

Elk City and Granite Students Win at WARP

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Snow and ice delayed SWOSU's annual Timed Writing and Research Project (WARP) this year, but it did not dampen the spirit of the 18 writers who were able to attend on the rescheduled date on the Sayre campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

This year's winner was Jonah White of Elk City who won a \$600 scholarship. Second place and a \$500 scholarship went to Trey Berry of Granite. Third place and \$400 went to Cy Calhoun, also of Granite.

The WARP is a chance for high school students to compete for a scholarship, to get feedback on their writing from college instructors, and to familiarize themselves with the Sayre campus, according to event director Judy Haught.

Staying with this year's theme of "Brave New Word," White wrote "The Vision of the Future." He argued that "The future that is being created henceforth is a future where advanced robotics replaces human labor, increased communication technology causes face-to-face communication to be nearly nonexistent, and ready-to-eat food creates a generation of obese and lazy hu-mans." He went on to argue with originality for "dystopia" instead of "utopia."

Berry had a fresh perspective on the idealized future in his essay titled "The Decline in Techno-logical Advances." He asserted advances will be small instead of leaps and bounds as many would assume. Calhoun wrote on the topic of robotics today compared to the way "Rosie" the robot was portrayed in the futuristic cartoon *The Jetsons*. This paper was entitled, "Robotics: Into the Future."

"We were thrilled with the quality of the writing this year," stated one of the judges, SWOSU English instructor Terry Ford. "Overall, the students did a good job following the MLA standards for research. Congratulations to the winners."

The attending high school teachers were presented with a continuing education workshop, entitled "Using Popular Culture and Media in the Classroom." All of the visitors to campus were treated to breakfast and lunch, entertained with games, awarded prizes and were sent home with t-shirts and gift bags.