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# PIONEER



Photo by Melissa DePew

**If you bake it, they will eat:** Students Michelle Hendrickson, left, Doug Miller, center, and Nancy Bettes sell cookies for the Occupational Assistant Therapy program. Bettes said profits from the sale of the 35 dozen cookies and two dozen cupcakes will go toward community service projects.

## Distant turmoil close to home for students from Yugoslavia

By Michaela Marx  
Staff Writer

Serbian students at OKCCC watch from afar with hope and despair as widespread unrest sweeps across the Balkans.

Student Jasmina Juric observes from Oklahoma as things unfold in her home country.

"People in Yugoslavia are scared. They want to be free," she said.

She left Yugoslavia four months ago and is now an OKCCC student.

The presidential elections Sept. 24 shook the fragile

structure of Europe's problem child Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavian president Slobodan Milosevic clearly lost to his opponent Vojislav Kostunica. The Yugoslavian election commission announced a 48.96 percent to 38.62 defeat, according to CNN reports, while independent sources stated Kostunica won 51.34 percent over 36.22.

Yet Milosevic refuses to turn over his power.

Student Bojan Milenkovic, also from Yugoslavia said his country is unfairly vilified because of the activity of a few.

"The whole world hates our country, but it is only

Milosevic and his people who are bad.

"The Serbian people want change," he said.

The presidential elections should have brought that change.

### Milosevic holds on

Although he was clearly defeated, Milosevic won't relinquish his power, according to CNN reports.

He acknowledges the lead of his opponent Kostunica, yet he pushes for a run-off election, which he set for Oct. 8.

The opposition has rejected the run-off, because they feel that a leader has been clearly chosen, ac-

ording to the reports.

The Serbian people are on the streets. Protesters have taken over TV stations. Fires were set in the parliament and the state television station.

Even though she is safely in the United States, Juric said she is scared and fears the outcome of the situation.

Milenkovic said he is hoping for a positive outcome. "I think this is his end."

The people are sick of the violence, the communists and the life they have led for more than 10 years, he

See "Yugoslavia," page 12

## Memory of math professor lives on

By Vu Vu  
Staff Writer

Professor Jack Cain, one of OKCCC's original professors when the college opened in 1972, died in May 1996 after a mountain climbing accident in Washington.

But his memory lives on in the form of the Professor Jack Cain Memorial scholarship.

"He was well liked by the students and respected," said Masil Masilamani, Engineering Club sponsor and engineering professor.

"He wrote several textbooks and was very hard-working."

The engineering department will have a book sale Oct. 16 and 17 in the main building to fund the scholarship.

But first, Masilamani said, the club needs books.

He said the club accepts all books donated and members will pick them up.

Those wanting to donate books or apply for the scholarship can call Masilamani at 682-1611, ext. 7394.

The scholarship will be for engineering students only.

One of last year's recipient of the scholarship was Cameron Dobie.

Another memorial scholarship fund-raiser by the math department will occur next spring.

Masilamani said the deadline to apply for the Jack Cain Memorial scholarship is Nov. 15.

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Smoker to blame for choice, not tobacco company

The current anti-tobacco campaign focuses on the guilt of the tobacco companies. This isn't right. That is as logical as blaming the bathroom door if you hit your big toe on it.

Don't get me wrong, I think it is good that the big tobacco companies have to pay for damage done in the past. Without the lawsuits, the companies would not have admitted to some responsibilities and poor tobacco addicts would still die without a warning on the cigarette pack.

Yet, I believe, today, it is every smoker's own responsibility. Everybody has been warned. The correlation between smoking and cancer was scientifically proven many years ago. Millions of dollars have been spent on educating the youth. Smoking is not even accepted in society.

Even a five-year old can name at least 10 reasons not to start smoking... yellow teeth, stinky breath, lung cancer, dying at a young age... yet still millions of people are smoking.

Then there are the various ways to quit ... gums, patches, self-motivation books, and classes... yet millions of people are still smoking.

To top it all, there is the free will issue. Sure it is an addiction, but there are means to live through the cravings. Nobody makes you or even wants you to smoke. The smoker chooses to smoke and therefore he can also choose to quit. Yet millions of smokers choose to continue their smoking addiction.

In my eyes the tobacco companies are only the providers. They are selling and marketing their product, which is not only legal, but pulls in a lot of taxes for the United States. They are like any other advertiser, even if their product is controversial.

The smoker is not a victim. Nobody has inflicted any harm on her against her will; she has the common sense and the will power to use or not use the product.

Why doesn't the tobacco campaign focus on this aspect? Nobody likes to feel stupid or weak. Whereas it is OK to be a poor innocent victim. If the antismoking ads would focus on the weakness of smokers instead of blaming the provider, their message would be clearer.

Handing all responsibilities over to the provider softens the message. It is always easier to blame someone other than one's self.

People need to choose not to smoke, because of the consequences, not because a campaign tells them not to. If you choose not to smoke, do it for yourself, not because tobacco companies are a bunch of suit-wearing devils who are chasing after your soul with the smoking trap.

Smoking is a personal choice, people!

—**Michaela Marx**  
Staff Writer

## No help for Boy Scouts

### To the Editor:

Some of you have received paperwork regarding the upcoming United Way fundraiser event "Kiss A Pig." It lists me as one of the volunteer faculty members who has agreed to kiss the little porker.

The Gay Alliance & Friends was going to help raise funds for this event and the United Way. However, it was brought to our attention that one of the organizations which will receive funding from the United Way is the Boy Scouts of America. Last year they were given over \$415,000 by the Oklahoma City Metro chapter.

Many chapters across the country have withdrawn funding for BSA because of their policy of exclusion and intolerance. Our local chapter has not. Therefore, I can not, in good conscience, contribute any time, energy or money to the United Way this year. And, I am removing my

name from the list of volunteer faculty members for "Kiss A Pig."

Even though donations can be designated to particular organizations so that funding will not go to undesirable ones, the BSA will still receive their funding from undesignated donations.

And, even though the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the BSA excluding gays, it did so because it is a private organization and has the right of exclusion. So does the Ku Klux Klan. I won't be contributing to that organization either.

I have always supported the United Way and have even benefited from it. However, I believe it is the right time in the development of mankind to work towards peace, harmony and tolerance...for all members of society.

Allowing, and funding, bigotry needs to stop. I know this letter will not be popular, especially with

those who have committed themselves and the college to raising funds for United Way, but again, people need to know what they are funding.

The GAF and I will be happy to participate in other fund raisers for worthy causes.

—**Lyn McDonald**  
Faculty Co-Sponsor  
Gay Alliance & Friends

## PIONEER

Vol. 29 No. 8

Kathi Etherton.....Editor  
Michaela Marx.....Staff Writer  
Vu Vu.....Staff Writer  
Melissa DePew...Photographer  
J. Ramanjulu.....Ad. Manager  
Jason Lomas.....Work Study  
Ronna Austin.....Lab Director  
Sue Hinton.....Faculty Adviser

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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.

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Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@okc.cc.ok.us](mailto: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>

### STRAIGHTJACKET BY: M.C. GAREY



## Comments and Reviews

# Athletic program too costly

### To the Editor:

This is in response to Vu Vu's editorial "Athletic Program Needs Magical Ending to Story."

About the time the Aquatic Center opened in 1989 for the Olympic Festival, a study was created to look at competitive athletics for the college.

Cost is the major factor for not having collegiate athletics, and the second issue is too few two-year colleges to compete with in Oklahoma.

One of the primary costs would be travel expenses.

To effectively compete in the NJCAA, travel expenses would need to be covered in a five state area and that is cost prohibitive.

In addition, each sport requires specific facilities to support the training and competitive needs of the athletes and opposing teams, which means additional dollars.

The reason we do not have a college swimming or diving team is that no college Oklahoma has a team to feed into.

Finally, you have the sup-

port costs for each sport, Title IX, which requires equal time for both sexes, and the combined costs are very high.

Right now, OKCCC students enjoy some of the cheapest student fees in the state and certainly the region. Should we delve into college athletics, that would surely change.

As it stands now, less than 3 percent of the entire student population uses the recreation, fitness and aquatic centers. Even fewer students would benefit from the development of competitive athletics; however, I agree that college athletics do create spirit and a mascot to rally around.

I support increased activities in Recreation and Community Services for students.

Our goal is to develop further college club sports such as soccer, with dedicated volunteers such as Terry Kilpatrick, and to provide opportunities in the future for women to compete in club sports.

These programs do not

have near the costs associated, and yet provide a positive way for our students to compete. Future endeavors may include financial assistance for students who play club sports, such as is available at Rose State, but that takes time to develop.

In the meantime, we encourage more students to stick around the campus before and after classes, come for a swim or work out in the fitness center, or join the intramural sports activities held throughout the year. Your student fees allow you to do this at no additional charge, just bring your student I.D.

But also, enjoy your low student fees as well.

Remember that OKCCC is focusing its primary financial efforts on new technology, such as computers and internet services, as well as comprehensive educational opportunities for all students, and not athletic endeavors for a select few.

—Chris Moler, Director  
Recreation and  
Community Services

# New policy based on attendance

### To the Editor:

Class attendance is more important than ever because of changes in financial aid rules.

The U.S. Department of Education made a major change in its refund policy beginning this award year.

This change will affect recipients of Federal Title IV Student Financial Aid who withdraw from classes.

This year, along with their award letters, students have been sent information explaining this change in federal regulations implemented Oct. 7.

This change is required when a recipient withdraws from the semester or session for which funds were paid directly to the student or used to pay charges owed by the student for the specific enrollment period.

Programs affected include: Pell Grants, all fed-

eral student loans, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG). In some cases it may include the state grant (OTAG).

The new required calculations are based on the number of days a student attends in each enrollment period, expressed as a percentage of the total number of days in the period. This calculation translates into the percentage of Federal Title IV funds earned by the student while in attendance. Unearned funds must be returned to federal programs.

There are two additional variables which are important for students to know if they are recipients of Federal Title IV funds. After a student is in attendance through the 60 percent point of the enrollment period, no calculations are

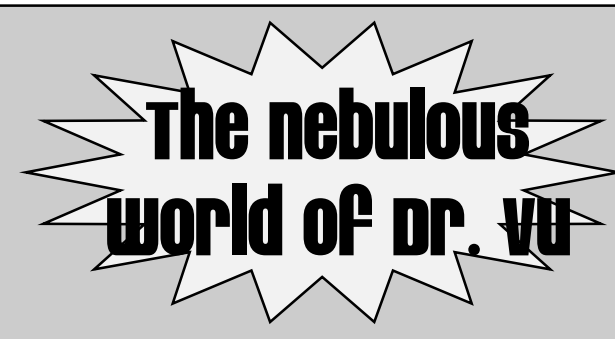
required. The student is considered to have earned the funds received.

The second variable of importance is for students who have earned a percentage of funds they have been awarded, but have not yet received. These students may still be eligible to receive those funds after total withdrawal occurs. The required calculations will determine eligibility for any funds.

Attendance is the key. A student awarded financial aid who is having difficulty should take advantage of the advising, counseling and tutoring to remain in attendance and complete their courses, if possible.

Stop by the Student Financial Aid Center for more information.

—Harold Case, Dean of  
Student Financial  
Support Services



# Controversial tobacco ad sparks renewed attention to free speech

*Yo, yo, yo, I feel my booty shaking...*

Do the ends really justify the means?

We ran a tobacco ad last week, much to the disappointment of our anti-cancer readers and much to the excitement of tobacco lobbyists and cool people who chew and spit tobacco.

It was a staff decision, and one person received the blame when it should have been all of us.

Many of us objected to putting the ad in, but our final decision was that the ad was legal and the money we received was tender.

There was nothing immoral about the ad.

It was a business transaction.

Tobacco has been a staple of our society for years.

Tobacco is one of the reasons America was conceived.

And because of the tobacco industry, the Pioneer can keep paying its bills.

Hey, we have mouths to feed and tuition to pay.

The tobacco ad was a great representation of the First Amendment—the freedom of speech. Readers have the choice to ignore it and the choice to read it. They have the choice to support the ad's message and they have the right to attack it.

If the tobacco company wants to buy another ad, we will take their money with our integrity intact.

How many college students are dumb enough to buy a product just because it's advertised in a community college newspaper?

The freedom of speech is a good thing. I'm happy to see that America isn't so apathetic that no one cared about a tobacco ad.

We expected negative responses and we received them.

They all had validity. All one of them.

Americans going out of their way to voice their opinions, to attack injustice at its root is a beautiful thing.

Almost as beautiful as a man dying for a just cause.

The only beef is how people express their right of free speech.

People can write commentaries, letters to the editor and they can call *Larry King Live*.

But when people voice their opinions to people who don't care, what good will occur?

This end justifies the means, doesn't it?

—Vu Vu  
Staff Writer

# English prof brings real-life drama to classroom

**By Jen Jackson  
Newswriting I Student**

Jon Inglett is a serious English professor by day and a Power Ranger playmate by night.

He said he enjoys playing Power Rangers with his young son and composing bedtime stories with him.

Inglett is in his first semester of teaching at OKCCC.

Originally from Tulsa, he received his bachelor's degree in English at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville and his master's degree in English from Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield.

Susan VanSchuyver, arts and humanities dean, said she noticed two important qualities the first time she met Inglett.



Photo by Melissa DePew

**Jon Inglett**

First, she said, Inglett is "very familiar with technology and the Internet." And second, "he is interested in culture."

Inglett taught for three years in Missouri and also

near the East St. Louis area, an area President Bill Clinton has said is the worst place to live in America.

"It's a real eye-opening experience," Inglett said. He said it wasn't uncommon to discuss and experience violence on a daily basis while there.

He said the schools in that area are in bad condition. In one school, Inglett

said, students had to bring their own toilet paper because they knew the school couldn't supply it.

"Gun control wasn't even an issue," he said, "because in an area like East St.

Louis [guns are] a way of life.

"These students had potential. They have experienced things that many people won't."

Fortunately, he said, the experience didn't make him jaded.

Inglett writes short stories, narratives and poetry on his spare time. He said he believes "success is

about freedom rather than restriction."

He recalls teachers from high school who turned him off to English because of their emphasis on grammar and sentence structure rather than content.

"Writing is a means of power," Inglett said.

Inglett said he loves knowledge and will continue to grow in it.



**Early registration begins Oct. 9  
for January intersession and spring semester.  
Telephone and Internet registration ONLY**

# Professor anxious to share knowledge of anatomy with students

**By Heather Miles  
Newswriting I Student**

Ryndall Nydam said he joined OKCCC's Science and Math department this semester to teach knowledge-hungry students about the world of human anatomy.

The biology professor said his love of science began around the age of eight.

Eventually, his career aspirations led him to the University of California where he harbored a dream of achieving medical greatness during his undergraduate years.

After a class in paleontology he changed his mind about the medical field and, according to Nydam, "I never looked back."

He graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of California Santa Cruz.

The decision to attend graduate school at the University of Oklahoma



Photo by Melissa DePew

**Randall Nydam**

brought Nydam east where he received a master's degree in zoology.

When the opening came about for a science professor at OKCCC Nydam said he decided that was what he was looking for.

He had already made the decision to stay in Oklahoma after he completed

graduate school.

Nydam said that decision was made because of his desire to maintain his involvement with the research association at the OU museum.

Also, he said, he did not want to uproot his wife, 3-year-old son and 1-year-old daughter.

These days, Nydam said, he is interested in studying and describing new species of fossil lizards of the Cretaceous period dating back from 110 million to 65 million years ago.

He has been involved in archeological digs in southeast Oklahoma as well as Utah, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado.

He describes the experience as, "spending four to eight weeks in a tent."

"In the field it is a lot of hard work, but it is a good time."

His focus at present revolves around teaching, getting settled into the role of an instructor and preparing for class.

He said he loves working with students and has a great desire to teach.

"In the future it will be a bit of a balancing act to try to incorporate both [paleontology and teaching] into my professional life."

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# Faculty Employee of the Year surprised

By Kathi Etherton  
Editor

It isn't hard to get up in the morning for work if you like what you do, said Dr. Mary Ann Merz, professor of learning skills and communications lab supervisor.

"I can't think of a better way to earn a living than to teach at OKCCC."

Merz was awarded the Faculty Employee of the Year Award at the annual Fall 2000 Convocation Aug. 15

In order to be considered for the award, nominations were submitted from faculty and administration based on her performance and involvement with the college.

"I was surprised," Merz said. "In fact, I thought I knew who they were talk-

ing about and it wasn't me."

"I am pleased my teaching efforts have been recognized by my colleagues."

Susan VanSchuyver, dean of Arts and Humanities thinks very highly of Merz.

"She won the Faculty Employee of the Year Award because she is a gifted teacher, innovative supervisor and director, helpful colleague and a dedicated faculty adviser," VanSchuyver said.

"She spends many hours helping some students develop their writing skills and other students discover the best degree program to help them achieve their dreams."

The road to winning the award begins several months in advance of the presentation.

An Awards Committee reviews nominations. Then



Photo by Kathi Etherton

Mary Ann Merz

the committee makes a recommendation to President Bob Todd along with an alternate recommendation. Todd then reviews the nomination information and makes the final decision.

"Dr. Mary Ann Merz is a true humanitarian whose

commitment to students is unequalled," Todd said.

"[She] represents professional quality and integrity and she is a wonderful role model."

Merz has received numerous awards during her teaching career.

Among them are the NISOD award in 1988, the Elven Gray award in 1991, the Western Region Faculty Member Award in 1992 and the Oklahoma Association for the Improvement of Developmental Education Showcase Award in 1997.

"The award I am most proud of is the grant that I have from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to provide scholarships for pre-education majors," Merz said.

"This is my third year to participate in the Collegiate

Partnership Program and I really like it."

The scholarship was named the Program for Academic Achievement at OKCCC. Thirty-six students received the award this semester.

"I am proud of this because I am interested in having students prepared to go to the university to become elementary school teachers."

Merz supervises the Arts and Humanities Communication Lab and is the Director of Multi-Divisional Programs. The lab earned the OK AIDE Showcase Award for the best lab in Oklahoma in 1997.

Merz taught at the University of Oklahoma for 21 years and has been at OKCCC for 17 years.

She received her master's degree in English and her Ph.D. in Adult/English Education from OU.

## Dedication, hard work pay off for math lab assistant

By Michaela Marx  
Staff Writer

This year's Employee of the year award recipient is not a behind-the-desk math assistant. When a student signals with a desperate facial expression that help is needed, Niloufar Hendrick is right there explaining math problems or calculator keys, helping lead students to mathematic success.

Often students come to report to her an A in Algebra and celebrate their pay-off for hard work with her.

For 20 years Hendrick, better known as Nellie, has helped students with big and not-so-big math problems in OKCCC's math lab.

This year her involvement paid off in the form of the annual award, which she received at the Fall 2000 Convocation for faculty and staff.

When she heard that she had been chosen she was

surprised and honored.

"I did not expect it," Hendrick said. "All I could do was cry."

She said she received congratulation calls from all parts of the college.

"It was very rewarding and heartwarming. The recognition felt great," she said.

Hendrick said she loves working in the math lab, because she likes to interact with students.

"I see extremely smart kids. If I can help them it makes me feel good,"

She said she also enjoys the atmosphere at OKCCC.

"The great faculty kept me here," Hendrick said.

The attitude of the professors and instructors has made OKCCC what it is today, she said.

Hendrick lives with her son Casey, 16, in Yukon with other family members — two dogs, three cats and many fish. The zoo, she said, keeps her busy.

She enjoys spending a lot of time at home, gardening



Photo by Melissa DePew

Niloufar 'Nellie' Hendrick

and doing other things around the house.

"I like to do projects," she said.

Her latest is refinishing an old dining table. She said she loves antiques.

As much as she likes her home, she also loves to travel.

"If I have time I am on the road," she said.

The best thing about trav-

eling is the cultures and the people, Hendrick said. She added that sightseeing is fun, but the greatest thing is meeting people.

Hendrick was born in Iran. She came to America when she was 19 to go to college.

She graduated from OKCCC with a pre-engineering degree. She went on to the University of Central Oklahoma to earn her bachelor's degree in math and computer sciences.

Currently she is working on a master's

in mathematics. Math lab supervisor Sharon Duckett said Hendrick is a great employee.

"She has worked for the math lab longer than I have," she said.

"It is nice that somebody in a lab situation gets noticed."

Hendrick said she does not know who nominated

her.

"I would like to thank all members of the committee and the nominating person," she said.

She said she hopes to be able to say thank you to the nominating person face to face some time.

She also said she is thankful to the math faculty on being supportive at her ups and downs.

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# One man's old clothes is another man's treasures

By Michaela Marx  
Staff Writer

The African American Student Association collects clothes for the Jesus House and Salvation Army.

The collection of clothing items of all shapes and sizes will go on through Oct. 13, said club sponsor Claire Echols.

With the cold winter weather just around the corner, coats and all other clothing items can be dropped off at the college for the less fortunate.

"There are a lot of people who need things others usually throw away," Echols said.

There are two collecting stations, Echols said.

One is at the west side of the staircase on the first floor of the main building. The other collection box is located next to the elevator,

also on the first floor of the main building.

Echols said the collection has been going very well so far. Students, faculty and staff have dropped off a lot of clothes.

"We have even gotten a big box full of clothes," she said, which was delivered to her office.

The success has convinced the club to extend their deadline for a week. Originally, the project was supposed to be completed last week, Echols said.

The clothes donation project is the first project this semester for the African American Student Association.

Later this year, probably in November, the organization will collect new and used toys for Christmas, she said.

Echols said every donation will be appreciated. So, scan through your closets for clothes to donate.

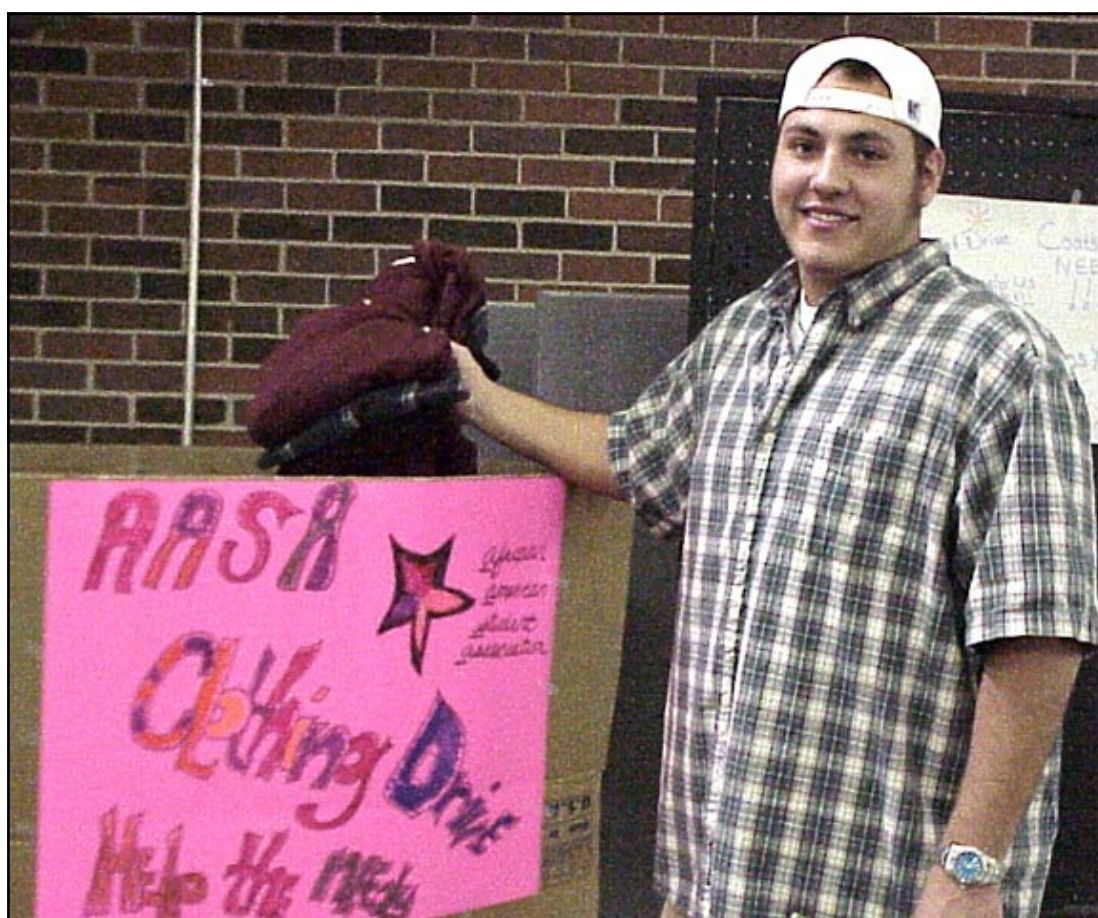


Photo by Melissa DePew

Student Michael Kirk puts a coat into one of the clothing drive boxes set out by the African American Student Association. The donations will be taken to the Jesus House.

## H.O.P.E. celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month

### Culture celebration evolved over 20 years

Twenty years elapsed before the celebration of Hispanics was extended from a week to a month. This year Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 has been designated National Hispanic Heritage Month.

In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed Hispanic Heritage Month into Public Law.

Since 1968, Hispanic Heritage Week provided seven days of celebration of Hispanic culture and pride.

With the addition of three weeks, Hispanic Heritage Month provided an avenue for nationwide special events, activities and programs.

The father of Hispanic Heritage Month is Gil Coronado, Director of Selective Service System and Chairman and Founder of Heroes and Heritage: Saluting a Legacy of Hispanic Patriotism & Pride.

As a crusader on behalf of Latino issues in America, Coronado was the initiating force and guiding hand in the movement for the creation of National Hispanic Heritage Month. At a White House ceremony President Reagan described him as a "stout defender of his Hispanic Heritage and the United States of America."

—Information courtesy  
[www.hispanicheritagemonth.com](http://www.hispanicheritagemonth.com)  
[www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov)

The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education, H.O.P.E., has dedicated themselves to bringing the Hispanic culture to OKCCC. They have coordinated events to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

• Oct. 10 — Come by the Student Activities Room next to the student union from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and enjoy nachos and burritos for sale.

• Oct. 17 — From noon to 1:30 p.m. the

officers of H.O.P.E. will be leading dance lessons to Mexican music in the student union.

• Oct. 24 — There will be a Mexican Feast and three mariachis in the student union around lunch time playing their guitars.

"We are really excited about the activities because it promotes awareness of our culture and it extends it out to every culture," said Jacqueline Marquez, H.O.P.E. president.

"It gives me and others a chance to recognize where we come from."



H.O.P.E. students gathered on Oct. 3 to watch the movie *Stand and Deliver*. There were about 30 in attendance. Movie Night kicked off National Hispanic Heritage Month at OKCCC.

The next H.O.P.E. Meeting is scheduled from 12:30 to 1:30 on Oct. 12 in room 2N7 of the main building.

# Post Gen Xers vote for the future

## New generation shows improved attitude

Only 31 percent of 18- to 20-year-olds and 33 percent of 21- to 24-year-olds voted in the 1996 election, according to the Federal Election Commission.

All eyes will be on the college generation for the election Nov. 7 to see if the pattern will repeat itself.

OKCCC student Tyler Duerr, 18, will be voting for the first time in a federal election, he said.

He said young people don't vote because they don't understand the benefits of voting.

"It is just not a top priority."

The generation doesn't care because they never had anything to worry about or wanted something changed, he said.

Jim Johnson, political science professor, said the reason why young people don't vote is inexperience.

They haven't had the opportunity to vote before, he said. It takes a few elections to get used to the process.

Young people are not aware of the significance of voting.

"Being young, going to school, earning little money—the election is not as important, because young people are not as affected by the outcome as adults."

Young voters are dropping out of the electoral

process in droves because they feel politicians are ignoring them.

OKCCC student Roger Randol, 20, said: "Politicians don't focus on what we need."

Issues, such as higher education and financial aid, are not discussed as prominently as other issues, he said.

Student Jay Oommen, 20, said politicians should discuss issues such as teenage pregnancy, abortion and violence in school.

He said some students are lazy or just don't care,

mocracy and voting" is "extremely important" to only 26 percent of young people.

• Fifty-eight percent agree with the statement that "You can't trust politicians because most are dishonest."

• A majority of 55 percent said that schools don't provide students with enough political information.

• Only 21 percent of young people said that they "often" speak with their parents about politics, or current events.

Student Becky Smith, 22, said a means to change this trend is more and better information for young people.

Johnson said issues are not as important to the voter as they should be. Research shows that most people will vote, based on the

candidate's image, their family party affiliation or the state of the economy.

Johnson said it will be interesting to watch the voting turnout. It is possible that this year's turnout rate will be lower than the all time low of 48.8 percent, Johnson said.

When the economy is doing well, as it is now, people don't worry about the election outcome and tend not to vote, Johnson said.

—Michaela Marx  
Staffwriter



### Don't forget to vote!

There is still time to register for the election Nov. 7. Deadline for registration is Oct. 13. Living away from home is not an excuse for not voting. However, some paperwork is involved. Dates for absentee ballot requests vary from state to state.

For more information call (405) 521-2391.

but that is not the case for a whole generation.

"It used to be that young people did not care at all, but our generation is working on it," he said.

A study by the National Association of State Secretaries, however, portrays an increasingly disconnected generation.

• Sixty-seven percent of young people agree that "our generation has an important voice but no one seems to hear it."

• "Being involved in de-

# Election sparks activity on campus



"I believe that Mr. Bush offers more hope for America than either one of the other candidates."

—Amy Perkins  
Political science major and Republican

"Gore has a stronger environmental policy and history. He represents the working class."

—Chris O'Brien  
alumni and Democrat



Photos by Vu Vu



"The Green Party doesn't take soft money and they focus on important issues the other candidates ignore, like Native American affairs."

—Adrienne Johnson  
OKCCC Campus Greens

# Two minds - different ideas



Al Gore

Democrat



George W. Bush

Republican

• **Abortion:** Pro-choice regardless of economic circumstance. Defend a woman's right to choose.

• **Defense:** His plan is to devote part of our budget surplus to improve the pay and quality-of-life benefits to the U.S. military. He also plans to modernize military equipment.

• **Education:** Gore's plan would require testing of students and teachers to measure achievement and attach real consequences to the results of those tests. His plan also involves making college tuition tax-deductible.

• **Gun control:** His plan increases penalties for gun-related crimes, hires new federal, state, and local gun prosecutors to get gun criminals off the street and requires gun manufacturers and federally-licensed sellers to report gun sales to state authority.

• **Medicare:** He would take Medicare off-budget and place it in a "Medicare lock" box so that Medicare payroll taxes can be used only to strengthen Medicare and pay down the national debt. He would also strengthen Medicare through price competition and prescription drug benefits.

• **Social Security:** Devote all Social Security surpluses to Social Security and debt reduction. Oppose efforts to raise the retirement age or reduce benefits.

• **Taxes:** He is proposing a tax plan with more than \$500 billion in tax relief for working families. The tax cut ensures America is debt-free by 2012, saves Social Security, and strengthens Medicare.

—www.algore2000.com

• **Abortion:** Pro-life with exceptions for rape, incest and life of mother.

• **Defense:** The military of the present must be better supported and respected. It must also be challenged and transformed to become the military of the future.

• **Education:** He wants to close the achievement gap, set high standards, promote character education and ensure school safety. States will be offered freedom from federal regulation, but will be held accountable for results. Performance will be measured annually.

• **Gun control:** The best gun control measure is to vigorously prosecute those who illegally sell guns, carry guns and commit crimes with guns.

• **Medicare:** He will reform Medicare so that seniors will have access to prescription drugs and modern medicine and have more control over their own health care.

• **Social Security:** He will not change benefits in any way for current retirees or those near retirement. But for the next generation, he will lead a bipartisan effort to reform it by giving individuals the option of voluntarily investing a portion of their Social Security payroll taxes in personal retirement accounts.

• **Taxes:** Roughly one-quarter of the surplus should be returned to the people who earned it through broad tax cuts. His plan will promote economic growth and increase access to the middle class by cutting marginal rates. As a result six million families will no longer pay federal income tax.

—www.georgewbush.com

# Online courses one way to earn credit hours

**By Alyssa LaValle  
Newswriting I Student**

Distance Education at OKCCC offers students a non-traditional approach to their education.

"One of those approaches is online courses," said Glenda Prince, Distance Education Coordinator.

She said online courses offer students the advantage of taking a course at their own convenience, without having to be on campus every day.

"Some people, due to [things such as] work schedules and family commitments... are better served by alternate approaches," said Prince.

Students complete necessary assignments by computer and use of the Internet.

Students enrolled in online courses communicate with their instructors and class members through discussion boards, chat sessions and e-mail.

**"Students need to be highly motivated and organized in order to be successful."**

—Glenda Prince  
Distance Education  
Coordinator

"Students need to be highly motivated and organized in order to be successful," Prince said.

The Distance Education website, located at [www.okc.cc.ok.us/~distanced](http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/~distanced), provides an area with "Frequently Asked Questions" about online courses, as well as the answers to go with them.

Students can register online for classes, buy textbooks online, as well as have an orientation with their instructor online.

Plenty of classes are offered. More than 25 online courses were offered this fall, compared to 14 offered in the fall of 1999.

Thirty-four online courses will be offered during the spring 2001 semester. Prince predicts that courses will fill up quickly.

For more information about online courses, contact the Distance Education Office at 682-7574.

## Here's how it's done...



Photo by Melissa DePew

Guest speaker Donna Hames gives career tips to the Health Professions club. She told the students the best advice she could pass on is to "take one day at a time, one page at a time."

Send comments to editor Kathi Etherton at 682-1611, ext. 7675

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# Counselors ready to help students

By Josie Dunlap  
Newswriting I Student

For OKCCC students who need help with academic advising, career counseling, transfer information, or any short-term personal counseling, the student development center is the best place to go.

It is located in the main building on the first floor next to entry one.

The student development center has six full-time and 12 part-time counselors, all with master's degrees.

According to counselor Larry Golden, each counselor has worked there for one to 15 years, but has had experiences elsewhere.

Golden said the student development center is helpful for all students.

"Anything [we can do] to help or work with the students we do," he said.

The staff at the center are

also helpful by signing students in and helping with insurance information.

Also, if a student is lost they show them around campus, hand out campus maps, and make appointments for any specific counselor.

Becky Baugh, work-study intake clerk, said the counselors can "do anything to point students in the right direction." An intake clerk is always there during office hours.

The student development center is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday and from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

A student can usually walk in to speak to a counselor but during heavy enrollment times of August and January, an appointment may be needed.

Enrollment for the spring semester begins Oct. 16.

# Companies offer job opportunities at expo

By Vu Vu  
Staff Writer

Looking for a job or answers about a particular career?

OKCCC will sponsor the Fall Employment Expo 2000 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 11, in CU 1, 2, and 3.

About 40 companies will be present, recruiting workers from a bevy of fields.

Recruiters will offer a variety of jobs from the medical field to the retail field, said Staci McPhearson, coordinator of Graduate Employment Services.

The employers at the expo will help students looking for jobs and will

answer students' questions about particular career fields, McPhearson said.

Some of the companies recruiting are: Bank of Oklahoma; Baptist Retirement Center; the City of Norman; Cox Communications, Inc.

Farmers Insurance; La Petite Academy; Office Depot; Hertz; Oklahoma City Public Schools; Social Security Administration; Southwestern Bell; St. Anthony Hospital; U.S. Navy; UPS.

The companies paid a small cost to recruit at the college, enough to pay for a hospitality luncheon, said McPhearson.

The next opportunity such as this one will take place at the Spring Employment Expo 2001 March 7.



The Serapion Duo will perform at 7 p.m., Oct. 17 in the OKCCC theater.

# Serapion Duo set to perform

By Jessica Guzman  
Newswriting I Student

OKCCC students and faculty are invited to broaden their cultural awareness by enjoying an evening of music.

The Serapion Duo comprised of cellist Tess Remy-Schumacher and pianist Michael Staudt will be performing at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17 at the OKCCC theater.

Hailing from Germany, the duo has been praised for their masterful renditions of such works by Beethoven,

Vivaldi and Faure.

Remy-Schumacher is currently on staff at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. She has performed all over the world including her Carnegie Recital Hall debut in New York, England, Australia and Bangkok.

Staudt has taught at Mainz University and was active in composing with the Internationaler Klaviersommer im Cochem Zellerland. In 1990 the duo won first prize in the International Carlo-Zecchi-Competition in Rome.

Tickets for the performance run \$5 for general admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens.

# Theft recurring theme in crime reports

By Vu Vu  
Staff Writer

Missing jewels, a stolen biology book and car CD player, and a broken car window highlight crime this week.

Student Terri Hammet lost three rings valued at \$300 Sept. 29. Hammet said she sat down on the sofa near room 1P3 in the main building and placed the rings on the floor before she applied lotion to her hands.

She reported that she got up to talk with another student for a few minutes

and came back to discover the rings missing. A fellow student said two females, both with short brown hair, took the rings.

The rings' descriptions are: one white gold mother's ring, one white gold heart-shaped ring, and one platinum ring with eight diamonds.

Anyone who has information about the rings is asked to call 692-9707.

Student Katy Tucker's biology book was taken out of her unlocked car in parking lot A Sept. 26. The book is valued at \$80.

Student Aric Kinder reported the theft of his car compact disc player at 7:50 p.m. Sept. 27 in parking lot C. Kinder reported damage to the vehicle's console as well. The total value of the loss is \$350.

During the same time, student Donna Shafter discovered her 1992 Oldsmobile Grand Prix's driver side window shattered in parking lot D. The value of the window is \$100.

She said nothing was missing from her car.



# Highlights

## Would you like to be published?

The editors of Absolute are accepting poetry, nonfiction, black and white photography and drawings for publication in the April 2001 issue. Submissions are accepted from OKCCC students, staff, and the public and may be given to Clay Randolph, AH 3E5, e-mailed to crandolph@okc.cc.ok.us or turned in to the Arts and Humanities office. For more information and release forms check out the Arts and Humanities Department page on the college webpage at www.okc.cc.ok.us

## Positions available

Positions for the Spring 2001 Occupational Therapy Assistant Program are still available. Applications may be picked up in the Office of Admissions and Records and will be accepted through noon Dec. 1. For further information, contact Barbara Gowdy at 682-7528.

## Are you going to wear that anymore?

The African American Student Association is collecting donations of clothes to be given to the Jesus House and the Salvation Army.

Any donation that you have will be greatly appreciated. The collection areas are located on the west side of the stair case in the main building first floor and next to the first floor elevator in the main building.

## How many? Two, please

Psi Beta and Psychology club will have two meetings this week. They will be held Wednesday, Oct. 10 from noon to 1 p.m. in room 2N7 and on Thursday, Oct. 11 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in room 3P0 of the main building. Participants will discuss optimal times for club meetings and set up a long-term calendar for the academic year.

## Great jobs await

The Graduate Employment Service is having a Fall Employment Expo on Wednesday Oct. 11 in CU1, 2 and 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a great opportunity to network with various employers.

## Yo quiero burritos y nachos

The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education (H.O.P.E) has several activities planned in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. There will be a nacho/burrito sale on Tuesday Oct. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Other events planned include a dance demonstration Tuesday Oct. 17 and a Mexican Fiesta Tuesday Oct. 24. Both will begin at noon in the main dining area.

## Got books?

The Engineering Club is having a book sale to raise money for the Professor Jack Cain Memorial Scholarship Fund on Monday, Oct. 16, and Tuesday, Oct. 17. They are looking for books to sell. If you have books you no longer need, contact Masil Masilamani at 682-1611, ext. 7394 and they will come pick up the books.

## Let's get this party started

A photography club is forming. This will be a non-pressured learning environment to talk about photography. Possible activities include field trips and a works showing. Members must be enrolled at OKCCC or staff, but do not have to be enrolled in a photography class. Anyone interested may contact Jerrie Gronemeier at 677-5616 and leave a message.



Above: The OKCCC Baptist Collegiate Ministries team. Back row, left to right — Adriel Watts, Joy Russell, Jared Prock, Mike Barnett, Petrick Kirk, Tad Davis, Aaron Wheelbarger. Front row, left to right — Melissa DePew, Elise Carr, Paul Stuke, Jennifer Whitehurst.



Left: Jared Prock pitched several games for the OKCCC BCM team during the softball tournament held Sept. 29 and 30 in Weatherford. The team took third place after four games.

Photos by Melissa DePew

## Baptist club softball winners

**By Aaron Wheelbarger  
Newswriting I Student**

OKCCC took third place at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry softball tournament in Weatherford Friday night and Saturday, Sept. 29 and 30.

The team made up of five girls and five guys took to the field Friday night not sure how they would do, since they had never played together in an actual game.

They won the first game against Northern Oklahoma College 12-7. Baptist

Collegiate Ministry then played an early Saturday morning game against Conners College where they lost 24-7.

Because of this defeat, OKCCC had to go through the loser's bracket in its quest to win the tournament.

After the loss to Conners, they won their next two games, but another loss to Conners in the semifinals forced them to settle for third place.

When asked what was the highlight of the tournament, Jennifer Whitehurst said, "The come-from-be-

hind win in the fourth game was awesome. We came back from a 10-point deficit and then won 15 to 13."

OKCCC Baptists ended the tournament with a win-loss record of three and two. The BCM will also be in a volleyball tournament later in the semester and is looking for players.

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry meets every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. on the third floor of the main building, room 3N0.

Students can enjoy fellowship with one another and eat a free lunch provided by the BCM.

# 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.

## AUTOMOBILES

**FOR SALE:** '92 Chevy Cavalier, Red, \$2,200 OBO, runs great, Call Heather at 412-2455.

**FOR SALE:** '84 Chevy pickup, 350, Auto, Edelbrock manifold, carb, air filter, cold air, Flowmaster exhaust, dark blue, runs great, JVC stereo, bedliner. Asking \$3,250 OBO. Call Seth at 793-8768 (home) or 557-5010 (pager).

**FOR SALE:** '91 Chevy Cheyenne, 305 or 350 motor, long bed, white with blue stripe, good motor with hook-ups for natural gas, rebuilt transmission, new paint job. Page Zach at (405) 560-2418.

**FOR SALE:** '85 Chevy Blazer, no A/C, new engine and transmission, fair condition. \$2,000 OBO. Call 202-8073, leave name and phone number. I will call you back.

**FOR SALE:** '97 626 LX, automatic, A/C. Asking \$8,950 (below value). Call (405) 417-3816.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Chevy Blazer, 350 V-8, looks and runs good. \$3,000 OBO or will trade for reliable economy car of same value. Call Kay at 527-2194 or 527-9435.

**FOR SALE:** '87 Ford Taurus L. Runs good; new tires, belts and hoses; needs A/C work and to be painted. \$900 firm. Call 381-3450 or 682-1611, ext. 7441.

**FOR SALE:** '88 El Dorado, silver/champagne color, 125K miles. Very dependable, good condition, 2nd owner. \$3250 OBO. Page 908-3051 or call 740-4799.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Ranger XLT, ext. cab with fold down seats, 4-WD, auto., power locks and windows, cruise/tilt, bedliner, towing package, AM/FM Cassette, 136K, very nice, must see. \$4,700. Call 943-4025.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Toyota Corolla. Auto, clean, excellent A/C and gas mileage, great condition, and low miles 35K. Asking below book value — \$5,450. Call 417-3816.

**FOR SALE:** New tires and chrome spoke wheels for pre-'97 Ford truck. Might fit Jeep. Asking \$300. Call 616-1522.

**FOR SALE:** '92 Dodge Shadow. Great A/C and MPG, good condition. Asking \$2,800 (OBO). Call 879-2051.

**FOR SALE:** '94 GMC Sonoma.

Exc. cond., A/C, Red, glass pack muffler, 140K highway miles. Asking \$3,500 (OBO). Call 794-1136 or 850-6942, ask for Justin Hankins.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Olds Royal 88, champagne color, very clean and good condition. Asking \$4,000 (OBO). Call 943-8049.

**FOR SALE:** '87 Fiero. 4-cylinder, AC, AM/FM Cassette, Auto., 75K miles. Asking \$3,000. Call 387-9853.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Conquest. Call 634-6787.

**FOR SALE:** '89 Honda Accord LX, 4-door, auto., power everything, good condition, 130K miles. Asking \$3,000. Call David or Woody at 525-8359.

**FOR SALE:** '96 Honda Passport EX, loaded, very clean. 72K miles, green with gold trim. \$14,299 FIRM. Call 823-5284.

## HOUSEHOLD

**FOR SALE:** Single stitch sewing machine head - \$45. Piece goods, various sizes - \$20. Crocheted bedspread - \$50. Leave message - 682-9872.

**FOR SALE:** Wood TV stand, \$25; laundry basket, \$2; 25 hangers \$2; table and 4 chairs, \$30. Leave a message at 330-0731.

**FOR SALE:** Brick home, 704 Nail Parkway, Moore; \$59,900. Recently updated with new paint, kitchen flooring and CA; 3 Bdr., 1 1/2 baths, 2 car garage, oversized kitchen with maple cabinets, hardwood parquet floors, 1052 sq. ft. and tornado shelter. Call Marcy at 904-7053 for apt.

**FOR SALE:** Niagara Recliner with heat, vibrator and rollers. Gold and very good condition. Asking \$500. Call Sue at 634-9927 or 682-7547.

**FOR SALE:** Black and gold bedroom set — twin headboard, 2-drawer night stand, 6-drawer dresser with mirror. Entertainment center. All in excellent condition. Asking \$300 (OBO). Call 721-8215.

**FOR SALE:** Whirlpool chest freezer, 14.8 cubic ft., almond color, perfect condition. Asking \$185. Call 799-4928.

**FOR SALE:** Oak dining table with leaf and 4 chairs on casters. \$250. Call 621-0021 or page at 440-7696.

**FOR SALE:** Montgomery Ward refrigerator, \$75. Call 364-6051 or 682-1611, ext. 7544.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE:** Fabulous trip to Bahamas and Orlando Florida for 2 people. Asking \$700 call for details 680-8913.

**FOR SALE:** Two dalmatians; need a good home and lots of TLC. Call 794-2015.

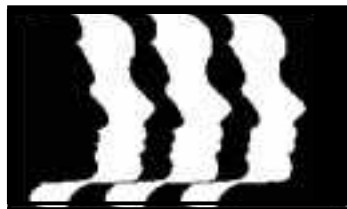
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**FOR SALE:** Sega Genesis game system with several games, \$50. Call 364-6051 or 682-1611, ext. 7544.

**FOR SALE:** Two 12" speaker boxes, \$100 and \$150. Kenwood CD Changer (never used, still in the box), \$200. Great additions to any car! Call 822-7250.

**FOR SALE:** '97 Skyline, 16 x 80, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. No down payment, take over payments. SE OKC. Call 631-2325.

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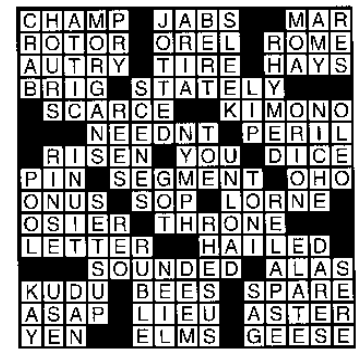
### ACROSS

- 1 Lhasa —
- 5 Hindu class
- 10 Chaplin's wife
- 14 Bellow
- 15 Pub sign
- 16 Forehead
- 17 Dangerous reptile
- 19 Row
- 20 Ski race
- 21 Casual shirt
- 22 Unseen
- 23 Devout
- 25 Greek letter
- 26 Crows' cries
- 30 Auto
- 31 Demons
- 34 Fixes text
- 36 Actor Costner
- 38 French sculptor
- 39 Jean or Hans
- 41 Sluggishness
- 43 Newsmen
- 44 Thick
- 46 Scoff
- 47 Obscure
- 49 Unit of elec. energy
- 51 Tacks on
- 52 Sunbeam
- 53 Mexican coins
- 55 Yoked animals
- 57 Drink daintily

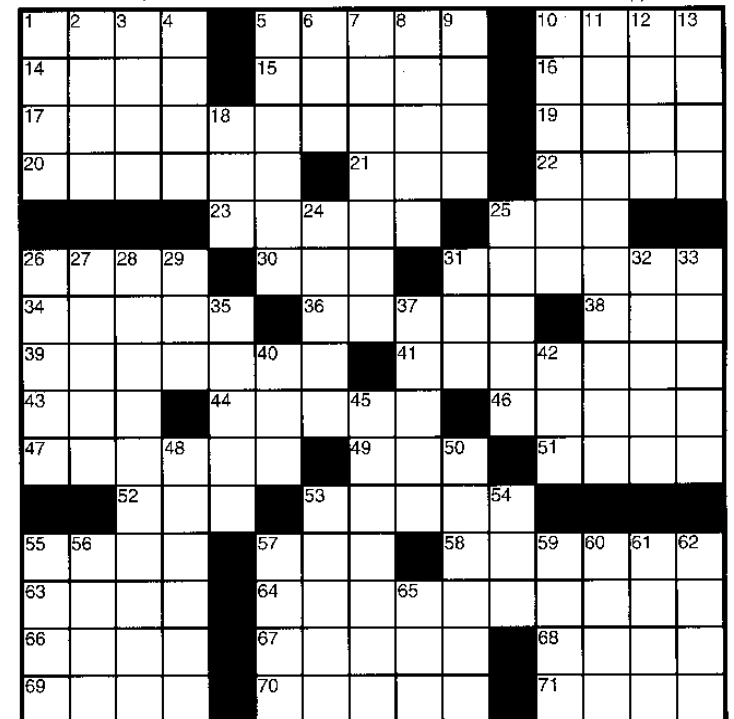
### DOWN

- 1 Circle parts
- 2 Pocket billiards
- 3 Post Teasdale
- 4 Of the mouth
- 5 Universal
- 6 Ms. Landers
- 7 Tallness
- 8 Removes
- 9 Fencing sword
- 10 Not too smart
- 11 Started
- 12 Carol
- 13 Twisted
- 18 Cut (branches)
- 24 "The Old — Bucket"
- 25 Years
- 26 Gaels
- 27 Farewell, Henri
- 28 Hedges that lessen gale forces
- 29 Fr. holy woman

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**Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?**

## Serbian students hope democracy will survive in their country

"Yugoslavia,"  
Cont. from page 1

said.

Milenkovic said Milosevic has ruined the country, its economy and school system. Over the past five years more than 300,000 young people have left Yugoslavia, he said.

"Everybody who has the money leaves," he said.

People cannot get a job if they do not support Milosevic, he said.

Milenkovic said he left his country two months ago. It is very hard to get out. It took him two years to get a visa.

"Our country is like a cage. We don't really know what's going on outside and [the] outside only sees what Milosevic wants them to see."

Milosevic has not only the government under his control, but also the media.

### Speech restricted

Milenkovic said free debates such as the televised debates between presidential candidates George W. Bush and Al Gore do not exist in his country.

The sign carrying supporters Americans see on the news are paid, he said.

"Milosevic stages everything."

Milenkovic said he expects Milosevic to manipu-

late the run-off election.

"Yugoslavia is his little world, everything is an illusion," he said about Milosevic.

The Serbian people threaten to boycott the elections, because they say they have already elected a president in the first elections.

Juric said free elections are not possible and the Serbian people know that.

Milenkovic said many people won't participate in the election.

"People think it is better not to go to the election, because they know Milosevic will cheat. They don't want their voice to fall to him."

### Hope for help

Milenkovic said foreign help is needed. Many democratic countries, including the United States, have promised Yugoslavia money and help as soon as they change governments, he said.

President Clinton has said the United States will lift sanctions, which had been implemented as a result of the wars in Bosnia and Kosovo, from Yugoslavia if Milosevic is replaced.

Juric said foreign military interference, however, would be bad.

"Only Serbian people can make a change in Yugoslavia," she said.

Yugoslavia is currently

composed of Serbia, Montenegro, Vojvodina and Kosovo, which is still under United Nation's command.

One danger is that Montenegro threatens to split with Serbia if Milosevic stays in power. Montenegro supports a democratic leader.

However, if they leave the

union, hardship is waiting for them. Their economy is not strong enough to carry the small country, said Milenkovic. Serbia's economy supports Montenegro currently.

Montenegro is very small and their geography doesn't provide the means for a self-sufficient economy.

Yet, all indications show that Milosevic will hold on to his power as long as he can.

Juric said recently a friend called her from Yugoslavia and said the situation in Serbia is bad. However, she has hope.

"The people in Serbia are very strong," she said.

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