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PIONEER



Photo by Cole Bridges

Summer fun: Taylor Collins and Bekah Wheeler mix fund-raising and fun during a Teen Xtreme car wash held at an area Burger King. Recreational Specialist Karen Hartline is helping the group work to raise money for a trip to Six Flags Aug. 8. "The Teen Xtreme camp for kids ages 11 to 15 has raised a total of \$535 and have done six car washes," Hartline said. She said she and her class of 42 kids will travel to Texas in a charter bus.

Program helps students speak out

By Kinsey Lee
News Writing I Student

A computer program, popular with doctors and lawyers for its convenience, also offers mobility-impaired students a chance to complete daily assignments.

Dragon Naturally Speaking is a program available in the OKCCC Disability Services office that allows students to operate a computer keyboard without using their hands. This is helpful for students with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome and mobility impairments, said Disability Services ADA Technician Vicky Wilson.

To use the Windows program, the student must put on a headset with a speaker. With the click of an icon, the program types what the student vocalizes with a few seconds of delay.

It takes about 40 minutes to initially "train" the program to each student's voice, but it is an ongoing process, said Wilson. The computer learns a student's pronunciation patterns so it can more accurately recreate the student's words and sentences.

Inaccuracy is a problem with the program, and many students find training and using the program to be frustrating, said Wilson. Punctuation and words that sound similar or are spelled the same require manual correction.

Another downside is that students can only use the program in the Disability Services technology lab during business hours. However, there is alternate access to the program in the library that can be used during the library's hours.

See "Program," page 8

College degree worth big bucks

An associate degree raises income 36%

By Daniel Lapham
Editor

Students graduating from OKCCC with an associate's degree can earn an average of \$30,125 per year, 36 percent more than a student who has a high school diploma or GED.

An associate degree will earn a person without a high school diploma or GED 112 percent more per year.

These statistics are part of a recent economic interest study conducted by CCBenefits of Idaho and paid for by the Oklahoma State Regents

for Higher Education.

The study reports, "For every credit completed, OKCCC students will, on average, earn \$114 more per year each year they are in the work force.

"Alternatively, for every full-time year they attend they will earn an additional \$3,379 per year. In the aggregate [all existing students,] the higher earnings amount to some \$24.4 million per year for each year they remain in the work force."

Although many associate

See "Pay," page 8

Library Internet ruling won't affect OKCCC

By Mary Green
News Writing I Student

OKCCC's library offers unfiltered access to the Internet, and will continue to do so, said Rachel Butler, OKCCC's reference librarian.

On June 23 the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the federal law requiring public libraries to install pornography filters on computers with Internet access in order to receive federal money and grants.

According to the Washington Post, the law permits, but does not require, librarians to unblock Internet sites at the request of adult users. The law does not state what filter system to use. As a result, there will be many variations of applying the law.

Because OKCCC is a college library and not a public library, it is not subject to the Supreme Court ruling, Butler said.

According to the Washington Post, since the birth of the Internet, Congress has been trying to regulate what children can access. The challenge is designing a law that protects children without hindering adult access to information, said Butler. She said OKCCC's library is designed for adults.

See "Internet," page 8

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Twins may save future lives

Millions around the world prayed for success when conjoined Iranian twins underwent separation surgery. Unfortunately, it turned out to be a tragedy. The surgery was unsuccessful but it was not a failure, and the doctors are not the ones to be blamed.

The 29-year-old twin sisters, Laden and Laleh Bijani, were joined at the head. Both knew just how great of risks they were embracing. Their courage and confidence proved their will as people who wished to live life as two individual human beings.

After the twin sisters decided that they wanted to be separated, the doctors were to respect their choice but still held the authority to refuse a decision made by the patients if that decision was deemed unethical.

In Laden and Laleh's case, the decision is to undo a mistake caused by nature. Nature isn't fair at all times, but that doesn't mean people should have to live with nature when it makes them suffer.

The international team of 28 doctors who gathered in Singapore felt it was necessary to separate the sisters after they had discovered the high pressure in their brains, which explains why they were suffering from chronic headaches, according to CNN.

Thus, separating them wasn't just for the purpose of setting them free but also to allow them to continue living a normal life span.

Even though the 53-hour operation ended the sisters' lives due to severe blood loss, the doctors fulfilled their duties. They did their best and granted the sisters' wish to simply take a chance, even if the sisters knew clearly that they only had a 50/50 chance to survive.

Dr. Benjamin Carson of Johns Hopkins University told CNN that he learned if he were to perform a similar operation in the future, he'd do it in several stages weeks apart. That would enable doctors to keep the blood in controllable channels.

One unsuccessful surgery doesn't impugn the doctors' ability to save lives. What they learned from the lesson is what might help them save other conjoined twins' lives in the future.

There's no need for them to feel guilty for trying to save the Bijani sisters. It's the force of nature that sometimes makes humans sigh.

—**Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

Voice your opinion.
It's FREE!!!
Write the editor at
editor@okccc.edu

Affirmative Action history

To the Editor:

With all due respect, Cole, I feel your commentary is naive at best. Wouldn't it be nice if everyone were treated equally and that all peoples on all lands treated one another with care and respect? And then I wake up.

It has been only 39 years since discrimination has been against the law!

Here's a brief timeline of the 384 years that the majority of African Americans have resided in North America:

- 224 years they were enslaved under legal sanctions from 1641 to 1865 the end of Civil War.
- 1865 the 13th Amendment is passed and slavery ends.
- 1868 - African Americans are granted citizen-

ship in the United States (14th Amendment)

- 1875 - First Civil Rights Act is passed.

- 1881 - "Jim Crow" segregation law passed in Tennessee.

- 1883 - Supreme Court overturns Civil Rights Act.

So, for the next 99 years segregation and discrimination are legal.

It's not until the second Civil Rights Act is passed in 1964 that African Americans are given rights in voting, employment, education, public accommodations, federal aid and treatment of civil rights cases in courts.

In my lifetime (in your parents lifetime, and perhaps in your lifetime), I have lived in a country that did not make segregation and discrimination against the

law.

Please study what Affirmative Action and the Equal Employment Opportunity Act really says.

Race can be just one factor in determining whether a student or employee is given an opportunity. It's about targets and goals, not quotas.

Thank you for your time.

—**Alondra Dallaly**
Student

PIONEER

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Cole Bridges.....Staff Writer
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All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

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

Letters to the editor can be delivered in person to the PIONEER office, mailed to: 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>.



"There's still some work left in this one. Get him another pot of coffee."

**Do you draw?
Do you want your comic to appear in the Pioneer?
Call 682-1611, ext. 7675 for details.
Ask for Daniel**

Comments and Reviews

Hook's got nothing on Depp

Johnny Depp is by far the best pirate I've seen. Calling all Johnny Depp fans. This summer you will not want to miss this one-of-a-kind Walt Disney film, "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl," starring Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow.

Sparrow comes back to seek revenge after Captain Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) stole his ship, the Black Pearl, in a mutiny and left him to die years ago. Apparently, Barbossa and his group stole some Aztec gold, which put a curse on them. They've become skeletons under moonlight and existed between life and death.

The only way to break the curse upon them is to find every single piece of gold and return it to its original

place.

This film also stars the beautiful Keira Knightley ("Bend It Like Beckham"). Knightley is Elizabeth Swann, the daughter of the governor of Port Royal. She keeps the last medallion from Will Turner (Orlando Bloom in the "Lord of the Rings") when he was saved on the royal ship.

Sparrow later teams up with Turner and his own crew to take the Black Pearl back. Then also rescues Swann, Turner's love since childhood, after she is kidnapped by Barbossa.

Sparrow and Turner managed to steal the fastest ship on the seas, the H.M.S. Interceptor, to go after Barbossa.

Lots of special effects were used in an effective way only Disney can de-

live. The skeleton ghosts transforming from human bodies to skeletons from moonlight to darkness is an example of the magic. The sword battle between the Royal and the skeletons is also done successfully by producer Jerry Bruckheimer, who has produced "The Rock" and "Con Air."

Johnny Depp deserves praise for this film for being an absolute method actor. Not only the thick mascara holds the audience's attention on him. His accent, posture and witty way for words keep everybody focused and laughing out loud. He looks like a ratty pirate, yet is still charming.

The film is rated PG-13 for strong language and violence.

—**Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

Dave controls another audience

Dave Matthews and the rest of his crew busted into Oklahoma City to perform one of their reputedly known concerts on July 15.

About 15,000 claps and cheers filtered through the Ford Center when the Dave Matthews Band walked on stage.

The band got their instruments and minds ready to relieve the anticipated crowd with their deep sound and emotional presence. Violinist Boyd Tinsley began to rosin his bow while drummer Carter Beauford set his microphones to his extreme drum set.

Dave Matthews started

out singing "Don't Drink the Water" with voice and guitar only. Then all of a sudden the lights, fake fog and drums shot out to tell us the show had just begun.

Not shocking at all, Dave Matthews himself was the big crowd pleaser. Any direction he looked the crowd from that direction would roar wanting just a glance or famous smirk from him. He had a light shining down on him that looked as if an angel were descending to lift him into the sky. When they played "Crash," you could hear the audience singing every word with him.

After many songs, Dave would look at Beauford and commend him for his amazing performance. He made playing the drums look like a breeze. He brought a unique sound to the band that left me incredibly impressed. The whole band together sounded beautiful in an almost spiritual sense.

Just the sound of a saxophone, drums, violin, keyboard, and electric guitar being played together was reason enough to attend one of Dave Matthews Band's widely recognized concerts.

—**Lacey Lett**
Staff Writer

Quote of the Week:

"People like you and I, though mortal of course like everyone else, do not grow old no matter how long we live...[We] never cease to stand like curious children before the great mystery into which we were born.

—**Albert Einstein**

Shaggy's PHILOSOPHY

Questions?

Questions produce answers, which produce more questions, and the process so repeats. So can we now only think in questions?

Because of the current dilemma of a mortal life, is it forever gain to ask why, or is it more notable to sit back and absorb?

If one only absorbs and never vents, then how can absorption afford notability of knowledge never noticed?

With the noticing of knowledge, how does one truly know what to absorb as knowledge and to dismiss as chaos?

If all knowledge is relative, then what is the principle difference, if any, between knowledge and chaos?

Are all things relative or is our perception of these concrete elements simply distorted by the delusions of a muddled society?

Since, as one philosopher said, the world is nothing but perceptions, then how can one define what constitutes a concrete element or a muffled society?

At one point scientists believed the earth to be flat, so did this prove to be fact or simply their misperception of an absolute?

Is what we believe as established fact not subject to change?

Yes, the possibility and inevitability of change in belief is evident, but if a window in which one is looking through changes colors from blue to red, does the true spectrum of the tree on the other side change or is it simply our view that changes?

Would not only a person on the other side of the window know whether the tree remains in true color, or did the window change colors because the viewer wished it so?

How often is anything in this reality truly logical? What if the color of the tree the person sees through the window is a different color than he feels and knows is truly there?

Is knowledge afforded through logic or experience when experience is so illogical and logic is so inexperienced?

May one combine logic, experience and knowledge, and in turn gain true wisdom?

Although it may seem so, what tragedy could turn more ferocious than breeding a devil and a demon, both of whom claim to be correct?

Is not the true meaning of existence to take the most logical, and time proven thought pools, breed them together, and ascertain a knowledgeable philosophy that allows a greater element of supreme consciousness and understanding to the infinite universe?

If we let this constitute true meaning of existence, does this spill over to true meaning of respectable existence, and if, indeed, the universe is infinite, then would not all outcomes be possible?

—**Relatively Absolute**

Board Room getting face lift before September meeting

**By Cole Bridges
Staff Writer**

The OKCCC Board Room is expected to have a new and nicer look before the September Board of Regents' Meeting, said President Bob Todd.

The renovated room will feature freshly painted

walls and new lighting, carpeting and ceiling, said Vice President for Business and Finance Art Bode.

The remodeling will correct a problem with the absence of electrical outlets in the center of the room.

The new room will include floor plugs and wiring that are under the floor to avoid previous battles with wires running along

the floor, said Todd.

Todd also said that the Board Room has been the location of many college and community functions in the past.

"[The Board Room] is also used at times when the board is not functioning," Todd said.

"In the past [the room] has been scheduled for various staff meetings. In some cases there have been classes held there, and

community meetings have been held in the room."

The renovations will be funded with Section 13 Offset Funds, which can only be used for capital improvements, said Bode.

OKCCC regents approved the project with limitations on spending not to exceed \$39,000.

The improvements and extra space offer the po-

tential to increase the room's use by higher education groups for statewide meetings, said Bode.

However, Todd said, he feels that the new room's traffic will remain about the same.

For the 2003-2004 fiscal year OKCCC received an allocation of \$690,000 in Section 13 Offset Funds.

In previous years the allocation has been \$783,020, said Bode.

Online classes follow guidelines

**By Travis Doussette
News Writing I Student**

Taking classes online can be convenient but not an educational shortcut. Students need to know what to expect.

Across the nation, online learning is one of the fastest growing means of education. The number of OKCCC students enrolling in online classes has increased from 3,397 to 4,318 during 2002 and 2003, according to Kathy Wullstein, coordinator of Online Learning.

"Right now mostly general education courses are offered online," she said.

Sophomore Mike Johnson said he's planning to take an online class this fall because he heard that they're easier. "Also, rumor has it that you can finish

the classes in half the time," Johnson said.

Wullstein has a different explanation. "Online classes are not self-paced classes, and most require a textbook which can be bought at the online bookstore," she said.

Wullstein also said that the classes also require attendance for students to receive a participation grade.

For problems with online classes, the technical support form is available for use on the Distance Education homepage. Technical questions can be resolved seven days a week during normal working hours.

"The best advice for students taking online courses is to set up a separate time to do your work and stay caught up with the course work," Wullstein said.



Photo by Cole Bridges

Bring in the trees: A group of workers set trees in place using a John Deere tractor within the first floor of the main building as part of the landscape portion of remodeling. There are no plans for further landscaping in the main building, according to Assistant Director of Physical Plant J.B. Messer.

OKCCC Child Development Center loses grant

**By Rece Campbell
News Writing I Student**

The nationally-accredited Child Development Center at OKCCC will lose some funding for their infant and toddler department.

The center lost the First Start Grant, a program for children up to age 3.

Acting Director Leann Nurdin said the grant was

first given to the school in 2000 from the Oklahoma City Department of Commerce.

The center expanded the toddler room from one to four rooms and hired more employees with the money provided by the grant.

Each year the standards and the requirements to continue getting the grant changed and the rooms were cut down to two.

Losing the grant this year

will force the school to place the infants and toddlers in the same room.

Clerk receptionist Mary Souza said even though they are losing eight spots for children, the loss does not affect any parents who are already in the program but does make the waiting list longer.

In charge of the one room will be full time employee Lisa Young, who likes the idea that the two age

groups will be placed together.

"The younger children really look up to the older ones to take care of them," Young said.

Young worked at the center before the grant was available. She said she believes that the children learned in a community environment when both the age groups were in the same room.

Nurdin said no employees

will be laid off but Rachel Myrko will be moved from full-time to part-time.

**Need help or
an escort to
your car? Call
campus
security at
ext.7691**

Helping a cow give birth all in day's work

By Eric Rose
News Writing I Student

For Gary Houlette, this particular Sunday started out like all the rest, with the alarm going off at 5:30 a.m. The only difference was that G.G. was pregnant.

That morning, about 11 a.m., her water broke, so of course Houlette hurried her to a pen, his heart racing as he tried his best to stay calm. With nothing on but some coveralls and a T-shirt, Houlette was going to have to deliver a calf.

Houlette, 45, is an Oklahoma farmer but he also is a veteran college professor.

Anna Wilson, retired OKCCC dean of science and mathematics, said Houlette is an "outstanding educator."

Currently working on his 17th year at OKCCC, Houlette teaches general geology, earth science, and physics. He plans to stay at the community college, where he started his education as a student in 1977, until time comes to retire.

His associate degree is in pre-engineering. After graduation from OKCCC, Houlette attended Oklahoma State University where he studied civil engineering. He completed his bachelor's degree in three years and worked as an intern at Commercial Testing Laboratories for one year in Denver. Houlette then returned to OSU to complete his master's work. There, he met his future wife.

After landing a job on the OSU campus,

Houlette found himself in line signing up for the payroll. In front of him stood a very attractive young lady, there for the same reason. Debbie was working on her master's to become a Clinical Dietitian and had also recently found a job on campus. Eighteen months later, she became Houlette's wife. They married Nov. 19, 1983.

Houlette said there were three things his wife wanted in life — "an Irish Setter, a horse and to live in the country."

Her wishes slowly became a reality when the couple bought two horses. Throughout the week, the Houlettes spent large amounts of time with their horses so they decided to buy 30 acres of land and move to Wanette, Okla.

The original 30 acres has grown to 120 acres. The Houlettes currently lease an additional 400 acres. They own 12 cows and 13 calves.

The Houlette farm also houses a chicken coup where mixed-breed chickens are kept, as well as six dogs, some of whom the Houlettes have saved from abandonment.

The hobby that started with 30 acres and two horses has now become a business. Houlette and his wife are always working, checking the cattle and taking care of their investments which they only hope to break even on.

But, back to the story of G.G., a heifer, or a first-time mother.

Houlette quickly tied her to a post in the pen to keep her from running or moving. G.G. needed help because the calf was so large. She was a new mother who did not know exactly what to do. Houlette reached inside the heifer and checked the birthing canal. In went his



Gary Houlette with a farm friend

hand, followed by his elbow up to his shoulder. Houlette felt around inside the heifer to make sure the calf was coming out in a normal presentation or, head and feet first. Sure enough, this calf was ready to be born. Chains were placed on the calf's ankles and, with the help of the mother pushing and Houlette pulling, the calf was born. Houlette quickly cleaned out the calf's nostrils and mouth. The new calf resembled a newborn baby.

Photography prof's work lands in magazine

By Caroline Ting
Staff Writer

Jai Gronemeier's art will grace a page in the August issue of Popular Photography magazine.

An image the photography professor created was chosen as one of the top-five winning entries selected from a monthly competition hosted by the magazine.

On an average, Gronemeier said, the magazine reviews 1,000 new images coming from all over the world each month. From those, the committee first selects 40, then narrows it down to the top five, which are first, second, and third places, and two honorable mentions.

Gronemeier's image, "The Picture in God's Hand" made honorable mention.

The image — a composite color image of a hand holding an egg,

with a person inside the egg — was created by using a digital camera to shoot the hand holding the egg first.

"I was goofing off with my camera," Gronemeier said.

Later, she said, she had the idea of putting a person inside the egg so her friend, whose hand

holds the egg in the image, was posed again for the winning piece.

Gronemeier said she has had different responses about the little surprise she put in the egg. In the actual image, viewers can't really tell if it's a person or maybe a frog, as someone has told Gronemeier. And that's exactly what she wanted to achieve.



"The Picture in God's Hand"

"I want [people] to look at [the image] and have some personal feelings about it," Gronemeier said.

"To me, it's that God was holding this undeveloped thing and looking at it and saying, 'you're OK' and put it back in the nest and let it finish developing."

She said her work was inspired by an admired photographer Jerry

Uelsmann, one of the few who still uses the darkroom exclusively when a lot of today's photography work is done in Photoshop, a computer software program.

Uelsmann is especially good at adding and taking away components on an image, according to Gronemeier.

"He can put doors in rocks, a human body over an ocean," she said. "He does beautiful complex photo-montage-type of things."

This competition is the first magazine competition Gronemeier has ever entered so she said she was rather surprised when placed. She received a \$50 check.

Anyone can enter this competition, Gronemeier said. The only requirement is that participants enjoy photography. In fact, she said, she tells her students to enter competitions constantly.

See "Art," page 8

Highlights

Film and video production upgrades

Students may take Avid Express 3.5 software classes in May through July. Avid Technology is the premier provider of digital editing and video production software and hardware to the commercial motion picture industry. Classes will be designed for beginning digital editors and those who wish to enhance their current skills. OKCCC is one of 36 Authorized Avid Education Centers nationwide. Interested students should call the Training Center at (405) 682-7562 for enrollment. Classes are limited to 12 students.

Be Seemore Art

Arts Festival Oklahoma is seeking teams of two to be Seemore Art, the festival's mascot, during Aug. 29 through Sept. 1. Seemore Art will give cards to kids and generate good will. Volunteers will receive a free T-shirt, free drinks during their shift, an invitation to the volunteer party, and a free parking pass the day of volunteering. Seemore Art is a bird-like creature with a yellow body and orange beak. He also displays several different colors of feathers. For more information contact Scott Tigert at (405) 682-7579.

Lives worthy of conviction

Paul Loeb, author of "Soul of a Citizen: Living with Conviction in a Cynical Time," will be speaking from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 13, at the University of Central Oklahoma. The themes of the speech will include why citizens do or do not get involved in social issues and how to live lives worthy of convictions. How commitment and civic involvement brings purpose in life will be discussed. Those interested in attending should send their name and summer address to jgeren@osrhe.edu.

Tuition fee waiver information

Tuition fee waiver applications are available in the Student Financial Aid Center. The deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1. For more information call Student Financial Support Services at (405) 682-1611, ext. 7524.

Civic-minded website

Vocal Oklahomans in Civic Engagement is sponsoring a new website to help students gain information about civic activities on their college campuses. The site will allow colleges and universities to post activities on an online calendar and participate in online forums. Visit the site at www.okvoice.org.

Mental health

Festival of Hope 2003, aimed at raising awareness about the importance of good mental health practices, will hold a kick-off luncheon from noon to 1 p.m. on July 23 at Mama Lucia's Italian Restaurant in Oklahoma City. For more information or to make reservations call (405) 840-9396.

Increase retirement income

A free workshop, dealing with how to increase income after retirement, will be held July 22 at the Edmond Library. Executive Vice President of Retirement Investment Advisors Inc., Ted Hughes, will be speaking. The workshop will focus on diversifying investments, making tax wise investments and will cover Social Security and tax trap issues. To make reservations call (405) 842-3443.



Photo by Cole Bridges

Communications Talk: Communications Lab employees (from left) Leahna Robinson, Charlotte Roller and Kristen Hahn discuss ways to improve student understanding of the elements of good writing. Students can visit the Communications Lab, located on the first floor of the main building, for help with improving class papers and becoming better writers.

Students visit London

By **Kassie Smith**
News Writing I Student

The June 5 trip to London made by the OKCCC theater department was a "great time," said Ruth Charnay, director and professor of theater arts.

The group saw the Queen of England and had many other adventures along the way.

Not only did the trip consist of OKCCC students, but community members as well. A total of seven people made the trip, said Charnay.

Amy L. Vaughn, an OKCCC theater student, was with the group.

"There's only one way to describe our London adventure, brilliant," said Vaughn. The groups' EF tour package was "top notch.

"It included the North Folk Plaza Hotel, which was situated across from the English garden, and many tours of castles, theaters, gardens, cathedrals, universities, and so much more.

"We hit the ground running and never stopped

"We hit the ground running and never stopped until we were back in the states."

—Amy L. Vaughn
OKCCC theater student

until we were back in the States," said Vaughn.

According to Charnay, the underlying purpose of the trip was educational.

The reason for picking London was logical for a drama professor.

"It has the best theaters and it is the home of Shakespeare," said Charnay.

"During the day the group would have certain activities they would attend, but at night they could do whatever they wanted, such as dancing or going to Abby Road," said Charnay.

According to Vaughn they would get to their sights by the "tube," which is the well-known London subway system.

"It would take us wherever we wanted to go," said Vaughn.

The group also attended many plays at different times.

These plays included "My Fair Lady," "Fame" and "Richard II" at the Globe Theater, said Vaughn.

"There were a few things along the trip that were less than perfect, as any trip, but as Ruth and Richard Charnay kept saying, it's all part of the experience," said Vaughn.

Charnay has plans to take a group on a theater tour of New York next summer, and probably London again the next year.

She said she would like to switch the two destinations every year.

**Got club news?
Call 682-1611,
ext. 7676**

OKCCC grads have a lot to look forward to

"Pay,"

Cont. from page 1

degrees at OKCCC are intended to transfer to four-year colleges, several programs are designed for immediate job placement.

Ann Ackerman, vice president for economic and community development, said the most hireable fields for graduates with associate degrees are the health science and applied science fields.

"Students here who get an associate in applied science usually go directly into the career field," Ackerman said.

"Our biotechnology program is probably the one I hear the most about personally," Ackerman said. "One biotech company I work closely with is always asking me if we have anyone else we can send their way because for every scientist, you need many technicians to do the experiments and lab work.

"You can't just go out of high school and get one of those jobs."

OKCCC Coordinator of Student Support Services Mary Turner agrees with Ackerman about the most in-demand fields in the job market right now.

"Our technical degrees, especially in allied health and applied sciences or computer science, are designed to go directly into the job market," Turner said.

Linda Fay, employment services adviser, said the employment services department is in the process of developing an employment website, a list of careers that match up with majors offered at OKCCC and many other services dedicated to helping students succeed.

She said employees in her department are working diligently to get the system working for students. She said they are optimis-

tic they will be operational in the fall.

"Nothing is completely available yet, but we hope and plan to have everything up on Sept 1."

She said the employment services department is working behind the scenes right now.

"We are trying to keep services available to students," Fay said.

OKCCC won't block Internet

"Internet,"

Cont. from page 1

Butler said OKCCC's policy requires that people have to be 16 to use OKCCC's computers, or else be accompanied by a supervising adult.

"No one is allowed to view pornography on the computers and if one does so, they will be escorted out by campus officers," she said.

Butler said the Supreme Court ruling could cause some problems for college students since pornography filters could censor out valuable information to students. For instance, research on breast cancer might be limited because the word "breast" would be censored out.

"Many students do go to public libraries because of convenience," said Butler. "Sometimes valuable information will be censored out at the public libraries."

Many librarians opposed the legislation. The American Library Association brought up the First Amendment challenge, contending that the law might be burdensome.

The New York Times states that libraries receive \$200 million a year from federal programs. They are free to reject the money and ignore this law, but the need for funding makes that unlikely.

Professor got start the hard way

"Art,"

Cont. from page 5

"We have some wonderful images coming out of [this college]," Gronemeier said. "I really think that our program offers a way for

Software help to disabled

"Program,"

Cont. from page 1

Students also can purchase their own copy for home use, but the program is expensive. Depending on the grade of the program, it retails for about \$100 to \$200 said Wilson. In addition, updates are required and retail for \$40 to \$100.

Although only one OKCCC student uses the program at this time, Wilson said, the program is beneficial to the college.

Pat Stowe, Services to Students with Disabilities director, said any updates or improvements that are available will be implemented as needed.

"We're always faced with staying up to date with technology," Stowe said.

Wilson said with dedication to training the program and adding new vocabulary words, a student who speaks slowly and clearly can see about 95 to 98 percent accuracy.

"The technology is always improving," said Wilson. "The program will continue to get better."

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people to be creative and to experience something on both a personal and a professional level."

She said the photography program teaches students the basics so when they move into more advanced areas such as digital, they already have the groundwork laid.

Gronemier said she became interested in photography when she was about 4 years old and got spanked for picking up a camera for the first time.

One day, she said, she and a little boy from the neighborhood went to his mother's house and took out her camera to play with but ended up exposing all the film. She said she wasn't discouraged even

though it was her fault.

About 25 years ago, Gronemeier decided to get serious about her interest in the field so she took a photography class with a friend, who later dropped the class.

Gronemeier said she didn't have a clue how to use a camera at all and, during the 16-week course, she had only one image that actually looked like something. But, she said, she loved photography so she continued to work at it, eventually turning to the field of teaching.

"I've been blessed to be able to teach," Gronemeier said.

"If I had to do it all over again, I'd do it the same way."

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