Art Burton, a professor of history at South Suburban College near Chicago and notable author, gave a presentation about his new book, *Black Gun, Silver Star*, on January 13th, at Connors on the Warner campus. *Black Gun, Silver Star* is a history of Bass Reeves, “the most feared U.S. Marshal in the Indian Country.”

Along with an audience of approximately 100 students, instructors, and community members, Dr. Nero, CSC President, welcomed Professor Burton. Burton then gave a vivid glimpse into the life and legacy of Marshal Bass Reeves. As well as a power point presentation, there was a reenactment to give the audience a visual depiction of the once forgotten deputy marshal. Burton described Marshal Reeves as an intimidating man who was feared by all outlaws in the surrounding area.

Reeves was born into slavery in the Arkansas Territory and was moved to Texas where he worked for Col. George R. Reeves. He eventually escaped and fled back to the Arkansas area where he was introduced to the Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole Indian tribes. Reeves was believed to have served in the Civil War and after the war, he settled in Van Buren, Arkansas, and became a farmer and eventually a part-time guide for the Federal Court in Fort Smith. He advanced from a scout to a commissioned marshal by Judge Isaac C. Parker, also known as “Hanging Judge Parker.” Reeves worked for thirty-two years as a deputy marshal in the Indian Territory.

Reeves was a dedicated and relentless lawman. Burton’s presentation gave his listeners a trip back through time and a glimpse into the feared but fair peace officer’s existence and heritage. Reeves is presently working on his next book about Cherokee Bill, a notorious black outlaw from the Fort Gibson area.
Phi Theta Kappa

The 2009 inductees for the Mu Chi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa are as follows:

Alisha Holloway, Brenda Rowe, Allyssa Lewis, Whitney Tidwell, Audrey Holybee, Jana Rowe, Brooke Barnett, Rachel Miller, Christopher Stewart, Gabrielle Araujo, Judy McMurray, Georgianna Ledtje, Dena Squire, Haley Bell, Sheena Morgan, Jerritt Basquez, Johnita Moore, Jessica Byars, Diana Neumeyer, Joshua Carter, Alexandria Orf, Katie Lents, Kelsey Taylor, Layce Williams, Leah Bautista, Lindsey Tre laor, Logan James, Heidi Serpa, Logan Prichett, Lori Staggs, Mary Fisher, Meghan Frazier, Emily Quinton, Michael Ward, Noah Morgan, Pearl Dusenbery, Brandy Ponder, Phillip Stacy, Rachael Guidry, Julie Richter, Racie Jackson, Erich Schatte, Rhonda King, Felicia Sharp, Sara Brinsfield, Joshua Murr, Sarah Harvey, Keri Rowan, Shiann Wingfield, Tosha Dale, Hilda Perez, Uta-Renate Kuehn, and Sarah Smithson.

Phi Theta Kappa also announces the winner of the Muskogee campuses’ candy jar guessing game. The winner during this month is Robbi Cowan.

There will be a new prize/candy jar each month through April at the Muskogee Downtown campus on the 8th floor. The winner will be announced near the 21st of each month.

Veterans’ Administration

VA work study students, are you aware that you might be missing out on a benefit that could help pay your way through college?

If you or a parent is a veteran of the Armed Services, you could qualify for employment through a VA work-study program through the VA Dependent Education Assistance Program. To get some of your questions answered, the VA has a national education home page on the internet where you can get information about VA education benefit programs.

The address is http://www.gibill.va.gov.

Students receiving VA benefits at the 3/4 or full-time rate may participate in the VA work-study program.

If you are interested, see your school’s veterans certifying official:

Glenn Windham
Connors State College, Muskogee
Room 403
918-684-5443

Rodeo Raffle

The kick-off fundraiser for the Fred Williams Ag Equine and Rodeo Foundation is a raffle for a custom-made saddle.

The saddle, provided by the Flying Bar W Saddle Shop, will be either a half-breed roping or barrel saddle made to the winner’s specifications. Fred Williams, recently retired equine instructor at CSC, is the owner and operator of the Flying Bar W Saddle Shop and will be making the saddle for the raffle.

Tickets for the saddle can be purchased for $50 from the equine and rodeo instructors and students. The raffle will be held on March 27th.

Get Involved!!

Active clubs/organizations and their contact person:

Ag Ambassadors – Derek Marks
Aggie Club – Brandon Gunn
Behavioral Science Club – Matt Hopkins
Black Student Society – Esther King
Cheerleading – Lyndsey Sharp
Child Development Club – Jan Cowan
Ecology Club – Dr. Stuart Woods
Math/Science Club – Ryan Carlton
Phi Beta Lambda – John Maley
Phi Theta Kappa – Jolene Armstrong
President’s Leadership Class – Lyndsey Sharp
Student Nursing Association – Charlotte Vaughn
Student Government Association – Aaron Wright
The fifth floor is empty! The fifth floor was once home to the nursing program at the CSC Downtown Muskogee campus. Now the Mike Synar Center at the Muskogee-NSU campus holds all of those classes.

This move to NSU has not caused any change or addition to classes that are currently available, but the Synar Center classrooms may be a more beneficial learning environment. The Synar Center offers roomy, tiered classrooms (and more of them), offices for the entire faculty, and more lab space to accommodate the growing nursing program.

For the people who are worried about commuting between various campuses, rest assured! The nursing program’s move is only a portion of the larger picture for the Downtown Muskogee campus. Charlotte Vaughn RN, MS, Director of Nursing, states, “Connors State College and Northeastern State University have joined together to promote education in the Muskogee area. CSC was in the process of raising funds for a new building on the Muskogee-NSU campus to move the Downtown campus which included the nursing department. Muskogee is central to the area, drawing students from around at least a 50 mile radius. Most of the clinical sites utilized by the program are in this area also. Connors Nursing Program has an articulation agreement with NSU Department of Nursing RN to BSN program.”

Anyone wishing to add to the many students in the nursing program or if you just have questions, you can contact the Connors Department of Nursing at 918-781-5460.

The spring financial aid check disbursement will be
Muskogee, Feb. 9th, 1 p.m.-7 p.m., Downtown Muskogee Business Office
Warner, Feb. 10th, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Warner Business Office

The Roving Reporter . . .
What did you do during the Christmas break?

“We went to go see my parents in Nebraska and ended up turning around and going to his parents.”
Bethany Crow

“Stayed home, kept warm, and played with my daughter.”
Amber Lane

“I traveled all over south and north Oklahoma visiting family.”
Karrie Bridges

“I cooked and spent time with my kids.”
Tasha Irving

“I cooked, spent time with my kids, and studied and prepared for this semester.”
Janet Lindsey

“I started a Facebook page.”
Sheena Lawson

“I went to an OU game in EL Paso, Texas.”
Rhonda Harries

“I spent time with my daughter and grandson.”
Ziva Anderson
After the NEO outing, Connors has three home games left-Feb. 15th with Western, Feb. 18th with Redlands, and Feb. 25th with Northern-Enid. There are six games left in the regular season.

Entering the final four weeks of the regular season, the nationally-ranked CSC men’s and women’s basketball teams are taking dead aim at defending the Regional Championships both earned last year, titles that earned them trips to the NJCAA National Tournaments.

Coach Bill Muse’s Cowboys were ranked No. 3 in last week’s ratings. That was before a convincing win over Northern Enid, 90-77. Coach Eddie Kite’s Cowgirls went into their contest with the Lady Jets ranked No. 25. They handed Northern its first loss of the season, 81-77.

Coach Muse’s next win will be his 400th career triumph. His team has lost but one game this year, winning 17. Last week they had scheduled games against Northern Tonkawa and Arkansas Baptist. The week of Feb. 1st, they have encounters at Murray and Carl Albert before returning home Feb. 8th with Northeastern A & M for homecoming. It was NEO that handed the Cowboys their only setback.

Catalysts for Connors have been sophomores C.J. Washington, Ray Jones, and Orlando Brown, and transfer sophomore, Mark Rutledge. They are averaging in the double figures.

“We’ve got everything going our way,” Muse says. “We’re playing extremely well, it has been a team effort, and everyone has contributed.”

Kite’s Cowgirls are 14-4 for the season. They moved into the NJCAA women’s rankings just after the return from the holiday break.

Sophomores Megan Roth and transfer Nicole Whittman have led Kite’s team. Both are scoring in double-figures. “We’re making progress every time we play,” Kite said. “We started the season with a young team, but we’re growing up.”