Yes! You gotta pay by March 13

By Theresa M. Pitts
Staff Writer

A n existing no-pay-no-stay policy will be enforced this semester for students failing to meet the tuition and fee payment deadlines set out in the college’s fee extension agreement.

Students must pay 50 percent of spring semester fees by 5 p.m. March 13, or they will be dropped from current semester classes, said Donna Nance, director of budget and management services, and bursar.

“To get back in classes, students will have to pay 100 percent of total charges.”

Nance said it is a difficult stance to take, but a necessary one.

“When a student enrolls, it holds a spot in class. We need to provide an instructor and a classroom.

“In order to provide an education, we have to have the revenue to do so. We can’t give away an education.”

Students dropped from classes under the policy will still be responsible for paying the fees.

Nance said students attending classes under a fee extension agreement have the opportunity to pay 50 percent of their tuition and fees halfway through the semester. In this case that date is March 13. The other 50 percent is due May 1.

Students pay a $20 non-refundable fee to enter into the agreement. The $20 is not applied toward the total bill.

The number of students who do not pay according to the signed agreement is staggering, Nance said.

See “Fees,” page 8

Are we having fun yet? VITA — the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance team that graces the lobby of the main building each year at tax time — offers tax help to a few weary souls. The service is free to the public and runs through April 15.

Enrollment process simplified

By Robyn Lydick
Student Editor

New students will not feel like ping-pong balls during the enrollment process anymore.

Efforts are underway to streamline the enrollment and retention processes here at OKCCC.

The departure of Pam Davenport, dean of student support services last August gave Marion Paden, vice president of student services, a chance to change the way the department runs.

“Pam’s departure gave me the chance to re-think my organization,” Paden said.

Previously, students would stand in line at admissions, then at counseling and again in enrollment. Paden explained.

Add in testing and career counseling, and frustrated prospective students sometimes say “to heck with this.”

“I have flattened management.” Paden said. “Rather than direct services to me, we have directed services to students.”

And service is exactly what Paden is after.

“I think more people need career counseling,” Paden said.

“Now, when a student goes to Student Development, they can identify not only their schedule, but their career choice.”

Previously, students were required to go to another office, Career Planning and Placement for career counseling.

Financial aid and admissions will also be improved. Students will be able to set appointments to see financial aid counselors.

Admissions officers will be able to help students clarify their academic standing or probationary status. Previously, this information came through counseling.

Admissions will also offer information on various majors and certificates of mastery available at the college, information which previously required a trip to counseling.

Paden gives credit where credit is due.

“No single change was my idea. I listened to everyone who reported to me,” Paden said. “Students and staff have the answers.”

Paden says she is fortunate with the timing of the changes.

“We have created perfect timing.

“We are remodeling the first floor (of the main building), revising the process with which we serve the needs of our students, and we are reorganizing people to support the needs of the college and the students.”

Student Services is also available in the virtual college.

The college website has calendars of organization meetings and campus happenings, on-line enrollment, catalogs and schedules, financial aid information and a homepage for admission and records.

Paden is enthusiastic about the convenience for students using the Internet.

Paden is proud of the accomplishments of her department. She adds, “All the money was already in the operating budget. The changes didn’t cost a dime.”
Gold medals, snowboards and reefer, oh my!

The Olympic Games draw a different audience than the standard round of sports on the boob tube. Even the coverage of the Olympics is different from coverage given to football, baseball, basketball and hockey. These sports do not require the “mom’s kitchen-table vignette” to hold the audience. The Olympics have made the mini-feature story better than the games themselves.

Ooooh, and add the scandals and allegations of sex, drugs and a rock ‘n roll bad-boy image for an athlete or an entire sport and we have either a current Western government or the movie of the week.

For Americans, the crowning touch is when an athlete from Canada gets in trouble. Kind of makes up for Dennis Rodman.

Smile. America! Ross Rebagliati won a gold medal in a new, bad-boy sport — snowboarding. Moments after his giant slalom run, officials of the games were there with their little plastic cups. The urinalysis showed traces of cannabis metabolite. That would be, in lay terms, pot. Actually, that would be the compounds left behind after the body breaks down the psychoactive compounds in marijuana, but hey, we are the media and the description will not fit in a soundbite. So we hear that “traces of marijuana were found in the samples.”

His medal and place in history are yanked. He has 24 hours to appeal.

Rebagliati said he had not smoked marijuana in ten months, but had been in the company of other smokers.

Hmmm... a snowboarder hanging around with marijuana smokers? Shock. Surprise.

The International Ski Federation pushed for marijuana testing of their athletes.

Now, the International Olympic Committee cares whether or not an athlete has consumed performance-enhancing drugs; and they should, to keep the games fair. They are games, after all.

Unless the competition is a pie-eating contest, marijuana is not a performance-enhancing drug.

The IOC tests for other drugs only at the insistence of the federations, and only in their particular sport.

As one Olympic official said, “If this athlete had been in the biathalon or the luge, he would not face sanctions for a positive test.”

Rebagliati was extremely cooperative with the Japanese police. According to Reuters news service, Japanese officials spent 10 hours with Rebagliati questioning him and searching his luggage and room.

During the examination, Rebagliati received the phone call from the Olympic committee informing him he would retain his disputed gold medal.

The Japanese police found no evidence of his possession or use of marijuana.

This athlete has been tried in the court of public opinion and found guilty of using drugs.

It should never have been an issue.
International perspectives on Clinton

Should Clinton stay in the Presidency?

To the Editor:

Infidelity is immoral but not illegal; therefore, President Clinton should not have to resign the presidency of the United States because of his alleged affair with Monica Lewinsky.

It is certainly important that a president demonstrate positive values in his personal life, but it is more important that he handle the political issues of his country properly.

Clinton’s infidelity may not be moral, but it is not unconstitutional.

Furthermore, he has been taking care of the national interests competently; therefore, he should remain the President of the United States.

—Magdelana Herrera
OKCCC student

To the Editor:

If a president or country’s leader is proven to have had an affair, he should resign from his position.

Although an affair is a personal issue and not illegal, it is immoral.

The president should be a model citizen. He should set a good example. If he has had an affair, it means he has harassed a woman.

This is not a good example for the rest of us. It shows that he can’t control himself. How can he control his country if he can’t control himself? State enemies could use his weakness to influence his decisions.

An affair is an indication that he is not the competent or proper person to lead the country.

—Gayatri Y. M. Jayanti
OKCCC student

We must start with respect for all

To the Editor:

Within the quick heartbeat of my planet home I have been very fortunate. I attribute my fortune to having encountered so many great people.

The people I have been blessed to meet come from all ages, cultures and spiritual paths. I will always be indebted to them for allowing me to see the beauty, love and history behind their paths of life.

These people have helped me see that we are all creatures of a great power that should be respected and honored. As I look about my home I see the variety of life that inhabits this planet.

As I allow myself to listen, I hear the many languages of people and as I take time to think, I find it hard to believe the powers that created the languages and variety of life around me would limit itself to one form and culture.

It seems to me the powers that be would appear to us in many forms and methods as the creatures and cultures he/she/it/they created.

This is my opinion, and I treat it as such. I refuse to force my views upon others. I respect all the paths one may take to find happiness and spiritual fulfillment.

Unfortunately, I find it hard to respect a person of any culture or spiritual path who chooses to live in the darkness of self-imposed ignorance.

To respond with hate or condemnation to a belief of culture when fear and ignorance are your only reasons is dangerous and without honor.

Groups like the Nazi party or the Ku Klux Klan follow that path and the scars they made still hurt us today.

The letter of Feb. 2 is filled with paranoia and hatred. The image of Wiccans and witches (some witches are not Wiccans) represent the Christian Church of old when putting someone to death was quicker and easier than attempting to understand their beliefs.

When will we realize we must live the honorable path of respect and equality?

I for one am tired of people attacking people when they know so little about them. This goes against what all the major spiritual paths teach, even Christianity.

—Bill Paige
OKCCC student

Desperate for plot

If you are desperate for entertainment, “Desperate Measures” is the film for you.

Billed as a thriller, the only thing thrilling was the final credits.

“Desperate Measures” is the story of what super-cop and dad Frank Conner, played by Andy Garcia, won’t do to get a bone marrow transplant for his leukemia-ridden son.

Conflict arises when the only match for a bone marrow transplant happens to be an incarcerated psychopathic killer Peter McCabe, played by Michael Keaton.

When McCabe finally agrees to the transplant, the audience can clearly write the rest of the story line, and correctly so.

What motive would a convicted man have for being transported from a maximum-security prison to San Francisco and you pretty much have the movie.

Screenwriter David Klass has built predictable and transparent characters in predictable and transparent positions.

“Desperate Measures” is a formula flick extraordinaire. If you have seen one good-guy vs. bad-guy film, you have seen this one.

—Rica Mitchusson
Staff Writer

Celebrations share roots

To the Editor:

Oh my! The letter written by Mr. Tate last month really told those Pagan students off. Not.

Allow me to express my disappointment in your conduct. Your letter reveals how little you know about Pagan belief systems.

Do you like Christmas? This is a celebration originating in Europe as Yule and Candlemas.

The taking of bread and dipping it in wine to create a Deity was used in the worship of Myrth. Both are pre-Christian beliefs.

So why are so many Christian rituals taken from Pagan traditions? Because at the beginning of Christianity, the people would not attend worship, so the Church adopted and co-opted many of the earlier celebrations.

In many instances those who refused to convert were put to death.

This tradition, if not action, of “non-believer” hate continues.

Please, for the sake of peace and respect, allow Pagans to do our own thing without fear of persecution.

For your education, here is the long and short of the Witch’s Rede (law):

Do what you will, but harm none.

—Lisa Baldwin
OKCCC student
Brazilian Pianist set to perform at OKCCC

By Trent Dugas
Newswriting I Student

Brazil's popularity stems from things such as gau-chos, coffee and the Amazon River. They also have a brilliant selection of talented pianists and the Arts and Humanities department has scheduled one of those talents in its calendar.

Brazilian pianist and educator Sonia Muniz will perform "An Evening of Piano" at 7 p.m. Feb. 24 in the OKCCC Theater.

The free concert is open to the public and is, in part, sponsored by the Oklahoma City Arts Council. The concert is part of the OKCCC Cultural Awareness Series. Muniz is no stranger to music and the piano.

She has a master's degree from the Vienna Academy of Music and a doctorate in piano from the University of Hartford in Connecticut on a scholarship funded by the Brazilian government.

Her list of achievements range from Director of the Sao Paulo Municipal School of Music to Assistant to the Chair of the Department of Piano at the University of Hartford, Conn. Muniz is also founder of the Eleazar de Carvihio Foundation and an organizer of the art festivals in Itu, Brazil.

Muniz has toured the globe displaying her talents to many fans. She has performed as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber player in numerous European countries, Canada, South America and the United States including New York's Lincoln Center.

She has participated in several international festivals: the Festivals of Jordan, the Autumn Festival in Warsaw, and festivals in Granada, Spain and Paraiba, Brazil.

Her solo career in orchestra includes concerts in Brazil, Toronto, Germany, Argentina and Switzerland.

Dean of Arts and Humanities, Dr. Manuel Prestamo, said the division is trying to do more for the college by bringing in talented, top-notch artists.

“Little by little we try to do more and more creative and exciting things to attract an audience.”
—Manuel Prestamo
Dean of Arts and Humanities

Junior college Who’s Who directory honors students

By Nick Spross
Staff Writer

Sixty-two students from OKCCC have been named to the annual directory of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior College for 1998.

Who’s Who is a national honor society for junior college students.

The students are chosen by a campus nominating committee based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success.

There are more than 1,800 institutions of higher learning that participate in the program, from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign nations.

The directory has been honoring outstanding students since 1966.

Enrique Perez, international business major said it is an honor to be named to the directory.

"It's just awesome to be one of 62 students chosen," Perez said. "I feel honored, this is my second time.”

Here is a list of those students who have been named to the directory.

- Teresa Adkins, Thomas Allen, Molly Bell, Michelle Bointy, Shelly Bross, Kelly Burns, Constance Burris.
- Kim Burris, Cheryl Cambell, Chlorea Cambell, Chris Carter, Jeff Cheek, Tony Corte, Christopher Cowan.
- Crystal Cross, Ken Davis, Alice Denwalt, Beverly Dye, Jamie Eneff, Patty Estep, Patrina Faircloth, Boyd Fulton.
- Jill Miller, Eric Neal, Carl Nichols, Meredith Owens, Sam Penny, Enrique Perez, Jeff Pittman.
- Tikajit Rai, Jamey Redden, Jeremy Reid, Joyce Roth, Donna Sale, Diana Schmidt, Debbie Siegler.
- Janita Smith, Elyane Stewart, Michelle Swedlow, Carla Thomas, Donna Thomas, Dan Tran.
- John Upshaw, Becky Wade, Kyle Walker, Gina Wall, Marcy Wiggins, Helen Willis, Debbie Williams, Michelle Wilson, Crescentia Woods.

Crystal Cross, Ken Davis, Alice Denwalt, Beverly Dye, Jamie Eneff, Patty Estep, Patrina Faircloth, Boyd Fulton.

"Little by little we try to do more and more creative and exciting things to attract an audience,” he said.

“People are attending and saying 'wow, that was good.’"
OKCCC art student creates his future

By Nick Spross
Staff Writer

Italy has Michelangelo and Donatello, France has Monet and Renoir, Spain has Picasso, OKCCC has John Mangum.

A graduate of Tuttle High School in 1996, Mangum is a visual art major and has been drawing all his life. But his art doesn't stop at just drawing.

He is also a sculptor and oil painter.

Mangum, like most artists, started doing small pieces at first, but then he moved into doing bigger items.

“I started out doing small, little drawings, but after I moved out on my own I was able to start on larger projects,” he said. Mangum said he wasn't influenced by anyone, just the love to create art.

He likes to do art work on things that relate to his real-life situations and the way he deals with life.

“I really like to do fantasy art and things that relate to that,” Mangum said. “Abstract in shapes that relate to different things.”

He works on his art as much as he can each day, putting in many hours. Working on his art puts him at ease.

“I do art because it puts me in a tranquil and peaceful state,” he said. “It puts me more in touch with myself and the way I feel about myself.”

Mangum has never entered his work in any contest, not that he didn't feel he could win, he just didn't know how to go about entering.

“I really don’t know too much about where contests are or how to enter them. I do my art for me to have something cool to look back on,” he said.

Mangum plans on making a career out of his work and plans on adding some animation features.

“I would like to make some money off what I’ve done, and would like to make some animation films with my art,” he said. “It would short videos.”

“I do art because it puts me in a tranquil and peaceful state.”

—John Mangum Visual Art Major

Above: Super Sculpey sculptures by Mangum.
Left: Charcoal drawing Mangum completed earlier this year.

Photos by LaWanda LaVarnway
Highlights

Two scholarships up for grabs
The High School and Community Relations department announces the American Business Woman’s Scholarship, for both women and men, deadline March 16, and Women of the South Scholarship, for women only, deadline March 6. Applications may be obtained in the Office of High School and Community Relations.

Dancer-choreographer to visit campus
Award-winning choreographer Dianna Maroney will present a free lecture and demonstration at 7 p.m. Feb. 19 in the college theater as part of the college’s Spring 1998 Cultural Awareness Series.

“A Raisin in the Sun” next on lecture agenda
Dr. Paul Lehman of the University of Central Oklahoma will lecture on “A Raisin in the Sun” from 7 to 9 p.m. March 4 in the library room 206. This is the second of four lectures sponsored by the Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities. Each lecture is on one of the books related to the topic: “Family: The way we were, the way we are: Seasons in the Contemporary American Family.”

Science club to visit KWTV 9
The science club will take a field trip to KWTV 9 from 3 to 7 p.m. Feb. 27. Club members and others interested in a tour of Channel 9’s meteorology department, a visit with Gary England and watching the news broadcast, are asked to sign up in Brenda Breeding’s office, 1C5 in the main building. Transportation is provided.

Financial aid applications now on the web
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now available to students and prospective students over the internet. Access the Student Financial Aid Center web page at: http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/~financialaid
For those without Internet access at home, the Student Financial Aid Center and the library have student work stations set up for this purpose. To accurately complete the FAFSA, on the web, bring your 1997 tax return, and if married, your spouse’s return if it was filed separately. If you are a dependent student, bring both your and your parents’ 1997 return. If you want to save your FAFSA data, you will need a 3 1/2” disk.

Collegiate Secretaries International officers meeting
Anyone interested in CSI is encouraged to attend the officers meeting at noon Feb. 19 in CU4. The floor will be open for suggestions.

United Methodist Student Ministry says “join us”
The Methodist student group invites everyone to join them in Bible study at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at St. Andrews United Methodist Church, located at S.W. 119 and May Ave. The topic of study is “The real you, discovering your identity in Christ.” Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information contact John Upshaw at 691-4876.

Disabilities committee seeking nominations
Nominations are now being sought for four major awards presented annually by the Oklahoma Governor’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (GCEPD). Deadline for submission is March 1. Information and nomination forms may be obtained by calling Pat Saunders at (405) 521-3756 or 1-800-522-8224.

HOPEful bidders win big at auction

By Rica Mitchusson
Staff Writer

When was buying a date in good taste?
When Leon Langguth bid $100 and won HOPE secretary Brenda Campos at the Bachelor-Bachelorette auction.

In fact, good taste was the order of the day because bidders also received a two-for-one coupon to Chelino’s.
The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education held the auction Feb. 10 to help raise money for the group to attend the Feb. 26 Leadership Conference in Austin, Texas.

Langguth, a former OKCCC student, explained that his roommate urged him to participate in the auction to help the club.

“She asked me to do it, and it’s for a good cause,” Langguth said.

Langguth’s roommate didn’t attend the auction, but Campos was happy with the results.

“It’s good for the organization and we are going to have fun,” Campos said.

Other dates went for between $10 and $50.

HOPE auctioned off 12 of its members to the highest bidder for a Valentine’s dinner date.

Marissa Ortega said she bought Francisco Galaz because, “He is my friend.”

Knee-deep in heavy bidding, Wil Grant stopped the activities momentarily when he asked emcee and auctioneer Mike Jones, also coordinator of student activities, if he had time to run to the bank.

“Asked why he was bidding, Grant said, “They weren’t making enough money for the trip (to Austin), plus the girls are pretty.”

Miriam Campos summed up the auction action by saying, “I bid for a good cause and I wanted a date.”

Enrique Perez, HOPE president, stood on the block with fellow club members. A $10 bill purchased his company for an evening.

The event, which brought in a total of $295 was more successful than expected, Perez said.

Does your club or organization have news to share with the world? If so, we’re interested!
Contact Student Life reporters Rica Mitchusson or Lloyd Nickell at 682-1611, ext. 7675 or drop by the Pioneer offices in 2M6 in the main building.
Make good money while you make good grades

Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all currently enrolled OKC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ads must be submitted in writing with IDs supplied or work area and college extension included. Deadline for advertising is 4 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. Call 682-1611 ext. 7674 for more information.

POSITIONS


AUTOMOBILES


FOR SALE: '90 Acura Integra GS, PW, cruise, sunroof, 5 spd., AM/FM cassette w/graphic equalizer, 4 new speakers, tint, new alt., 2 new tires, highway miles, $4,500 OBO. Call: 942-7032. FOR SALE: 527-8529 or leave message. FOR SALE: '78 Mercedes Benz 450 SE. 4.5L, light blue, Bosch fuel inj, ac, runs and looks great, 110K miles. $3050. Call Greg: 631-0917 or 672-2867.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Dark-stained wood and hunter green tile top dining table and 4 chairs, less than 2 years old, excellent condition: $200. Call: 631-9925, leave message. FOR SALE: Computer desk, nearly new, $35. Call: 947-7003

SPORTS

RUGBY PLAYERS WANTED: OU Rugby Club (est. 1974) invites prospective male rugby players to join the OU Rugby Club. Practice days are Wed. night at 8 p.m. Can leave in carpool from Norman. Class is fun and camaraderie. Train and play one block east of Owen Stadium. Need not be OU student. Call Jonathan: 745-3994.

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

FREE

February 16, 1998 • PIONEER • 7
Past due accounts force existing rule out of hiding

“Fees,”
Cont. from page 1

Last semester, 42 percent of the 3685 fee extension agreements signed were in default at mid-semester.

“We realize it is hard to come up with the fees all at once, and we were trying to offer another option. The fee extension agreement was not intended to allow students not to pay at all,” said Harold Case, dean for student affairs.

The agreement, signed by the students, states that they will be administratively withdrawn from classes if they fail to pay according to the payment schedule. Nance said the college has never enforced that policy until now.

“Before, we just didn’t allow any further enrollment activity. The problem with that is that our collection went past due accounts, keep increasing. Now we’re going to do what we said we were going to do.”

Students whose financial aid is in question, or those with an outstanding fee balance whose award did not equal 50 percent of tuition and fees, will also be dropped from classes.

Nance said students who are working on obtaining financial aid should be aware of the upcoming March 13 deadline.

“If students are still in limbo as to how much financial aid they are going to receive, they need to see financial aid,” Nance said.

Those students who have finalized their financial aid award should not be affected by this action, said Harold Case, dean for student financial aid services.

Case said student loans have already been disbursed, allowing those students to pay their tuition and fees bills.

The main check disbursement for other types of financial aid will be made on Feb. 20, allowing students to pay their bills in time for the March 13 deadline.

“I think the largest group who won’t meet the 50 percent (fees paid) are those who did not receive financial aid equal to 50 percent of their tuition, and those students who receive no financial aid at all,” he said.

“There is still time to file for financial aid this year. However, we may not be able to process it by the March 13 deadline.”

Case said students in question about their financial aid can stop by the financial aid counter in 1K2 of the main building any day of the week and check the status of their application.

Students who are not expecting financial aid, but are in question about their account status, should obtain a fee statement from admissions or go to the bursar’s office which is located in 2K4 of the main building.

“The key is to do this before March 13 so we don’t have a lot of students being dropped and having to be reinstated,” Nance said.

A letter notifying students of their account status will be mailed March 2.

Nance said students dropped from classes will receive a letter stating that they have been withdrawn and how they can re-enroll.

OKCC Faculty association votes to open membership to part-timers

By Rica Mitchusson
Staff Writer

The OKCCC Faculty Association recently voted to invite adjunct professors and retired full-time faculty to join as associate members of the group.

The OKCCC Faculty Association chair, and professor of psychology, Nirmala Varmha, full-time professor of composition and literature, echoed the consensus of the association concerning adjuncts.

“They need to be heard,” Varmha said.

Most part-time professors were unaware of, and somewhat surprised by, the vote.

Thomas noted some of the problems associated with being an adjunct, especially for those who teach at night.

“In the evening, nobody is in the offices.”

Occasionally full-time faculty will teach a night class, but we (adjuncts) are isolated, disjointed from the overall organization.”

Thomas sees benefits in the opportunity to participate in the association.

“It’s a win-win situation. Just being invited is a morale booster.”

Yoder, who originally joined the OKCCC staff as an adjunct, agrees with Thomas.

“This will make a difference in how we view ourselves; adjuncts are part of us,” Yoder said.

The Faculty Association next meets from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 24 in 3N0 of the main building.