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# PIONEER

## College hopes to communicate better through OCCC e-mail

Come fall, students will automatically be assigned an occc.edu e-mail address

By John Savage  
Staff Writer

Most people believe e-mail has become an integral and efficient way to keep in touch these days. OCCC officials agree.

As a result, come fall, every OCCC student will be assigned an e-mail account through the college, said Chief Technology Officer Jim Riha.

Riha said students won't be required to do anything to get the account — it will automatically be assigned.

He said the move is designed to help college officials and professors reach students more effectively.

In a recent President's Advisory Council meeting, President Paul Sechrist said the move will help students be better informed.

"We will push information out to students using the e-mail system,"

he said, "and hopefully, improve communications and information, and students can communicate with us efficiently."

Sechrist said the current system allows students to use either a college e-mail account, a personal account or just provide a phone number and, as a result, it's often difficult to reach students.

Sechrist said if college officials have one e-mail address to use when contacting a student, the college will be better able to send reminders when college paperwork is due including financial aid information, and due dates.

Riha said the system also will enable the college to cut back on mass mailing memos through the postal service, and allow the college to send those memos to students more effectively via e-mail.

See "e-mail," page 12

## Loan consolidation deadline June 30

By Eric Nguyen  
Staff Writer

Students wanting to save money by consolidating their student loans face a June 30 deadline.

On Saturday, July 1, interest rates for most student loans will increase by 2 percent.

Students can consolidate their loans at the lower rate, even if they are still in school

and plan to take out more loans.

Students who have multiple lending programs can merge their loans into one payment plan, said Wayne Sparks, early assistant manager for the Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program.

He said students who want to consolidate loans should contact their lender to find out options for

consolidation.

There are both benefits and drawbacks to student loan consolidation.

The main benefit is students have only one lender to worry about instead of several, Sparks said.

In addition, consolidation companies also help students by reducing their bills to one each month, as well as giving students an extended payment

## High-five dive



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Kimberly Davis of the Lubbock Dive Club performs a dive from the 1-meter springboard during the 2006 Region VIII Diving Championships June 16. Davis placed 12th in the event held in the OCCC Aquatic Center.

period of 10 to 30 years, he said.

Consolidation companies also give students a fixed interest rate, Sparks said.

Sparks said a drawback of loan consolidation is that students possibly could lose benefits such as forgiveness programs, which is when the federal government can-

cels an education loan for students who meet the criteria of doing volunteer work or military service.

In addition, he said, students could end up paying more because the extended payment plan could result in more interest.

On June 13, Congress repealed the single-holder rule for

student loans, according to Rick Edington, operations and client director for Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program. That rule forced loan holders with one lender to consolidate only through that lender.

"Now, students are not required to use

See "Loans," page 12

## Editorial and Opinion

### Editorial

# Disaster aid spent frivolously

When Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the Gulf Coast last August, thousands of people were left homeless.

It was the Federal Emergency Management Agency to the rescue, providing financial assistance and housing for the hurricane victims.

Unfortunately, scam artists and greedy victims have seized upon the taxpayers' generosity for their own benefit.

U.S. Government Accountability Office auditors have discovered some of the federal aid FEMA provided for shelter, food, clothes and other necessities, were instead spent on jewelry, pornography, vacations, divorce lawyer fees and even a sex change operation.

Fraud and misspent funds total a \$600 million to \$1.4 billion loss, according to the GAO.

Not only has the FEMA money been spent on frivolous things, but some people also are taking advantage of housing subsidies.

People who did not lose their homes, or did not suffer any property damage, are filing claims using the addresses of cemeteries, post offices and open fields in order to receive money for housing.

Even more disturbing are the people who are staying in hotels on FEMA's dime, but also receiving checks for house rent.

If average people are able to scam FEMA, then it should be no surprise that approximately 1,000 prisoners along the Gulf Coast also are taking advantage of the mass confusion, applying for and receiving fraudulent payments.

FEMA's reputation is quickly taking a nose-dive. The organization is under extreme scrutiny for not taking the time to carefully screen the hurricane victims to confirm their place of residence and make sure Social Security numbers were accurate.

With FEMA's shortcomings and mistakes out in the open, the agency is working to change its policies.

However, FEMA concedes that in order to help these people, assistance needed to be sent quickly.

Taking such thorough information could be difficult if their homes, as well as their paperwork, were destroyed or lost during the disaster.

Still, the damage has been done.

Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, perfectly summed up the situation in a Los Angeles Times article. "This is an insult to the victims of Katrina and Rita. The ultimate victim is the American taxpayer."

With massive disasters like Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, federal aid is important and possibly life-saving for the victims.

Sadly, there will always be people out there willing and able to take advantage of the situation.

In these cases, it is up to the federal aid agencies to sift these people out and get assistance to the real victims. Unfortunately, it was a task FEMA was not up to.

—Rachel Carlton  
Staff Writer

# Protect yourself from the hazards of the summer heat

### To the Editor:

High temperatures may be here to stay, at least for the rest of the summer.

To be on the safe side, local citizens should begin to take precautions to protect their health against heat-related illnesses that may cause heat stroke or death.

To reduce the potential for health hazards, the Oklahoma City-County Health Department offers the following heat safety tips:

- Reduce your activity level and seek a cooler environment. Plan strenuous outdoor activities for cooler parts of the day.

- If outdoors, don't forget to use a sunscreen and take frequent breaks.

- Never leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle during hot weather.

- Drink plenty of fluids such as water, fruit and vegetable juices. Avoid beverages that contain alcohol, caffeine or large amounts of sugar.

- Eat more frequently but make sure meals are well balanced and light. Avoid hot foods and heavy meals.

- Wear lightweight and light-colored clothing to reflect heat and sunlight. This allows your body to maintain normal temperatures.

- Cool the body by taking cool baths or showers. Apply wet towels, or wear damp clothing.

- Avoid bundling babies in heavy blankets or heavy clothing.

- Keep air circulating through the use of air conditioners, fans or open window. Air circulation is important because it carries heat away from the body.

- If you take medications, ask your physician if they are likely to interfere with your ability to sweat.

- Ask a physician or pharmacist about the effects of sun and heat exposure if taking prescription medications such as diuretics, antihistamines, mood-altering or antispasmodic drugs.

- Stay indoors in an air-conditioned environment as much as possible unless your heat tolerance is well established. If air conditioning is not available, pull shades over windows and

use fans to cool rooms. Open windows on opposite sides of a room for cross ventilation.

- Check frequently on ill or elderly friends, relatives and neighbors who may need help.

—Oklahoma City-County Health Department

## 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.

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

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: www.occc.edu/pioneer.



## Comments and Reviews

# Downey Jr. and Kilmer classic duo

"Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang" is the sharp story of a thief who staggers onto a casting session for a movie while running from the police, and gets himself a role in a Hollywood movie.

Released on DVD June 13, the film is directed by rookie Shane Black, who fuses a hip detective story, slick narrative backdrops and eclectic humor right out of "Pulp Fiction" for a nice debut.

Robert Downey Jr. plays Harry Lockhart, the thief who's thrown into the movie role of a private investigator.

Since he is inexperienced as an actor, Harry's agent hires a real private detective (a deadpan, gay cop named "Gay Perry," played by Val Kilmer) to teach him how to be a cop.

During the practice sessions, Harry and Perry stumble upon a real-life murder that eventually turns into a multiple murder mystery.

Ultimately, the murders become connected, and Harry and Perry's connection to them produce an



array of laughs and clever wittiness between the unexpectedly good on screen team of Kilmer and Downey Jr.

Black, who is actually a veteran writer from "The Last Boy Scout" and "Last Action Hero," also uses quick, jolting camera work and an array of colorful characters to make an American version of Guy Ritchie's "Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels."

Robert Downey Jr., amidst a career with several run-ins with the law, has been churning out quiet, surprisingly good roles.

He was a sidekick of Edward R. Murrow in "Good Night, and Good Luck," a hopeless publisher in "Wonder Boys" and is slated to play Edgar Allen Poe in 2007 for "Poe."

He's good again in "Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang."

The DVD's video quality is very good and cleanly done for the contemporary feel of the film-making.

The sound is presented in Dolby Digital 5.1 and viewers may be surprised at how much action the film offers along with the laughs.

"Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang" is on-target with its content, delivering clip after clip of humor, blindsided by quick action.

The DVD's only negatives are the fairly limited amount of extras (gag-reel, trailer and audio commentary by the director), and that the movie may appear over the top at times with sexual vulgarity and violence, losing some of its fun.

**Grade:** B+

—Eric Nguyen  
Staff Writer

# Oklahoma meets Animal Planet

More than 10,000 spectators, not counting the animals, came to Mitch Park in Edmond on Father's Day weekend to see what all the commotion was about.

Animal Planet came to Oklahoma on a tour that travels to 13 different cities around the United States.

The tour started in Knoxville, Tenn. and has traveled to Raleigh, N. C.; Austin, Texas, and Miami. The expo will travel to Boston, Los Angeles and other cities across the United States.

The network brought in different types of animals to teach people about the importance of animals to our environment. The network brought along a European owl, an alligator, native to

southern Oklahoma, and other animals of interest.

The main attractions were on the main stage that held all-day assortments of fun contests, a Frisbee dog exhibition, Bug House and Discovery High Definition Theater Dome.

The Frisbee Dog exhibition was the most fascinating because the host not only allowed his dogs to catch a Frisbee and show off all their jumps, but also taught the audience how to teach their dogs to catch a Frisbee.

The Bug House allowed people to get really close to spiders, butterflies and other creatures.

Discovery High Definition Theater Dome was the loudest event. The theater displayed upcoming shows for the fall season, the the-

ater displayed images in vibrant colors and magnificent harmony in 5.1 digital surround sound.

Although the show only lasted 11 minutes, the dome also was the most crowded since it featured air conditioning inside.

Pet owners were able to get tags for their pets and check out the Pet Den that housed local animals awaiting adoption.

Most enjoyable were all the animals that people brought to the event. Not only was every breed of dog at the expo, but also ferrets, a Shetland pony and various house pets.

It was great to see a free, family event that incorporated animals and the environment.

—Holly Jones  
Staff Writer

## YOU asked FOR IT

**Q:** Why is the Test Center not opened on the weekends during the summer? It is during the spring and fall semesters.

**A:** The entire building is closed on the weekend in the summer and [the Test Center] has tried several different ways to work around that, but we can't. In order to be open during the summer, we would have to have a full staff working and students are not going to come in on Saturdays during the summer anyway.

—Jim Ellis

**Testing and Assessment Services Director**

**Q:** Why are there so few pay phones available for use?

**A:** Those are actually contracted out by AT&T and are being removed due to loss of revenue, due to cell phones.

—Dave Anderson

**Telecommunications Director**

**Q:** Why is there not someone in the Math Lab at all times to help students?

**A:** There are hours posted on the window in the lab that list each tutor's specialty of math. Students can call for available times. Typically, Friday is not an issue.

—Chris Smith

**Math Lab Tutor**

**Q:** When will the Graphics Communication department get a new chair or division?

**A:** We're interviewing for the position right now. We should have a new one by the fall semester.

—Susan VanSchuyver

**Arts and Humanities Dean**

**Q:** Why is it that graduates are not able to pick up their diplomas until two months after walking across the stage?

**A:** Walking across the stage is part of the commencement ceremony. The student does not earn the degree until all classes are completed, grades posted, and degrees are cleared. Grades must be posted prior to clearing degrees.

Once grades are posted, staff in the graduation office then go through all graduation applications to ensure that all requirements are met. After processing all applications, diplomas are then printed by staff in the office.

Once the diplomas are printed, postcards are sent to all graduates to inform them that the diplomas are available to be picked up. The total process does take several weeks. We have customarily chosen the July 15 date to provide ample time to complete the total process.

—Barbara Gowdy

**Admissions and Graduation Director**

## Comments and Reviews

# 'Far Cry' from being a good video game

Sometimes, things may look better than they are. That's what can be said about Ubisoft's new game "Far Cry Instincts Predator."

The new Xbox 360 game appears to have all the appealing elements that gamers would want: in-depth story, large multi-player mode and a map editor.

The development team at Ubisoft also added the original Xbox version of the game, along with the new game, as a packaged offer. Sounds like a steal, right?

It ends up being more like a robbery. This game is about as fresh as a week-old opened can of dog food.

"Far Cry" has several problems. At first glance, it would appear to be a clone of "Halo."

The targeting system is similar and the vehicles have been added for a fragging good time.

But the mechanics are faulty and the vehicles feel like you are driving broken shopping carts.

However, the game does include a variety, from all-terrain vehicles, to armored pickup trucks, hovercrafts and flying gliders.

Even though the game's development team have the right ideas for a good game, they just couldn't execute it in "Far Cry."



Ubisoft is a master of the first-person shooter, but this game fails in most aspects of the first-person shooter genre.

The game's graphics are the only thing done right. Lush jungles look and feel right on, and there is a nice amount of shading to showcase mountains and trees.

But, the controls are lackluster and will have players screaming, "But, I hit him!" more than once

while playing the game.

The game's weapons have terrible range and are inconsistent with most of the other Ubisoft games.

The game's map editor allows players to create their own playgrounds to take online and used to battle other users.

All this allows for is a hodgepodge of trees and some bunkers, and other weak constructions to sit

on a half empty map with the same bad controls.

Overall, this game is about as fun as skinning your knees on some hot concrete.

So, if shoddy controls and weak maps are your thing, then pick up "Far Cry." Don't say I didn't warn you.

**Rating: 2/5**

—**John Savage**  
Staff Writer

# Electronic Art's 'World Cup' scores with fans

Fans of the World Cup going on in Germany can now participate in the action with their favorite teams by playing the officially-licensed FIFA game on Sony PlayStation Portable.

In this game you decide who is going to be FIFA World Cup 2006 champion, as you control and manage your own team.

Electronic Art's "2006 FIFA World Cup" includes the necessary features for players to be World Cup champions. It has all 32 participating teams, as well as the 12 stadiums, from Berlin to Frankfurt.

Gamers can choose either to play against the computer or against another PSP gamer through the game sharing mode.



Game options in "FIFA World Cup" include the typical EA menu selections. The options include quick match, practice session and penalty shoot-out, as well as global challenge scenarios.

In-game options include roster adjustments and a full list of tactical formations.

Although the PSP screen is very small compared to the traditional console, the visuals are very crisp and clear.

However, the details of the players are almost unrecognizable because of the size of the PSP screen, which is 4.3 inches.

Graphically, the color contrast is also quite dark,

even when the brightness is adjusted to its brightest level.

The controls and tactics of the game are easy and do not take long to figure out, even for the first-time PSP users.

Gamers can choose to use the PSP system's analog control or the directional buttons to control the players.

Controlling and maneuvering the ball never gets frustrating.

The camera angles of the game also are done well, giving the user different points of view from corner kicks, free kicks and penalty kicks.

The sound system is truly magnificent, with the sounds of the crowd cheering. It feels like you are

playing in a real stadium environment.

The selection of teams is also excellent, and the player's capabilities in the game are very close to the real-life athlete's ability.

Receiving a yellow card or a red card is very common, even in this game. Referees are very strict, just like in the live, ongoing World Cup matches.

Although "2006 FIFA World Cup" needs minor improvement on the vision clarity and screen brightness, the folks at EA have done a good job with stadium structure and the easy-to-learn controls.

"World Cup" really fits the soccer fan's needs well.

**Rating: 4/5**

—**Lavanya Jaganathan**  
Staff Writer

# College phone system gets dead tone

By Mack Burke  
Staff Writer

External campus phone calls and digital extensions came to a silent halt on the afternoon of June 9.

For about three hours, the college went without telephone service.

Telecommunications Director David Anderson said he identified an aging computer as the source of the problem.

Campus operators picked up on the problem about 3:40 p.m., at which time they alerted security.

Kevin Tipton, Campus Safety and Security officer, notified Anderson about the problem.

Anderson quickly rem-

edied the problem, and the phone service was fully restored by about 5 p.m. that same day.

Anderson said the system is designed to switch between two computers in the event of a failure. The problem occurred when the primary computer would not relinquish service to the secondary machine.

It's called a redundant failover system, but essentially, "the failover failed," Anderson said.

The college has an equipment and hardware maintenance contract with AT&T in the event of such a failure.

AT&T usually has a two-hour response time but in some cases they have to or-

der a part, Anderson said.

AT&T shipped a new computer overnight and the replacement was finished by 11 a.m. June 10. Phones were fully operational during the switch-over.

"That's the first phone network [computer] I've had to replace since I took the job three years ago," Anderson said.

He said the computer was made around 1994, so it was just about time to retire it.

Shipping and receiving clerk Lanita Haynes said her area wasn't too affected.

"It held us up just a little bit," Haynes said.

It wasn't as big a problem

**"Voice, data and computer technology are all merging under the [information technology] banner."**

—David Anderson  
Telecommunications Director

as it could have been because it happened so close to the end of the day, she said.

Not all outside lines were down, however.

The 60 security phones on campus were still operational, Anderson said.

Security was well aware of the problem so there was no danger, Anderson said.

"I don't foresee this to be a recurring problem," Anderson said. "The computer we replaced died of

old age. Now, we have a new one in its place."

He said college officials are doing the best they can to keep everything running smoothly.

"Voice, data and computer technology are all merging under the [information technology] banner," Anderson said.

"That's exciting and challenging."

Staff Writer Mack Burke can be reached at Staff Writer3@occc.edu.

# Classes offer information on starting career

By Jeremy Frias  
Staff Writer

Advising and Career Services will begin an 11-week "Career Power in 25 Minutes!" series of workshops Wednesday, Sept. 13.

The workshops were created "to communicate information that helps students in their career and employment endeavors," said Debra Vaughn, Student Development career specialist.

The 25-minute workshops are for anyone of any age and background, whether just starting to plan a career, changing careers altogether or just needing help finding a job.

The workshops will be at noon on Wednesdays, Sept. 13 through Nov. 29, in room 1F6, in the Testing and Assessment area.

The scheduling of the workshops will give students a cushion at the beginning and end of the semester for settling into their schedules and finals, Vaughn said.

"Students are welcome to bring lunch, snack, eat and talk with each other," Vaughn said. "And there will always be time taken for discussion."

The workshops will cover a wide range of topics, from researching jobs and résumé building to work ethics and stress manage-

ment, Vaughn said.

Jackie Hoffman, pharmacology major, also works part-time and said she would like to attend the workshop.

"I want to take on as much as I can, and I tend to overload myself, so definitely the stress management [workshop] for me."

The subjects that will be discussed are not new to OCCC.

"These services are already offered here every day," Vaughn said.

She said the workshop series was created to make those services more accessible, as well as enhance what is already offered through Advising and Ca-

**"[The workshops were created] to communicate information that helps students in their career and employment endeavors."**

—Debra Vaughn  
Development Career Specialist

reer Services.

Attendees will be given self-assessment surveys to help them identify their strengths and weakness, as well as show them what types of careers they are suited for.

"I think [the workshop series] is wonderful," said Janine Kelley, a nursing student who also works part-time.

She said she plans to attend at least a few of the

workshops.

At the end of the series, there will be a drawing for a \$250 gift certificate to the campus bookstore.

Each time students attend a workshop their names will be entered into the drawing.

For more information, contact Vaughn at 405-682-1611, ext. 7362.

Staff Writer Jeremy Frias can be reached at Online Editor@occc.edu.

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## "Career Power in 25 Minutes!"

- An 11-week workshop series presented by Advising and Career Services
- Starts Wednesday, Sept. 13, and takes place in room 1F6 in the Main Building every Wednesday until Nov. 29
- For those planning a career, changing careers or needing help finding one
  - Bring lunch and snacks

# Fish tanks add color, ambiance to campus

By **Carrie Cronk**  
Staff Writer

Disney can stop looking for Nemo — the bright orange clownfish has been found in OCCC's biotechnology lab.

The OCCC Science Center is home to five 55-gallon aquariums and one 20-gallon aquarium containing a large variety of sealife.

Biotechnology Coordinator Donald Bell cares for the four larger tanks and the 20-gallon tank.

Bell said the tanks allow students to see first-hand what the live specimens look like.

Some of the tanks display fresh-water fish while others display salt-water specimens.

Specimens on exhibit in the South Pacific salt-water tank in the biotechnology lab include two bright

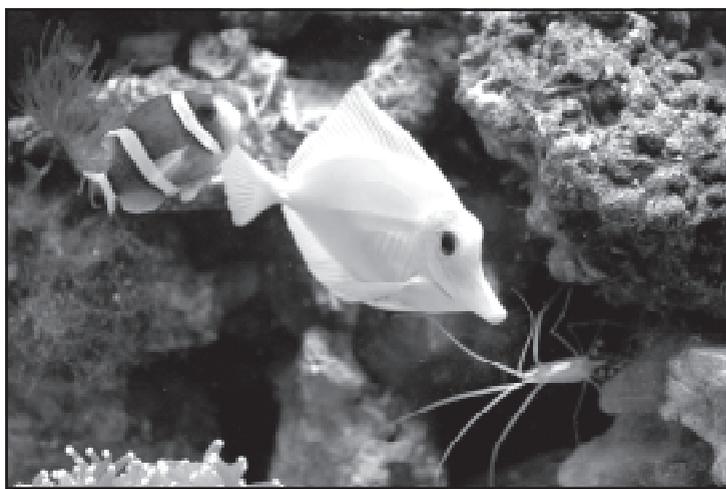


Photo by Carrie Cronk

A clownfish, yellow tang and cleaner shrimp are a few of the species in the saltwater aquarium located near entry 12.

red-and-white striped cleaner shrimp, brightly colored clownfish, damselfish, two specimens of coral, a yellow tang, and green and pink sea anemones.

Sea snails and the shrimp help to keep the tank clean and two engineer gobies keep the sand

moving in the tank.

The fish are fed a cultured live phytoplankton extract, as many are filter feeders. Cyclops, which is a food of microorganisms that is mashed into a form similar to a Popsicle and provides protein to the fish.

Bell said he changes

specimens and aquariums periodically.

The fresh-water tank will soon be redesigned.

"The fresh-water [tank in the hall] I'm going to totally change it out to put a different kind of fish in it, so it looks different," Bell said.

Bell said he would possibly replace the existing fish with angelfish.

The fish that occupy the tank now are going to be moved to Putnam City High School.

When the tanks are changed, Bell said he either takes the fish home or trades them with someone.

The specimens on display have been purchased by

Bell, the Science Center, or have been donated by either the Reef Shop or by people who no longer had the proper facilities to care for the fish.

"Since I've put the aquariums on this end of the building, we get a lot of people who walk down just to look at them," Bell said.

When construction on the Robert P. Todd Science, Engineering and Math Center is completed, Bell said he hopes the college can obtain a new larger tank that would allow for an even nicer display.

Staff Writer Carrie Cronk can be reached at Pioneer Photog@occc.edu.

## College continues search for new provost

By **Holly Jones**  
Editor

OCCC President Paul Sechrist announced last week that the search would continue for the provost/vice president for Academic Affairs position.

"... I made the decision to not offer a contract to the finalist for the provost/vice president for Academic Affairs ... We will be re-advertising for the position," Sechrist said in an e-mail.

Sechrist said the role is vital to the college.

"We want to continue that leadership role. This individual in this position plays a real important part of that."

Jane Carney, former chair of the Faculty Association, said 31 candidates applied for the position but none met the college's needs.

The job description includes requirements ranging from holding a doctorate to having a successful record as a faculty member.

The description also states applicants need to be committed to student success and understanding diversity in academic disciplines.

Gary Lombard, Human Resources vice president, said the college advertised in the Chronicle for High Education, the Sunday Oklahoman and on the college website.

Lombard said Sechrist sent letters to various college presidents and vice presidents urging them to apply or to submit nominations.

The search committee was made up of 13 individuals that represented the institution, division deans, faculty and professional staff.

"While we all would like to have the position filled, it is not essential that it be filled immediately," Carney said.

Editor Holly Jones can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

## New courses to be offered in fall

By **Eric Nguyen**  
Staff Writer

OCCC students with free time during lunch hours or in the evening can take non-traditional courses such as Yoga for Lunch or Ballroom Dancing.

The Downtown College Consortium is offering 19 credit courses and 22 non-credit courses for the fall semester.

The Downtown College is an alliance of five institutions where all classes are transferable. The participating colleges are OCCC, Oklahoma State University — Oklahoma City, Redlands Community College, Rose State College and the University of Central Oklahoma.

The Downtown College offers credit courses in the 16-week format and one 8-week format. Classes meet mostly in the evenings or during lunch hours for working adults and college students in the Oklahoma City area, said Jimmie Sue Baker, consortium secretary.

**"Lower-division classes, which are classes students from OCCC would be most interested in, are currently \$86 per hour."**

—Jimmie Sue Baker  
Consortium Secretary

The class scheduling is designed to tend to the needs of non-traditional students, Baker said.

Among the credit courses available in the fall are International Business Communication, Writing Pop Fiction, Identity Theft, and Heroes/Heroines in the Bible.

Non-credit courses include Yoga for Lunch, Ballroom Dancing and Stock Investment Strategies, according to the website, www.downtowncollege.com.

Other classes currently in development are Wine Appreciation, Emergency Spanish for Law Enforcement, and Life-Saving Communication With The Elderly.

"Lower-division classes, which are classes students from OCCC would be most

interested in, are currently \$86 per credit hour," Baker said.

Non-credit classes range in price from \$10 to \$200, she said.

Financial aid for consortium classes is available for students who are eligible in one of the five member colleges, Baker said.

Textbooks for classes at the consortium also are available at the five colleges.

The Downtown College is located on the fourth floor of the Ronald J. Norick Downtown Library at 300 Park Ave. in Oklahoma City.

For more information, visit the website or call 405-232-3382.

Staff Writer Eric Nguyen can be reached at Senior Writer@occc.edu.

**"While we all would like to have the position filled, it is not essential that it be filled immediately."**

—Jane Carney  
Former Faculty  
Association Chair

## Mark your calendar — July 4 events planned

### Moore:

Moore's second annual Art in the Park celebration will take place from noon to 10 p.m., July 3, and from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on July 4 at Buck Thomas Park.

The event will offer examples of fine art, specialty crafts, children's activities, musical entertainment and fireworks. Booth space is available for fundraising.

For more information on how to claim a booth, call 405-793-5090. For general information, call 405-793-5018.

Moore's Old Town Car and Motorcycle Show is returning for its third annual event from 2 to 4:30 p.m., July 4, at Buck Thomas Park.

Vehicle registration is at 1 p.m. Show-goers can expect to see vintage cars and motorcycles in a family atmosphere.

For more information, call 405-912-7912.

### Oklahoma City:

The 16th Annual Bricktown Fourth of July Celebration will take place July 3 and 4 at Sheridan and Oklahoma Avenue in Bricktown. Gates open at 5 p.m. on July 3 and 11 a.m. on July 4.

Admission is free. The celebration will include nightly fireworks displays, live music from local acts like the Mike Hosty Duo, food and canal boat rides.

There also will be a children's area complete with inflatable games, interactive rides, caricature artists and face painting.

The Zoo Amphitheater will open its doors at 3 p.m. on July 4 for the Independence Day Jam.

Featured musical acts include Taj Mahal, Keller Williams and Kang from the String Cheese Incident. Headliner Bob Weir, formerly of the Grateful Dead, also will perform.

General admission tickets are available on [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) for \$35. Express tickets allowing early entry cost \$40 and V.I.P. boxed seats are \$75.

# Fireworks safety a must

By Rachel Carlton  
Staff Writer

The Fourth of July is fast approaching. This means bright, colorful and noisy fireworks will be sold in bulk.

However, practicing safety is as important as having fun.

Ken Pontius, assistant fire marshal for the Moore Fire Department, said burns to the hands and face are the most common injuries.

"You can lose fingers, you can be blinded and you can get first-, second-, or third-degree burns," Pontius said.

Pontius said the severity of the injury is determined by the size of the explosive device and the age of a person.

For instance, if a firework goes off in a grown man's hand, it may cause less damage than if it goes off in a child's hand, Pontius said.

Use of fireworks over the past 25 years has grown according to the American Pyrotechnics Association.

Firework use in 2004 reached 236 million pounds.

That number is up significantly from 29 million in 1976.

Although consumption is up, fireworks-related injuries are down.

There has been an 89.3 percent decrease per 100,000 pounds according to the APA web-site.

However, just because injuries have declined over the years does not mean they don't happen.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health Injury Prevention Service's website states backyard fireworks such as bottle rockets, Roman candles, fountains and sparklers caused two-thirds of fireworks-related injuries.

Holly McGinness, Business freshman, said fireworks have never injured her, but her brother has been hurt due to carelessness.

"He was goofing off with bottle rockets and he got burned on his hand," McGinness said.

Junior Isaac Rey, 20, said he doesn't take many safety precautions when shooting off bottle rockets, but said he tries to remain somewhat careful.

"I won't shoot them off if it's dry outside and I won't point them at anyone's face," he said.

The National Council on Firework Safety website offers some helpful tips to stay safe when using fireworks:

- Always follow label directions
- Use outdoors only
- Always have water handy
- Never re-light a "dud" firework
- Never give fireworks to small children
- Dispose of fireworks by properly soaking them in water then disposing of

them in your trashcan

•Buy from reliable sellers  
Although there are numerous firework stands in Oklahoma, a law passed in 1991 bans fireworks in most cities.

Pontius said these firework stands are out of municipal jurisdiction.

People drive out to these stands, buy the fireworks, and drive back into city limits, he said.

Oklahoma law specifically prohibits all fireworks within city limits while federal law bans M-80's, Cherry Bombs and Silver Salutes.

To find out if shooting fireworks is legal in your city, Pontius advises calling the city fire department.

Pontius said the closest city he knows of where shooting fireworks is legal is Mustang.

If people are caught shooting fireworks in illegal areas, the police can intervene.

"The person will have their fireworks confiscated and can be fined," Pontius said.

"I recognize people want to celebrate and they should, but do so at a professional [firework] display," said Kellie Lee, assistant fire marshal for the Oklahoma City Fire Department.

For more information about safety, visit the NCFPS at [www.fireworksafety.com](http://www.fireworksafety.com).

Staff Writer Rachel Carlton can be reached at [Staff-Write3@occc.edu](mailto:Staff-Write3@occc.edu).

## There's more to July 4 than just fireworks and BBQ

A good old barbecue is often the most popular way to celebrate our nation's independence, but there are other ways that include the great outdoors.

Many state parks offer activities that are fun for all ages.

Green Leaf State Park, located just off Highway 10 near Braggs, is offering canoe races, boat and wagon rides, a campfire program, a fireworks display and much more. This event will go from June 30 through July 4. For more information, e-mail [Greenleafcabins@oklahomaparks.com](mailto:Greenleafcabins@oklahomaparks.com)

Head out to Tenkiller State Park, near Vian

on Highway 100, July 1, to participate in a fun-filled weekend at the Driftwood Nature Center. The park will offer watermelon feasts, hayrides, games, fireworks display and a box turtle rally. For more information, e-mail [tenkillercabins@otr.state.ok.us](mailto:tenkillercabins@otr.state.ok.us).

Robbers Cave State Park, near Wilburton, offers a spectacular fireworks display over Carlton Lake and a day filled with summer fun. The best campsite might not be outside but inside the charming Belle Starr View Lodge or one of the many cabins at the park. For more information, e-mail [robberscave@oklahomaparks.com](mailto:robberscave@oklahomaparks.com).

If the Fourth of July weekend is not long enough, check out Christmas in July, July 7 and 8 at Foss State Park. Events include a lighted boat parade, decorated camper contest, arts, crafts, flea market and more. For more information, e-mail [fossstatepark@otr.state.ok.us](mailto:fossstatepark@otr.state.ok.us).

**Have a fun and safe  
time celebrating this  
year's July 4!**

## Sports

## UPCOMING

OCCC  
INTRAMURALS

•**June 26-30:** Co-ed soccer camp will be held on campus. The camp is for children, ages 6 to 11, interested in basic rules and fundamentals of soccer. Registration and payment must be made by the previous Thursday. Camp is held 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. The cost for the camp is \$60 and includes a camp T-shirt. For more information, call Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

•**July 10-14:** Golfers will have a chance to swing the clubs at OCCC golf camp. The camp is for children, ages 12 to 14, interested in learning skills and drills of golf. Registration and payment must be made by the previous Thursday. Camp is from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. The cost for the camp is \$60 and includes a camp T-shirt. For more information contact Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

•**July 10-14:** OCCC tennis summer camp for ages 9 to 11, will be held at OCCC again this summer. The camp is for children interested in the game of tennis. Registration and payment must be made by the previous Thursday. Camp is from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. The cost for the camp is \$60 and includes a camp T-shirt. For more information contact Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

•**July 17-21:** Junior golfers, ages 9 to 11, will have a chance to shoot the greens at OCCC's summer golf camp. The camp is for children interested in learning skills and drills of golf. Registration and payment must be made by the previous Thursday. Camp is from 8 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. The cost for the camp is \$60 and includes a camp T-shirt. For more information contact Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

## Punt, pass and kick at camp

By John Savage  
Staff Writer

Tackling dummies fell like dominoes as the kids in summer football camp lined up for some hard-hitting action on campus.

More than 30 campers attended the football camp June 19 to 23. Campers learned the ins and outs of football, and practiced drills.

Some campers have been to the camp before while others came for the first time.

Lane Williams, 8, was a newcomer to the football camp but it is not his first appearance at OCCC youth camps.

"It's pretty cool," Williams said. "I was in the basketball camp last week."

Williams said his favorite sport is soccer and that he looks forward to that camp as well.

"I'm going to be in the soccer camp next week," Williams said.

Another veteran to the sports camps is Kyle Poindexter, 13. He attended the baseball camp last week and is tackling football camp this week.

"I been here for about four years doing these [sport camps]," Poindexter said.

"We've been doing sooner ball. It's everybody against everybody."

Both Williams and Poindexter said they plan on being back next year.

Coach Scott Hunter made sure the campers learned some drills that will help them later on in the sport.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

A football camp participant prepares to make a pass during a play on the field while another youth on the opposing team attempts to tag him during a game of Sooner ball. The youths are enrolled in the football sports camp that was held between June 19 and 23. Sooner ball pitted players against each other.

"We're doing all kinds of drills for all positions offensively and defensively," Hunter said.

"We have it broken down ... defensively-wise, we have defensive line, linebackers, and secondary. Offensively, we are going to do running backs, quarterbacks, offensive line and wide receivers."

Hunter said he wants to teach the campers all the basics. Work ethic is one of the things he stresses.

"The thing I'm pushing with them is getting to finish drills ... work on finishing the drill and going ev-

erywhere they are supposed to go at a high rate of speed."

By the time the week has ended, he expects to see some improvement from when the campers first started, Hunter said.

He said, later in the week, they would scrimmage each other and play seven on seven.

For more information on all other sports camp activities, call Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

## Disaster camp prepares youth

By John Savage  
Staff Writer

Would your teenager know what to do in case of an emergency? OCCC has a new camp this summer that will teach campers, ages 12 to 14, what to do in case a fire breaks out or a tornado touches down.

The purpose of this disaster camp is to prepare children to handle worst-case scenarios.

Community Education and Health Coordinator Jack Perkins started the camp and believes it will be an engaging way to teach

kids about dangers that can happen in everyday life.

Perkins said, that living in Oklahoma tornado's and other dangers can happen.

"[We want to] really try to put the camper in kind of a crisis mode."

He said, dangers happen every day and it's important to show ways of dealing with certain situations.

"Nobody thinks it's going to happen to them," Perkins said. "It's a new thing that we haven't done before."

Perkins said he wants to put the campers in situations where they

will have to use their judgment on what they should do in case of emergencies.

"You have to think. You have to react. You have to figure out what you're going to do," Perkins said. "And I just thought that was a good way to teach some safety issues."

He said the class is not original but he feels it is unusual.

"There is not a bunch of them out there," Perkins said.

For more information on summer camps contact Perkins at 405-682-1611, ext. 7205.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

# Kids get a little buggy in college theater

By Carrie Cronk  
Staff Writer

The OCCC Theater swarmed with bugs of all types June 16 when the Musical Theatre Camp for ages 6 to 8, performed the musical "Bugz."

The children, under the guidance of Teacher Tracy Skinner, spent the week learning and practicing lines, songs and choreography for the play, as well as designing the sets.

The characters in the play consisted of a variety of insects including ladybugs, army ants, butterflies, and a stinkbug. Costumes for each character were unique as the children provided their own and were allowed to add their own personal flare to the design.

The costumes did conform to each type of character. Army ants wore camouflage, the ladybugs wore red and black, and the butterflies had colorful wings.

The most unique costume was the stinkbug's, which consisted of a black leotard with toy cheese, onions and garlic hanging from a harness.

A few of the songs the

children performed were "March of the Army Ants," "Things Change," "Be a Lady," "Going on a Picnic" and "Firefly."

The sets the children designed consisted of pieces of artwork the students had created depicting not only insects but also a picnic scene and food.

One notable scene included a military-styled song and dance number by the army ants, during which they sang "March of the Army Ants." The junior performers also put together a song and dance number with the butterflies and the stinkbug to the song "Things Change."

Skinner said there were several repeat enrollees, including five or six students participating for their second year and one student returning for a third year.

Skinner said the Musical Theatre Academy for 10- to 15-year-olds would be held over a two-week period from July 17 to July 28.

Students will learn the Broadway Junior production of Annie, a "simpler version designed for kids and young teens."

"Annie" will be performed



The Ladybugs of the Musical Theatre Camp perform "Be a Lady" during their production of "Bugz." The students provided their own costumes making for a unique ensemble of insects.

Students enrolled in the Musical Theatre Camp perform the "March of the Army Ants" during their musical production of John Jacobson's "Bugz" June 16. The camp was held in the OCCC Theater.

Photos by Carrie Cronk

at 5 p.m., Thursday, July 27, and again at 10:30 a.m., Friday, July 28, in the College Theater.

Staff Writer Carrie Cronk can be reached at Pioneer Photog@occc.edu.



# Marketing and public relations assistant ready to retire

By David Miller  
Staff Writer

Six different presidents have led the college during Karen Smith's 27-year career at OCCC.

The Marketing and Public Relations assistant will retire July 7, taking with her nearly three decades of college history.

"She knows everything there is to know about the college," Marketing and Public Relations Director Paula Gower said.

"She has a wealth of information and history."

Media Relations Coordinator Jessica Martinez-Brooks agreed.

"Karen knows everything that goes on at the college," she said. "Her experience



Karen Smith

and her knowledge have been very beneficial to our department."

When Smith's retirement begins July 8, she said, she plans to go into family mode.

"I want to spend more quality time with my family and grandkids."

She also plans to work part-time at her daughter's business.

On a personal level, Smith expressed sadness about leaving her co-workers.

"People I work with in the marketing department all have a really close bond," Smith said. "I will miss them a lot."

Gower expressed mixed emotions regarding Smith's retirement.

"We're very happy she has a chance to retire and spend time with her family but sad because we'll miss her," Gower said.

Smith began her employment with OCCC in 1979,

working part-time as a clerk/typist in the business division, which was then called the Institute of Business Management.

From August 1984 to July 1985, she worked a temporary position in the Development Foundation Office before becoming a full-time employee in August 1985.

She then began working at her current position as an assistant in the Marketing and Public Relations Office, where she has worked with seven supervisors.

Her job description varies in that she might be typing up standard supply requisition forms and purchase orders to editing various media stories that

come through her office.

"I've always enjoyed working in the PR office because of the variety of opportunities with media stories," Smith said. "Each day could be a new adventure."

"You don't know what to expect."

Smith also assisted in editing the college catalog, class schedule, press releases, the personnel directory and the weekly employee newsletter.

A retirement reception is scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, June 29, in the Oklahoma Room of the college union near the cafeteria.

Staff Writer David Miller can be reached at Staff Writer1@occc.edu.

# Highlights

## Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Workshops

The Child Development Center and Lab School will present five free workshops on grandparents raising grandchildren. The workshops will be from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., June 28, July 12 and 19. The workshops will be held at the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce Conference Room. Several guest speakers will cover topics such as parenting skills, communication, reference and referral agencies, and other issues that "Grandfamilies" face. For more information, contact Child Development Center and Lab School Supervisor Lee Ann Nurdin at 405-682-1611, ext. 7423.

## Pathways for the Future offers college credits

Pathways for the Future is offering a way for eighth through twelfth graders to earn college credit while still in junior high or high school. Pathways is a college preparatory school, located on the OCCC campus. The program started in January 2001 and assists Oklahoma City students to further their opportunities for college. Pathways is currently taking applications for eighth grade students. An interview is required with both the parents and the student(s). Applications must be postmarked by June 30. For more information, contact Pathways Principal Carol Brogan at 405-682-7840.

## Speed learning classes offered

The Training Center is offering a basic course in speed learning. Speed learning is a new system designed for the processing of information. Classes are taught exclusively on the OCCC campus. Speed learning classes will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. July 13 and Aug. 10. For more information or to enroll, call the Training Center at 405-682-7562 or visit [www.occ.edu/trainingcenter](http://www.occ.edu/trainingcenter).

## Baptist club to attend retreat in New Mexico

Students from the United States and Canada will meet Aug. 5 through 11 at the Glorieta Large Conference Center near Santa Fe, N.M. The event includes practical living seminars, spiritual encouragement, sports and hiking. The cost to attend is \$225. A \$50 deposit is required due to limited space. The cost includes travel, registration, food and lodging. For more information, contact sponsor Mike Barnett at the Baptist Collegiate Ministries office at 405-323-0583.

## Absolute 2007 now accepting submissions

Submissions are being accepted for the 2007 Absolute publication. OCCC's journal of literature, art and photography is published annually each spring. Submissions should be sent to the Arts and Humanities division office. For more information, contact English Professor Clay Randolph at [crandolph@occ.edu](mailto:crandolph@occ.edu).

**All highlights due by 5 p.m. on Tuesdays for inclusion in the next issue. The Pioneer office is located on the second floor of the Main Building just outside the elevator.**

**Is your club active this summer? Do you have any summer plans?  
If so, let the Pioneer know!  
E-mail [StaffWriter1@occ.edu](mailto:StaffWriter1@occ.edu)  
or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7410.**

## Strike a pose



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Photography Club Vice President Alan Chan discusses various methods of digital photo editing with Club Sponsor LaWanda LaVarnway. The Photography Club is making plans for a photo shoot day trip sometime this summer.

# Campus club works for church

**By David Miller**  
*Staff Writer*

Members of the Hispanic Organization to Promote Education endured the early summer heat to raise money for a good cause.

They worked all day and into the evening at the Parish Festival on Sunday, June 11, at the Sacred Heart Church, 2706 S. Shartel.

The Parish Festival is an annual event at some Catholic churches to celebrate the Hispanic heritage and to raise money for general church funds.

HOPE members sold nachos at the event, which also included music, games and festivities.

The HOPE organization is one of the more active clubs on campus this summer.

Approximately \$800 was raised for the church from the nachos sale alone.

Sacred Heart member and HOPE Public Relations Coordinator Susana Hernandez worked the event as did Raquel Carranco, Yolanda Esquivel, Corina Garcia, Betty Lopez and

Omar Lozano.

"Every year, Catholic churches have this event," Hernandez said.

Considering the temperatures were in the upper 90s, the turnout was higher than the HOPE members anticipated.

"There were a lot of people, especially after the Mexican soccer team played in the World Cup games," said Carranco.

In addition to nachos, numerous other authentic Mexican foods were sold, including tacos, tortillas, Mexican sandwiches, Gorditas and corn-on-the-cob.

They also served fruit cocktails with hot chili powder and a lemon slice, as well as a dessert drink called "Aqua de Horchata," which translates into "drink of rice."

The drink consists of washed rice, water or milk, and cinnamon and sugar, according to the website [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org).

For entertainment they had live music, clowns and balloons for children. Dancers performed an authentic cultural Aztec

dance known as "Los Matachines."

The traditional religious dance originated as the acting out of the battle between Christianity and paganism, according to the Handbook of Texas Online.

The Spanish brought the ritual to the New World. Modern versions have incorporated Mexican, Indian and American religious symbols, including the Virgin Mary.

The dance is done in a series of scenes and can take an entire day to complete.

Carranco was to attend another Parish Festival this past Sunday, June 25, at Little Flower Catholic Church, 1125 S. Walker, Oklahoma City.

To find out more about the Parish Festival, contact Raquel Carranco at 405-682-7553.

For more information on the HOPE organization, contact Club President Guillermo Gonzalez at 405-410-2165.

Staff Writer David Miller can be reached at [StaffWriter1@occ.edu](mailto:StaffWriter1@occ.edu).

# Classifieds

**Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all currently enrolled OCCC 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. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674 or fax 405-682-7843.**

## ANIMALS

**FREE:** Two 4-year-old outdoor brother dogs. 1/2 Springer Spaniel and 1/2 English Setter. Healthy, well-trained, friendly and all-weather adaptable. Please call 749-9979.

**FREE:** Two precious kittens to good home. Almost 3 months old; both are brown tabby & white mixed. One female & one male. Playful kittens, good with people & dogs. All eating dry cat food & litter box trained. Too cute to miss - come see. Call 682-1611, ext. 7822, or 378-3647, or e-mail ckrosp@yahoo.com.

## AUTOMOBILES

**FOR SALE:** 2004 dark gray Chrysler Sebring. CD player, power everything, tinted windows, alloys. 68k miles, warranty 3 more years. Beautiful car, 29 mpg. \$13,000 OBO. Call Bryttney 364-8905.

**FOR SALE:** 1999 VW GLS Passat. Loaded, 1.8L Turbo engine, tan leather interior, dark green exterior, heated seats, tiptronic transmission, tint, sun roof, 6-disc changer, non-smoker, and well maintained. Great car for \$9,000. Please call 473-0129.

**FOR SALE:** 1995 Mercury Villager van. 208,000 miles. Runs but needs some work. Body and interior are in good shape. Does not use oil. Asking \$1,500 OBO. Please call 229-3810 for more info.

**FOR SALE:** 1995 Nissan 300 ZX, 2+2, green, automatic. 102,500 mi. Features include: tint, alarm, CD player, keyless entry. \$6,800 OBO. Call 624-2412 for more info.

**FOR SALE:** 1994 Cadillac Seville SLS. Emerald green, white leather, 120K miles. \$1,500 firm. Call Scott 314-4935.

**FOR SALE:** 1991 Honda Civic DX, 4 door, 4 cy, 5 speed, 187K miles. Runs but needs a little work. Must sell, going on a vacation. Best offer takes it. Call Scott 314-4935.

**FOR SALE:** 1991 Nissan Maxima. V6 auto, all power, sunroof, 10-disc CD player, leather seats, excellent condition,

adult owned, garaged. 217K miles. \$3000 OBO. Call 229-9943.

**FOR SALE:** 1986 Nissan 300 ZX. Great motor & transmission, t-tops, V6, 2 door. Great gas mileage, auto, student owned, female driven. \$1,400. Call 474-3611.

## ELECTRONICS

**FOR SALE:** Presario Compaq 266x notebook model 1235. Word 2003, internet ready. Very good condition. \$200 OBO. Please call Eric at ext. 7786 or 326-0868.

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**Please call 405-740-5535. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

## FURNITURE

**FOR SALE:** 3 silver metal/frosted glass end tables, \$150. 3 silver metal/glass desk with 4 separate matching file cabinets, \$150. For pictures and info e-mail jarrodwilmoth@yahoo.com.

**FOR SALE:** Wood coffee table w/ inlay design. Used 6 mo., paid \$250, asking for \$150. Wood/glass coffee table & matching end table. \$50/pair. Boys 6 pc. wood bedroom set. Headboard, mirror, chest of drawers, desk, hutch & chair. \$350. Please call 642-4320.

**FOR SALE:** Large 9-drawer wood dresser w/ mirror. Old but in good shape. \$50 OBO. Very large executive desk, 4 drawers solid wood, good shape. \$50 OBO. Call Laurie 420-3492.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE:** Women's size 7 white gold diamond engagement ring. Princess cut w/ diamond accents, asking \$500. Size 13/14 black prom dress \$30, size 11/12 red prom dress with black sheer material over it so it appears deep red, beading, all over \$75. Size 10 seashell pink wedding dress with lace and beading \$100. Call Kristina 250-8919 or e-mail for pictures at kbezdek@po.occ.edu.

**FOR SALE:** His & hers Wedding/Engagement set. Hers: Round 1/3 carat diamond solitaire set in white gold w/ yellow gold accents and matching white gold

band, recently appraised \$750. Selling with men's white gold band, (heavy in weight). Asking \$425 for all. E-mail atctracy@yahoo.com for more info and pictures or call 694-9243.

**FOR SALE:** Sparkling 5 princess cut diamonds in white gold ring. Appraised at \$6,135. Asking \$1,500. For pictures and more info e-mail jarrodwilmoth@yahoo.com.

**FOR SALE:** Looking for someone to take over "At the Beach" contract. 1 1/2 years left includes all beds & mystic tan. Unlimited tans. If interested please call 850-1240 and leave a message.

**FOR SALE:** Snow-Cone stand. New paint, new counter tops, has everything except ice-shaver. Ready to plug in & go. Asking \$1,200. Please call 301-0031 for more info.

**FOR SALE:** GE Nautilus Dishwasher, black, 2 cycle, like new \$125. Call 794-2078 for more details.

**FOR SALE:** 18" Halo Blast Chrome wheels. 4 wheels, 3 tires. 5 bolt pattern. \$600 OBO. Please call 921-2691.

**FOR SALE:** Klipsch RF-3II floor standing loud speakers, \$700 for pair (includes Monster Speaker Cables). Klipsch RC-3II center speaker, \$230 (includes Monster Speaker Cables). 12 cu. ft. Frigidaire chest freezer, \$150. Futon (black) \$50. Call 680-7513 or 550-4866.

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## TEXTBOOKS

**FOR SALE:** BIO 1314 A & P I (Human Anatomy & Physiology Study Guide, 6th Ed.) brand new/ never used \$30. BUS 1323 Math for Business Careers (Contemporary Math for Business & Consumers w/cd, 4th Ed.) brand new/ never used \$50. FIN 1013 Personal Finance (Personal Finance w/cd, 7th Ed.) like new/ used once \$100 OBO. REL 1113 Real Estate Principles (Modern Real Estate Practice, 16th Ed.) like new/ used once \$30. Contact Amy at 820-6263 or 682-161, ext. 7770.

**adman@occc.edu**

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Fish bait
- 5 Pine tree
- 10 Near or Far —
- 14 Sector
- 15 Luau greeting
- 16 Type of bargain
- 17 Rip-off
- 18 Type of case
- 19 Sharif of films
- 20 Spaghetti cheese
- 22 Grew, in a way
- 24 Tycoon Onassis
- 25 — Hashana
- 26 Car part
- 29 Annoying
- 33 Wash off
- 34 Brink
- 36 Loud noise
- 37 Filmom's Gardner
- 38 Move rapidly
- 39 Strange
- 40 Marsh
- 41 Rind
- 42 Small canyon
- 44 Foot pedal
- 47 Toused
- 48 Tropical snakes
- 49 Thunder Bay's prov.
- 50 Nothings
- 53 Developer's place
- 58 Honolulu's island

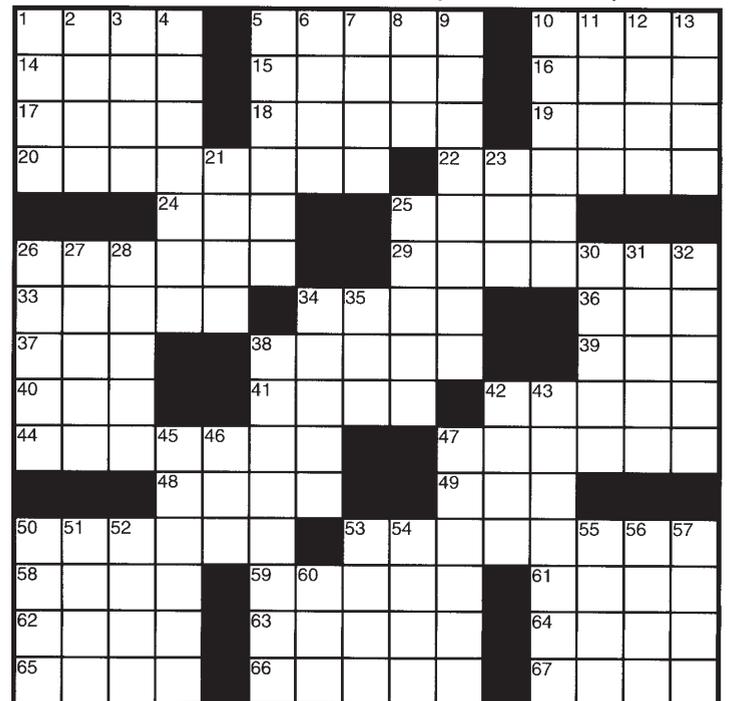
### DOWN

- 1 Stinging insect
- 2 Killer whale
- 3 Back
- 4 Warm-blooded animals
- 5 Highland girl
- 6 Claudia — Taylor ("Lady Bird" Johnson)
- 7 Reddish-brown horse
- 8 Greek letter
- 9 Gave refuge to
- 10 Noteworthy periods
- 11 — mater
- 12 Sewing line
- 13 Weight of a container
- 21 Novelist — Stanley Gardner
- 23 Arctic dweller: abbr.

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

AGA	AMEBA	VETS
ERG	PITON	TETRA
GANGPLANK	ANTON	
IDEAL	ELONGATE	
SESSION	ERNE	
	PETAL	BEFORE
GOD	DIVER	DUDES
EMIR	SAGAS	LEAP
MIKES	LAVAS	AMY
STEPPE	LEMON	
	RARA	SECEDES
LABORERS	KARAT	
ALIAS	ITINERARY	
DANCE	AUDIT	MEL
SIGH	SNAPS	ADE

- 25 Star in Orion
- 26 Payola, e.g.
- 27 Nile or Amazon
- 28 Silly
- 30 Scents
- 31 Gnat's cousin
- 32 Finished
- 34 Fencing swords
- 35 Poor mark
- 38 Caretaker in the wading pool
- 42 Greasy residue
- 43 Big bird
- 45 Teem
- 46 Bambi's mother
- 47 Bite
- 50 — lens
- 51 Roof overhang
- 52 Ms. Perlman
- 53 Cut into small cubes
- 54 Toward shelter
- 55 Margarine
- 56 Lubricates
- 57 — out: distribute
- 60 Qty.



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**Non-business classified ads are FREE to students, faculty and staff. Come by the Pioneer (2M6) and fill out a classified form by 5 p.m. Tuesdays.**

## College to begin assigning e-mail accounts to all students this fall

*"e-mail,"*  
Cont. from page 1

"We will be able to do a lot more specialized communications," he said.

Students who already have an OCCC account will continue to use that, Riha said. New students or students who, in the past, elected to not have an e-mail account through the college, will be assigned an account.

However, Riha said, stu-

dents aren't confined to using only the OCCC account name. He said students can forward their e-mail from the college system to a personal e-mail account.

According to <http://po.occc.edu>, students using other e-mail software such as Outlook, Outlook Express or Mozilla Thunderbird will need to set the incoming and outgoing e-mail server names to po.occc.edu to forward the

mail.

Students won't be allowed to choose the OCCC account name they are assigned. Riha said the college will assign a user name with a consistent occc.edu domain name.

"We will be able to control the naming convention," he said. "It's exactly using the same system we have now. [We're just] going to use it a little differently."

Some students wondered

**"We will push information out to students using the e-mail system, and hopefully, improve communications and information, and students can communicate with us efficiently."**

—Paul Sechrist  
OCCC President

if they would be able to receive grades through the e-mail account but Riha said there are no plans to do that at this time.

Students have mixed opinions when it comes to having a registered school e-mail account.

Kendra Edwards, biology sophomore, said she's fine with the change. "I have so many e-mail [accounts], so one more doesn't really matter."

Trish Wright, premed sophomore, said she isn't fond of the idea. "I wouldn't want to have to use a re-

quired one. I would rather use my own personal one."

Riha said there will be no cost to the school or the student for the e-mail accounts.

Riha reminds students who have existing okccc.edu accounts that after July 1, e-mail sent to those addresses will be bounced back to the sender. The e-mail addresses are now under the domain name of occc.edu, with no 'k,' he said.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at Staff Writer2@occc.edu.

## Student loan consolidation can have both benefits and drawbacks

*"Loans,"*  
Cont. from page 1

only one consolidation company," Edington said.

"Students now have the ability to shop lenders."

"The bottom line for [consolidating loans] is to get a lower interest rate," said Larry Hollingsworth, Oklahoma Student Loan Authority vice president.

When interest rates are rising, as they have been for

the past several years, consolidating at a fixed rate may be beneficial. But, when rates are falling, it may be better not to consolidate.

Sparks said a website helping students and parents with financial planning is located at [www.mapping-your-future.org](http://www.mapping-your-future.org). According to the website, students can consolidate loans even if they are still in college.

Ultimately, Sparks said, it is up to students to find out about benefits and drawbacks of consolidating loans.

"Students need to go out there and see what is best for them," Sparks said.

"Your lender is always a great place to go to find out whether you should consolidate your loans or not."

Staff Writer Eric Nguyen can be reached at Senior Writer@occc.edu.

### Steps to take to consolidate your student loans (all paperwork must be completed by June 30)

**Step 1:** Select which loans you want to consolidate.

**Step 2:** Think about what loan consolidation might mean to your deferment options, cancellation options and other benefits like interest rate discounts. Contact the holder of your loan to get help in determining these things.

**Step 3:** If consolidation is right for you, contact the lender to begin the process. If you are still in college and are eligible for in-school consolidation, make sure to apply before leaving college.

**Step 4:** When filling out a consolidation application, include complete address information, include two references and sign the promissory note.

**Step 5:** If you have further questions about loan documents and the consolidation process, do not hesitate to contact your lender.

—courtesy of <http://Studentaid.ed.gov>



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