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PIONEER

College wants more students to stay in class

By **Spencer Livingston-Gainey**
News Writing Student

Students whose parents have a college degree are 80 percent more likely to get a degree themselves, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist, at a recent Faculty Association meeting.

Of the students enrolled at OCCC, "50 percent will never complete a degree," he said.

Sechrist said OCCC has even more of a challenge in making sure students complete a degree than many other schools because 40 percent of OCCC's students are the first in their family to go to college.

Because of those statistics, a freshmen orientation class is being considered for incoming OCCC students.

Freshmen orientation classes are aimed at assisting new students with the various aspects of student life — from study habits and test tak- See "Orientation," page 16

Piece by piece



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Members of adjunct Professor Carolyn Farris's mosaics class apply glaze to clay tiles depicting the Oklahoma State wildflower commonly known as Indian Blanket. The tiles will be placed between the names of Oklahoma counties across the tops of the nine wall segments of the Centennial Mosaic Mural that will be displayed at the west end of the Bricktown Canal.

Electronics in classrooms cause static in some cases

By **David Miller**
Editor

In a video clip on www.YouTube.com, a college professor takes a student's ringing cell phone, smashes it on the floor and calmly returns to his lecture.

Obviously, this is an extreme reaction to such an incident. However, the use of cell phones and other electronic devices can present problems in college classrooms.

The OCCC 2006-2007 Student Handbook makes no mention of, and therefore doesn't prohibit, electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, iPods or personal data assistants in the classroom.

Still, most professors have their own

classroom expectations regarding the use of electronic devices which they either verbalize or include in their syllabus, given to students at the beginning of the semester.

Biology Professor Virginia Hovda said she won't tolerate a ringing cell phone in her classroom.

"If it's a cell phone, and it rings during lecture, [students] need to cut it off immediately or get up and go out and handle it," Hovda said. "They should never take a cell phone call in my lecture."

Several students share Hovda's sentiment regarding cell phone use in the classroom.

"If it rings in class, it is annoying because everybody else can find a way to turn theirs off and be considerate," said

nursing major Odessa Brewer.

"I understand being in a hurry and forgetting, but if it's a repetitive thing, then it's annoying."

Text messaging also can be disruptive, said English Professor Clay Randolph.

"I have had some problems with people wanting to text message during films or during class discussion," he said.

"I've had to tell them, 'Please, you're distracting other people. It's not a problem for me, but other people are having to watch you.'"

Other devices such iPods and laptops also have appeared in college classrooms.

An iPod is a portable media player that can play music and videos as well as store still photos.

See "Electronics," page 16

"If it's a cell phone, and it rings during lecture, [students] need to cut it off immediately or get up and go out and handle it."

—Virginia Hovda
Biology Professor

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Steps to take for common courtesy

The rules are spelled out for automobile drivers in what seems like endless statutes, signs and painted-on road guides.

Perhaps expectations for stair traffic decorum at OCCC should be just as clearly defined.

The guidelines seem simple enough: Stay on the right-hand side. Avoid stepping on people's heels. Don't cut in front of fellow travelers.

Unfortunately, many students do not appear to acknowledge these basic pedestrian courtesies.

Even several weeks into the fall semester, after students have had a chance to get used to their new environment, rude behavior abounds on the staircases at OCCC.

Thousands of feet ascend and descend the stairwells daily. The students attached to the feet all have important places to go. They all have classes and jobs to which they wish to arrive on time.

Why should any one student think their agenda is more important than that of any other?

Guidelines for proper etiquette during a footrace can be found at <http://walking.about.com/od/eventswalks/a/racemanners.htm>.

Behavior violating these guidelines can often be observed on the Main Building stairwell during peak travel times.

Walking more than two abreast is one common offense. With such little room on the stairs to begin with, and with students schlepping huge and cumbersome bags, space already is a concern.

Stair users who walk three or four abreast prevent traffic from flowing easily. This affects everyone forced to share the stairs with these people.

Individuals also should refrain from simply stopping in the middle of the stairway traffic to dig out a cell phone or chat with a passing friend.

It's common courtesy for a person not to stop until he or she can move out of the flow of traffic.

The most outrageous behavior is pushing past fellow travelers and blatantly cutting them off.

Of course, sometimes it becomes necessary to pass a particularly slow-moving person. However, this should be done with cordiality and respect.

It's never acceptable to elbow one's way in front of another person. If someone does this accidentally, it is important for that person to offer an apology.

When people refuse to acknowledge their errors and to apologize for them, it is clear they simply are not thinking of others.

With thousands of students enrolled at OCCC this semester, it's important for each person to remember he or she is not the only one trying to navigate the crowded stairwells.

—Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

Don't take your life for granted

To the Editor:

Recently, while on vacation out of state, my husband suffered a sudden illness.

With him hospitalized in ICU, I faced loneliness and isolation.

I came back to Oklahoma City briefly to take care of household business. While here, three friends took me out to lunch to lift my spirits.

At the end of the lunch, they gave me a card which was signed by several people here at the college.

The genuine sentiments and generosity expressed in that card touched me deeply.

Knowing that my friends and family were praying for

us made this long-distance ordeal a little easier to handle.

This experience has taught me many things, but the most important lesson I learned is that every day is a gift.

Don't take anything for granted, because your entire life can change in the blink of an eye.

My most heartfelt thanks go out to my friends and staff members here at OCCC.

"This experience has taught me many things, but the most important lesson I learned is that every day is a gift."

—Susan McCullers

Business and Finance Administrative Assistant

—Susan McCullers
Business and Finance
Administrative
Assistant

Something on your mind about OCCC? Write a letter to the editor! E-mail the editor at editor@occc.edu. Be sure to include a name and valid phone number or the letter won't be printed. Names are withheld by request.



PIONEER

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- John Savage.....Staff Writer
- Phillip Hemphill.....Staff Writer
- Rachel Carlton.....Staff Writer
- Amanda Bittle.....Staff Writer
- Kinber Roberts.....Staff Writer
- Valerie Jobe.....Staff Writer
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The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. However, the PIONEER will withhold the name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

Letters to the editor can be delivered to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to (405) 682-7843.

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.



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Comments and Reviews

Cox serves the college

To the Editor:

As an OCCC student who is also a Cox Communications employee, allow me to respond to John Savage's recent column, "Cox doesn't communicate well."

While we always welcome customer comments, I do need to clarify a few of the facts in his article regarding the pay-per-view telecast of the OU-Middle Tennessee game.

Let me start by addressing Mr. Savage's price concerns.

This particular game was \$29.95. The price tag for such events is set by the company providing the

event to Cox, in this case, Fox Sports.

They own the rights to the game and receive most of the revenue.

There is a high demand for pay-per-events, and Cox is proud to offer a wide selection to customers.

During these events, the presenting company also is responsible for production qualities such as camera angles and commentary.

While Cox carries pay-per-events on our cable network, we do not control the production.

Cox does take pride in offering quality services, and we have found that our

customers are extremely satisfied with their pay-per-view experience.

As you know, Cox Communications is committed to our community and our college.

Cox is one of only three platinum sponsors for OCCC's annual Labor Day arts festival and also provides discounted high speed internet rates to students.

I am proud to work for a company that gives so much back to the community it serves.

—**Kathryn Morris**
OCCC Student and Cox
Communications
Employee

'The Departed' chills and thrills

It has been said before: today's gangsters are yesterday's cowboys, and with "The Departed" I have been convinced that is true.

With riveting action and a well-chosen cast, "The Departed" is a great movie.

Directed by Martin Scorsese ("Taxi Driver," "Goodfellas,") the film is appropriately set in a sketchy part of Boston, which helps stay with the gangster drama theme.

It was the intricate details that sucked me in, although at times, things were a bit confusing.

Leonardo DiCaprio ("The Beach," "The Basketball Diaries") plays Billy Costigan, a newcomer cop who quickly is flung into a dangerous undercover position in the mob.

DiCaprio's acting made me believe the seriousness of his situation.

Colin Sullivan, played by Matt Damon ("Good Will Hunting," "Dogma,") is a rough, younger criminal and a threat to Costigan.

While Sullivan has managed to infiltrate the police department, Costigan must do his best to keep himself unmasked from mob leader Costello.



Costello, played by Jack Nicholson, is a humorous character I enjoyed watching.

Many informative links make watching this movie intriguing and fun to figure out.

With threatening information and mistakes piling up for both Costigan and Sullivan, they must rush to keep their true identities hidden.

This sets up the audience for fast-paced and witty movie drama.

The cast is rounded out by Mark Wahlberg ("Boogie Nights") as well as veteran actors Martin Sheen and Alec Baldwin.

"The Departed" makes you think, and any action lover should see this movie. Also, a sequel would be well received.

The film is rated R for strong, brutal violence, pervasive profane language, some strong sexual content and drug material.

Rating: A
—**Kinber Roberts**
Staff Writer

Have a story idea? Share it with the Pioneer.
E-mail your idea to editor@occc.edu
or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

Counselor's Corner

"Oh! Ye'll take the high road and I'll take the low road, and I'll be in Scotland afore ye." (Old Scottish song; author unknown)

It's that time of year again; time to think about next semester's classes and who will be teaching them.

Some of you will soon start the hunt for the path of least resistance. You'll stop by the Advising office to ask when professor's names will be added to the schedule. You'll visit websites to see how other students have rated certain instructors, and you will talk among yourselves about "who's easy and who's not."

At some point in time, some of you may visit with a counselor to discuss "the easy classes" that you can take next and who is "a really easy" professor to teach them. While this is still the United States of America, and while you still have the right to make such choices, you're really missing the whole point of why you're in college. The primary objective for being here should be to learn something so that you can use that knowledge later in life. The path of least resistance won't necessarily take you there.

Some of your peers have already chosen that path and have now reached a point where the consequences are beginning to hurt.

They find themselves in programs and classes where they are totally lost and floundering. They managed to ease through all those insignificant prerequisite courses that we made them take; now they find themselves with truly tough decisions to make, such as whether to try to study the information they should have garnered from those "insignificant classes" on their own and fight their way through the remainder of their programs or to just give up and lose everything they've paid for.

By definition, learning is uncomfortable.

It shouldn't be uncomfortable in the way that a root canal procedure sans anesthesia is uncomfortable, but it must still have enough edge to capture your attention and hold it. There has to be some feeling of suspense to motivate you to listen and read and, well, learn.

Better questions to ask as you plan the next semester are: How time consuming will this class be? Even ridiculously "easy" classes may run you ragged outside of class; What kind of out-of-class assignments will I have? Ideally, you want balance in the kinds of required tasks; Does this class require special supplies or materials above the basic text? You run the risk of falling behind in these classes if you can't afford to buy the supplies to complete the required activities.

As the old Fram oil filter ads used to say, "You can pay now, or you can pay later."

Why not give yourself a solid foundation at school and save the path of least resistance for a nature hike with friends?

We in Advising and Career Services invite you to stop by to discuss your programs and to assist you with planning for the spring semester.

—**Mary Turner**
Student Development Counselor
Advising and Career Services

Comments and Reviews

'NBA2K7' delivers a dazzling game

We've kicked off the football season. Now it's time to tip off the basketball season as we approach the season opener of the NBA.

Sports games always tend to make a showing a few weeks before the season starts, and this one is no different.

2K Sports is back with their basketball franchise and have mostly stayed true to their form. This game is a mirror image of last year's games with some minor tweaks.

The major difference between last year's game and this year's basketball series is the graphics.

"NBA2K7" for Xbox 360 is one of the best-looking sport games to date.

Arenas shine bright due to the reflection of the digital scoreboards. The scoreboards place a ton of color and light on the floor when playing the game. At first, it may seem annoying but later on seems to fit.

The cool ripple effect of the players' clothes is still

smooth and gives full fluid animation to the players on the court. Players also seem more polished in this year's game.

One of the changes that is annoying is the menu options display and how players can navigate the different options. Instead of pressing start and finding the option, players must now use the left analog stick to cruise through the menus. This new option doesn't help the game with its navigation of options

but, maybe, given some time, could become simpler.

Some options in the game have been changed to let the players make changes on the fly. Again, these options used to be found when pressing start. Now players can press left, right, up and down on the directional pad to get different gaming options.

"NBA2K7" has many different gaming options to choose from including an all-new street ball mode

that has more of a story to go along with the game. Season mode, the Association mode, street, practice and online modes will keep players hooping with friends and foes.

This game looks nice and plays well and the audio and commentary bring the game sounds home. Yet, another great game from the developers at Visual Concepts.

Rating: 4.5/5

—John Savage
Staff Writer

'X-Men' mutates a third time onto DVD

"X-Men: The Last Stand" was released on DVD Oct. 3 with a small menu of exciting features.

The same characters came back with a vengeance and a little bit of attitude along with those oh-so-famous sexy X-Men costumes.

The plot revolves around a controversial injection created to "cure" mutants of their superhuman powers.

Naturally, some mutants are for the shot and some have taken this as an insult to who they truly are and wish to remain.

On the menu screen,

viewers are given the option of whether or not to "Join the Brotherhood" or to "Take a Stand."

Each option shows the movie in the same manner. There is just a slight difference in the way it is presented.

"Joining the Brotherhood" gives a devilishly-orange menu screen that has floating spiked mutant cells. "Taking the Stand" produces the electric blue menu in traditional X-Men style.

Although there aren't a lot of features to choose from, the ones available are pretty good.



There is a selection of deleted and prolonged scenes along with three alternate endings to the movie. Pro-

fessor Xavier or another principal character has voiced over the opening credits of the other "X-Men" movies in the past, yet this time directors chose to have some dramatic music instead.

The alternate endings are enough for any comic book junkie. At the end of the movie, a major character takes her fate into her own hands, and the alternate ending shows what could happen either way.

Another alternate ending shows a popular character ending up in the place where viewers were first introduced to him.

The commentary, with director Brett Ratner gives insight as to how the film was pieced together after previous "X-Men" director Bryan Singer dropped out of the project.

There are English and Spanish dubs along with subtitles.

The disappointing factors in regards to the special features are there are no photo galleries, bloopers, or actor interviews. The collector's edition has all the standard features but with a 100-page comic booklet.

Rating: B-

—Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

'Earl' marks season one DVD off karma list

The creators of "My Name is Earl" must believe in karma, for they have done something good.

The first season of the NBC comedy starring Jason Lee ("Chasing Amy," "Mallrats,") Jaime Pressly ("Joe Dirt") and Ethan Suplee ("American History X,") is now on DVD.

The series is about white trash crook, Earl J. Hickey (Lee), who wins \$100,000 in the lottery, and is then struck by a car seconds later, losing his lottery ticket.

While in the hospital, Hickey watches late night

television host Carson Daly and learns about karma (do good and good things will happen to you). He has a revelation that karma has gotten to him.

He then creates a list of all the wrong things he has ever done to people and society, and decides to correct them one by one.

As a former litterbug, one item on his list is to pick up trash in his town.

As he's picking up trash, his lottery ticket is blown into view by a gust of wind and happens to land at his feet. Thus, the door is opened for Earl to devote all

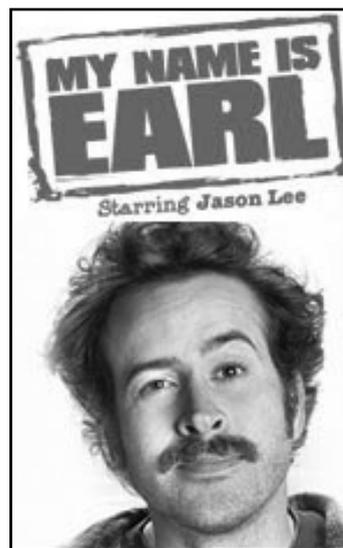
his time to his list.

The downside is that he has to prevent his ex-wife Joy (Pressly) from taking his winnings.

The first season is broken up on four discs, with each averaging seven episodes.

Guest cameos for the first season include: Juliette Lewis ("Natural Born Killers,") Jon Favreau ("Swingers") and Giovanni Ribisi ("Lost in Translation").

The special features include: exclusive Earl misadventure "Bad Karma," "Karma is a Funny Thing" Bloopers Reel, a Behind the Scenes featurette, deleted



scenes, a commentary by creator Greg Garcia, stars

Lee and Suplee, and an additional commentary including the creator's and star's mothers.

The main menu is pretty cool. It is a lotto scratch off ticket with the three scratch off parts showing scenes from the series. The submenus are located below each one.

For all the possible features that could have been added and weren't, I was disappointed, but the series itself stands well on its own.

Rating: C

—Phillip Hemphill
Staff Writer

Grammy award-winning quartet travels to OCCC

By Rachel Carlton
Staff Writer

The Turtle Island String Quartet, whose musical style combines jazz and classical, is the latest group to be featured in the Cultural Art Series.

The concert will be held at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, in the OCCC Theater.

The Turtle Island String Quartet was formed out of California in 1985 by David Balakrishnan, violinist, and Mark Summer, cellist.

Evan Price, violinist from Michigan, and Mads Tolling, violist from Denmark, later joined the band.

Although a combination of classical and jazz is their primary sound, the band has experimented with folk, bluegrass, funk, rock, Latin music and more, according to their website www.tisq.com.

In 2006, the quartet won a Grammy for best classical crossover album.

Scott Tigert, Cultural Programs and Community Development assistant, said one of the band's greatest attractions is its improvisational style.

He said, early on, composers would leave spaces open in the

music for the musicians to improvise and, as classical music developed, composers stopped.

The quartet has brought improvisation back to classical music.

"They're a group of people who have revived a tradition in classical music that has not been pursued in at least 100 years," Tigert said.

Price for admission is \$15 for students, staff, senior citizens and OCCC alumni. General admission is \$20.

Large groups of 10 or more are offered 10 percent discounts.

There are 285 tickets available, which can be purchased the night of the performance, in advance at the bookstore or at the Cultural Programs and Community Development office, located on the fourth floor of the library.

To ease long lines at the ticket booth, Tigert suggests students buy tickets in the bookstore.

In addition to the concert, the quartet also will host a lecture and demonstration called "The Art of the Groove" at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, in the OCCC Theater.

The lecture will last approximately one hour, and will include demonstrations and experiential-



File Photo

The Turtle Island String Quartet, shown above, will perform at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, in the OCCC Theater. General admission for the concert is \$20. The group also will hold a free lecture at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, in the theater.

tions with different instruments.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

"This is another wonderful opportunity for OCCC students and the Oklahoma City community to experience some of the best musi-

cianship the United States and the world have to offer," Tigert said.

To make a reservation for "The Art of the Groove" lecture/demonstration call 405-682-7579.

StaffWriter Rachel Carlton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

New job board helps students, alumni with careers

By Grant Haines
News Writing Student

With a free student job board, OCCC students can search for employment online. Current students and even alumni can visit www.collegecentral.com/occc, to find listings of full- or part-time jobs. This website allows job-seekers to search job postings, updated daily. Résumés can be uploaded for future employers to view online.

The board currently has more than 1,400 students and 800 employers registered.

This board cuts time from driving place to place, said Debra Vaughn, OCCC career specialist.

OCCC student Hayley DeVilbiss said she wished she had known about the online job board when looking for a job this past summer.

"I was surprised when shown how easy it was to use and the number of jobs it offered," DeVilbiss said. She plans to use the

free job board for her next job.

Vaughn said she tell students about the free job board. "It is a very user-friendly resource, and is updated constantly," she said. She

hopes more students register and take advantage of this free service.

Student Savannah Sanders also didn't know about the free job board. "I learn something new ev-

eryday."

In addition to the job board, career services offers free career assessments to help students decide on a career.

Awareness week helps eliminate stereotypes

By Kinber Roberts
Staff Writer

During the week of Oct. 23 to 27, Student Life and Support Services will host the Ability Awareness Fair throughout the College Union.

Jenna Howard, adviser to Students with Disabilities, said, "Ability awareness helps to promote a better understanding of other people's uniqueness."

This is the third year for the fair and coordinators have several events planned, Howard said. The Ability Awareness Fair helps promote the differences in the lives of those who have disabilities.

Service Learning and Student Life Coordinator Jon Horinek said activities will be going on all week such as a learning disabilities display, and a button and bookmark giveaway.

"Monday we will be hosting a sign language Brown Bag Workshop and Wednesday will be a web-based learning disabilities simulation along with a wheelchair course."

"People should focus on their strengths," Howard said. "You don't really know someone until you walk in their shoes."

"This Ability Awareness Fair will help people to better understand

"Ability awareness helps to promote a better understanding of other people's uniqueness."

—Jenna Howard
Students with Disabilities
Adviser

disabilities and change stereotypes."

Both Horinek and Howard said they hope to see a large turnout of people who are willing to participate.

StaffWriter Kinber Roberts can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Chef turned music prof finds groove

By **Erin Sorensen**
News Writing Student

Music professor Mike Boyle has had a meandering journey to his current position as the newest member of the OCCC music department faculty.

Born in Lincoln, Neb., Boyle has called Rhode Island, Washington and many places in between home because of his schooling and former occupation as a chef.

A tuba and bass player, Boyle received his undergraduate degree in instrumental music from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio before working as a chef.

For 16 years, Boyle worked all over the country as a chef, eventually working his way up to freelancing which offered Boyle more flexibility with work and more time with music.

As a freelance chef, Boyle was not assigned to a specific restaurant but worked on several assignments for up to a few months at a time.

"I came up through the ranks and got lucky when a chef took me under his wing," Boyle said.

For five years, Boyle worked as a freelance chef,



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Music Professor Mike Boyle thumps away on his bass during a performance. Boyle is the latest addition to the music program at OCCC.

opening fine dining restaurants all over the country before the pull of music was too strong to resist.

"Once I started freelancing, I was able to spend more time with music and it just drew me back in," he

"A big part of me misses the cooking but I wouldn't trade this for anything. I'm getting paid to listen to music. Life is good."

—Mike Boyle
Music Professor

said.

In 2006, Boyle completed a two-year master's program in conducting at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale before coming to OCCC to teach music.

Boyle instructs Music Appreciation and Music Literature classes, leading students through the fundamentals of music.

"Music Appreciation is a broad overview of music history," Boyle said. "It helps students enjoy music and enhance their appreciation."

Teaching is not without its ups and downs, however, and Boyle readily accepts the challenges of his new role as professor.

"The challenge of teaching Music Appreciation is to keep it interesting yet topical," Boyle said.

In an effort to maintain the interest of his students, Boyle said, he finds inspiration for class assignments in daily life.

"I find it interesting how music influences commercial TV," Boyle said.

"I was watching TV the other day and, in one hour, I heard music from the Kinks, the Romantics and Lou Reed."

Hearing these musical greats influenced an assignment for students to find five such artists while watching the tube, he said.

In addition to teaching music, Boyle plays with the Oklahoma City Community Orchestra and performs in local clubs, substituting for bass players around the city in such places as Rocco, Maker's and the Bourbon Street Café.

Boyle will perform classical and contemporary pieces with other accompanists and students at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 16, in the College Theater.

Though he speaks fondly of his cooking career, Boyle said he is content with his current lot in life and in music.

"A big part of me misses the cooking but I wouldn't trade this for anything," he said.

"I'm getting paid to listen to music. Life is good."

Former student named prof, program director

By **Jordan Singleton**
News Writing Student

OCCC graduate Randy Anderson has been named the new Graphic Communications professor and program director, a field he's worked in for more than 27 years.

Anderson said he initially was not thrilled with the prospect of teaching. He changed his mind when he visited one of his former professors.

"She got me teaching one class in the beginning and I have been hooked ever since," Anderson said.

He was hired as an OCCC adjunct professor in 1987. After leaving the adjunct position for five years, Anderson returned while working for CDF, a photo-finishing studio, where he taught people how to use computer hardware and software.

Anderson has been associated with the college since 1979, when he was an OCCC student. He was a photojournalist for the Pioneer student newspaper and graduated with an associate degree in journalism.

He then attended the University of Central Oklahoma where he got his bachelor's and master's degree in art education.

When Anderson is not teaching, he said, he enjoys outdoor activities like camping, hiking and Dutch oven cooking.

"My pastor bought me a Dutch oven when he heard I was interested in them after using one at my daughter's Girl Scout outings," he said.

A Dutch oven is an iron clad stove that can be heated by campfire to cook things such as homemade breads, cobblers and stews.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Randy Anderson, Graphic Communications professor and program director, was appointed to the position this semester. He is an OCCC graduate and former adjunct professor.

Sooner-born professor takes on OCCC

By Fatemeh Taghavi
News Writing Student

Jacqueline Frock became one of OCCC's newest nursing professors this semester.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Frock said she has had a love for psychology since her college days at Bacone College in Muskogee.

But while there, she said, a light went off in her head that prompted her to focus on nursing.

Frock received her associate degree in nursing in 1987. She then attended the University of Oklahoma where she earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies.

Frock currently attends Oklahoma City University-Kramer School of Nursing, where she is working on her master's in nursing sci-

ence.

Frock said she has three daughters and is a grandmother.

In her free time, she said, she enjoys reading mystery novels.

"I'm a Scorpio," she said. "[Mystery novels] give us something to figure out and we're on the case."

Frock, who taught at Canadian Valley Technology Center in Chickasha, said teaching at OCCC is like being in a little city.

"There are so many more students," Frock said. "I just can't believe how many students go here."

"I think that's wonderful but it's like a little city."

It was a little intimidating at first, but OCCC grew on her, she said.

Frock said becoming a nurse is noble because nurses make differences in lives every day.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Nursing Professor Jacqueline Frock instructs nursing students during class. Frock became one of OCCC's newest professors this fall.

However, Frock said, students who want to be nurses must realize nursing school is difficult and

shouldn't be taken lightly. She said students should be aware they can't memo-

rize everything and that they have to learn quickly in critical situations.

Speech professor has goals for department, students

By Ian Coe Smith
News Writing Student

Julie Corff, newly-hired speech communication professor, said she has goals for OCCC.

One goal is to develop a speech lab where students can enhance their communication skills. Its use would not be limited to just speech and communication students, she said.

In addition to planning the development of a speech lab, Corff said she also keeps in mind her local, state and national goals.

Locally, Corff said she wants to get to know the people here at OCCC and in the community.

Corff said her state goal involves learning what state colleges are doing in their speech programs.

Nationally, Corff is networking with five of the top universities to find out what they are doing. In particular, Corff is networking with Harvard.

Corff said she has high expectations for her students.

"I make my goal very clear, I make my expectations very clear, and I expect my students to rise to those expectations."

Corff earned her associate degree in broadcasting at OCCC in 1989.

Corff then attended the University of Central Oklahoma where she received a



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Julie Corff, recently-hired speech professor, shares a laugh with students during class.

bachelor's degree in public relations and oral communication in 1991.

Corff attained her master's degree in speech communication and consulting from Oklahoma State University.

Corff was a speech instructor at OSU and an adjunct communication instructor at OCCC and at UCO for 12 years.

Corff also has numerous awards including Outstanding Professor Award from the UCO Greek System, 2001-2002, Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member from the UCO Liberal Arts Department, 2001-2002, and Outstanding Adjunct Professor, also from UCO, for 2001-2002.

Chemistry prof debuts

By Shauna Giddeon
News Writing Student

Moving from a research laboratory to a classroom filled with chemistry students has been a big change for newly-hired Professor Changjiang Zhu.

"This is a big change for me," Zhu said. "Being a research chemist, I could go all day and not talk to anyone, and here I have so much interaction with people."

Zhu graduated high school in Wuhan, China, a city with a population of 4.7 million.

He graduated from Wuhan University in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Zhu came to the United States in 1988. He earned his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Idaho in 1995.

Zhu said he had a solid background in chemistry before he started teaching.

He was a research chemist for 10 years at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Md.

Zhu said he is happy to be at OCCC.

"I love to teach," Zhu said. "The part I like most is communicating with the students."



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Chemistry Professor Changjiang Zhu began instructing at OCCC this semester.

We can rebuild you



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Col. David Bennett delivered his lecture titled "Afghanistan: Rebuilding a Democracy" to OCCC students Oct. 4 in the College Theater. Business Professor V. J. Ramachandran said Bennett covered numerous difficulties affecting the process of building a democracy in Afghanistan such as lack of infrastructure, lack of corporate interest in investment opportunities, geographic difficulties, media bias and also the fact that Americans are expecting the Afghani government to form a new democracy in a much shorter time frame than it took this country. Bennett's lecture was sponsored as a global awareness event by the Business Professionals of America student organization.

Protect yourself from worms

By **Scott D'Amico**
Staff Writer

Cyber Security Awareness Month continues with a game show and a help desk on Oct. 18.

The game show will be held at noon in the Student Union. Questions will be based on cyber security, said Brett Weber, Cyber Security program coordinator.

Weber said three \$50 gas cards will be awarded during the game show, and two biometric fingerprint readers will be given away in a drawing that will take place during the game show.

The box to submit tickets for the drawing will be in the Student Union.

Weber said a help desk, run by students in the computer science department, also will be set up from 10 a.m. to noon, Oct. 18 in the Main Building. The help desk is for students who have questions about their computer's security.

He said free information also will be provided to direct students to sites online that can better protect their computers.

These events are all taking place during Cyber Security Awareness Month's second week.

The topic for that week will be computer worms, viruses and Trojans. Weber said all three have the potential to do major damage to a computer.

"They can wipe out all the data on your hard drive," Weber said.

Staff Writer Scott D'Amico can be reached at online editor@occc.edu.

MineOnline gives students complete control

By **Stephanie O'Connor**
News Writing Student

MineOnline was the topic at the Sept. 26 Brown Bag Lunch, in which the online database's features were outlined for those who attended.

MineOnline's features include giving students the ability to enroll themselves in classes at OCCC.

Students can enroll by going to MineOnline at <http://mineonline.occc.edu>.

The next step is to click on "enroll in classes." Then, follow the steps to complete enrollment.

Students also can drop classes, check their bursar's accounts, pay their bills, check their grades and request transcripts.

Richard Stocke, Informational Technologies adjunct professor, said OCCC is hoping more students will

use MineOnline to stay connected with the campus.

Students also can complete a degree audit.

This will compare what classes a student has already taken to classes they have left to take.

This tells students what classes the student has left to take and about how long it will take the student to graduate.

MineOnline is the only way students can check their grades at the end of

the semester.

Students can do this by going to MineOnline and clicking on "grades."

Stocke said grades are posted the Tuesday after the last day of the semester.

John Richardson, Transition Systems and Systems Administrator director, said a student's MineOnline login name will be his or her first name, followed by a period, then the middle initial, followed by another period, then the

last name. The login name would look like john.e.doe.

Richardson said two or more students who have identical names will have a random number following their last name.

This is to differentiate who is who, Richardson said.

The student's password will be the last six digits of his or her Social Security number.

After the student has logged onto MineOnline for the first time, the website will ask the student to change his or her password.

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Spooky times, fun abundant in metro

By Rachel Carlton
Staff Writer

With Halloween only a few weeks away, it may be difficult to decide which spooky parties or events to attend of the many offered in the area.

OCCC's annual Halloween Carnival is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 27, in the College Union.

The carnival, geared toward children, will include a deejay, carnival booths set up by various campus organizations, and games such as pin-the-nose-on-the-jack-o-lantern. In addition to the games, numerous prizes will be given out.

"We will have glow-in-the-dark vampire teeth, tattoos, stickers and tons and tons of candy," said Sara McElroy, First Year and Student Life Programs coordinator.

Admission is \$1 per child. Adults get in free.

The Oklahoma City Zoo is throw-

ing its annual "Haunt the Zoo for Halloween" event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. every night from Oct. 26 through Oct. 31.

Tara Henson, Marketing and Public Relations director, said the zoo offers a one-way trick-or-treat trail consisting of a mile and a half of 21 differently-themed booths.

The themes will be on the lighter side and will include pirates, scarecrows and gypsies, as well as decorations and props including dry ice fog, Henson said.

Admission is \$5 per child for pre-purchased tickets, or \$6 per child at the gate. Adults 18 and older get in free.

"The fee applies to those who only want to trick-or-treat," Henson said.

Tickets can be pre-purchased at the zoo or at any Buy For Less gro-

cery store.

For more scary themes, the Bricktown Haunted Warehouse is open for its 22nd year.

"We have changed several rooms and illusions," said Chris Clifton, promoter of marketing for Brewer Entertainment.

He said one of the new illusions is a room that seems to go on indefinitely. "We have excellent settings with awesome scenes and good actors," Clifton said.

The old warehouse setting also offers a spooky atmosphere, he said. Last year, the Haunted Warehouse added a third floor called the Haunted 3D Dungeon, open again

this year.

A person can visit either the warehouse or dungeon separately for \$10 each or pay \$17 and visit both, Clifton said.

Frontier City also is offering a local haunted house during their 15th annual Frightfest.

The haunted house will be in the concert area with admission included in the cost of park admission.

The haunted house is open from dusk to 11 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, and dusk to 9 p.m. on Sundays, Oct. 6 through Oct. 29.

For more information, visit Frontier City's website www.sixflags.com/parks/frontiercity.

Staff Writer Rachel Carlton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Halloween safety applies to all kids — big and small

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

Halloween is a night for tricks and treats — and safety.

The National Safety Council suggests children wear costumes made of light-colored material as well as use reflective tape on their costumes or candy bags.

Norman Police Department Public Information Officer Jennifer Newell said it's also important to make sure children have an unobstructed view of the streets while they're trick or treating.

"[Children] need to make sure they can see clearly out of their costumes," she said.

Other safety tips offered by the NSC are: pinning a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket; instructing children to stop only at houses that are well-lit and never enter a stranger's home; establishing a return time; and telling children not to eat any treat before they return home.

Oklahoma City Public Information Officer Sgt. Gary Knight said the best thing parents can do is to have their children trick or treat in an area that's familiar.

"Find an area that you're comfortable with to take your kids trick or treating," Knight said.

He said, in fact, the Oklahoma City police department recommends children trick or treat in a

place like a church or a mall.

Crossroads Mall will provide children with an opportunity to trick or treat on Halloween night, beginning at 6 p.m.

Sooner Mall in Norman also will welcome trick or treaters on Halloween night, starting at 5 p.m.

Knight said this strategy has a two-fold positive effect.

It not only allows children to be off the streets at night, but it also alleviates concerns about where the children's candy is coming from.

Another safety concern on Halloween is drunk driving.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported that 40 percent of fatalities in motor vehicle accidents on Halloween night last year involved a driver or a motorcycle operator with a blood alcohol content of .08 or higher. The blood alcohol content level for drunk driving in Oklahoma is .08.

The NHTSA recommends that people planning to attend a Halloween party where alcohol is served should make sure they have either a designated driver or a safe alternative to driving impaired.

"Remember the one rule about not drinking and driving," Newell said.

For more safety tips, visit www.nsc.org/library/facts/halloween.

Staff Writer Scott D'Amico can be reached at OnlineEditor@occc.edu.

All Hallows Eve origins carved deep in time

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

Halloween has its origins in the ancient Celtic celebration of Samhain (pronounced sow-en). Samhain marked the beginning of the Celtic new year and of the long, dark season of winter, according to www.history.com.

The ancient Celts believed that the time of transition between the seasons opened the "window" between the world of the living and the dead, according to Rowan Moonstone, a writer published on www.halloweenonlinemagazine.com.

The Celts believed their dearly departed traveled after death to a place called Tir nan Og, Moonstone said. Ancient Celts created huge bonfires to light the paths of their ancestral spirits.

Samhain, when the "veil" between the Earth and Tir nan Og was thinnest, offered people the best opportunity to communicate with their deceased loved ones. As a result, many divination (fortune-telling) practices were associated with the celebration of Samhain.

During the ninth century, Christians began to incorporate the Celtic celebration of Samhain into their own traditions, said English Professor Pamela Stout, who teaches Beliefs and Believers at OCCC.

Stout said Catholics paralleled Samhain with All Saints Day, a Christian celebration of departed souls. All Saints Day also was known as All Hallows Day, and took place the first day of November. Oct. 31 became known as All Hallows Eve. The eventual result was the holiday known today as Halloween, Stout said. She said modern celebrations of Halloween represent a conglomeration of customs.

"You see the same thing in (American) voodooism," she said. "You take the religion of Haiti and combine it with Catholicism and you come up with a kind of mishmash religion."

Halloween, then, is kind of a mishmash holiday. The celebration was brought to the United States during the Irish potato famine of the 1840s, Moonstone said. It was then that the practice of carving pumpkins into jack-o-lanterns developed. Prior to that, people carved the lanterns from turnips, Stout said.

This practice has its origins in an old Irish folktale, Stout said. A man named Jack outsmarted the devil but paid an eternal price for his cleverness. "When he died, he couldn't get into heaven or into hell," Stout said. "So he just wanders the earth."

According to legend, the devil gave Jack one tiny ember to light his way which Jack placed inside a turnip. The term "jack-o-lantern" developed from "Jack's lantern."

Though customs have changed, the modern celebration of Halloween reflects a rich and enchanting cultural history.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Workshop offers interview strategies

By **Scott D'Amico**
Staff Writer

Job interviews can be scary, but Coordinator of Employment Services Laura Choppy will conduct a workshop that can put many of those fears to rest.

The workshop, called "Yikes! I have a job interview!," will take place from noon to 12:25 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 25, in room 1F6 of the Main Building.

Choppy said the workshop would provide students with knowledge that could prevent them from being caught off guard during an interview.

"There are several different types of interviews," Choppy said.

"You won't always know which type you're going to."

Choppy said there are six differ-

ent types of interviews.

"The field you go into will determine what interview you get," Choppy said.

She said job applicants in sales can expect to see a lunch interview while an applicant in a science related field may be asked to answer questions to exhibit their logical thinking skills.

OCCC sophomore Randy Mitchell said a workshop on job interviews is something that can be beneficial for most students.

He works full-time as an assistant manager at Famous Footwear. One of his duties is to interview applicants.

Mitchell said there have been a number of times when he has interviewed an applicant he felt needed to be coached before he or she went on his or her next inter-

view.

"I've had people come in to interview in a T-shirt," Mitchell said.

Mitchell said he also has interviewed job applicants who displayed bad hygiene and poor speaking skills.

"I had a guy interview with me, and he absolutely stunk," Mitchell said.

Along with being prepared for different types of interviews, Choppy said, there would be some basic tips taught at the workshop.

One of those is eye contact. Choppy said it's important for an applicant to make a connection through good eye contact during an interview.

She said something like a handshake also can play a crucial role in deciding if an applicant gets a job."

"The field you go into will determine what interview you get."

—Laura Choppy
Employment Services
Coordinator

"A lot of employers look for someone with a good handshake," Choppy said.

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, Choppy will conduct another workshop, "How do I write a post-interview thank you letter?"

That workshop also will be from noon to 12:25 in room 1F6.

For more information, contact Choppy at 405-682-1611, ext. 7519.

Staff Writer Scott D'Amico can be reached at onlineeditor@occc.edu.

Online service simplifies tuition payment

By **Drew Hampton**
News Writing Student

Most students would agree that making payments at the Bursar's Office is not the most enjoyable activity on campus.

For the past few semesters, however, an alternative to standing in line to hand in a check has emerged—online payments.

With last year's reorganization, the ability to make tuition and fee payments online with a credit card became an integral part of the payment system, said OCCC Bursar Brandi Henson. That has eased the office's workload substantially, she said.

On one day, nearly a third of payments pro-

cessed by the office were paid online, Henson said.

Jonathan Card, 20, paid online with a credit card last semester.

"It's easy," the journalism major said.

Besides the college bookstore and the cafeteria, the Bursar's Office is the collection point for all funds coming into the college.

Prior to last year's reorganization, there was no alternative to waiting in line in the hallway outside the office to make a payment—a time-consuming and potentially stressful process for everyone involved.

Even with the added convenience of paying electronically, however, some students shy away from using the service.

"There's no way I'm giving out my credit card number," said Jason Tyler Harper, 20.

Henson, while not as concerned about the security of the process, said she hopes the ability to use other online payment methods will become available in the future.

In addition to collecting and processing payments, the Bursar's Office staff also plays a major role in distributing financial aid to students in the form of mailed checks and answering questions about those same issues.

"There's not much to love us for," Henson said.

Still, it seems unlikely that the office will ever be closed to students—a helpful human face, after all, is always greatly appreciated.

International students face hurdles in college

By **Ashton Adams**
News Writing Student

Word travels fast in Nepal.

As a result, OCCC has a large number of international students from that small Asian country located between India and China.

Sunny Garner, International Student Admissions counselor, said most international students discover OCCC through word of mouth.

Becoming an international student is a cumbersome process that begins with passing the Test of English as a Foreign Language, or TOEFL.

Prospective students then apply for a student classification visa

known as an F1.

The visa requires international students to return to their home countries following graduation.

Once the visa is granted, students fill out the I20, an official immigration document.

All tuition and living costs must be in the student's bank account before departure to the United States.

The U.S. Embassy checks bank records to confirm the student is financially suited.

Eighty percent of foreign students' parents pay for their education and fees, and almost all foreign students are approved.

"Most get approved, but after Sept. 11, 2001, it was more diffi-

"I admire international students for having the courage to come study in a new culture."

—Sunny Garner
International Students Admissions Counselor

cult because more procedures were added," Garner said.

OCCC was home to 370 international students in spring 2006.

The majority, 33 students, came from Kenya, according to the OCCC International Report.

The number has dropped to 358 international students this semester, with 47 students hailing from Nepal.

OCCC is not currently making efforts to increase international stu-

dents, but Garner is one of many who would like to see something happen.

"Each student adds so much to the classroom," Garner said. "I admire international students for having the courage to come study in a new culture."

**Visit the Pioneer Online
at www.occc.edu/pioneer.**

Bikers ride to help stop child abuse

Parents picking up their children from OCCC's Child Development Center and Lab School encountered four leather-clad bikers on their way into the building Oct. 4. Many of those parents stayed to listen to the message the group of men brought with them.

Members of the group Bikers Against Child Abuse were there to speak at that night's parent-teacher meeting about ways to help prevent child abuse.

Ed 'Foman' Thayer, B.A.C.A. member, said the goal of the group is to "create a safe environment for kids."

The history of B.A.C.A. is important in understanding the group's actions, he said.

J.P. Lilly, a child-play therapist, founded the group in Utah in 1996, Thayer said. "[Lilly] could do a lot in counseling, but he noticed that when the kids went back home, the neighborhood reversed everything.

"Lilly felt it wasn't enough to just counsel the children," Thayer said. "He needed a way to help protect the kids as well. He had a few biker friends and asked them to help."

B.A.C.A. was formed.

The group gets involved in a number of ways. B.A.C.A. refers to those as Levels of Intervention. Working with local and state officials, B.A.C.A. members, with the permission of a parent or legal guardian, will visit an abused child's home and ask to "adopt" that child into the organization.

Children who are adopted by the group receive a vest and teddy bear, and become a B.A.C.A. kid, Thayer said.

Many times, that act alone is enough to stop the abuse. The group said the act sends the message, "I am not alone and you don't want to mess with my new family."

If the abuse continues, the group will move on to Level II, where, according to a B.A.C.A. pamphlet, "five to seven members will be sent for further exposure," and "to create a presence at the home of the child, being visible at times when the family might be most vulnerable."

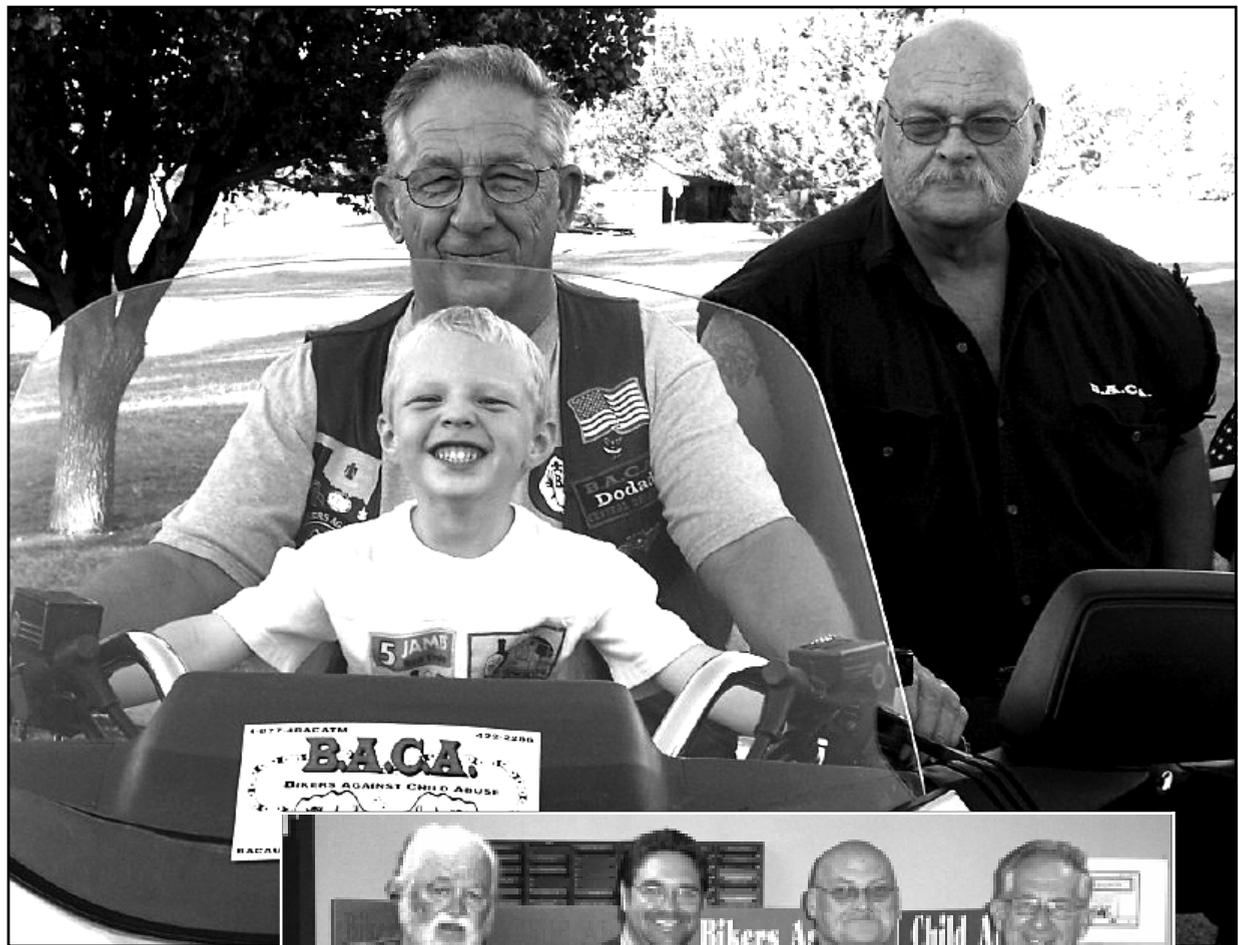
Level III takes the group's action further if the "physical presence of B.A.C.A. does not deter the abuser."

The pamphlet details how a formal letter will be drafted by B.A.C.A.'s president, vice president or sector leader and sent to the area where the abuser resides. "The substance of the letter will be to explain to the perpetrator that we are prepared to take whatever steps necessary to become the obstacle to further abuse," the pamphlet reads.

Level IV is described as the "final level of intervention."

In this level, B.A.C.A. members will ride to the abuser's neighborhood and go door-to-door, explaining the purpose of their visit, handing out stickers to kids in the neighborhood, and distributing literature describing the group and its efforts.

B.A.C.A. members who intervene only do so if it won't bring further harm to the abused child. Those members are required to pass an OSBI background check, and never go to the child's house alone or without permission of the child's parent or guardian, unless, their literature reads, "members feel that the child is



Photos by Lisa Young
Text by Phillip Hemphill

Above: Max Willis, 3, Child Development Center and Lab School student, sits on a motorcycle owned by Bikers Against Child Abuse member Raymond "Dodad" Gouthier. Below: B.A.C.A. members Dan "Dandee" Duffy, Jason "Batman" Baffrey, Ed "Foman" Thayer and Gouthier visited the lab school to speak about ways to help stop child abuse during a parent-teacher meeting.

in danger of further abuse or at risk of being harmed."

Occasionally, the bikers will attend court with an abused child, offering a physical presence so the child feels less intimidated and frightened while testifying against an abuser.

They will even testify in cases of alleged sexual assault, Thayer said. "We do our best to protect them."

Jessica Hesseltine, Child Development Center and Lab School teacher and lab assistant, said parents were interested in what the bikers had to say.

Alexa Mashlan, mother of 9-month-old Jonah, attended the meeting.

"I thought it was great," Mashlan said. "Before the meeting, I had never heard of B.A.C.A. I was really impressed with what they did with children."

Hesseltine agreed.

"One moment I thought was neat was when they let the children sit on their bikes and start

them," she said.

She said parents asked several good questions.

"One of the questions asked was whether or not if a child could be signed up anonymously," Hesseltine said.

"They answered saying that only a family member can sign children up."

Mashlan said she is glad she stayed to hear the group speak. "The meeting has changed my perspective of bikers," she said.

"I didn't know bikers would be this involved with children."

Since its creation, B.A.C.A. has expanded to 96 chapters in two countries: 93 in the United States, three in Australia.

Oklahoma has 11 chapters, according to B.A.C.A.'s website www.bacausa.com.

For more information about B.A.C.A., visit www.bacausa.com.

Staff Writer Phillip Hemphill can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC
INTRAMURALS
EVENTS

•**Oct. 23 - 27:** Singles tennis tournament starts Monday, Oct. 23, and runs through Oct. 27. This will be the last event for the Intramural sports program until the spring. For more information, contact Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or visit www.occrcs.edu.

•**Oct. 10 - 27:** The OCCC Aquatic Center is offering stroke development. Classes that will work on swimming strokes, starts and turns. The goal is to improve stroke technique, endurance and speed. The time is from 6 to 7 p.m. in the pool area and the cost is \$10 per class session or \$30 for four classes. For more information on this class, contact Coordinator of Aquatics and Safety Training Roxanna Butler at 405-682-1611, ext. 7425.

•**Oct. 2 - 31 :** OCCC Punt, Pass and Kick Challenge will be back this fall. Contestants will test their skills in each of three following categories: Pass: complete four target passes in 10 yards, 15 yards, 20 yards and 30 yards. Punt: complete two punts: 1 distance kick and one timed kick. Kick: contestants complete two field goal tries from 20 yards and 40 yards. Challenge date is Thursday, Nov. 9. This event is free to all OCCC students. Sign-up sheets for the event can be found at the Wellness Center. For more information, call 405-682-7860.

•**Oct. 2 - Nov. 9:** OCCC Youth Basketball League will tip off its season of non-competitive basketball for boys and girls, ages 5- to 12-years-old. The season starts Dec. 2. Registration ends Nov. 9. Each team will play eight games. The season ends Feb. 17. The cost for this league is \$60. For more information, contact Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or visit www.occrcs.edu.

For more information, visit www.occrcs.edu.

Special athletes play to win

By John Savage
Staff Writer

OCCC will host some special athletes Nov. 4 in the gym. The Special Olympics will return for the second year to play in the Special Olympics basketball tournament.

The plan is to make sure the athletes have everything they need including security and first responders, said Eric Watson, Community Education and Health specialist.

The Special Olympics track-and-field events are held in Stillwater

but OCCC will host the basketball event. Several athletes will compete in the gym.

Watson said at least 200 athletes and about 100 spectators will be on hand to enjoy the competition.

"They will use all three courts," Watson said. "They have different Special Olympic teams from around the Oklahoma City area and usually bring in their volunteers to run the clock."

Area director Curtis Boyer said, more than 16 teams will compete this year. Many are from the Oklahoma City area including two

teams from Moore.

"Some schools may have more than one team," Boyer said. "To participate in Special Olympics they have to be at least 8-years-old and there is really no upper limit age."

The players will play on a normal-size court with official-size goals and teams will consist of five-on-five.

Watson said there would be no cost to students or parents of the Special Olympians. Everyone is welcome to attend and support them.

He said, if students would like to donate their time and help with the event, they could look online at www.sookca.org and talk with members of the Special Olympics Oklahoma Capitol Area.

The volunteers could be doing a range of activities including keeping score, officiating and handing out refreshments to the athletes, he said.

"We always need volunteers," Boyer said.

Boyer said once people come out and volunteer, they usually come back the next year. The basketball event will be an all-day event with registration starting at 8 a.m.

Watson said OCCC is proud to have the athletes come here and compete.

"We feel it's important to showcase these athletes," Watson said.

The gym will be closed to the public that day but the Wellness Center and the Aquatic Center will still be open so students and staff can work out throughout the day.

Some of the RCS workers will be at the event that day.

"We always have a spot where we have at least two staff members present," Watson said.

For more information, go to www.sookca.org or contact Boyer at 405-366-5932.

For volunteer work, contact Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, in the Recreational Community Services center.

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

Keeping pace

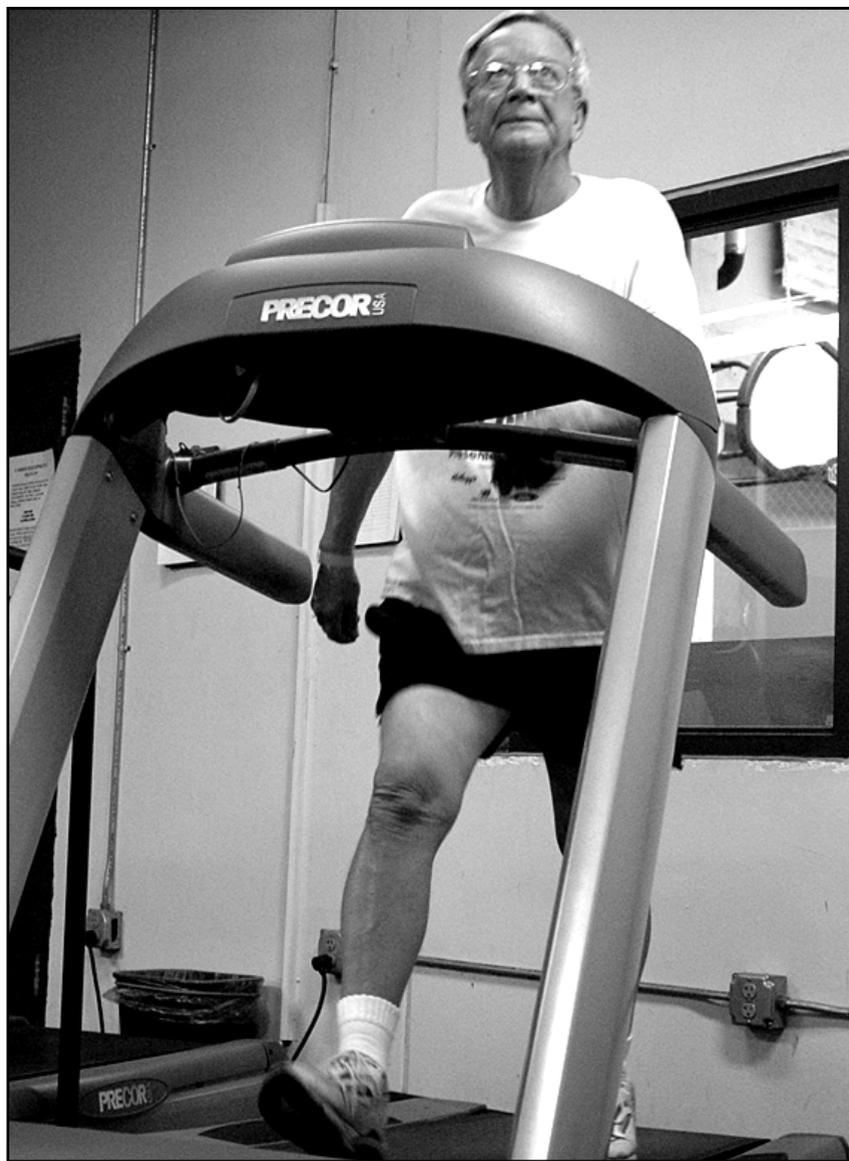


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Bob Shannon works out on an OCCC Wellness Center treadmill as he watches a television mounted on the wall in the Wellness Center. Shannon said his wife pushes him to work out but he enjoys coming to the college to work out on the treadmill and also in the weight room. He said he likes the facilities but wishes the weight room were bigger. Shannon said he was preparing to participate in the Race For a Cure Oct. 14.

Have a concern or a problem? Make your voice heard by writing a letter to the editor.

Children laugh and dance night away

By Laurie Ghigliotti
News Writing Student

Children, parents and grandparents laughed and sang along Oct. 6 at a children's concert featuring entertainer Dave Rudolf in his signature Hawaiian shirt and ball cap.

A trunk overflowed with masks and mysterious objects. Beach balls, bubble machines and Hula-Hoops surrounded Rudolf.

Shakers later spilled out of a tan tote bag on the floor for all the children to participate in the music making.

Student Life Program Coordinator Sara McElroy and Community Engagement Coordinator Jon Horinek planned the event which drew more than 100 participants.

Rudolf's entertainment style was geared to entertain children.

One minute he was quipping with the audience and the next he was back to singing and had everyone crazily batting beach balls around the room.

The theme of the event was Beach Party, complete with Hawaiian leis, a conga line, hula dancing and the limbo.

Horinek said the college wanted to host a concert for children and parents alike.



Photos by Carrie Cronk

Rudolf's entertainment concert.

philosophy reflected Hori "I don't play down to the kids and I try to keep the



Dave Rudolf performed during the Children's Big Beach Party the evening of Oct. 6.

Audience members performed specific activities such as waving their arms like a bird in flight and swimming like a fish.

parents interested," Rudolf said.

Rudolf, father of two, said he enjoys performing.

"At first, [children are] a little shy but they come out of it and join in," he said.

Beverly Proctor, 57, brought two of her grandchildren, Caitlin Chance, 7, and Gracelin Chance, 3.

"I just loved watching the kids," Proctor said. "The kids who would never do

anything for their parents went up and performed like pros."

Tara Willis and her husband brought their five children, ages 16 months to 8 years, to the concert.

With such a large family, the Willisses said they keep an eye out for inexpensive entertainment options for their children and the concert's \$1 admission fee fit the bill.

Games rake in more money than Hollywood

By Kyle Davis
News Writing Student

A new class, Game Design and Development, will be offered this spring. The course CAD 2003, is the first class of a degree that will be offered starting in the fall of 2007.

John Helton, professor of Computer Aided Design and program coordinator, said the main purpose of the class is to get a feel for the interest level of students.

The course is described as one in which the student will learn the history of video games and the future of the gaming industry as well.

This course will give students an

insight to the active industry and where gaming will go in the future. Students will learn about the different game genres, designing process and what the future holds for this field.

Gaming made \$9.9 billion this year and is expected to grow more every year, according to www.NPD.com.

"Gaming made more money last year than Hollywood," Helton said.

This is not a new trend, prompting several other colleges to make these courses available as well.

As the classes in the major are developed, the involvement in game design is expected to increase. Students will take classes

such as 3-D rendering, 3-D animation, game level design, art design and color and other multimedia classes.

As a capstone project in the 'Design Project' class, students will actually design a game and send it through programming software.

"Game design is something that interests every gamer at one point," said OCCC student Stephen McDaniel. "It seems like a class that would give an interesting inside perspective on how games are made."

Helton said he hopes the class appeals to everyone. It involves the imaginative and artistic side of games, he said.

"When people think of gaming, a lot of people just think of video games. The military uses simulations, NASA uses simulations, which are really games," Helton said.

Computer Science professor Tom Ashby will teach the class. The class will be held at 1 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays. There are no prerequisites.

Clarification

Last week the Pioneer incorrectly reported Professor Richard Trout has colon cancer. We apologize for the error.

Highlights

Health Professions Club to host speaker

Health Professions Club will host Jennifer Richardson from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 17, in room 1C4. Richardson will provide information about the OU pharmacy program. For more information, contact club president Kari Glidewell at gdk2005@cox.net.

Democrats examine separation of church, state

Jim Huff will speak to College Democrats about the separation of church and state from noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 18, in room 2P7. For more information, contact Kristi McClatchy at kristi.l.mc.clatchy@po.occ.edu.

Health Professions Club bakes to raise money

Health Professions Club will hold bake sales in the Main Building from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 19 and 26. Proceeds will benefit the Children's Center in Bethany. Sign-up sheets are available on the club's bulletin board across from the Science Center. For more information, contact President Kari Glidewell at gdk2005@cox.net

Advocates of Peace seek members

Advocates of Peace will have a general meeting from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19, in room 1C3. Everyone is invited to attend and help promote peace.

Class offers unique approach to Humanities credit

Oklahoma City Arts Alive will examine the arts scene in downtown OKC. The eight-week humanities course begins Friday, Oct. 20, at the Civic Center Music Hall. Students will receive credit through OCCC. Ruth Charnay, department chair for Communications and the Arts at OCCC, will instruct the class. For more information or to enroll, call 405-232-3383.

UCO PsiChi Club president to speak to OCCC PsiChi

Guest Speaker Amy Elvington, president of UCO's PsiChi Club will present information about UCO's PsiChi Organization at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 25, in room CU2. PsiChi is short for Psychology and Sociology Club.

Student Transfer Fair set for Oct. 24

Student Development will host a Transfer Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24, in room CU3. The Transfer Fair is open to all students who are interested in transferring to a four-year college or university. Thirty schools are expected to have booths at the fair.

Tuition fee waiver applications available

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the spring semester are now available in the Student Financial Aid office. Completed applications must be submitted by 5 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14. For more information, contact Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7524.

Biology professor plans student trips

Tony Stancampiano, biology professor, will offer two field courses in the Spring of '07. The first, Gulf Coast Ecosystems, is an early eight-week class that will end with a trip to the Texas Gulf Coast. The second, Ecology of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks, is offered as an intersession course between the spring and summer semesters. This course will include eight days at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Both courses earn four credit hours in Biology (BIO 2004) and space is limited. For more information, contact Stancampiano at 405-682-1611, ext. 7788, or e-mail astancampiano@occ.edu.

Toga, toga



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Former OCCC student Erin McMurry, Society of Performing Artists club member Philip Aken and club President Jessica Myer don togas for the club's viewing of "Animal House" on Oct. 5. The event was the first in a series of movie screenings in the semester.

Art Guild awakes from dormancy

By **Kinber Roberts**
Staff Writer

With new enrollment every fall at OCCC, clubs rush to recruit new members.

For the last two years, one club hasn't been rushing around.

Layne Thrift, adjunct art professor, said the Art Guild has been inactive for two years. "We are trying to get things going," Thrift said. "If more students were aware of the events there would be a larger turnout."

Mary Ann Moore, Visual Art professor, has been a sponsor of the student Art Guild for more than 30 years.

"We've had lots of fun in the Art Guild," she said. Moore said the guild hasn't been completely inactive for two years, just that now it

is time to pick up activity.

Art major Heather Graff said, "The guild could have been inactive because of lack of leadership, not having enough people to run events and put in the effort."

With the holidays approaching there will be more events to attend.

"Hopefully by mid-November we will be running full strength," Thrift said. "Students can show their support and interest by attending the meetings."

To help motivate students to bring along friends to meetings, the sponsors will be giving an art-oriented prize at the end of the semester for those with the most attendance.

"Art period has an impact on the world; it's all around us," Moore said.

Moore said the guild had active students before and she hopes the number of interested students will increase.

Nora York, art labs assistant and fellow sponsor, said, "It's a club for anyone who just enjoys art."

The sponsors said they are excited about events such as painting and wrapping orphan pots [leftover art pots] around Christmas time.

Moore and York said, "bring your friends." Meetings are held from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Thursday during the second and fourth week each month in room 1X5.

For more information contact Moore at 405-682-1611, ext. 7255.

Staff Writer Kinber Roberts can be reached at 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

FOR SALE: Schnoodle puppies. 3 male, 3 female, both parents registered. Schnoodles are Schnauzer and Poodle, beautiful puppies, do not shed. Call Michelle or Gayle at 527-9004 or 527-7497, cell 659-8447.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: 3 mo. old gray and black tabby kitten. Male, very sweet cuddle bug is good with other cats and dogs. I'm moving. Call Priscilla 412-2521 or 949-5518.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: 3 yr. old female long haired black and orange calico cat. She is fixed, very sweet, needs to be by herself, no other pets. I'm moving. Call Priscilla 412-2521 or 949-5518.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '06 Dodge Ram 1500 LoneStar ed. 22k miles, power all, loaded. For pics or more info: kati.e.henry@email.occc.edu

FOR SALE: '04 Chevy Cavalier, 52,000 miles, lots of extras, very clean, excellent condition, warranty included. \$9,950. Call Daniel: 590-2795.

FOR SALE: '03 Chevrolet Avalanche, V8 engine. XM radio, CD player, On-Star programmed, built-in telephone. Leather interior and 4 heated seats. Moon-roof, chrome wheels, dual exhaust, privacy windows. Like new, garage parked. \$17,900. Please call 691-1261 or 830-5589 for more info.

FOR SALE: '99 Dodge Ram 1500. 4 WD, ext. cab, 148K mi., red, 5.9L. \$10,000 OBO. Call 405-521-7272 or e-mail relmore@po.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: '99 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited. Gold color, 4-D, 4-WD, Infinity 10-CD Premium sound system, 120,000 miles, 17-18 MPG city, 20-22 MPG highway, leather interior, moon-roof, tinted windows, garage kept, excellent condition. Not moving, must sell. \$8,200. Call 329-6731.

FOR SALE: '95 Spontage. Nice car, manual tran., low miles, very good condition. Asking \$3,100. 405-408-2828.

FOR SALE: '94 Ford Taurus.

155k, sable, clean, great car. Asking \$2100. Please e-mail hayemargo@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: '92 Toyota Camry. 4-dr. sedan, 2.2L V6 standard trans., 182,333 miles, a/c, trailer hitch. Call 405-361-4453.

FOR SALE: '90 Dodge Caravan. Cold AC, runs good, gets 22 mpg. \$1,200 OBO. Contact 527-9468 or traatj@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: '87 Camaro IROC Z28. 355 small block, 350 hp, 650 holley, 350 turbo transmission, 2500 stall converter, B&M starshifter, 5" tack with shiftlight, ceramic coated headers, HEI distributor and more. In order for car to be ready for the street it could use a few mufflers. This car is really fast but could use some cleaning up. \$5,000 OBO. E-mail me trantor1000tt@yahoo.com.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: Barely-used Dell laptop. Great for students. E-mail hayemargo@hotmail.com for specs.

FOR SALE: GREAT DEAL! Brand new 1,000 watt Phillips Home Theater System. Comes with four speakers, subwoofer and multi-format/multi-system DVD. Plays everything. Never opened, still in box and sealed. Bought for \$250 and selling for \$150. Call Niaz 830-9912 if interested.

FOR SALE: Sony Xplod amplifier. 480 watt, 2/1 channel power, XM280GTX, 12" JL Audio. Asking \$200. If interested, please e-mail deniser.williams@sbcglobal.net.

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVERS WANTED: Brickshaw Buggy is looking for those who want to make money while getting a workout. Average pay is \$15/hr. Interested applicants call 405-733-3222.

NOW HIRING: Brickshaw Buggy is looking for individuals who have advertising sales experience. Serious applicants please contact Rocky Chavez at 405-733-3222.

NEEDED: Mother's helper. I am looking for a college student that can help me with my kids and light housework. I live just 2 miles from the college & am happy to work around your schedule. Starting pay \$6/hr. Please call Debbie at 378-2337 or 996-0157.

HELP WANTED: Earlywine Park YMCA now hiring experienced water aerobic instructors able to teach classes in the a.m. and/or p.m. and experienced, certified, aerobic and Pilates instructors able to teach evening classes. All applicants need to apply in

person and bring copies of their credentials to the Earlywine Park YMCA, 11801 S. May Ave.

NOW HIRING: Olive Garden Northwest Expressway is now hiring servers. If you want to be held to high standards apply at Olive Garden, 1844 NW Expressway.

HELP WANTED

Cashier for gas station. Part-time, 2-3 shifts per week. Call M-F, 2-6 p.m. 677-0822

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: Shadowlake Addition, off Pennsylvania, between S.W. 89th and S.W. 104th. 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 baths, 2-car garage. For more information, please call 822-1717.

FEMALE ROOMMATE NEEDED to share fully furnished, large 2 bed/2 bath apartment in NW OKC. Rent is \$280+bills. Please contact Denise at 405-413-1093 or e-mail mwaimutezo@yahoo.com.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Female only. \$350.00 per month, all bills paid. New 1,200 sq. foot, 3 bed, 2 bath home in Moore. Call Erin at 401-4906.

ROOMMATE NEEDED: Male or female. 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhouse. \$250/ month + electric. Five minute walk from school. Call Daniel @ 405-788-1199.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom duplex two blocks from O.U. with washer/dryer hook-ups. Pets may be allowed upon approval. Tenant pays all utilities. \$390/month, \$300 deposit. Call 831-3772.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bed, 1 bath, next to OCCC college. \$600 per month. Call Robin 570-5310.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Daybeds for sale. Black, western-looking. Asking for \$175 OBO. Call 255-8989 and ask for Ashley.

FOR SALE: Loveseat for sale. Good condition. Primarily gray pattern, can e-mail photos. Asking \$50 OBO. Call David at 573-4980 or 682-1611, ext. 7409.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Women's size-7 white gold diamond engagement ring. Princess cut w/ diamond accents, asking \$400. 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

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Smelting residue
- 5 Old cattle town
- 10 Similar
- 14 Beneficiary
- 15 Happen again
- 16 Fizzy beverage
- 17 Loosen
- 18 Where to get a haircut
- 20 Breakfast bread
- 22 Treat with contempt, slangily
- 23 Knolls
- 24 Church council
- 26 Farm animal
- 27 Puppy's "hand"
- 30 Gold medalists
- 34 Pencil end
- 35 Frost
- 36 "Norma —"
- 37 Lauer or Groening
- 38 Gamut
- 40 Roam about
- 41 Southwestern Indian
- 42 Ali —
- 43 Required
- 45 Lull
- 47 Majestic
- 48 Exploit
- 49 Native New Zealander
- 50 Passport requirement

- 53 Have lunch
- 54 Large quantities
- 58 Gulf of Mexico fish
- 61 Lamb's pen name
- 62 Dairy-case buy
- 63 Life of —: easy street
- 64 Blue shade
- 65 Bridge
- 66 Play part
- 67 "— the night before . . ."

DOWN

- 1 Fastened securely
- 2 Letterman's rival
- 3 Verdi opera
- 4 Most disgusting
- 5 Sphere
- 6 Grassland
- 7 Bitter
- 8 Centers
- 9 "— we having fun yet?"
- 10 Give out (homework)
- 11 Eye makeup
- 12 Adulated one
- 13 Sleeps
- 19 Cologne's river
- 21 Use a keyboard
- 25 Tell (a story)
- 26 Olive stuffing

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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A	N	A	G	R	A	M	R	U	N	E
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K	N	E	E	L	E	R	S	L	O	P
L	A	C	E	S	W	A	P	P	E	D
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C	O	L	D	T	U	R	K	E	Y	P
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Kristina 250-8919 or e-mail for pictures at kbezdek@po.occc.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 atracy@yahoo.com for more info and pictures or call 694-9243.

FOR SALE: Three-year-old Ludwig Doetsch violin with soft-side case. In excellent condition. Kid graduated. A real buy at \$1500. Contact 306-1396 or 306-3290.

BOAT FOR SALE: '88 Celeb-

rity Champion Line. 19ft Cabin Cuddy, 280 HP 305 Motor, runs great. For pics or more info: Kati.e.henry@email.occc.edu.

REWARD OFFERED: I lost two rings Monday, 10/02/06, in the wellness area restroom. They were left on the counter. One means a lot, was a gift from a grandfather who has passed. It's silver double-hearted with crystals. Not worth a lot in dollar value but personally means the world. If found, no questions asked just a big thank you and huge reward \$\$\$. If found please call Katrina at 405-326-7816 or 405-872-0616.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE
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Call Tim 405-682-1611, ext. 7674

Traffic snarl



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Oklahoma City police, firefighters and EMSA paramedics move a student to an ambulance after her car was involved in an auto accident Oct. 5 on campus at the intersection of Faculty Circle and J. L. Keels. The accident blocked eastbound traffic for 20 minutes while emergency crews worked the scene.

Professors vary on electronic use

"Electronics,"
Cont. from page 1

The newer versions can store data.

Students often use laptop computers for note taking and Internet research during lectures.

"Most of my professors don't mind the laptops," said occupational therapy major Elizabeth Garrick.

"They pretty much trust

that we'll stay on task," Garrick said.

Most professors still draw the line somewhere.

Hovda said she frowns on students bringing in any electronic devices or, at least, having them turned on, during tests.

She said students need to be able to focus on an exam without being interrupted by someone's music or ringing cell phone.

Communication Lab Supervisor Mindy Dieu, who also teaches English composition classes, said she encourages an open, trusting atmosphere in her classes. "[Students] can bring their laptops.

"They can bring in their guitars as long as it contributes to the class in some way."

Editor David Miller can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

Freshman orientation class pondered

"Orientation,"
Cont. from page 1

ing — to using all of the facilities to their fullest.

The object of the course, Sechrist said, would be retaining students, getting them invested in their own futures, and making sure as many as possible get a degree.

A packet with information and thoughts on the class was distributed to all in attendance.

It contained facts and insights about other colleges and universities that have freshmen orientation classes available for stu-

dents. Most of the schools require freshmen to take the course. A few of the colleges offer the class but do not require it.

"OCCC students face academic, personal, and financial challenges that must be addressed if we are to increase the number of students who persist and succeed," read information contained in the packet.

It went on to say that schools with freshmen orientation classes similar to the one being considered, see up to a 10 percent increase in persistence rates and a 0.7 percent increase in grade point averages.

"We are looking at other schools to see what works," said Anita Williams, business professor, who is helping head a group developing the course.

Williams said the course would take into consideration the many students who work full time, as well as the students with children. "We're trying to be as flexible as possible."

Liz Largent, Student Development dean, is heading the group with Williams. Largent said many colleges across the country have similar programs.

"The data available indicates that orientations like

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these are proven to work," she said. "It helps students to make a connection to the

school and introduces them to the resources they need to stay in school."