and knowledge of fabrication and composite helps a student or adult get a better job,

Currently, Malvern High School is the only school participating in the program which enrolls 10-14 students per class. COTO hopes to soon be able to further the education by the participation of other area high schools.

The adult education classes offer a number of classes which can be found on the Internet. Campus classes range from cosmetology to law enforcement.

COTO has also begun assisting adult students with wage certificates, which can be helpful in a work environment. To receive wage certificates students learn customer service, computer usage and other related workforce procedures.

See Adult, page 7



Instructor Chad Cox demonstrates the English Wheel to David Kizza at COTO. (Photo by Gretchen Ritchey avialable on MDR website.)



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The Second Semester Nursing Class at College of the Ouachitas is a highly sought-after program.

Adult

Continued from page 6

College and Career Access Program (CCAP) is also offered at the college to students who score low on testing but have the ability to benefit from college learning.

"We want students to be successful," said Vice President Dr. Blake Robertson.

The city of Malvern and COTO are considering an employment expo partnering with local churches and other civic groups because they typically have members who are need of employment.

COTO and Malvern High School team up in program

For the last two and one-half years, the College has been operating a joint program between Malvern School District and College of the Ouachitas (COTO).

The primary goal of the program is to provide the District with a companion lab to the JAG (Jobs of American Graduations) Program that they currently offer.

With the "hands-on" curriculum, Program Managers have found that it will encourage some students who are thinking about dropping out to stay in school.

The funding of this Program is a collaboration between Malvern

School District and COTO.

The College obtained a United States
Department of Labor
Demonstration Grant
through a consortium
of several two year
public colleges to operation of an aerospace
program and Malvern
School District provided the balance of the
funds.

In creating this Program the College

combined basic manufacturing skills of fabrication and composites with the knowledge and skills that a perspective pilot would be interested in and have created a very exciting new program for area high school students.

This curriculum that is provided will eventually give each student the job skills for them to transition to a job in aviation or in an industry that involves fabrication or composites. Jobs are readily available in these fields and the Program Managers will help them locate industries that are hiring.

Starting in the fall of 2012, COTO will open the enrollment to other area high school. The only commitment

of the high school will have to make is to reimburse the College for instructional expenses on a per student basis.





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