

THE COLLEGIAN

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The Collegian is the student publication of Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. Feature stories and opinion pieces are published and distributed monthly during the fall and spring semesters. Timely news and sports coverage is published in electronic version at updatesc.org.

News contributions will be accepted by sending an e-mail to Angel.Vadillo@sckans.edu or through campus mail addressed to: The Collegian, Southwestern College, 100 College Street, Winfield, KS 67156.

Editorials are written by the Collegian staff members and do not necessarily represent the views of The Collegian or Southwestern College.

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Subscription rates: first copy free to students, faculty and visitors to Southwestern College. Subscriptions are available for \$10 per school year mailed.

Personal Column

Nearby cities offer lively activities

By Maggie Dunning
Staff reporter

Staycations may be great for big city folk, but what about people living in a small town or rural area? A weekend getaway may be the solution.

Wichita, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla., offer events, restaurants, and places to see that are affordable to students.

Wichita is the closest at 43 miles away and a 50 minute drive. Oklahoma City is 151 miles away and takes about a two hour drive. Tulsa, Okla. is 133 miles away and has about a two and a half hour drive time.

Transportation is always an issue when planning a weekend getaway. Carpooling with others is a cheap and fun option when money is tight.

When you finally get to your destination, there are plenty of hidden gems to take advantage of.

Garrett Chapman, com-

Movie Review

'Saving Mr. Banks' breaks Disney's stereotypes

By Daniel Van Sickle
Staff reporter

Before I viewed the Disney film, "Saving Mr. Banks," my prediction was that it was about a curmudgeonly, middle-aged woman meeting a chintz showman. Starring Tom Hanks as Walt Disney and hinting that there was some conflict in it, I figured I would give the film a try.

My previous perception of Walt Disney wasn't all that rosy, as he has a known reputation for abusing employees, on top of being a visionary. However, the biggest thing that kept me from watching this film was the preconception that it would be a nice and cheery movie with lots of smiles and cheeky dialogue. Disney's films

are usually produced as such. He said, "A hot spot a tourist wouldn't know about in Tulsa is Sky Zone. It's a trampoline park that just opened. It brings in a lot of money."

Kayla Demel, athletic training freshman, is from Wichita. She said, "One of the best events I went to in Wichita was a Shockers game in Koch Center."

Jerry Jones, athletic training freshman, is from Owasso, Okla. He said, "The RiverWalk in Tulsa is a really cool place to hang out."

Haley Fort, biochemistry senior, is from Oklahoma City. She said, "A great place to eat in Oklahoma City is Raw. It's a sushi place. It's a little bit more expensive, but its food is great."

Tripadvisor ranked Botanica No. 2 for places to go in Wichita. Oklahoma City's No. 1 attraction on Tripadvisor is the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum.

These aren't the only attractions in the cities to see though. "Wichita has the largest IMAX Theater. It is a part of the Warren Theaters," said Demel.

Chapman said, "The Oklahoma Aquarium is pretty cool. You don't get to see many marine type fish in Oklahoma besides here."

Sightseeing is a great way to work up an appetite. Luckily, large cities are great places to eat.

"Sumo in Wichita because it's kind of like Kobe's except they grill in front of you. It's a high class restaurant. Most people dress up, don't wear sweats and stuff. You should dress dressier than usual," said Demel.

Chapman recommended Shogun's Hibachi Grill in Tulsa. He said it has great service and food quality.

He also said it's relatively cheap for the amount you get and they cook right in front of you.

Fort said her favorite place to

eat is Ted's Mexican Restaurant. "It always has great food. It's reasonably priced and the wait staff is good," said Fort.

Of course in every big city, there are areas people should be careful going into.

Chapman said, "North Tulsa is the ghetto part."

Fort said, "When you get further into the downtown, traffic gets really hard to get through. Construction is still going on, so it gets really confusing."

Demel said, "There are some parts of the Wichita Riverfest that I would never go to. Just because of the people that are there. It's the trashiness of them. You just almost don't feel safe."

If you are looking to explore the night life in these cities, yelp.com is a reliable resource to use to get accurate reviews.

Maggie Dunning is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at margaret.dunning@sckans.edu

are usually produced as such. If you go in thinking that it's going to be a typical Disney film, you will find yourself wrong and a wreck after watching. The movie is based on a true story and therefore contains more of the complexity of life than a typical Disney film with just good and evil and no grey areas.

This is not a story for children. The storyline is as troubling as it is heartwarming and funny. The movie depicts not only the flaws in Mrs. Travers, despite her genius in creating the story of Mary Poppins, but those of Walt Disney as well.

This is amazing, since it is created by his company, one in which has the reputation of putting sugar and fairy dust over everything.

In effect, the film sheds some light on why Walt Disney was so fixed on creating fairytales in general, including Mary Poppins. It also explains why Disney, as a company, is more invested in being fantastical and cute than presenting a reflection of life.

Disney can be seen as a lot like DC Comics as opposed to Marvel Comics, which often has darker, more complex and older audiences. The movie is an argument between depicting things as they are versus how they should be or how we want it.

Although I have never read the story, the Mary Poppins book seems to be originally a bit darker than the movie.

The story background presented in the movie is tragic.

Although the ending to "Saving

Mr. Banks" isn't exactly a surprise, the way the story develops is interesting and there are many striking scenes in the film. Mrs. Travers' scenes with her father and how dorky and over the top Disney's greeting of Mrs. Travers is will remain with you some time after the film ends.

I would recommend "Saving Mr. Banks" to those who like serious, introspective and philosophical films. Even some that may not find it their normal viewing fare will be surprised by how much they like it. The movie Saving Mr. Banks is a touching film that also delivers a few laughs.

Daniel Van Sickle is a senior majoring in Business Administration. You may email him at Daniel.VanSickle@sckans.edu.