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PIONEER



Photo by MB Doescher

Study serenity: Traci McGill, pre-pharmacy student, studies in the newly finished atrium located in the main building. As construction work winds down, students are finding there are several new study areas located around the campus.

Profs honored in Who's Who

By Melissa Wilkins
News Writing I Student

Two OKCCC professors have been selected for inclusion in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. Linda Robinett, professor of learning skills and Dana Glencross, professor of political science, have both devoted more than 20 years to helping students achieve in higher education.

"I believe everyone can succeed on some level," Robinett said. "Everyone has something to offer and if I can pull that out of them then I have succeeded."

After receiving her bachelor's degree in English and a master's in reading from Oklahoma State University,

Robinett began her journey teaching composition and literature to grades 9 through 12 in the Red Rock Public school district in Red Rock, Okla.

Soon after, Robinett joined the OKCCC faculty as an adjunct instructor, and then advanced to professor of learning skills where she remains.

"I don't know if I intended on being a teacher, but I fell into it," Robinette said. "I like what I do [so] I'm sticking with it."

Robinett currently teaches developmental writing and reading to entry level students before they progress to college-level classes.

See "Profs," page 12

Budding script writers sought for contest

By Daniel Lapham
Staff Writer

OKCCC writers who have dreams of one day making it big with a screenplay now have that opportunity.

The Oklahoma Film Institute, a three-week training workshop for people interested in the art and profession of film-making, is looking for full-length feature film screenplays for its workshops that will launch later this spring and summer.

Fritz Kiersch, professor of film and video, is in charge of the contest.

He said all scripts must be unpublished and contemporary in time setting. No period production or special effects will be accepted. The Oklahoma Film Institute will pay the author \$250 for the rights to use the screenplay for the 2003 Institute. Although the film institute retains the rights to exhibit produced scenes, and enter the production in festivals and competitions, the author retains copyright ownership of the screenplay.

Writers must also provide a separate page that includes character breakdown and a one-paragraph synopsis of the screenplay.

The submission deadline is March 15 and the entry fee is \$20. Kiersch said this is the first year the film institute has held this kind of contest.

He said Oklahoma has outstanding talent.

"I think this is an excellent opportunity for Oklahoma script writers to get recognition," Kiersch said.

The institute is seeking professional scripts from serious writers he said.

"The writer will be involved in the selection and shooting of the scenes," Kiersch said.

"We will select and shoot three to four scenes from the screenplay so that students will have the opportunity to see a full feature [script] and do production on it without the pressure of doing a project that requires finish production work."

Along with the cash prize and experience, the winner of the contest will have three to four finished scenes of their work to add to their portfolio. This will also help in the promotion of the screenplay, Kiersch said.

OFI will be accepting applicants from around the country for the workshops, but the screenplay competition is limited to Oklahoma residents.

"I believe this is an excellent opportunity to showcase and promote the imaginative and creative talents of the Oklahoma film makers and writers," Kiersch said.

Checks for the contest should be made payable to Oklahoma City Community College and sent with the screenplay to: Oklahoma Film Institute, Screenplay Contest, Attn: Fritz Kiersch, 7777 S. May Ave. Oklahoma City, OK 73159.

For more information, e-mail Kiersch at fkiersch@okccc.edu.

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

God no longer an acceptable word in school

It is no longer satisfactory that a student opts to not participate in the Pledge of Allegiance.

As of March 10, students in nine states would have been banned from reciting the pledge by a United States appeals court ruling, according to CNN.com. This order is currently stayed so it can be appealed to the Supreme Court.

The pledge was originally adopted in the 1890s, but the current controversy is because of two words that were added in 1954 — under God.

The two simple words were added to the Pledge of Allegiance for one reason only. According to CNN.com, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, feared an atomic war with the Soviet Union during the Cold War and did not want the pledge to be confused with or sound like the communist chant that also pledged its allegiance to a flag — a communist one.

The United States has come a long way. People believe in the flag, but cannot tolerate or choose to embrace what has become ingrained in American culture in such an elementary way.

Instead there are those that choose to sue, not because their children feel uncomfortable reciting or not reciting the pledge at school, but for their own selfish motives.

Yes, there should be separation between church and state. Most take that to mean no preaching or teaching specific beliefs.

It's been taken too far. The pledge is a part of the American culture. To teach children that it is wrong to recite the pledge as is stands is the wrong message to send.

This ruling was made in San Francisco which has a very different mentality than the average Oklahoman, but the time will come when Oklahomans have to make that decision.

Is society becoming so tolerant of everyone that it is really tolerant of no one?

It was first, the ruling on the teaching of evolution in schools, that was banned because of religious views.

People need to be given a choice. It's the same basic principle, still religious, just the other side of the spectrum.

This may be just the time to find out what we are really made of — tolerance or pure disrespect.

—Kate Brennan
Editor

*All letters to the editor must be supplied with a phone number or they will not be printed.
E-mail the editor at
editor@okccc.edu*

Should students be rated?

To the editor:

As a professor of English, I would like to respond to the recent front-page article on how students rate OKCCC professors online. Recently, I visited ratemyprofessors.com and found some of the comments discouraging.

According to my own rating, my class is "a waste of time and he should not treat people like they are stupid." Another professor comment reads: "Got to remember to quit staring and take notes." In my entire career as a professor, I have never discouraged students from stating their point of view on ideas, but when their perspective crosses the line into sexual harassment, name calling and downright blasphemy, you better believe I will react.

Every semester, students are given the opportunity to evaluate their professors according to real standards: clarity, fair grading, respect and dignity, understandable presentation of information, relevant classroom activity and office hour availability. According to my lat-

est student evaluation summary, 28 out of 29 students reported that I treat them with respect and dignity, and 29 out of 29 students responded that my classroom activities are relevant to their learning experiences. Based on these statistical facts (and not hearsay), my class is not a waste of time, nor do I treat people like they are stupid.

Instead of going to this pop culture site to rate your college professors, the college professors at this institution are in the process of designing their own site that rates college students. I am planning to begin this site very soon. The site will give all professors a resource that warns each other about Suzy Q, the troublemaker in the back corner of the class, and Johnny B. Bad, the guy sitting on the front row sleeping to the melody of a bad song. Every student who enrolls in my course will be rated as good, bad, and/or ugly; the professors across our campus will now know what to expect when a student falls asleep in class, leaves class

early without being dismissed, or works on math homework during a philosophy course. We will know what to expect thanks to the forthcoming design of rateyourstudents.com.

Now, how does it feel to be rated? This is not a reality show! This is education! And, by the way, I am not hot!

—John Inglett

Professor of English

PIONEER

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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.

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

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@okccc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: <http://pioneer.okccc.edu>.



THE JOKE'S ON YOU by Phil Ryder & YOU



"I'm sorry, Mr. Chuckles, we don't have any openings for human cannonballs. Do you have any experience as a human shield?"

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Comments and Reviews

Time to see 'The Hours'

Love, choice, suicide, abandonment. These are all issues dealt with in the multi-Academy Award nominated movie, "The Hours."

It's a story of three different women living three different lives in three different time periods.

First is English author Virginia Woolf (Nicole Kidman) in the 1920s writing the book "Mrs. Dalloway." Next is Laura Brown (Julianne Moore) in the 1950s, reading Woolf's book and being affected by it.

Then there's Clarissa (Meryl Streep), living out the book in modern day times and caring for her friend dying of AIDS (Ed Harris).

All three women battle depression and want something more in life, something they have lost. They fight to survive through their boxed in and seemingly happy existences.

Each woman deals with her depression in a different way, some good and some tragic.

The story is not for everyone. Many might feel it is a forced, feminist chick flick that has no meaning. It is a very literary movie and that's not for everyone either.

I am not one of those unaffected people. This movie has so much heart and soul, it shows you that life is the most precious gift of all, and it's up to us to choose the happiest paths for ourselves. It's a very important and moving movie.

It is worth seeing just for the outstanding acting. This is arguably one of the most wonderfully acted movies of our time. Pitch perfect performances from all three leading ladies and some riveting cameo performances from other well



known actors and actresses as well.

The most famous line from the movie sums up the whole meaning. Woolf states, "You cannot find peace by avoiding life." And I don't think you have seen great cinema until you see "The Hours."

—By Shawn Elmore
News Writing I Student

It's a not-so-interesting life

Oscar winner Kevin Spacey portrays the role of David Gale, a respected professor in Texas and an activist protesting strongly against capital punishment in the movie "The Life of David Gale."

Years later, Gale is put on Death Row, convicted of raping a former student, Berlin (Rhona Mitra), and murdering his long-time friend and fellow activist, Constance Harraway (Laura Linney).

Bitsey Bloom (Kate Winslet) is a top reporter for the magazine News based in New York City. She is assigned to interview Gale for a couple of days before his execution.

Before the first interview

between Bloom and Gale, Bloom had very little doubt about the crimes that Gale had committed.

Listening to Gale telling his own life stories, made Bloom feel she was supposed to be the one to find out the truth about Harraway's death.

Bloom had only a couple of days before Gale's execution.

How much can a reporter find out to save Gale's life and prove to the public that there are loop-holes in the justice system?

Viewers who love the excitement of each and every important detail being crunched together in a very short time will want to consider this film.

The film does have a very good message, stating that an unacknowledged percentage of inmates on death row are innocent.

But the film doesn't give viewers the feeling of wanting to applaud afterwards.

It's one of those movies where you're watching and waiting for the ending, and once you finally get the ending, you lose the excitement you had while watching it.

One thing I did enjoy was great acting between Kate Winslet and Kevin Spacey.



Dear Penelope,

What does it take for a man to find a nice woman? And where are we supposed to find these women? I don't drink, I don't do drugs and I am a licensed minister; and that in itself scares most women.

I have been single and dateless for over three years, and now I am sick of not having a significant other to hang out with or to do things with. What do I need to do?

—Heartbroken

Dear Heartbroken,

There are nice women out there, but the real question is, what are you doing to make yourself available to these women?

Granted, meeting a great significant other is nearly impossible. An exhorbatant amount of effort is required. If you really want to find someone, then you have to be open to it. Go to places where there are single women, join an online dating service (be careful with this one though, they can get a bit shady) and most of all talk to women, lots of them. Dating is not for the shy or the faint-of-heart, so put yourself out there, even if it's for a blind date. Dating takes practice and you have to start somewhere. Good luck and have fun!

—Penelope

Write to Penelope. Drop off your letters in the Pioneer office in 2M6 of the main building or E-mail to editor@okccc.edu.

Winslet's acting in this film has shown her confidence in understanding the role and doing a detailed research before she took on the role.

Winslet did not just slim down for this role but also practiced her accent in order to portray the American reporter.

Spacey has also effectively portrayed the intellectual, enthusiast and the fall of a successful philosophy professor.

The Life of David Gale is rated R for violent images, nudity, language and sexuality.

—By Caroline Ting
Staff Writer

Quote of the Week:

"I think the surest sign that there is intelligent life out there in the universe is that none of it has tried to contact us."

—Calvin and Hobbes

Annual job fair on campus March 12

By **Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

The annual Spring Job Fair is on its way to OKCCC. The purpose is to make students and community members aware of a variety of job opportunities. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12.

They will be seeking full-time and part-time employees for permanent and temporary positions at the spring job fair, said Director of Employment Services Staci McPhearson.

Students interested in attending the Job Fair should have their résumés ready for the possible on-site interviews, which might be conducted by some companies at the fair.

"If you have them [résumés], good," McPhearson said. "But if you don't, don't let that stop you from coming."

She also encourages students to attend the fair, gather information and ask questions concerning professional interests and the job market.

Last fall the Spring Job Fair attracted 35 companies. The compa-

nies were pleased with the turnout and said they will come back to a future event.

"We made a big push in the community too," McPhearson said.

The event has appeared in The Daily Oklahoman for the last several years and a couple of times in the Journal Record.

"PR [Public Relations] does a really good job with helping us to get the word out to the community," McPhearson said.

She also said there's been an increase in the community members looking for jobs, but there were always more students.

The Spring Job Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the College Union Rooms 1, 2 and 3.

Some of the companies that will be participating at the fair are Frontier City, Radio Shack, St. Anthony Hospital, UPS, Camp Fire USA, Blockbuster, Department of Corrections, Lion Hospice, America Online, Sprint Customer Service - the Call Center, The Hartford Insurance Company, Recreation and Community Services (OKCCC) and many others.

For questions or further information, contact Staci McPhearson at 682-1611, ext. 7683.

International students explore Old West

By **Bridgette Lee**
News Writing I Student

International students sampled Oklahoma history and culture Feb. 24 when Abra Figueroa, professor of English as a Second Language, took seven of her students to the Western Heritage Museum and the Oklahoma National Stockyards.

The students had an opportunity to tour the museum and look at paintings and sculptures as well as a typical Old West town of the 19th century.

"We feel like the cowboy is an important figure in Oklahoma's past, so we called it 'cowboy culture day,'" said Figueroa.

Students had multiple opinions about the field trip.

"It was the first time I had been there and I really liked it. Everything was interesting," said

Huong Nguyen, nursing student from Vietnam.

ESL student Trang Phan, a premed major from Vietnam, said her favorite part of the field trip was seeing the paintings and sculptures of Indians. She said the tour guide moved so fast, Phan had little opportunity to pause and reflect on the art.

After spending some time at the museum, students went to see real cowboys in action at the stockyards.

"Although it was a very cold day, we did see cowboys out there working with the cattle," said Figueroa.

In the past, the ESL class has toured places such as the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, Fort Sill and the historic city of Guthrie.

The field trips have given international students an opportunity to see a wide variety of Oklahoma's traditions.

pioneer.okccc.edu

Summer, fall enrollment time

By **Monica Smith**
News Writing I Student

Summer and fall enrollment is just around the corner for students at OKCCC.

March 31 marks the start of early registration for previously admitted students, but students can only enroll online for the first week.

A simple four-digit code will access the system.

The first time a student logs in to the system, the password for enrollment is a student's birth month followed by their birth date. After the first login students must change the password to one of their choosing.

"Online enrollment can be simple if students re-

"Online enrollment can be simple if students remember their password."

—Mike Franco

Coordinator of Community Outreach

member their password," said Mike Franco, coordinator of Community Outreach.

Nicole Christian, business finance major, agrees online enrollment is easy.

"It's the password that some people get messed up on," she said.

Christian said the way to ease enrollment frustrations is to enroll online.

She avoids the lines that characterize in-person registration.

"You take a number and wait three hours for normal enrollment," Christian said.

Also, online enrollment

can be done from your home computer.

Franco said, due to the new computer system that online enrollment uses, some glitches still appear.

"Everyone is still in the process of learning how to use it," he said.

Open enrollment begins April 7.

Contact the editor!!!
Call 682-1611, ext. 7675 and ask for Kate or e-mail her at editor@okccc.edu

SPRING JOB FAIR

Wednesday, March 12
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

in the
COLLEGE UNION

Bring your résumé...
Network with employers...
Learn about job openings...
Get a job!

Know someone who has the Elvin Gray spirit?

By **Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

The annual Elven Gray and Employee of the Year Awards are now seeking nominations from employees.

To become one of the nominees for either or both of the awards, there are certain qualities a nominee shall have.

A College employee nominated for the Elven Gray Award should have at least five years of service and have shown the spirit of Elven Gray.

The spirit of Elven Gray can be displayed through an employee's devotion to the institution, friendly disposition, positive spirit, willingness to work long hours to benefit the institution and to be an inspiration to others, said Elaine Svec, human resources assistant.

Elven Gray, was a man who worked at physical plant until he died of cancer. He received the college's first Employee of the Year Award in 1983.

"He was respected, so this award was dedicated to his life," Svec said.

A nominee for the Employee of the Year Award and that of the Elven Gray Award are basically the same type of people, Svec said.

She also said the nominee for this award is one who's very dedicated to the college and the students.

In addition, the committee will also review a nominee's effects in developing a course or a program or involvement in any activity that has increased the presence of the College in the community, the state or the nation.

Each employee can nominate three people for the three different categories under the Employee of the Year Award — faculty, professional and classified.

The professional category includes admissions officers, librarians, specialists, staff writers, counselors, directors, program analyst, coordinators, deans, executive council members, administrators, vice presidents, assistant vice presidents, engineers and supervisors.

The classified category includes the job categories of secretarial/clerical, services maintenance (mail services technicians/cooks/custodian/lifeguards), skilled crafts (electricians/mechanics) and technical/paraprofessional (media technician/biology lab assistant/math lab assistant/newswriting instructional assistant).

Employees may use the electronic forms file available on the Employee Home Page.

The nomination forms for both awards are due in Human Resources by March 31. They must be filled out, signed and dated.

For more information, call Elaine Svec at 682-7539.



Photo by MB Doescher

Representing Oklahoma City: An Nguyen, left, and Luke Garfield, from an area high school, display the trophies they won at the Oklahoma City Regional Science and Engineering Fair on campus. Nguyen and Garfield will represent Oklahoma City at the 2003 International Science and Engineering Fair that will be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

A day in the life of a dog

By **Teresa Robinson**
News Writing I Student

The OKCCC theater is going to the dogs. "Sylvia," a play by A.R. Gurney, centers on a homeless pooch.

The play tells the story of Greg and Kate who have moved to Manhattan after living 22 years in the suburbs.

Greg brings home a dog he found in the park with the name Sylvia on her nametag.

Sylvia soon becomes a major complication in the lives of the main characters.

Stacey LeGrange, an OKCCC journalism major, plays the title character. She said she originally saw the play at the University of Oklahoma.

"Theater is my life," she said. "I was in competitive drama in high school."

Zakee King, 27, who plays the role of Greg, said he has been acting since he attended Del Crest Junior High School in Del City.

The sociology major said he sees many similarities between sociology and acting.

"It gives me a chance to explore and take on different personalities," King said.

Other cast members include Jessica Ball in the role of Greg's wife, Kate, and Tianna Harris as Phyllis, Kate's best friend.

Curtain times for "Sylvia" will be at 7 p.m. March 27 through 29 in the college theater. Ticket prices are \$4 for students, faculty and seniors, and \$5 for adults.



**Need help or an escort to your car?
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**Voice your opinion.
It's FREE
Write the editor at
editor@okccc.edu**

Travel posters created in class

Credit college trips to Mexico and London promoted by applied graphic arts students

By Daniel Lapham
Staff Writer

Five OKCCC applied graphic arts students get to show off their layout and design skills.

Barry Bosnyak, Arriya Buranachon, Diego Cardenas, Gregory Holkan and Rebecca Terrell have designed posters promoting college credit trips scheduled for later this summer.

The trips will take students and professors to Oaxaca, Mexico, and London, England.

To promote the two trips, theater professor Ruth Charnay and Patricia Brooks, modern languages professor, contacted graphic communications professor Lyn McDonald, and asked if she would help them create posters.

McDonald said it was a "win-win project."

She said every year her class does real projects for real clients.

Students in the applied graphic arts program have to bring everything they have learned in other classes together on their projects in this class, she said.

"This class can get pretty intense."

The students, three of whom did their own illustrations, created the projects from the ground up, McDonald said.

"These students did a really, really good job on these projects," she said. "I would say that 95 percent of them were excellent."

The project began with McDonald instructing each of the students to focus on what appeals to them when they travel.

Each of the students was then required to research the trips by using the Internet and the library.

"In order to do the best job, we must have a good feel of the project we are working on," McDonald said.

"I am impressed with these students because this class is their last shot here at this college.

"If they don't make it here, chances are they will have a tough time in the workplace.

"This is why students in my class must make a B to pass," McDonald said.

McDonald gave each of her students a grading criteria sheet that determined how they were graded.

Everyone in the class was required to design a poster and then Charnay and Brooks, who represent the clients, were able to pick the posters that would best serve their purpose, McDonald said.

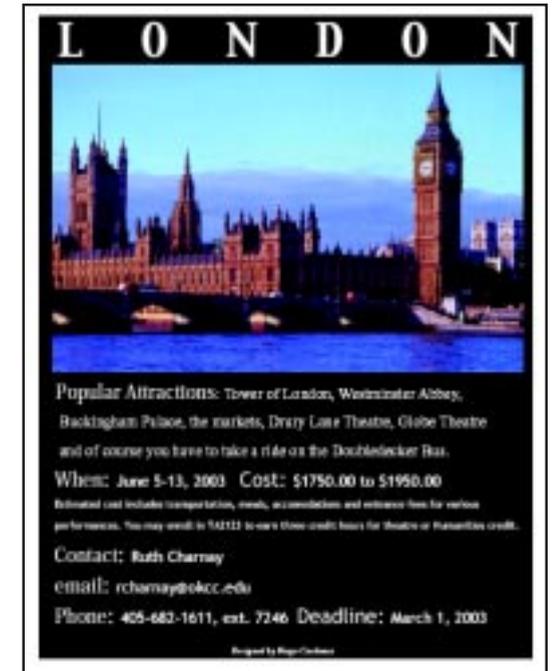
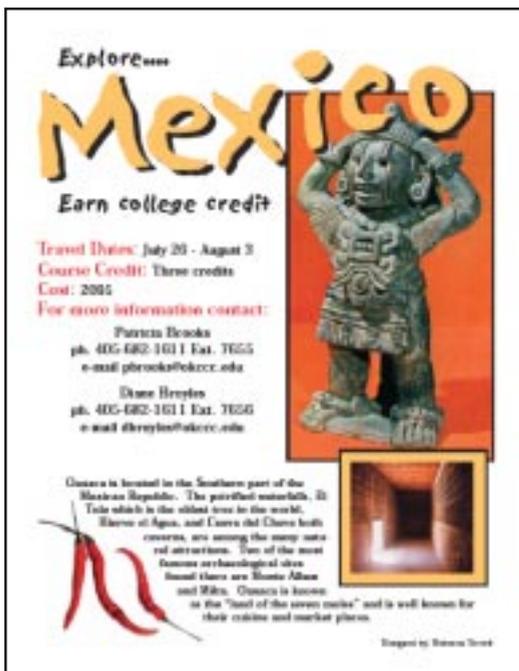
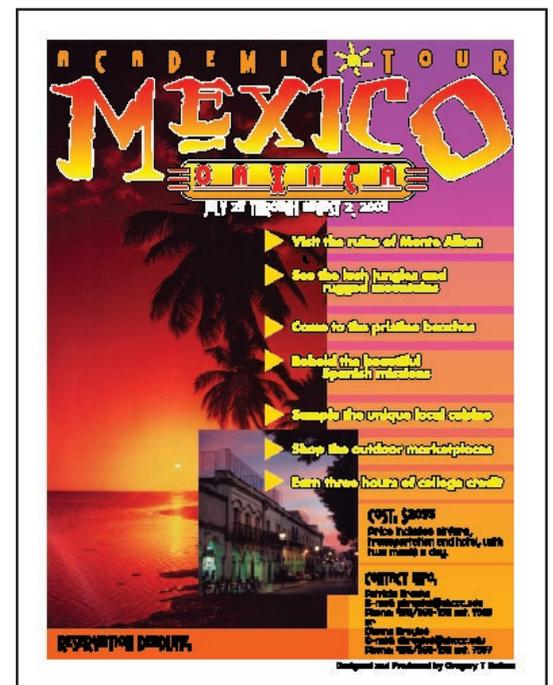
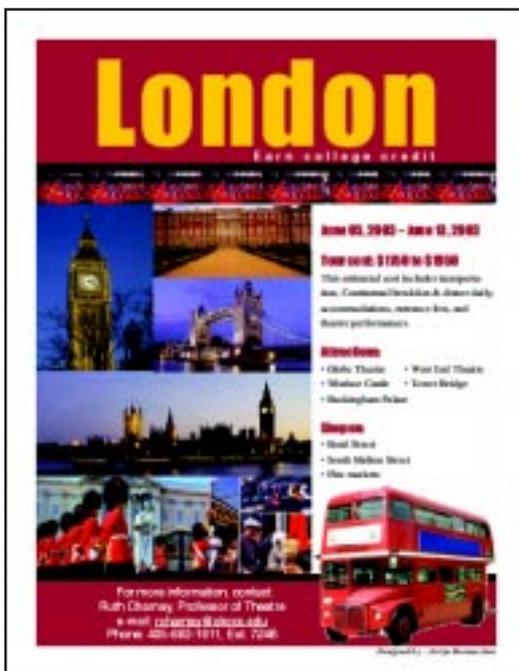
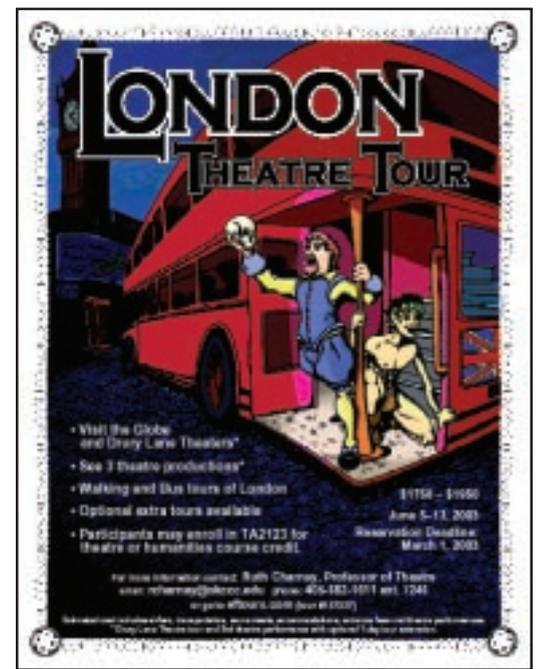
She feels this has been a good semester so far and these students will do well in life.

"I love teaching and I want these people to be successful in life," McDonald said.

For more information about the Graphics Communications program, call McDonald at 682-1611, ext. 7218.

For more information about the London trip June 5 through 13, call Ruth Charnay at 682-1611, ext. 7246.

For more information about the Mexico trip July 26 through Aug. 3, call Patricia Brooks at 682-1611, ext. 7655, or Diane Broyles at ext. 7656.



Travelers may pay the price for procrastination

By **Kate Brennan**
Editor

Every college student knows the meaning of spring break — party, party and party some more.

Don't have your tickets yet? You may be out of luck. According to orbitz.com and cheap-tickets.com, tickets to the most popular spring break destinations such as Cancun and

Daytona Beach are either sold out for the most popular spring break destinations or will set you back an average of \$1500 for a last-minute ticket to places such as Jamaica and New Orleans. Your best bet is to find a hotel on South Padre Island and take a road trip. This late in the game, even a ticket to South Padre is a steep \$1200.

"The hotels are booked," said Cindy Crow, travel agent with Express Travel in Oklahoma City. She suggests going to the South Padre tourism website to look for cancellations at any

hotels, but said the odds are slim that rooms will become available.

She said she normally receives notices of cancellations for spring break packages, but this year there have been none.

"The flights are all full. People are traveling domestically this year," said Crow.

Priceline.com may be a last-ditch option with their bidding style of purchase. Chances are, a \$300 ticket to a popular destination spot will be out of the question.

But before you buy that high-priced airline ticket, make sure there is a hotel with a vacancy in your destination city.

Destination: Spring break

Harry Marks, travel specialist for www.askmen.com, compiled the following list of the Top 10 Spring Break destinations for 2003:

10. Key West

It's funny because Key West practically makes any party list. I have visited the area often and quite frankly, I'm under the impression that spring break takes place 52 weeks of the year over there. Of course, Key West offers revelers far more than boozing and bathing along the waterfront, but who goes there for anything other than breasts and booze?

9. Dominican Republic

The Dominican is also growing as a favorite amongst spring breakers. In fact, unlike other spots, Dominican offers some fairly reasonably priced accommodations — even for late planners. It's a great party spot, but is nowhere as debauchery-laden as Daytona, South Padre or Cancun for that matter. Regardless, it will provide for a nice break from exam madness.

8. New England

Not everyone is fortunate enough to head south for the break, and many even wish to stay in fairly snowy and cold weather (yeah right, it's called dissonance). Nonetheless, some of the best spring breaks I have had were spent skiing up north. There's nothing like snowboarding all day and then coming into the cabin for some soup, beer and crackers. The drinking just continues until you realize that you must be up in an hour or so. While hotel rooms are plentiful, your best bet for a memorable time is to rent a cabin with a small group and just let loose.

7. South Beach

Admittedly, South Beach is more about martinis than beer. But with its star-filled tourists, a good time is in the cards. This is almost the best spot for a couple, as wet T-shirt dances are rare. South Beach will also allow for some rest and relaxation despite partying hardy, whereas most of the other destinations provide for raw decadence. But at South Beach, you can lie in the sun peacefully, drink in hand, of course, and work on your tan until the sun sets and you hit the beach for some sand dancing.

6. New York City

Admittedly, most spring break tourists are not 21 yet, so many of the Big Apple's offerings may be off the menu for you but regardless, NYC has so much to offer in sights, restaurants, museums (and yes, bars and clubs that under-age kids can get into) that you should have no problem having a memorable

time. And you'll wish to return once you are of age to really experience NYC's nightlife.

5. New Orleans

Perfect timing, now that all of the insane have left the Big Easy after Mardi Gras. Gather some friends and head down south on a collision course with the headquarters of hedonism. From the obvious adventures on Bourbon Street to the tropical environment of charming Louisiana, New Orleans is a safe bet for any group of reckless and party-hungry teenagers.

4. South Padre

Somewhere between Texas and Mexico, you will find over 150,000 sun-seekers sprawled over 34 miles of beach area. South Padre is a popular spring break destination partially because the border town of Matamoros is only a half-hour away and the drinking age cannot even be spotted on the horizon. Between endless body shots, bikini contests and bungee jumps, South Padre offers "anything goes" partying in the Texas sun.

3. Panama City, Florida West Coast

If you have no taste for loudness, drunks, and in-your-face debauchery, then book another destination because a trip to Panama City will ensure that you lose your spot in heaven. This beer-soaked party combines all of the worst nightmares that your mother has had over the years. It may not be South Padre's 34 miles, but with 27 miles of sand, bikini babes, and 80,000 square feet of nightclub space, you will be glad to be amongst the 500,000 people that partake in raunchy sex simulation (as opposed to tasteful sex simulation?).

2. Cancun

If Mexico's Acapulco is perfect for couples and singles alike, then Cancun is the country's answer to Daytona Beach. Cancun offers dwellers a cheap and affordable excursion with a more student-friendly drinking age and currency factor. The nightclubs are great, the beaches are second to none and the locals will not be able to tell whether your Spanish is off or you're simply drunk and stuttering.

1. Daytona Beach

Once the leader amongst spring break destinations, Daytona Beach is one of the most inexpensive choices for students. Daytona has so much to offer its visitors, and is in an experience unlike any other: a sure-fire way to break up any couple. Perhaps no other spot is as synonymous with spring break.

—Courtesy of www.askmen.com

Student plans include...



"My friends and I are going to South Padre Island to live in a tent for a week so we can visit the bar in Mexico that offers all you can drink for \$15."

—Josh Crites, nursing freshman

"I am traveling to California to visit some friends and spend time on the beach."

—Julie Neale, nursing freshman



"Me and some buddies are going down to Panama City Beach to party hard."

—Mike Post, Public Relations sophomore

"I am going to attempt to find something fun to do in Oklahoma City."

—Holly Young, Drama freshman



Photos by MB Doescher

RCS director leaves OKCCC for places unknown

By **Dustin Perkins**
Staff Writer

OKCCC will be losing its Recreation and Community Service director March 24. Chris Moler has been the director of the department for seven years and is retiring from the college.

The Recreation and Community Service Department is one of the largest at OKCCC, with about 250 part-time employees every year, Moler said.

The Wellness Center, comprised of the gym, weight room, and cardio room, is a part of the department and is probably the most familiar facet of the department to the students at the college.

"We have lots and lots of community-based programs," said Moler, "We do community outreach classes, special events, and programs particularly for children, families, and senior citizens."

The college is home to eight high-school and two U.S. swimming clubs.

"One of the accomplishments that I'm most proud of is [that] last year... we became a regional training center for the United States Diving Program," said Moler.

The college was chosen out of 40 other facilities across the country for its facilities, location in the country, and the community support that Oklahoma City boasts.

Moler is a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a bachelor's in health education. He has a master's degree in recreation administration from the University of Oklahoma.

He has worked at the Tinker YMCA as the Physical and Aquatic Program director, the Edmond YMCA Youth and Teen Director, and at Integris Baptist Medical Center as the Community Relations Director for the Medical Psychiatric Unit.

Moler currently runs a part-time consulting company that works with athletics and sponsorships. He is unsure of where he will be next.

It is "yet to be confirmed," said Moler.

"My favorite thing about OKCCC is just the whole synergy of the atmosphere in the entire institution. It's constantly growing and moving forward," said Moler about the time he has spent at OKCCC.

"It's really a great place to work," he said.



Chris Moler

I'll flip you for it ...



Photo by Mark Doescher

Maura Espinoza, a Spanish and composition teacher for Pathways Middle College, left, practices a self-defense maneuver on Tracy Hightower in the college union on Feb. 27. Sensei Shethar T. Mcguire and two students taught self-defense techniques to students and staff.

Mid-spring classes popular

By **Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

It's time to take a look at the courses offered during the mid-spring entry point because it's time to enroll.

Mid-spring classes begin on March 24, and the late enrollment deadline is March 25.

Director of Research, John Barker, said there might be a 25 percent increase in enrollment of mid-spring 2003 compared to mid-spring 2002.

Barker said he expects there will be 1,315 students, which is an increase of 263 students over mid-spring 2002.

He also said the eight-week "mid" terms and the five-week fast track terms are continuing to grow in popularity.

"More and more students seem to be catching on to these opportunities," Barker said.

During the mid-spring, many classes are offered through automotive technology.

One or more classes are offered through biological science, biotechnology, child development, computer science, english, English as a second language, History, Humanities, Insurance, Learning Skills, Math, Nursing, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Real Estate, Sociology

and Spanish.

The last day to drop with a refund is March 28.

The last day to drop without a refund is on May 2, and the mid-spring classes end on May 18.

Students who have already taken classes at the College can also enroll online at www.okccc.edu.

For questions or additional information concerning enrollment for the mid-spring classes, contact Admissions and Records at 682-1611, ext. 7512.

If you can't find it on the Internet,
find it in person...
@ the Library

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Testing hours extended

By Elisabeth Zuerker
News Writing I Student

Students who wait until the last minute to take mid-term exams now have an extra 180 minutes to procrastinate.

Testing center hours have been extended until 8 p.m. Friday, March 14, for the last day of mid-term exams.

"It is a variation of what usually happens," said Jim Ellis, director of Career and Assessment Services.

The testing center is normally open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

However, the extended hours allow more students another opportunity to take their tests when it is con-

venient for them, Ellis said. The testing center serves several purposes.

It allows professors to teach throughout the whole class time and then let the students take their tests when it is more convenient for them. It also serves as the location to take placement tests for admission into classes.

In the last year, 62,000 people used the testing center, and it is estimated that this year the numbers will rise to 72,000. These numbers put the testing center in company with the larger schools in the area, Ellis said.

Students must bring their student identification card and arrive at least one hour before the testing center closes. Students are encouraged to come early,

if they can, to avoid the possibility of long lines an hour before closing time.

College to host NCAA dive meet

Brent Hodges
News Writing I Student

Some of the best divers in America will be at OKCCC March 13 through the 15 to compete in the Zone E diving championships for the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Zone E represents the western half of the country. OKCCC was selected as a host site for this regional by the host school, the U.S. Air Force Academy.

"The Air Force Academy chose OKCCC because they had been here before with the Western Athletic Conference," said Stephanie Scott, aquatic and health training specialist.

"They liked it so much they wanted to bring one of the regionals here. There will be 60 different competitors from 16 different universities."

This will be the first time the college has hosted an event such as this, she said.

Some of the universities expected to attend are Stanford and University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles.

Also, Scott said, the competition provides divers with the chance to go to the National Championships, and, from there, qualify for the Olympic trials.

Competition times are: from noon to 4 p.m., Thursday and Friday, 1-meter diving, 3-meter diving and springboard competition; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, platform diving.

All events are free and open to the public.

Leadership award given to Sechrist

The VP described as 'exceptional leader'

By Nicole Giglio
News Writing I Student

Dr. Paul Sechrist was presented The Chair Academy Leadership Award in February at the Chair Academy Convention in Anaheim, Calif. Sechrist is OKCCC provost and vice president of academic affairs.

The award is presented to an outstanding higher education leader who best identifies and supports academic excellence.

Department Chair of Psychology and Sociology at OKCCC, Dr. Cecilia Yoder, nominated Sechrist for the award.

"Dr. Sechrist is an exceptional leader," Yoder said. She described him as very supportive of faculty development and innovation in the classroom.

Sechrist said he was proud to receive the award.

"I was surprised and honored to receive the award," he said.

"It was especially meaningful because I was nominated by a member of the faculty, Dr. Cecilia Yoder. I consider it a great privilege to work with this incredibly talented and dedicated faculty and staff."

Sechrist was instrumental in establishing the OKCCC Center for Learning and Teaching. He has also played an important role in the increase in enrollment. As Yoder explained, this has been very challenging, considering the economic downturn at the present time.

The Academy, more commonly called The Chair Academy, was developed to provide leadership training for academic department chairs and deans in community and technical colleges said Yoder.

The academy offers mid-level academic administrators training for two-week long sessions at various national and international sites.

"Many of the college's department chairs and deans have gone through that program," Yoder said.

Even though Sechrist has become a top administrator at OKCCC and made great contributions to the college, he remains close to his teaching background, Yoder said. It is seen through his appreciation toward the staff and faculty.

Sechrist moved from New York to Oklahoma in 1972 to attend Southern Nazarene University. Also in the '70s, he taught speech debate and journalism at Yukon Mid-High before he returned to SNU. There he filled the positions of professor of teacher education, communications and business. He was dean of adult studies when he left to join the OKCCC staff.

Women in history lauded

By Kate Brennan
Editor

What used to be recognized for only a week, is now acknowledged for an entire month. March is Women's History Month.

Originally just one week was set aside in an effort to remedy the fact that women's history was virtually unknown, and not taught in the public school curriculum. That week was declared by the first Joint Congressional Resolution, the week of March 8 in 1981.

A presidential proclamation in 1992 declared March to be Women's History Month. This month is also used as a tool to further the causes of women.

In 1999, women earned 72 percent as much as men. The Equal Pay Act was passed in 1963, but the wage gap shows that although the gap is narrowing, there is still a ways to go, wrote Borgna Brunner in an infoplease.com article.

The wage gap is a statistical indicator often used as an index of the ratio of women's earnings compared to men's. It is a percentage calculated by dividing the median annual earnings for women by the median annual earnings for men.

Some of the accomplishments acknowledged during Women's History Month are:

In 1849, Elizabeth Blackwell became the first woman in the United States to earn a medical degree.

In 1879, Belva Ann Lockwood became the first woman admitted to practice before the Supreme Court.

In 1916, Jeanette Rankin of Montana, became the first woman to be elected to the House of Representatives.

In 2001 Condoleezza Rice became the first woman to serve as national security adviser and became the highest-ranking woman in the country.

SPRING JOB FAIR

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Highlights

Extending hours at Test Center

The Test Center will be open till 8 p.m. on Friday, March 14 to accommodate midterm exams and finals from the early spring classes. For more information, call the Test Center at 682-1611, ext. 7321.

NCAA Zone Diving Championships

The NCAA Zone Diving Championships will be held from March 13 to 15, it is a free event. The times for competition are noon to 4 p.m. each day, so students are welcome to attend between classes. For more information, call Stephanie Scott at 682-1611, ext. 7662.

Russian music at OKCCC

The Simbirsk Trio will present an evening of Russian folk music at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, in the College theater. Tickets are \$8 per person for general admission, and \$6 for students and seniors. Visitors should park in parking lot D and enter through entry 6 or use parking lot C and come in through entry 5. For more information and a list of education events related to performances, visit www.okccc.edu/globaled or call Cultural Programs at 682-1611, ext. 7579.

Spring Job Fair

OKCCC will host its annual Spring Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, in the College Union Rooms 1, 2 and 3. Recruiters from various companies will be able to answer questions about job openings and employment opportunities. Students should bring resumes for possible on-site interviews. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Staci McPhearson at 682-1611, ext. 7683.

Cotton candy sale

The Student Art Guild will be holding a cotton candy sale from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the College Union on Tuesday, March 11. For more information, call Yvette Peña at 524-4650 or Marry Ann Moore at 682-1611, ext. 7250.

Members needed for community chorus

The OKCCC Community Chorus has recruited members but they are looking for more male members. Practices will be on every Tuesday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in 1C5 in the Arts and Humanities Building. The chorus will be singing music from the musicals *Cats*, *The Fantasticks*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Big River*. All are welcome. For joining or further information, call Jonathan Stewart at 682-1611, ext. 7249.

Transfer scholarships for Business students

Students interested in completing their bachelor's degree in business are invited to Oklahoma City University's Scholarship Briefing and Program Information Session for OKCCC business students. The event will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 13. Presentations will be held from 12:30 to 1 p.m. and from 5 to 5:30 p.m. Information will be available both before and after each presentation. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, call John Hockett at 682-1611, ext. 7567.

Islamic information for OKC

The Islamic information for OKC will be holding a free and open-to-the-public lecture night concerning Islam and terrorism on Friday, March 7, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., at Oklahoma City University's Chapel. For more information, call Saad Mohammed at 210-4775.



Popcorn at bake sale:

The Future Teachers Organization held a popcorn and bake sale on Wednesday, March 5. FTO President and psychology/literature sophomore Barbara Gwinn, left, oversees the bake sale as english/education sophomore and club historian Shiloh Force, middle, collects money. Jaci Harris, elementary education sophomore and club secretary, right, prepares popcorn to be served.

Photo by MB Doescher

College Republicans now recruiting

Club organizes several activities throughout the year

By Ashlee Masteller
News Writing I Student

The OKCCC College Republicans chapter is booming this semester.

"I am encouraged by the amount of participation," said Ralph DeCardenas, sponsor of the organization.

DeCardenas has sponsored the organization for three years.

In the past, College Republicans have been involved with several activities both on and off campus.

Republican Congressman J. C. Watts visited the campus last year. He spoke in the College Union while students listened and enjoyed pizza.

Also, three years ago the organization put on a "Meet the Candidates Night." This brought senators and representatives from the Republican Party to OKCCC.

"I'm encouraged by the amount of participation."

-Ralph DeCardenas
sponsor of College Republicans.

This semester the College Republicans will be holding several different activities for students to get involved in.

Active members of the College Republicans will be touring the State Capitol. The organization will also be involved in Habitat for Humanity.

The meetings are held on every other Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. All students are encouraged to get involved.

There is an active membership fee of \$6.

Students who are interested in joining the College Republicans can e-mail Chris Morrow at Cmorrow@hotmail.com.

Got club news?

Call Caroline
682-1611, ext. 7676
with the details!!

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.

Power windows/locks. Automatic. Tan on tan. \$900 OBO. For more information call Star at 427-0399
FOR SALE: '85 Honda Prelude, auto, 192K miles, many new parts, good tires. Only \$850 OBO. Call 229-4279 or 605-0566.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Two 12' MTX Subwoofers in one box. One American Legacy 600 Watt amp. One Jensen 300 Watt amp. Paid over \$800. Asking \$350. Contact Jimmy at 830-2587.

FOR SALE: For all your flooring needs contact fellow student Taey Stevenson. Measurements and estimates are free. Call 635-8222.

FOR SALE: Beauty cosmetics and make-up at cost. Full size couch in good condition. Call 912-0890. Please leave message.

FOR SALE: Sauder computer desk with built-in hutch. \$100. Please call 359-8190.

FOR SALE: 1998 GMC gray tweed truck seat. Has both headrests. Nice condition. Asking \$150. Call 229-8385.

FOR SALE: Futon bunkbed. Black frame, black and red full size futon mattress. Twin size mattress for upper bunk. Will deliver if necessary. \$150. Call Taey at 205-3179 or 560-0096.

FOR LEASE: 1 BR Apartment in NW OKC. Historic neighborhood, C/HA ceiling fans, covered parking, coin op, washer/dryer on premises, very NICE. \$350 and \$200 security deposit. Call 840-2030

FOR SALE: Beautiful black lacquer dresser with gold trim. Includes large mirror. \$150. Call Trisha at 632-7750.

FOR SALE: Two Taylor Made graphite shaft gold drivers. Never been used! Still in package. \$125 each. Call Rocky 923-1082.

FOR SALE: Beauty cosmetics and makeup at cost, six-foot Christmas tree, 25-28 gallon glass tank and cover, brown changing table, little girl's dresses and shoes. All in excellent condition. Call 912-0890 and leave a message.

NEEDED: Female roommate to share two-bedroom apartment on northwest side of Oklahoma City. Must pass credit check with apartments. Call Marissa at 755-1867 or 204-9414.

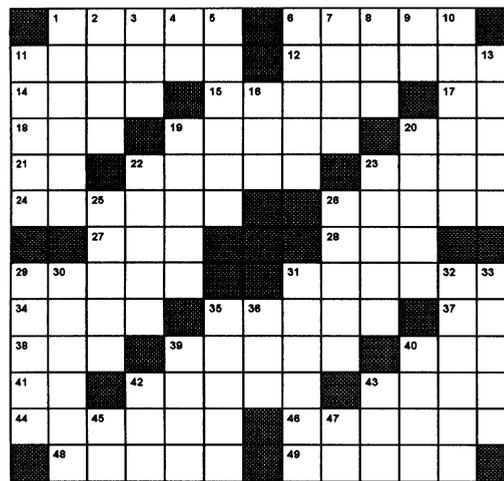
ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: 30" Sony floor model TV in stereo. Good working condition. \$100. please call 359-8190.

WANTED TO BUY: Old dish

weekly crossword

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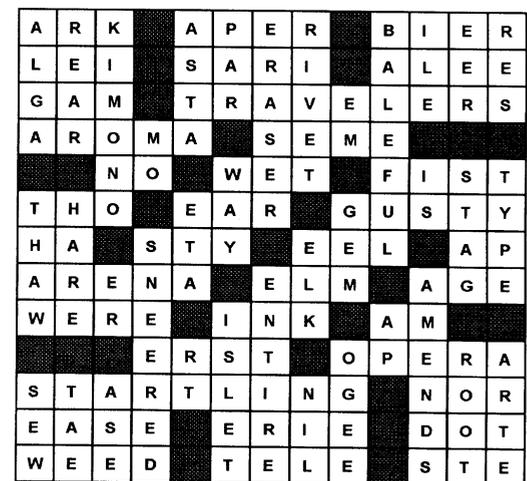
ACROSS

- 1 Hits
- 6 Saying
- 11 Mimic
- 12 Lull; quiet
- 14 Delete
- 15 Sun-dried brick
- 17 Prosecuting lawyer (abbr.)
- 18 Time period
- 19 Fish
- 20 Pullet
- 21 Direction (abbr.)
- 22 Bolt
- 23 Go by
- 24 Fur
- 26 Extravagance
- 27 How all gerunds end
- 28 Time zone (abbr.)
- 29 Area
- 31 Beams
- 34 High cards
- 35 Ward off
- 37 Near
- 38 Each

DOWN

- 1 Heckle
- 2 Great lake
- 3 Craft
- 4 Preposition
- 5 Hungry
- 6 Almost
- 7 Owe
- 8 Hole-in-one
- 9 Southern state (abbr.)
- 10 Oldest
- 11 A plea (obsolete)
- 13 Mansion
- 16 Deer

puzz113



19 Hue; dye

- 20 Hurry
- 22 Circles
- 23 Obsolete
- 25 Digger
- 26 Spin
- 29 Fast
- 30 Containing acid
- 31 Grounded
- 32 Black birds
- 33 Upright position
- 35 Dazes
- 36 2,000 pounds
- 39 Seeds
- 40 Ellipse
- 42 Snake
- 43 Environment group (abbr.)
- 45 Senior (abbr.)
- 47 Eleven (Roman)

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FOR SALE: One and a half-year old female Dobie. Very friendly and lovable. Show quality. Champion bloodlines, AKC reg. Call Kellye at 604-9094

FOR SALE: Two one-year-old Ball Pythons plus 50 gallon reptile cage. \$150. Call 265-0159.

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NEEDED: PT instructors. Non-profit seeking current CPR/first aid instructors or training experience preferred. Individual needs to be flexible, good communicator and available weekdays/evenings. Spanish speaking a plus. HS diploma and 18 years of age required. Send resumes to: 601 NE 6th st. OKC, OK 73104 or call 232-7121 x 131 for an application.

WANTED: Nation's Premier Dental Benefits Company. Earn what you're worth! \$22-\$36 per sale. Only 7 to 10 hours per week. No experience required. Local training. Call Jade for an interview. (405)685-3665.

WANTED: Aide for 20-year-old with cerebral palsy. To cook, clean and shop. Sundays and evenings are available. Please call 682-2103 for more details.

CHILD CARE

AVAILABLE: Child care available flexible times on Tuesday, Thursday evenings & Saturdays. Mother of three with prior home day care and current child development center experience in a non-smoking house with a big back yard. Please call 820-7417 & leave a message.

TEXTBOOKS

FOR SALE: ENGL 1113, English Composition Textbook (Prentice Hall Guide for College Writers). \$45 OBO. Call Scott at 632-6456.

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Attn. DUSTIN

Bomb threat being investigated

By Kate Brennan
Editor

A bomb threat was called in at 1:38 p.m. Feb. 26 to the college switchboard.

Coordinator of Campus Safety and Security Keith Bourque took the call.

In accordance with the college's protocol concerning such threats, college administrators were notified immediately including Vice President of Business and Finance Art Bode and

Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Paul Sechrist were notified immediately.

The caller repeatedly stated "there is a bomb in the building," in a calm, but fast voice according to the Oklahoma City Police Department crime report.

The report stated that the call was thought to have been made from a cell phone or a pay phone due to the background noise.

Security and physical plant personnel searched the campus and deter-

mined the threat to lack credibility due to the evidence found during the search, said Bode.

Bode said specifics about the case cannot be made public because of the ongoing investigation and security concerns.

He then made a recommendation to OKCCC President Bob Todd that the college should not be evacuated based on all evidence gathered.

When a bomb threat call occurs, a checklist is used to help determine where

the bomb is, when it might explode and any clues that could potentially lead the police to the caller or their location.

To stay prepared for any future incident, a new plan is being drafted by Earnest Machado, director of campus safety and security. The exact details of the plan aren't available at this time.

According to Oklahoma statute, any person who willfully and maliciously commits the following act, it shall be deemed a felony:

"Any person who uses the telephone or other instrument to willfully make any threat or maliciously convey information known to be false, concerning an attempt or alleged attempt to kill, injure or intimidate any person or unlawfully damage any real or personal property by means of an explosive or simulated bomb, incendiary device."

For more information on safety issues, call 682-1611, ext. 7691.

Star gazing sessions to be planned

By Morgan Hopkins
News Writing I Student

The night sky, full of wonderful and amazing spectacles, is waiting to be observed.

The astronomy department is hosting observing sessions on campus.

Physics professors Max Simmons and Debra Burris, hold these sessions for all who wish to behold the beauty of space.

"These observing sessions are open for everyone who wishes to attend," said Simmons.

"We try to have them at least twice a semester to give the students more of a visual aid."

Students have positive things to say about the sessions.

"It's a very good idea to have this," said Allie Hendrickson, pharmacy major.

Different types of telescopes will be set up with instructors there to answer questions about the constellation the participants are looking at or the telescopes they're looking through.

The event will take place on the rooftop area above the Science Center on the south side of the college with access from parking lots A and G.

The sessions are planned for after spring break, but no definite date has been decided as of press time.

For more information, contact Simmons in the Science center at 672-1611, ext. 7790 or Burris at ext. 7187.

Online menu allows planning

By Kori McCaskill
News Writing I Student

A new online menu will let students and teachers know ahead of time of what to expect in the cafeteria. The menu also features healthier food shown as "CL" or cooking light.

"Students and teachers can check the menu at www.okccc.edu/menu before making lunch plans," said Linda McMurtry, assistant director of finance.

"This might help students decide whether to eat out or will let them know what to expect before coming to the cafeteria," McMurtry

said.

Catering manager Heather Deshazo said she has had numerous comments from customers that they really like the new online menu.

"Cooking light, a new, healthier selection, has become a popular item," McMurtry said. "There are many days when the cooking light selection sells out before the lunch crowd is over," she said.

"The ingredients and nutritional value for these entrees are posted for customer convenience," McMurtry said.

"I personally didn't know about the new online menu," student Jenny

Hoge said. "Now that I know about it, I think I will use it to know when I want to eat at the cafeteria," Hoge said.

"I think the new online menu is a great idea," student Kendall Simpson said.

"We had thought about sending out an All-Employee email, but didn't want to bother everyone with an extra email," McMurtry said.

The new online menu is just a quick and easy way to see what will be served for the upcoming week. It is very convenient and saves you by letting you know when to eat at the cafeteria or to make other plans.

Four-year schools to offer sessions

By Shae Sneed
News Writing I Student

OKCCC business majors have the chance to learn about scholarships to Oklahoma City University.

OCU's Meinders School of Business will be offering scholarship briefings and program information sessions on Thursday, March 13. Students interested in completing a bachelor's degree in business may attend a mid-day session from 12:30 to 1 p.m. or an evening session from 5 to 5:30 p.m. both in College Union Room 3.

These presentations include remarks from Dr. Bart Ward, dean of the Meinders School of Business. Faculty advisers and admissions personnel also will be available to answer questions.

This program is an opportunity for business students interested in transferring

to four-year schools to find out about different options they may not have yet considered.

"Students owe it to themselves to at least look at OCU," said John Hockett, OKCCC dean of Student Development.

Although OCU is a private institution and tuition tends to be considerably higher than state schools, Hockett encourages students not to let cost get in the way. He said, because OCU is a private school, the administrators work harder to provide opportunities for need-based financial aid and institutional support.

UCO is the first in a series of colleges and universities to be invited to OKCCC's campus this semester, Hockett said. Business school deans from the University of Oklahoma, University of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University also will be invited to campus to provide other information and opportunities for the OKCCC business students.

Professors excited to be named on list

"Profs,"

Cont. from page 1

Political science professor Dana Glencross said she was overcome with excitement for being recognized for her efforts.

"I am honored to have been nominated by one of my favorite students," said Glencross.

She said she is also proud to be a third generation Oklahoma State University graduate, receiving her bachelor's degree in English and her master's in political science.

Glencross started teaching as an assistant in Political Science at OSU.

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