

PIONEER

April 19, 1999

Financial Aid disbursement draws near

By **Jamie Johnson**
Assistant Editor

Still waiting to receive financial aid? The next disbursement is April 23.

"This disbursement is mainly for Pell Grants," said Evelyn Benson, financial aid counselor.

The disbursement covers the mid-spring awards and the awards not yet received this spring, she said.

"Some students were awarded after the last disbursement date and now these students will be able to pick up their money."

Benson said this latest disbursement will mainly apply to students who have been delayed in getting their money for various reasons.

"There are often times when we have to make adjustments to correct some awards and this disbursement allows us to get the money to our students," she said.

Students can pick checks up at the student bookstore during daytime hours with a current student ID or drivers license.



Photo by John Thomas

A fresh start: Katie Whitaker fills out paperwork that will enroll her in summer classes at OKCCC. Whitaker is a pre-veterinarian medicine major.

Foreign students benefit from OKCCC educational offerings

By **Michaela Marx**
Newswriting I Student

Looking at people moving through the halls of OKCCC, it may seem that most of the students are typical American college students. Look again.

OKCCC is a popular school for many international students. Melanie Scott, college admissions officer, has the numbers to prove it.

This spring, 670 international students from 77 countries are enrolled at the college. Scott said several continents are represented — Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America.

The largest number of international students come from Asia, especially Vietnam, India and Taiwan.

See "Foreign," page 12

OKC bombing remembered four years later

By **Melissa Guice**
Editor

As of April 19, 1999, 1,461 days have passed since a bomb ripped the north face off the Alfred P. Murrah building in downtown Oklahoma City. The results were 168 deaths and a memory that will last forever in the minds of many people.

Some were still in high school.

Jennifer Mason, OKCCC student, was in her ninth grade classroom in an Oklahoma City school when the bomb exploded.

"I was in science class. An entire row of windows [in the classroom] were cracked."

Student Susan Domer was in geometry class in an area high school.

"The building shook and our class was just really quiet for a second.

"I thought it was a sonic boom. I never thought there was a bomb."

Others were teaching a class during the explosion.

"I was teaching Modern Humanities in room 1C3," said Bertha Wise, OKCCC professor of composition and literature.

"We didn't hear a thing." Wise said the after-effects of the bombing are what affected her.

"I was driving home that afternoon and I saw a huge column of black smoke still rising over the city skyline," she said.

"I still remember that image."

There were others who

"I thought it was a sonic boom. I never thought there was a bomb."
—Susan Domer
OKCCC Student

weren't even in the state when the building blew up.

"I was in Houston. We were watching TV in class when they broke into the programming to show the bombing," said Jennifer Blackmon, OKCCC student.

Blackmon had family and friends who lived in Oklahoma City.

Joey Spross, OKCCC student, also had family in the state even though he was nearly 1500 miles away in Pennsylvania.

"We were at my aunt's house in Philadelphia when a broadcast came over the TV when (the bombing) happened.

"I had to call my mom and make sure everything was OK."

Others were at OKCCC during the bombing.

"I was sitting in President Todd's office when the bomb hit," said Pat Berryhill, OKCCC executive director of institutional advancement.

"We thought that something had happened on our campus.

"Dr. Todd even called the physical plant to find out if something had happened. Finally we saw the TV

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Inside

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Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Judge not, lest ye be judged

"Love your neighbor as your brother."
 "We're all equal in the eyes of the Lord."
 "It is not our place to judge."

These are phrases that we all hear frequently and accept, but do we practice them?

The article in last week's issue of this paper titled "Speaker says homosexual lifestyle is not God-created," has brought this question to my mind.

We claim that it "is not our place to judge," yet we feel the need to tell homosexuals that their lifestyle is wrong and that they are lesser people for embracing such a lifestyle.

To be fair, we give them the chance to change their ways and become heterosexuals before they die and go to hell.

I ask you, is this fair?

Is it fair to tell someone how to live their own personal life if their own personal life is not affecting the lives of others? Is it fair to expect homosexuals to become heterosexuals even if they have no heterosexual feelings?

In his speech, Stephen Black, an ordained minister and co-director of First Stone Ministries, compared a homosexual's sinful lifestyle to that of a murderer's or a pedophile's.

There is a difference here.

The lifestyle of a homosexual does not affect anyone outside that person's private life, whereas a murderer or a pedophile invades the lives of those he kills or molests.

From the Ku Klux Klan to the Nazi Movement during World War II, our history is full of discrimination in the name of God.

At one point in our not-so distant past, black people were thought to be inferior in the eyes of God.

Such thoughts as these seem ridiculous to us now but at one point we believed them to be true.

Perhaps one day we will look back at the anti-gay movements of today as being ridiculous as well.

If we ever want to become the loving Christians we claim to be, we must first learn to get over our prejudices against those who are different from us.

Instead of trying to make everyone the same as us, we must learn to embrace what makes us all individuals, whether it be a clothing style or one's skin color or religion or even one's sexual orientation.

—John Thomas
 Staff Writer

Gays: not an acceptable trend

To the Editor:

I'm writing in response to Kyle Walker's letter to the editor.

First of all, I'm glad Kyle apologized for chewing the guy out who was distributing the literature because Kyle's actions were not well thought out.

Secondly, there is definitely something wrong with homosexuality. "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination..." Leviticus 18:22, King James Bible.

The problem is that more and more people are accepting homosexuality to where it is almost trendy to be gay.

"It is true that we are all the same in God's eyes, but this doesn't mean we should accept something that is wrong."

—Patrick Figaro
 OKCCC Student

People are not born gay.

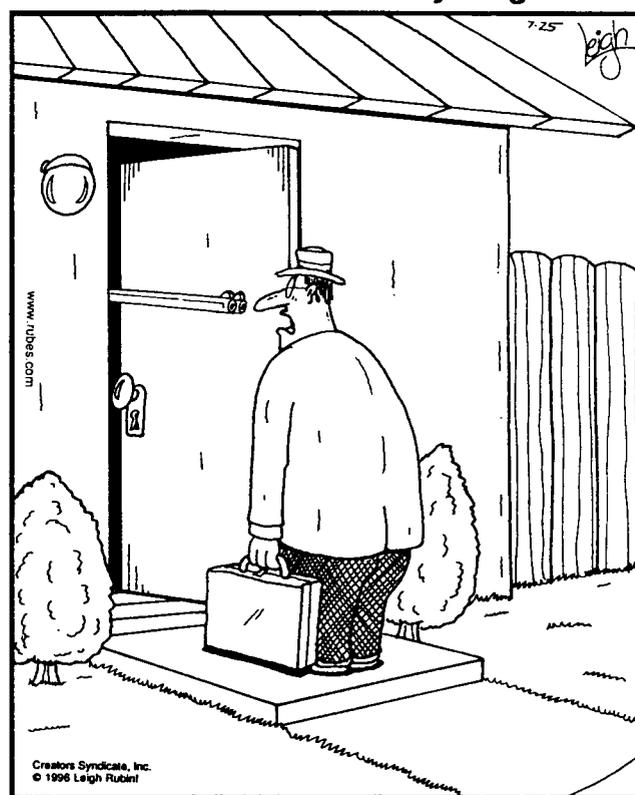
While it is true that everyone sins, God would not make someone who sins without choice.

Being gay is a product of one's environment and past experiences.

Finally, it is true that we are all the same in God's eyes, but this doesn't mean we should accept something that is wrong.

We've received several e-mails and letters regarding the recent speaker on campus. He believes homosexuals can change their sexual orientation. What do you think? E-mail us at: editor@okc.cc.ok.us

RUBES[®] By Leigh Rubin



"May I assume then, Ma'am, that you're not interested in seeing the very latest in home-security systems?"

As a Christian, I know everyone sins and has imperfections; this is human nature.

Christian people should not be prejudiced against homosexuals, but, rather, we should try to show them God's love.

—Patrick Figaro
 OKCCC Student

PIONEER

Vol. 26 No.13

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The PIONEER is a publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts and Humanities. It is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session.

All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. However, the PIONEER will withhold the name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

Letters to the editor can be delivered in person to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Editor Melissa Guice, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to 682-7568.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@okc.cc.ok.us. A phone number for verification must be included.

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.okc.cc.ok.us>



Have an opinion to express? E-mail
 Melissa Guice, Pioneer editor, at:
editor@okc.cc.ok.us or drop off your letter
 to the editor in 2M6, main building.

Comments and Reviews

Unmarked cars unfairly judged

To the Editor:

I am responding to the editorial in the April 5 edition of the Pioneer written by assistant editor Jamie Johnson. I cannot tell you how angry the article made me. I think it is only fair to make it known that I work for a police agency within the Oklahoma City metro area, so I do know a little about what I am saying.

I called the Pioneer office prior to writing this and found out the writer's age and whether she was a student.

I discovered that Ms. Johnson was in her early 20s, which would account for the obvious rebellion that she displayed when she wrote, "I decided I would never pull over for an unmarked car. I value my life more than that."

Well, Ms. Johnson, you will NOT pull over one time for a police car and that should cure you of your

blatant disregard for law enforcement.

Officers have a duty to enforce the laws of the land and to protect its citizens against crime, not just to pull people over and hassle them. They also have a responsibility to investigate those persons who so choose to impersonate police officers, which they have done, and I might add, have taken into custody and put through the criminal justice system as they are required to.

In your editorial, you made it appear that the impersonation of officers was a direct result of the unmarked police units being implemented in our society. Something you neglected to mention in your article was that long before there were unmarked police units, there were people out impersonating police officers.

Unfortunately, having

these cars on the road has made it much easier for those individuals to commit the now felonious act of impersonating an officer, but that does not give any individual the right to deliberately evade a police officer. That is evading a police officer and carries a penalty of up to one year in county jail. Another law is

"Don't break the law and there will be no reason for you to elude the unmarked car."

—R. Beth Andrus
OKCCC Student

trying to get passed that would make this a felony.

The instances you noted in your article about people being pulled over by those who were not officers were very, very few. Three of the

four you mentioned were committed by the same person who was apprehended but not yet convicted of the crime.

You must have had to dig way down in the trenches to come up with the example of the young woman who was shot by an impersonator. It does not happen as often as you would like for everyone to believe.

It was unfortunate that a life was taken as a direct result of this; however, with everything in life, there are positives and negatives. Every time you get into your vehicle you are taking a chance on being killed in a car accident. I might add that those chances are far greater than being injured or killed by someone impersonating an officer.

In conclusion, it is important to note that the unmarked cars in the RAAID program have a

lighting system that would be difficult to imitate. As my partner says, "You could land a plane with those lights." That is just how alive with lights they are.

My advice to you, Ms. Johnson is this: Don't break the law and there will be no reason for you to elude the unmarked car.

You are young and that would account for the irresponsible response to being lit up by an "emergency vehicle," impostor or not.

And just like writing for the school paper, life is a learning process by which your attitudes and ideas will change with maturity. Perhaps, though, you might give a little more thought to the comparison you made of the ideas of unmarked cars to that of communism. They are two totally separate ideas and should never be compared to each other.

—R. Beth Andrus
OKCCC Student

Anything but a typical Valentine's Day

Typically, Valentine's Day is remembered as a time for candied hearts and kisses. But for me, this year's V-Day will be remembered as a time for black hearts and vampires.

Valentine's Day or Halloween? That was the question going through my head as I stood in the middle of a room full of "Goths" waiting for the band to start.

Over 150 people showed up to see Black Tape For Blue Girl and Fountainhead play at CD World in Norman on February 14.

Black Tape For Blue Girl is from Chicago and stopped in Norman during a small U.S. tour.

B.T.F.B.G. sounded beautiful, but it was Norman's own Fountainhead that brought life to this party of the living dead.

Fountainhead's dark metal sound shone as they played heavy ended songs like "Sebin" and "Till the



Fountainhead

Mike Valadez on drums and OKCCC students James and John Barbour finishing out on bass and guitar. They recently released their first album entitled "Blind In Submission."

"Blind In Submission" is The Cure meets Black Sabbath. It's dark and heavy, but with a touch of something more than metal.

Whether Fountainhead is Goth, metal, or a combination of both is beyond me. But one thing is for sure, this band rocks!

"Blind In Submission" was recorded independently and is available in cassette format.

To get a copy of the album or to find out dates on upcoming Fountainhead shows, the band can be e-mailed

at: blind_submission@hotmail.com

—John Thomas
Staff Writer

OKCCC College Republicans looking for a few good conservatives

To the Editor:

The Japanese culture was (and is) based on obedience. Conform, believe, serve the "greater good," society over the individual. The Nazis exploited a similar German flaw: order, fit in, follow.

Any group of people who does not question what they are told is a disaster waiting to happen; ripe for the first unscrupulous person to gain a leadership position. An unquestioning group of followers can be convinced that the Jews are deserving of extermination, that the space ship behind the comet is coming to save them or that Clinton is doing a good job.

Always question and

think about what you hear from your government, media, priest or ayatollah. You may decide that you agree and that's fine.

But intelligent, independent thought is necessary to preserve freedom, to protect us from abuse by the powerful.

Moral of the story is: Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

If you would like to be a staff sponsor or a member of the OKCCC College Republicans, please contact Janice at the office of Student Life at 682-1611, ext. 7523.

—Eric Lewis
OKCCC Student and
Acting Chairman of the
OKCCC College
Republicans

Check us out on the web:
www.okc.cc.ok.us

College clubs, organizations honored at Annual Jubilee

Generosity and volunteer work rewarded

By Valorie Rodgers
Contributing Writer

OKCCC is home to several organizations that devote countless hours not only to improvement within their own field of interest but to society as well.

These organizations were honored at the 6th Annual Jubilee held April 9 for activities such as adopting highways, tutoring young children and generating good will and cheer through volunteer work at local hospitals.

The ceremony is set up to show gratitude for the role these organizations play in the involvement of the school and the community.

Approximately 16 organizations were recognized and a number of awards were presented for outstanding achievements made throughout the year.

The event was co-hosted by Mike Jones, coordinator of student activities; Diana Boyd McElroy, dean of student life, and Janice Raney, assistant of student life.

This year's theme, "Carnival," was energized by two crazy clowns from Shriner's Circus and the Oklahoma Jugglers Association.

"It was really fun and will definitely bring me back next year!" stated an enthusiastic Michelle Perry, of the Campus Activity Board.

Door prizes were given away and stunts were performed by flexible "Frogman" Jason Mayo, and "I-Can-Still-Stand-On-My-Head-Past-Forty!" Jones.

Eleven awards were given for achievement in six areas.

Judges consisted of three faculty members, three staff and three students.

The first-place award for Organization of the Year

went to the Student Physical Therapy Association Organization, with second place going to the Phi Theta Kappa. An award for Most Improved Club was bestowed upon Abilities Galore.

Three outstanding students received Volunteer of the Year.

Trena Whitefield walked away with first place, and Anita Franks second, both of the SPTAO.

Mike Walters took third for his work in the Psychology/Sociology Club.

The Most Beneficial Service Project Award was presented to the Psychology/Sociology Club for donations for rape victims and contributions to the YWCA.

Most Creative Activity awards were given to two ingenious organizations.

The Chess Club took first for tutoring children and members of Phi Theta Kappa placed second for their "Stuff The Bus" activ-

"This end-of-the-year celebration is our way to honor the clubs that often go thankless."

—Janice Raney
Assistant of Student Life

ity.

Sponsor of the year was awarded to Gary Houlette of the Native American Cultural Awareness Organization.

The Best Scrapbook tied with both the Drama Club and the SPTAO taking home honors in this endeavor.

Raney said a great time was had by all who attended the festivities

"This end-of-the-year celebration is our way to honor the clubs that often go thankless," she said.

"They help support our college.

"By giving them special awards, we try to show our appreciation for their outstanding efforts."

Richard Rouillard chosen to serve on honors committee

By Melissa Guice
Editor



Richard Rouillard

Of the 1200 international Phi Theta Kappa chapters, only five scholars are chosen to serve on the Honors Committee.

Richard Rouillard, for the past three years, has been chosen as one of those five.

Rouillard, OKCCC professor of composition and literature is a co-sponsor for the college's PTK chapter.

His being named to the committee is a great honor and entails certain responsibilities, he said.

"My responsibilities will include developing study guides from which all members in the organization will work as they explore the Honors study topics for the next three years," Rouillard said.

This year's study topic is "The New Millennium: The Past as Prologue."

Rouillard explained the topic as the past being a learning tool for the future.

"Take for instance, the war in Yugoslavia," he said. "They have been fighting over that land for more than 100 years; it was a prelude to World War I.

"You'd think we would learn from that past experience, but we find history continually repeats itself."

He has seen at least 2000 students inducted into OKCCC's PTK chapter over his 15 years as a sponsor for the honors group.

Rouillard recognized that while PTK is an honor society and encourages joiners, it is much more than that.

"It's a sign of achievement. Nothing I can say or do will make our members achievers, and Phi Theta Kappa gives these students the opportunity to evaluate themselves from a different perspective," Rouillard said.

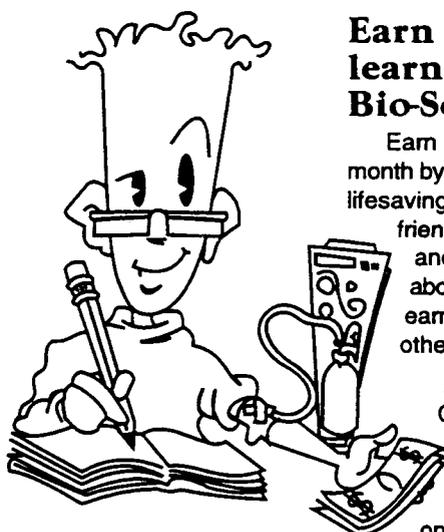
He added that the emphasis in PTK wasn't only on student recognition but also on skill development.

"The society has a proven track record of helping students develop the skills they need to be leaders. They can become officers or committee members or work to solve problems in our community. It's all up to that individual."

Rouillard said the quality of students and the support of the college staff were his two main reasons for being involved in PTK for so long.

"I wouldn't have stayed in the organization for 15 years if not for the excellent people who make things happen at our college."

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April is Child Abuse Awareness Month
"Hug, don't hit, a child."

OKCCC students and faculty write, direct, star in plays

**By Darcey Ralls
Staff Writer**

The last theater production of this semester, "Open Plains Originals," consisted of 10 plays which were all written by students who recently completed an OKCCC intersession course, "Write the 10-minute play," taught by adjunct Professor Linda McDonald.

All of the plays were either directed by McDonald or OKCCC students.

Student directors included Tom Johnson, Stacia Roybal, Michael Cross, and Caroline Mosley. Assistant directors were Alice Onco and Holly Wilson.

The plays were performed on the first floor of the library with the audience sitting in a semi-circle

in front of the stage. The cast often ventured into the audience as part of the play.

"It's a different way of staging; it's much more intimate," McDonald said.

The first play, "A Good Day to Die," was written by OKCCC student Spencer Francis. It revealed an Indian legend about the owl.

In another play, "Daddy's Little Girl," by Tom Johnson, a nervous teenager faces his girlfriend's dad before the first date.

"Remote" was about two characters who were larger than life.

They sat around and watched television. Each character was played by three different students (at the same time).

Several of the plays were very serious in nature. "Falling Broker" was about a man who had just leaped

to his death and "Wanda's Dress" featured a woman who was buying the dress that she would be buried in. In "Killing Time," a murderer's wife met the spouse of one of her husband's victims.

On the lighter side, "Y2K: It's A Wrap" used special effects to create a mummified scientist who wanted to be brought back to life in the year 2000.

"Secrets" was a steamy piece about a half-dressed young man who was hiding a few secrets of his own.

McDonald said that the students were really pumped about the experience.

"Many are getting an idea of what they love about theater.

"Some are moving away from the acting aspect that drew them in and are now looking more seriously at directing or writing."



Photo by John Thomas

OKCCC student Shane McKenna plays the part of Donnie, a 16-year-old who meets his girlfriend's dad for the first time in the play "Daddy's Little Girl."

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Annual student art show draws crowds

Sixty-five winners named in graphic and visual arts categories

By Jamie Johnson
Assistant Editor

Art students spent countless hours working on the paintings, sculptures and designs that were on display in the recent student art show.

After the art, displayed the week of April 10 through 16, was judged, the winners were awarded at a program held April 13.

Carolyn Farris, OKCCC professor of visual art, organized the showing and awards program.

"There were about 75 entries this year," she said.

Farris said there were two major categories — graphic art and visual art.

The graphic art in the show was computer generated and the visual art included paintings, mosaics, ceramics and drawings.

A crowd of about 100 gathered in the college union to watch the awards ceremony.

Lyn McDonald, graphics communication professor, presented the graphic communications awards.

Best of show went to Kyna Burnett for "Cyber Swim on My IBM," designed and created on a Macintosh computer with the program Adobe Photoshop.

Mary Ann Moore, professor of visual arts, presented the awards for the visual arts along with Farris.

Best of show went to Gretchen Hoffner for her "Self Portrait."

In the category of Graphic communication, several students received best of category.

They include: Bob Norton, Kyna Burnett, David Swanson, Melanie Clobes, Connie Fuller, Dustin Burns, Patricia McClure, Kathy DeVore, Lona Donnell, Cole Potter, Robert Purser, Gail Lee, Anik Ruiz, Josh Bessinger, and Carisha Hallet.

Honorable Mention award winners were Bob Norton, Sarah Blackwood, Dustin Burns and Gail Lee.

In the category of Visual Arts, there were also several Best of Category winners.

They were: Donald Lizenbee, Rebecca Henderson, Thuy Bui, Paula Wells, W.J. Hodgson, Wesley Crone, Betty Robins, Rick Tautfest, Elizabeth Andre, April Jackson, Lynn McKnight and Jerry Bennett.

Honorable Mention winners in the visual arts category were Melanie Holcombe, Wesley Crone, Betty Roberts, Kathy Collins, Alex Bagajewicz, Jeffrey Chen, Michelle Weng, Peggy Hilbert, Betty J. Robins, Dan Williams, John Mangham, Ray Garrity, Barbara Weaver, Mark Nunn, Rachel Conway, Cyndi Andrews, Brandon Lewis, Sherri Crutchfield and Rick Tautfest.

Susan VanSchuyver, dean of arts and humanities, was present to congratulate all the winners.



Left: Jeff Hyden looks at a painting titled "The Rock" by P. Wells. The painting was entered into the visual arts category of the recent Annual Student Art Show.



Left: Stephanie Cavaners looks at some of the art pieces entered into this year's Annual Student Art Show.



Left: Sherrie Hodgson takes in the beauty of "Painted Pavillion" by D.C. Swanson. The category was Miscellaneous Designs, with the medium being acrylic paint.

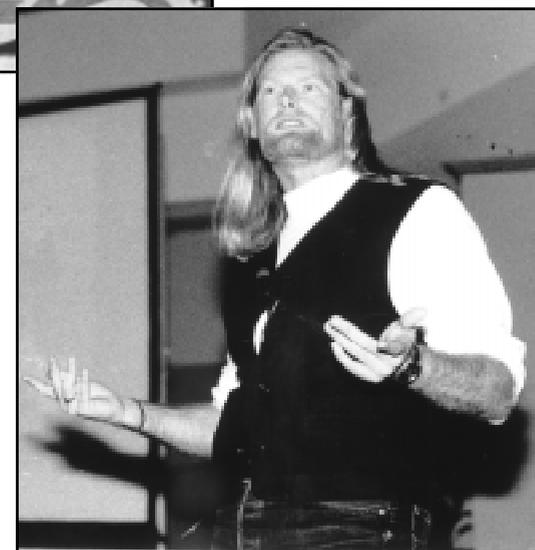


•PHOTOS BY
JOHN THOMAS•



Left: Jennifer Gooch, left, and Sherrie Hodgson spend time at the Annual Student Art Show, held April 10 through 16.

Right: Video Artist Rick Glenn spoke at the opening reception of the OKCCC Annual Student Art Show. Glenn is a video game art director for Pandemic Studios. He has helped create such popular games as "Battle Zone" and "Quake."



CrAzY Olympics entrants go for the gold



Left: Trisha and Travis Sutterfield of the COTAS #1 team display the first-place ribbons they won in the egg toss competition. Trisha said it was her favorite event because "We won!" The married couple are students at OKCCC studying occupational therapy. Their winning strategy may have included a third party. The Sutterfield's have a baby on the way.



Above: PTK/HOPE team members (left to right) Stephanie Goad, Marcie Green and Stacia Roybal cheer on their team during Crazy Olympics. The team won first place in the volleyball competition and tied for first place in the spin-the-bat event.

Right: The Actions Galore team is lined up and ready for the egg toss contest. Pictured are: (left to right) Carmel Graves, Meredith Dunkenson and Alice Denwalt.



**By Darcey Ralls
Staff Writer**

Some students went a little crazy April 9 when they participated in OKCCC's ninth annual Crazy Olympics.

Teams tried to out tug, out toss, out spin and even out eat each other during the day's festivities.

Events included tug-of-war, volleyball, big mouth, spin the bat, egg toss and air head competitions.

First place winners for the individual events were the Chess Club in the tug-of-war, the combination team of Phi Theta Kappa and Hispanic Organization to Promote Education in volleyball, and the Student Occupational Therapy Assistant club dubbed COTAS #1 in the egg toss.

In the big mouth contest, one member from each team attempted to fit a larger number of marshmallows into their mouths than fellow competitors.

The COTAS #2 team tri-

umphed with 22.

The Psychology and Sociology team was victorious in the airhead competition by blowing up the most balloons in the allotted time period.

PTK/HOPE and Chess Club tied for first place in the spin-the-bat competition.

The first place overall winner of OKCCC's ninth annual Crazy Olympics was COTAS #2.

Members of the winning team consisted of: Chad Diebold, Jerry Cole, Cindy Estell, Denny Sawson, Charlotte Trobaugh and Lynette Farrell.

A wheelbarrow race was held between PTK/HOPE and the Chess Club to determine who would take second and third place in the overall competition.

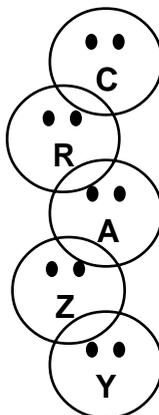
PTK/HOPE finished the day with a third place standing and the Chess Club team placed second.

**Photos by
Darcey
Ralls**



Left: Barbara Zumpfe spins the bat for the Aging Studies club. She said she had a great time competing in the day's events. "I really enjoyed it," she said. "We got third in the marshmallow contest."

Below: Coordinator of Student Activities Mike Jones gives OKCCC student Kelly Thompson of the Psychology/Sociology team her bag of marshmallows for the big mouth contest. One member from each team participated in the event.



Computer lab assistant has come a long way, baby

**By Sharon Kear
Magazine Feature
Writing Student**

"I always thought school was for anyone but me. I just was never interested. Now, I don't know what took me so long to come back."

Seated in a stately fashion, dressed in a soft rose and lavender sweater dress suit, and smelling of lilac, the only thing that seems to move about OKCCC student and computer lab assistant Clara Dell Baker, is her eyes.

They swiftly scan row after row of computers in the lab, taking in each student, their posture, the look on their faces, their body language.

Sometimes she will sit for several minutes not moving, not saying a word, then suddenly she will get up and walk over to a student just sitting in front of a computer.

Even if a hand is not up she can tell if help is needed.

Suffering from painful Carpal Tunnel Syndrome since the early 1990s, Baker has continued to grow in her own school work as well as patiently inspiring her computer lab students.

Baker has worked in the lab for about two years, helping others learn the computer world.

At one point, she wasn't sure she would ever be in the position she is now.

Trying to cope with the frustrations of raising a teenager, she enrolled at OKCCC in 1991 hoping to find balance in her life.

Having never held a public job before and being a homebody for so many years made this latest endeavor quite a challenge.

She had not been in a classroom since she was 15 and, even then, her grades had been poor — especially in math.



Photo by John Thomas

Clara Dell Baker

Depression over her grades and a very persuasive boyfriend prompted Baker to drop out of school and begin married life.

Now, close to 40 years later, she found herself asking, "Why am I even trying this?"

Baker said she was afraid to take a math class, knowing math was her weakest point. So she put her major down as art, hoping math would not play an important part.

"I think I was in shock my first year, but I fell in love with computers," she said. "They took my mind off of things."

She changed her major to computer technology in 1992, after she had already earned 120 credit hours and before she got up the nerve to even try to earn a degree.

"It is so ironic," she said, "Now, you're talking to me and saying how easy I make it all seem."

hire a tutor.

After working with Clara and seeing her try so hard, Professor Ted Lemser refused to let her give up.

"I refuse to let one of my students just fall through the cracks," he told Baker. "We will just keep working together until we succeed."

Baker said that made her want to succeed.

She said she began to think, "Yes, I can do this."

She calls her database instructors her dream team. Without them, she said, she would have failed.

"Professor Lemser and Dr. John Baker are absolutely wonderful," she said, "I was so depressed I was crying after one math test I failed."

"I called Professor Lemser. I didn't even think, it was after hours but he came and talked to me anyway. He was so understanding."

Lemser is proud of Baker's success.

"She motivates me," he said. "She is such a factual person. Others will benefit greatly from her work."

"I think she will go on to get a bachelor's degree."

Baker said the time she has spent at OKCCC is special.

"I smell home when I walk through the doors each morning," she said.

"When I look at the people that I can help, even a little, and I feel I can give back just a fraction of what I have received and I watch my students go from frustrated, unsure and frightened, to confident and happy about themselves, I see me in them. It is such a lift for me."

Baker will be among the graduating class of 1999, earning an associate degree in computer technology, with good grades in most of her other classes.

She is still a little concerned about the math grade.

"If I fail, they can just hold my degree and I will take math again next semester," she said.

"But I will graduate."

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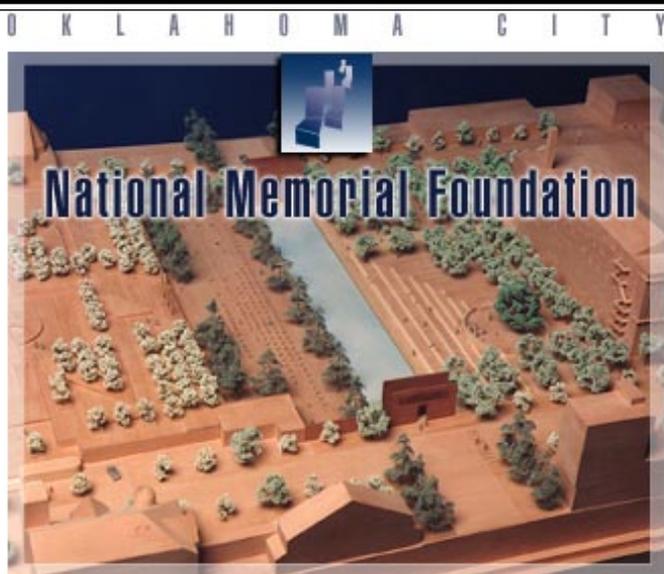
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Bombing memorial moves beyond planning stages

By Melissa Guice
Editor

One hundred sixty-eight chairs will soon be set on the remains of the Alfred P. Murrah building as part of a memorial being constructed to remember those who died in the April 1995 blast.

The Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation will also include two large gates on each end of the complex with the inscription, "We come here to remember..."

The eastern gate opens up to a small walkway dubbed "9:01."

The footprint of the former Murrah building is to the south. Here will sit 168 chairs in remembrance of those who died. The footprint will be surrounded by evergreens that stand watch over the empty chairs. This is "9:02."

North of the chairs is the Survivor tree serving as a witness to the violence of April 19.

The chairs, the Survivor Tree and its terraces meet at a reflecting pool's edge toward the west. The western gate is "9:03."

Lippert Bros., Inc. General Contractors of Oklahoma City, are the contractors for the memorial.

Currently, the site is beginning to take shape.

The Memorial site and the museum scheduled to be set up in the former Journal Record Building are the main areas of interest.

The concrete plaza around the Survivor Tree is almost finished.

The foundation for a gateway that will mark the start of the reflecting pool has been started.

As for the costs, fund-raising is under way.

The foundation has raised nearly \$20 million. Another \$10 million is still needed for the project, its long term care and operation.

The National Memorial Foundation will hold a memorial from 8:30 to 10 a.m. April 19 at the bomb site to honor survivors, families and rescue workers. For more information or to obtain tickets, call 235-3313.

Former OKCCC student recounts horrors of days following bombing

By Melissa Guice
Editor

OKCCC student journalist Marcy Beck walked into the Oklahoma City newspaper office where she volunteered.

It was the day of the bombing and she had already heard so much about the downtown explosion.

But, as another student in the office was offered an internship with Cable News Network, CNN, Beck could not resist.

"I remember I said, 'If you go and you don't take me with you, I'll never speak to you again,' and she took me."

Soon after, Beck began a grueling CNN internship covering the midnight to 8

a.m. shift while she waited tables and went to school full time during the day.

While the internship lasted just a month, many of the images of the site are still fresh in Beck's mind.

"There are times when I'm downtown that I can remember exactly where every single barricade was located," said Beck. "It's hard to forget."

Beck recalled the sights of the nearby buildings that were destroyed in the blast.

"It was so weird to see bricks just lying there, scattered around on the ground. I mean these are bricks out of strong brick buildings and they are just covering the roads," she said. "Windows had been blown out of buildings blocks and blocks away."

Beck described the fed-

eral building as a barren cemetery.

"It looked like a graveyard, but a graveyard with flood lights on it 24 hours a day."

Miles away from the bomb site, life was just as hard as being yards away.

"I didn't know day from night. I slept through days. I woke up unsure of the time or the day."

Beck said it would only get harder.

Shortly after the bombing, President Bill Clinton visited Oklahoma City at a memorial for the families of victims and the survivors of the bombing.

Beck was working at the state fairgrounds for CNN in the press pool room.

As she walked in, she noticed a Secret Service Agent guarding a door.

"I looked at him and he had a single tear running down his cheek. I just lost it. I think I cried for about two hours."

By June, CNN had reduced the workforce in its temporary Oklahoma City bureau. The internship was over but the memories remained.

"I can still remember the assignments editor (from CNN) calling the morgue every night to get the body count."

Beck said the bombing opened doors for her but she wishes it could have happened a different way.

"I wouldn't have gotten to meet all of the famous journalists I met if not for the bombing. That's sad to say but it's true.

"But I'd give it all back if it would just bring back one person to one family."

As for the future of the bombing memorial and the trial, Beck can empathize with the survivors who still need closure.

"You don't forget something like this and, for some, you don't forgive."

"But you have to look forward."

"You can't always look at the past or pretty soon, you'll live there."

Students, faculty, staff remember April 19, 1995

"Bomb,"

Cont. from page 1

broadcasts and realized what had happened."

Berryhill and others were bombarded with calls from schools and publications outside of Oklahoma asking for any information on the bombing.

It was assumed that the international media were just calling any business with the name "Oklahoma City" preceding it, Berryhill said.

Mary Turner, OKCCC student development counselor, was in a staff meeting during the explosion.

"We had a very rude awakening that morning," Turner said.

"It was hard to balance our personal feelings and student concerns throughout that day."

John Richardson, director of computer systems development, was on his way to Dr. Gary Rankin's office, formerly located on the second floor of the main

building, when the bomb went off.

"I walked into Dr. Rankin's office and felt and heard what we thought was some heavy equipment falling on the third floor."

The two checked upstairs.

After finding nothing wrong, they called to see if an accident had occurred during the then-construction of the school's library. Again, there was nothing happening on campus.

"Finally, we walked down the incline out of the main building and looked around."

"The library wasn't built up too much, so we were able to see off towards downtown."

"There was just dark, black smoke off in the distance — we knew something was wrong," Richardson said.

"There are three events that I'll always remember where I was in my lifetime."

"The day JFK was shot, the first man on the moon and the Oklahoma City Bombing."

Highlights

Producers to discuss public television in U.S., U. K.

A lecture featuring two seasoned professionals in the broadcasting world will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 20, in the OKCCC theater. Gwyn Williams, BBC senior producer and visiting professor at OKCCC, and Dr. Arnold Goren, television performer and producer, professor emeritus and former vice chancellor of New York University, are the featured speakers. This event is sponsored by the Office of Global Education and Cultural Programming at OKCCC, with support from the Oklahoma Arts Council. For more information, call 682-7579.

Oklahoma Blood Institute needs OKCCC blood donors

A blood drive will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, and Thursday, April 29, in CU3. On April 21 and 22 OBI will have a table set up outside of CU3 so that students, faculty and staff can sign up to give blood. This way, OBI will know how many people to expect each day so they can send enough staff to ensure that donors don't have to wait too long. Pre-registering is not mandatory, but it is strongly encouraged. Everyone who donates blood will receive a free T-shirt, mini-physical, juice or pop and cookies. For more information, contact Rachel Perrin at 297-5559.

OKCCC students to be honored at awards ceremony

The twenty-third annual OKCCC Student Awards Ceremony will take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 23 in the college union. The President's Awards of Excellence and Certificates of Achievement will be handed out. Awards will also be given to students from each of the campus clubs and organizations. The recipients of the Jack Cain Memorial Scholarship, the Kay Edwards Memorial Scholarship and the Matt Skvarla Journalism Memorial Scholarship will be announced, as well as several others. Marion Paden, vice president for student services, will serve as master of ceremonies. A reception will follow. For more information, contact the Office of Student Life at 682-7523.

Faculty, staff celebrate National Poetry Month

OKCCC will celebrate National Poetry Month with a series of selected readings and original work in the college library. At noon on Monday, April 19, Linda Marshall will read selected works and at 12:30 p.m. Naomi Christofferson will read. At 5 p.m. on April 19, Robert Jones will read original poetry and selected works. On April 22 at 12:30 Michael Punches will be reading selected poetry.

Tuition fee waiver applications available

Summer tuition fee waiver applications are now available in the student financial aid center. Completed applications should be returned to the financial aid center no later than April 23. No applications will be accepted after 5 p.m. on April 23. Academic tuition fee waiver awards will be posted in the student financial aid center on May 7.

Conference to highlight quality in business

The Oklahoma Quality Award Foundation will hold its third annual conference, "Designs For Success," on April 22 at OKCCC. The conference brings together business leaders to share ideas on successful strategies. Tom Dolan, president of Xerox, will deliver the keynote address. Other featured speakers include Gov. Frank Keating and Gregg Golden of Southwest Airlines. For more information or to enroll in the conference, call The OKCCC's Training Center at 682-7562.



Photo by Darcey Ralls

Just clowning around: Clowns from the Shriner's Circus entertained guests at the Jubilee Awards Carnival on April 10 (see related story, page 4). Pictured (l to r) are Christina Fazio, newly-elected co-president of the Psychology/Sociology club, Hot Wheels, To Go and Vanessa Mendoza, president of the Hispanic Organization to Promote Education. Hot Wheels is the son of Sue deCardenas, secretary to the director of Academic Division Support Services.

OKCCC celebrates poetry

**By Darcey Ralls
Staff Writer**

Professors, staff and students at OKCCC are celebrating National Poetry Month by presenting a series of readings by famous poets as well as original material.

English professor Richard Rouillard kicked off the festivities on his birthday, April 12. He read original pieces from his book, "In Time's Own Garden."

Rouillard's subjects included Rosemary, Grape, Wild Sage, Iris, Coconut, Two Roses, The Drought and The Storm.

Rouillard said that these are some of his most recent works which represent the natural phenomena demonstrated in flora.

Diane Broyles, professor of modern languages, recited French and Spanish poetry and translated them to English on April 14. Also reading that day was Todd Mihalchik, adjunct profes-

sor of English at OKCCC.

Other readers included adjunct Professor of English Mary Punches and Bertha Wise, professor of English.

Wise said it is important to include poetry in our lives.

"It offers us a point of view, another way of seeing a part of the world. Sometimes it takes a poet to point out another way of thinking."

Wise added that the growing number of coffeehouses and other places that offer poetry readings have made verse much more popular.

"It (poetry) connects us as humans through time and space and across cultures. Some of the greatest poetry doesn't necessarily have angst and heartache, but people can say they recognize others' experiences in poetry that they have had themselves." Wise said.

Several other poetry readings are scheduled through the end of April.

On April 19 Linda

Marshall, Naomi Christofferson and Robert Jones will read original poetry and selected works. Diane Trout Harwood will read on April 21, Michael Punches will read April 22 and Dianne Krob will read April 26.

Twelve OKCCC theater students will participate in the poetry readings on Wednesday, April 28.

The performance serves as a learning outcome for students enrolled in Patrick Daugherty's Acting II class. The students will perform at 2 p.m. and at 4 p.m. in the library.

At 12:30 p.m. on April 29 non-native English speaking students from Michael Punches' English 1213 course will read poetry in their native language. The poetry will then be translated into English.

For more information about the National Poetry Month poetry readings, read the Highlights section of the Pioneer, the message board in the library or call Bertha Wise at 682-1611 ext. 7658.

Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all currently enrolled **OKCCC 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 5 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. Call 682-1611 ext. 7674 for more information.

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- 17 Take a firm stand
- 20 Suffix meaning "sort of"
- 21 Fencing sword
- 22 Grown-up
- 23 Spinning toys
- 24 Askew
- 26 Fuel rating
- 29 Eat to lose
- 30 Pat (on)
- 33 Novelist Bellow
- 34 Brazilian dance
- 35 Fury
- 36 Cornhuskers' city
- 40 Before, poetically
- 41 Like some tables
- 42 Glides downhill
- 43 Pole
- 44 "Dear" one
- 45 "It — matter!"
- 47 Pub offerings
- 48 Daddy
- 49 Lodging place
- 52 Dried-up

- 53 Greek letter
- 56 Occasionally
- 60 Hindu princess
- 61 Chilled
- 62 Seven days
- 63 End of a threat
- 64 Christened
- 65 Paris airport

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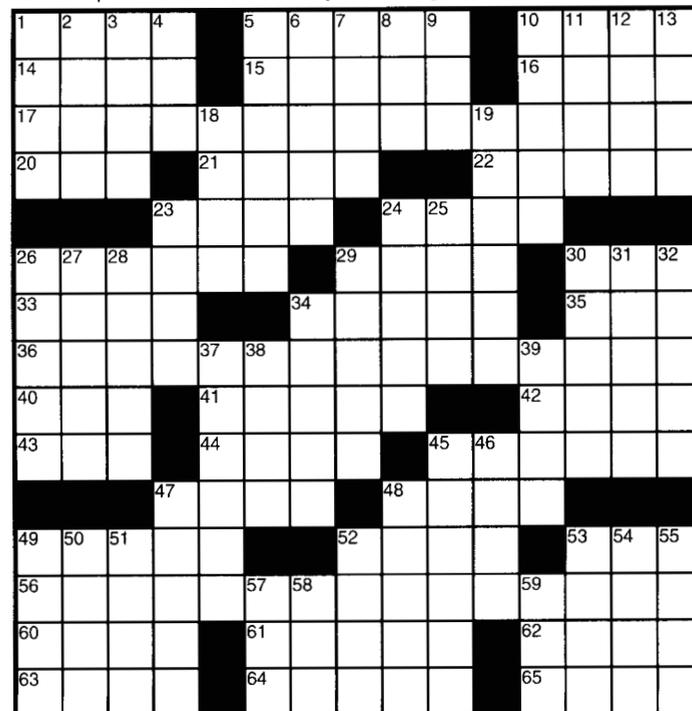
- 1 Arizona Indian
- 2 Important work
- 3 Accompanied by
- 4 Mr. Durocher
- 5 Treeless tract
- 6 Lawyers' workloads
- 7 Abundant
- 8 In the past
- 9 Chairman —
- 10 Tea holder
- 11 "— Ben Adhem"
- 12 Whimper
- 13 Confined
- 18 Inert gas
- 19 Cream of — nose
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- 24 Intended
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- 27 Capital of Egypt
- 28 Fixed the piano
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OKCCC's international student population hails from 77 countries

"Foreign,"
Cont. from page 1

But, Scott said, students from more exotic countries like Eritrea or Sierra Leone are also enrolled at OKCCC.

European students tend to choose universities over two-year colleges, said Scott, who advises many international students at the admissions office.

Scott also assists students with visa restrictions and transferring credits from foreign universities.

She said international students choose to attend OKCCC for several reasons.

One is its size, which allows smaller numbers of students per class. This makes it possible to have closer contact with professors.

Scott said that is an enormous advantage for people whose first language is not English and who are not familiar with the American college system.

Another important factor is the college offers many activities and programs for international students.

For example, English As A Second Language, is taught by Professor Abra Glenn-Allen Figueroa. The class is designed to improve English skills if English is not a student's native language.

The college also offers the institutional TOEFL (Test Of English as a Foreign Language) as well as preparation sessions.

This test is required for international students who want to attend American colleges.

TOEFL is an examination designed to show the student's ability to read, write and understand English.

In addition to the educational offerings, there are clubs and organizations foreign students may want to join such as the International Students Association or the Asian Cultural Exchange Club.

Besides the activities, support and advice offered, Scott said, these organizations also provide foreign students the opportunity to meet others.

Scott said OKCCC is an excellent school for students who want to transfer to four-year institutions because it has cooperative programs with many major Oklahoma universities.

OKCCC gives the international student an opportunity to become familiar with the criteria and expectations of an American college before transferring to a large school such as the University of Oklahoma, she said.

Summer science academy students to study DNA

By Jamie Johnson
Assistant Editor

OKCCC will host one of the summer science academies the State Regents approved.

Dennis Anderson, OKCCC professor of biology, is director of the project. He will teach the academy, "Applying the Skills of Technology in Science" to students in grades 9 through 11.

"We'll be teaching students how to do different lab procedures, especially

DNA," Anderson said.

After the data is gathered, the students will then take it to a research facility. Then, they students will publish reports of their findings on web sites they will construct.

"When they return to their high schools [in the fall], they will present their findings," Anderson said.

State Regents approved 35 summer science and math academies to be held at 23 Oklahoma colleges and universities.

Although OKCCC will host only a science academy this summer, Anna

Wilson, dean of science and math, said the college also hosted a math academy in 1990.

"The program was started by [OKCCC math professor] Mary Maples in 1990 when she submitted a grant proposal to have the academy at OKCCC," Wilson said. "I submitted the grant proposal from 1991 through 1996."

"Next year we plan to submit grant proposals for both the math and science academies," Wilson said.

Interested persons should contact Anderson at 682-1611, ext. 7271.



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