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PIONEER

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Problem solving



Photo by Jay Rocamontes

OCCC students Jennifer Pate and Josh Trail conduct an experiment using optical lenses in OCCC's Physical Science Center for Professor Stephen Richichi's physics class. The Physical Science Center, which can accommodate labs for numerous classes, is open to students from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays.

Student insurance encouraged

Doctor visit costs more than insurance says college official

By **Eric Nguyen**
Editor

OCCC does not endorse any health insurance companies, nor does it require students to have health insurance, Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner said, but the college does encourage students to be insured.

"Halfway through a semester, you can get the flu, you can get meningitis ... and treatment cost is very high," Turner said.

"If you think you don't have \$50 a month for insurance, try going in and paying \$150 for a doctor's call, [as well as] your meds on top of that."

Candice Phillips, an undeclared senior from the University of Oklahoma taking part-time classes at OCCC, doesn't have insurance.

"[Health insurance] is too expensive and they don't cover for a lot anyway," Phillips said. "And college students don't have any money."

Turner encourages students who don't have health insurance or who feel they can't afford it to make an appointment with OCCC Student Support Services to discuss ways to become insured.

She said counselors can discuss insurance needs a student has as well as provide them with the various medical insurance packets and brochures available in that office.

There are many plans available Turner said, but added that students searching for health insurance plans should also research the company to get what best suits that person. That can be done online or calling the company.

"Not all health insurance is going to

"If you think you don't have \$50 a month for insurance, try going in and paying \$150 for a doctor's call ..."

—Mary Turner
Learning Support Specialist

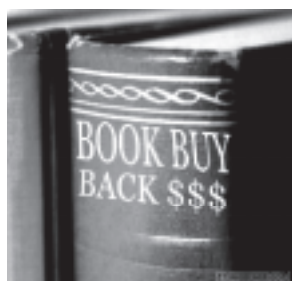
Summer books may be worth money

By **Eric Nguyen**
Editor

As summer classes near an end, students might be wondering what to do with the textbooks they no longer need.

One option is to sell them to the college during book buy back from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, July 25 and 26, and 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, July 27.

Bookstore Director Brenda Reinke said a table will be set up near the college bookstore in the Main Building where students can resell textbooks that will be used in the fall semes-



ter.

"If it's a book that is going to be used in the fall semester, we'll give you usually half of what you paid for if it is in resellable condition," she said.

Students won't need an ID or a receipt to sell textbooks, she said.

And, Reinke said, although the college bookstore won't buy textbooks that will no

longer be used, students may still be able to sell those to the company the college hires to help during book buy back week.

"The wholesale company buys anything [the bookstore] doesn't buy," she said.

An alternative to selling books to the college bookstore is Textbook Brokers, a store that buys and sells textbooks, located at 9117 S. May Ave.

Store manager Jake Adamson said Textbook Brokers buys college textbooks year 'round.

"We try to do our best to compete with the school's bookstore

and we'll pay generally — depending on how many we have in stock — 50 percent of [OCCC's bookstore] sale price," Adamson said.

Textbook Brokers will buy discontinued textbooks based on the best wholesale price, he said.

"If it's an \$80 book, the wholesale price may only be \$15 or \$20, but we actually go through several different wholesale companies.

"Their prices vary by a couple of dollars so we're able to give the highest price out of the major companies

See **"Books,"** page 12

See **"Insurance,"** page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Those taking summer class reap benefits

For some college students, summer is the time of year that is spent sleeping in, working extra hours or just taking it easy.

However, there are a few who spend their summers doing the unthinkable: going to class. While this idea may seem crazy to some, others reap the benefits of summer school.

The first and most obvious benefit is time. OCCC's summer semester is eight weeks (June 4 to July 27) compared to a 16-week spring or fall semester.

Obviously, this means fewer days are spent in class, so there is a sense of getting down to business.

Also, there tends to be less subject matter covered due to time constraints.

This isn't to say the material missed isn't important. Rather, it allows the focus to be on essential information only.

This can be especially helpful for those students who feel bogged down with facts and figures in a 16-week course. Less information means fewer items to study, which should mean better test scores.

However, classes tend to have weekly or biweekly tests during the summer. This seems like a fair balance.

Another benefit of this abbreviated semester is the relaxed atmosphere.

Most professors tend to be easy going in the summer. While they won't make class a breeze, they will work with students.

During the summer, most professors will work to make the classes as clear and concise as possible. That is, summer classes have a different, positive vibe about them.

The peaceful mood extends to other parts of campus as well.

Usually, the open area of the Main Building is resounding with the buzz of students. However, in summertime it is often a quiet, library-like environment.

This sense of silence pervades the campus and greatly serves those who wish to learn.

The smaller number of students also means shorter lines around the college.

How about short waits at usual hubs such as Admissions or the Bursar's office? What about no lines at Financial Aid or the Testing Center?

While patience is a virtue, it is always nice to get in, get out and get on with life.

All of the benefits mentioned here is what the summer semester is designed for. It is a time for students who want to get down to business and complete a few credit hours along the way.

—Matt Caban
Staff Writer

Heavy rainfall provokes flood watch

The Oklahoma County Health Department has issued the following flood precautions for victims of recent flooding.

Contact the OCHD at 405-419-4246.

• **Water**—Watch for news media announcements about the safety of public drinking water supplies.

Follow "boil water" alerts that may be issued by the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

Persons under boil water alerts and persons with private wells that may have been contaminated by flood water should use only bottled, boiled or treated water until water has been tested and found safe.

• **Environmental Hazards**—Return home in daylight for best visibility and to avoid using unsafe power sources.

Do not use lanterns or torches until after the premises are safe from gas leaks.

Standing water after floods is a breeding place for mosquitoes.

Drain all standing water and empty water from outdoor items such as old tires,

cans and flowerpot bases.

Protect yourself with an appropriate insect repellent.

Let no one re-enter your home while flooded unless the main electrical switch has been turned off.

Wear shoes in post-flood areas to reduce the chances of punctures or cuts from nails and other sharp, contaminated objects.

• **Medical**—Persons with puncture wounds or cuts exposed to floodwater could be at risk of contracting tetanus and may need to have a tetanus shot to prevent infection.

Tetanus shots are available at the Oklahoma County Health Department or through your physician.

• **General**—If you come upon an area covered with water, turn around.

Do not try to drive through or walk through the water and never go around barricades.

A mere six inches of fast-moving water can knock over an adult.

Do not allow children to play in or near floodwater or storm drains.

Disinfect all furniture,

woodwork and other household surfaces in homes that have flooded.

Disinfect children's toys with a solution of one-cup bleach to five gallons of water.

Wash hands frequently during cleanup to lessen recontamination of cleaned areas.

—Oklahoma 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.

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Comments and Reviews

Pumpkins return on good note

After seven years of waiting, Smashing Pumpkin fans have something to be excited about. The band's newest album, "Zeitgeist," is on store shelves, and it's not that bad.

Since the band broke up in 2000 after the release of "Machina: The Machines of God," the Smashing Pumpkins haven't had much of a voice in the rock world.

Following the break up came Corgan and drummer Jimmy Chamberlin's Zwan in 2003, a ho-hum rock band with a indie pop attitude that didn't make an incredible impression on anyone. Now, the Smashing Pumpkins are back and in full effect.

"Zeitgeist" isn't a masterpiece, nor is it a top-three Pumpkins' album, but it's good and deserving of attention. The music is enjoyable and passionate, and is reminiscent of Pumpkins albums of the past.

Like "Gish" and "Siamese Dream," "Zeitgeist" was recorded entirely by Corgan and Chamberlin. Corgan, who has always been the band's sole songwriter, keeps the guitar tracks practically the same — solos throughout, rhythm heavy and melodic.

Corgan, though, changes up the bass guitar's tone here and there, depending on the song. Past albums consisted of mostly low tones, but "Zeitgeist" has a couple tracks where audible cuts of treble break through the music.

The drums sound only as Chamberlin can make them sound, and they've got the punch and guts of "Siamese Dream" mixed with a bit of "Machina."

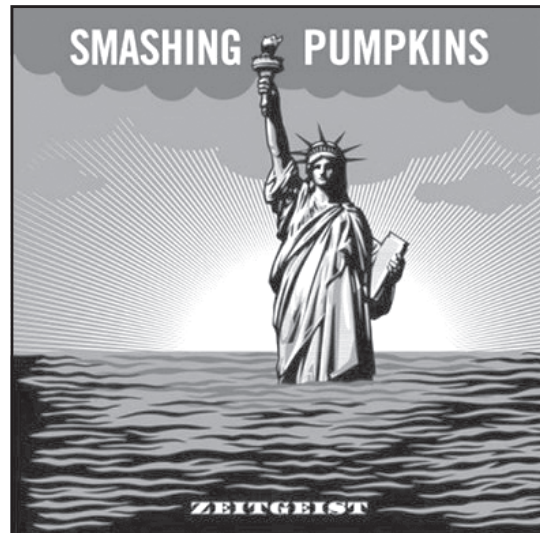
After the album was completed, the Pumpkins enlisted bassist Ginger Reyes of the Halo Friendlies and guitarist Jeff Schroeder of The Lassie Foundation to become full-time members.

Many of the tracks on "Zeitgeist" will remind listeners of "Mellon Collie," "Adore," "Machina" and "Machina II."

"Bleeding the Orchard" sounds like it should have been on "Mellon Collie" or "Adore," since it has that sad, somber sound to it. "That's the Way (My Love Is)" has "Machina" written all over it. It's a wonder if Corgan sat on these songs, waiting to release them, or if he got over his Zwan bug and had actually written something worthy of the Corgan name.

"Tarantula," the album's first single, and "Doomsday Clock," which made its way onto the "Transformers" soundtrack, are some of the heavy hitters on the album. They yell Pumpkins through and through, and leave a lasting impression due to Corgan's infectious and catchy writing. Vocal hooks in a Pumpkins song? You bet.

An avid Pumpkins fan, especially anyone who's followed Corgan's solo works, will notice the front man's limited vocal range on most of the album. Whether it's



intentionally done or is due to being timid, Corgan has never sounded this apprehensive. Still, he sings with fervor and warmth.

To make up for it, Corgan incorporates more harmonies and sing-along parts, something akin to "Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness," especially the second disc of the two-disc album. It's not exactly a bad thing, because the limitedness doesn't add nor take away from the album in any way.

The album's strongest tracks are "Tarantula," "Neverlost," "(Come On) Let's Go!" and "Pomp and Circumstances." All of the songs embody what's best about the Smashing Pumpkins — they're bold, addictive songs, and great works of music.

However, "Zeitgeist" has some imperfections.

Some of the vocal effects, such as the echoing on "Starz" and "United States," are laughable. To end a nearly 10-minute rock opera like "United States" with vocal echoes can cause cringing.

"Starz" seems like a "Machina II" reject and doesn't seem to correctly fit with the rest of the album, all due to the echoes.

One of the most noticeable differences is the album's political tinge. Everyone else comments on the current administration, so why not the Pumpkins? Some might embrace it but the move might get a collective "eh" by most. It's not exactly breathtaking, awe-inspiring or thought provoking, but, in all respects, it gets the job done without being preachy and confrontational, albeit in a sophomoric way.

The best thing about "Zeitgeist" is the (fingers crossed) promise that the Smashing Pumpkins are back. As one of the best rock bands of the 1990s, it's great to hear something not monotonous for a change. If this is the sound of the Pumpkins to come, all is mostly good, but there can be some changes for the better.

Rating: B

—Richard Hall
Contributing Writer

CAREER POWER

Students, have you considered participating in an internship to learn more about a particular career field?

In the OCCC Career and Employment Services office we are partnering with the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and their Greater Grads 2008 Summer Internship Program to assist OCCC students seeking this type opportunity.

Internships help students gain on-the-job experience and create networking contacts that often lead to job offers.

The Greater Grad program had 229 students registered during the 2007 session and over 45 Oklahoma City business sites hosting college level interns!

Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Roy H. Williams offered these comments:

"Dear Summer Intern,

Welcome to the Greater Grad Summer Internship Program.

Your participation is testament to both your talent, and the business community's commitment to recruiting a successful workforce for tomorrow. You are the future of Oklahoma City.

With skilled college graduates, like you, Oklahoma City can attract and retain more great companies — and more great jobs.

Together, we will make our community a better place to live, work and play."

A few of the companies accepting interns included Chesapeake Energy Corporation, The Daily Oklahoman, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, United Way of Central Oklahoma, First Commercial Bank, Tinker Federal Credit Union, Federal Aviation Administration, Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs and the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

The OCCC Career Day with Greater Grads event will be Wednesday, Nov. 7 in College Union rooms 1 and 2, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Joyce Burch, Graduate Outreach and Internships Manager, will share application details and answer questions during this session open to all OCCC students. The web address is www.greatergrads.com.

For more information please contact the OCCC Career and Employment Services office located on the first floor of the Main Building, or phone 405-682-1611, ext. 7362.

—Debra Vaughn
Career and Employment Services Director

Have a question, comment or concern? Let the editor know! E-mail editor@occc.edu, and be sure to include your full name and contact information.

Comments and Reviews

'Phoenix' rises to the occasion

Amazing fun — that's just one way to sum up "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix." The fifth film adapted from the insanely popular book series hit theaters July 11 and boy, is it a doozy.

The story goes as follows: Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) returns to the wizarding world to find a revived secret society called the Order of the Phoenix. Their goal: to stop Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes).

Although Potter wants to become a member of the group, the request is denied and he begins his fifth year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

However, the school year doesn't begin as hoped.

First, no one believes Headmaster Albus Dumbledore (Michael Gambon) and Potter's claim that Voldemort has returned. The Ministry of Magic refuses to acknowledge their accounts and the magical newspaper, "The Daily Prophet," is labeling both of them as liars.

The second difference is the school has a new Defense of the Dark Arts Professor named Dolores Umbridge (Imelda Staunton), who works for the Ministry of Magic. She's somewhat of a mole for the Ministry, looking for ways to further discredit Potter and Dumbledore.

Also, Umbridge isn't exactly teaching the students anything about defense or dark arts, instead making them write and rewrite passages from their archaic textbooks for "maximum retention."

Because of Umbridge's unwillingness to teach, Potter and company create Dumbledore's Army, a la resistance-type group of teenage wizards and witches. Together, they learn and practice spells.

The film, like the book, is a handful. But the film's beauty doesn't come from



its eccentric adaptation — it comes from the fluid telling of a much-condensed story to make it enjoyable for the average moviegoer.

Like each "Harry Potter" film before it, "Order of the Phoenix" is missing things from the novel, most of which is profound character development.

To better understand what's on the screen, it's imperative to have seen the previous films or, better yet, have read the novels.

The film is full of eye candy, but it's got a strong story, acting and presentation to back it up.

One thing that's different from previous films is the acting, all around, is quite good. Radcliffe reprises the Potter role well, and has tuned down his overacting during dramatic scenes.

This installment's Potter is angst-filled, which could have been taken over the edge but, luckily, it wasn't.

Emma Watson as Hermione Granger acts better than she has before.

While she still overdoes it with the eyebrow movements, she's an enjoyable watch, and adapts well to the change in her character from being a goodie-goodie to standing up and

taking charge.

Ron Weasley, played by Rupert Grint, completes the trio. Grint is the most-improved actor this film. His role is smaller but he shines through the cast of teenagers.

One addition to the cast includes Helena Bonham Carter as Bellatrix Lestrange, one of Lord Voldemort's Death Eaters.

Carter, known for her role in "Fight Club," is a solid choice for Lestrange's character. The last name fits — Lestrange is insane and disheveled, and her only goal is to help purify the magical race by getting rid of the Mudbloods (magic users who have at least one non-magical parent).

Many of the book's fans will fall in love with Evanna Lynch as Luna Lovegood — an awkward, wallflower type of witch — is constantly teased for being weird.

Lynch is great as Lovegood. She pulls off the character's dreamy-eyed and innocent look with ease.

Lynch, 15, and a long-time "Harry Potter" fan, has never had acting classes but tried out for the role anyway. Her demeanor and love for the character won

over the casting directors. Thank goodness for that.

Director David Yates ("Rank") makes his "Harry Potter" debut with "Order of the Phoenix." Yates can take credit for transforming the film's atmosphere into what it is — dark, brooding and affective.

He's known for his dramas and sexually explicit scenes. Although "Order of the Phoenix" doesn't include any of the latter, Yates' vision is paramount in making the film what it is.

The use of camera shots also help in changing the feel of the series.

There are a couple of scenes where Yates effectively uses what's referred to as guerilla filming, which is where the camera follows the characters through intense situations and scenes, much like in "28 Days Later" or "City of God."

This makes a profound impact on the film's entire impression, as it makes it a more mature film; which coincides with the fact fans have watched the characters grow since the first "Harry Potter" film debuted in 2001.

"Order of the Phoenix's"

sound and visual effects call for some jaw dropping.

Both make for an aesthetic experience, especially during the final battle. When wands fling and words are muttered, magic ensues.

Imagine the confrontation between Potter and Lord Voldemort in "Goblet of Fire," but extend it to about three times in length and in awing appeal.

As Potter, his friends and the story mature, so do the films. "Order of the Phoenix," needless to say, isn't for kids who are easily startled.

There are a lot of dark undertones to the film, and a lot of intense and violent scenes and situations. This holds true when Umbridge, a bitter and intolerant woman, makes Potter use her special quill to write lines saying, "I will not lie." The quill uses the writer's blood as ink, and as the writer writes on the paper, the words cut into his or her hands and arms.

The characters' journey, specifically that of Potter's, resonates compassion. The themes of the film — companionship, trust and tolerance — radiate, especially between Potter and Lovegood.

If "Order of the Phoenix" is any indication of the next and final two film installments, the series could easily be recognized as one of the greatest fantasy series of all time.

This is the best "Harry Potter" film to date. While it has a fun and seductive nature, and is easy to follow, it's also fierce in its delivery.

Potter isn't a child anymore and this film, much like the book, makes it brilliantly apparent. Good thing children aren't the only ones who can appreciate this kind of magic.

Rating: A

—Richard Hall
Contributing Writer

Chesapeake Energy funds scholarships

By **Carrie Cronk**
Staff Writer

The Chesapeake Energy Corp. recently invested in the future of OCCC students by committing \$50,000 in scholarship funds to the college.

The funds are available through the Chesapeake Scholars program.

Over the next five years, the program will provide 10 students each academic year with \$1,000 scholarships, according to an OCCC Marketing and Public Relations press release.

Pat Berryhill, Institutional Advancement executive director, said Chesapeake choose to offer the program at OCCC because they were "impressed with the caliber of our students.

"Even though we don't have the direct energy-related type of degrees that automatically feed into their corporation, they are impressed by the type of students we have coming out of our institution," she said.

"They know ... our students ... persevere and are hard workers."

Carol Troy, Chesapeake's Corporate Communications director, said Chesapeake offers scholarships to 14 colleges and universities in Oklahoma, including OCCC.

"It is our hope that those students who are native to our state and receive [the] scholarships ... will want to remain in Oklahoma and help the state grow and prosper," Troy said.

Berryhill said in order to be eligible for the scholarships, students must be native to or have attended high school in Oklahoma.

Students also must have completed 12 credit hours at OCCC, have a minimum grade point average of 3.0, and complete a short essay, she said.

According to an application packet provided by the Oklahoma City Community College Foundation Office, students also must participate in a student club or organization.

Sophomore nursing major Raquel Carranco said she thinks the scholarships will be a great opportunity for students.

"I think [students who]

get the scholarships ... will be more encouraged to stay in school, seeing that they have it paid for," she said.

Carranco added that the club participation eligibility requirement also will "motivate the students to also be involved with the school and the community."

In addition to the other eligibility requirements, Berryhill said, "[Students] have to be signed up and intent on coming this fall and then in spring '08."

The \$1,000 scholarship award will be divided into two \$500 disbursements for the fall and spring semesters, she said.

In order to be eligible for the scholarship for the '07-'08 academic year, students must submit applications by July 31.

Berryhill said application forms are available at the Recruitment and Admissions Office in the Main Building, or at the OCCC Foundation Office located across from the theater in the Arts and Humanities building.

Staff Writer Carrie Cronk can be reached at Staff Writer2@occc.edu.

Feeding frenzy



Photo by Jay Rocamontes

Biology Lab Assistant Ross Kiddie feeds the fish that are housed in the greenhouse ponds in the Science, Engineering and Mathematics Center. "The newly constructed botany lab and greenhouse is the only one of its kind at any two year college in the area," he said. "It's nice to have all my plants all in one area." Kiddie said he had to relocate the plants to different labs and classrooms throughout campus while construction crews were building the SEM center.

Orientation required for new freshmen

By **Eric Nguyen**
Editor

Incoming OCCC freshmen will be required to take a one-credit course called Success in College and Life, beginning this fall.

Through the course, instructors will help students adapt to OCCC class work, develop study skills and know where student services are located throughout campus, Special Initiatives Dean Susan VanSchuyver said.

Incoming students who have completed nine college credit hours with a grade of C or better may be ex-

empt from taking the course, VanSchuyver said.

Concurrently enrolled high school students are not exempt, she said.

Activities for the course are varied in difficulty and include a scavenger hunt, which VanSchuyver said will familiarize students with the campus.

"A lot of [new] students don't even know there is a computer center on the third floor of the library," she said.

"We're moving them all around early so they know where things are and the services that are available to them."

Amanda Smith, a general studies senior at the University of Central Oklahoma who is taking part-time classes at OCCC, thinks the course shouldn't be a requirement.

"[The course] might be helpful for new students, but I don't think it's necessary," Smith said. "Sometimes you need a map, but most students can find classes on their own."

The course covers other topics, including making connections, time management and setting goals, according to the course description.

Business/early educa-

tion freshmen Renee Brown said new students will benefit from the course.

"[The course] can be good for some students ... if it gives them study guides and how to adapt to college life," Brown said.

The course will cost \$78 for in-state residents and \$208 for out-of-state students, VanSchuyver said.

"[Students] will be required to pass the course," VanSchuyver said. "So if they fail the first time, they will have to retake it in the next semester and pay for it again."

The course will be offered during August intersession,

8-week formats, 16-week formats and online. Class size ranges from 20 to 25 spots.

VanSchuyver said she will teach one of the courses, along with advisers, OCCC professors and administrators such as Academic Affairs Vice President Felix Aquino and Student Services Vice President Marion Paden.

The on-campus courses will be held on the third floor of the Main Building, in the Arts and Humanities Division and on the fourth floor of the library.

Editor Eric Nguyen can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

Campus construction slowed by rain

By Matt Caban
Staff Writer

Three weeks of rain have caused delays for a number of construction projects around campus.

The 24 inches of rain this year have caused delays to major building such as the Arts Education Center and Health Professions Education Center, said Larry Barnes, Physical Plant project manager.

He said both projects have lost 45 working days.

Barnes said water had to be pumped out of both construction sites so they could dry.

He said the sites dried out enough for workers to return July 5.

"We had some warmer weather the last few days which I'm thankful for," Barnes said.

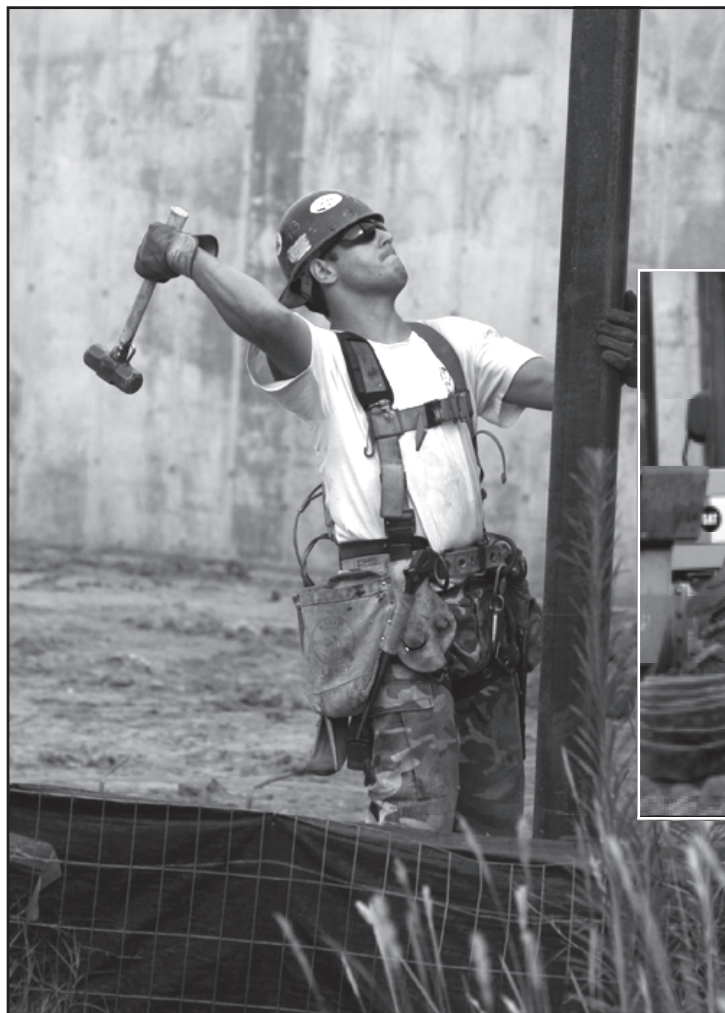
Bruce Werner, Winn Construction project superintendent, said crews worked through the following weekend.

"They were ready to work because they've missed a lot of hours," he said.

Werner said it wasn't the first weekend his crew had worked this year at OCCC.

"We worked about eight weekends in a row, took one off and then worked last weekend," he said.

He said the extra work is vital to getting back on schedule.



Left: William Marceau of All Steel Building Co. works to erect the remaining support beams for the new Health Technologies Center. The 46,000 square-foot building will host five state-of-the-art lecture rooms, a computer lab, Activities of Daily Living Lab and a full-size ambulance.



Mark Dewarns of All Steel Building Co. gives directions to the crane operator for placement of the next steel support. Crews work swiftly between rain delays to keep the construction of the new Health Professions Education Center on schedule.

Photos by Jay Rocamontes

"If you look at my schedule, I should be working on other things now," he said.

Werner said the constant rain has been a regular problem.

"We dug a big hole [at the Health Professions building site] and it was filled with rain," he said. "It causes a chain reaction for us."

Werner said the rain caused delays with con-

crete pouring, structural steel placement and wall building.

"It's been hard to get past that point," he said.

Werner said the weather also has made it difficult to move equipment in and out of the site.

However, things have looked better in recent days, Werner said.

"I just hope it doesn't

rain," he said.

Barnes said both projects are scheduled to be completed by July 2008.

He said rain also has delayed some work at the Arts Festival Oklahoma site on the north end of campus.

"It's been set back about seven working days."

Barnes said the project includes amenities for tents and vendors who take part

in the festival.

"There will be bermed areas for tents. Plus each tent will have 100-watt electrical hookups and water."

Barnes said the project should be done by Wednesday Aug. 15 as vendors begin setting up for the festival Saturday, Aug. 25.

Staff Writer Matt Caban can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.

Campus tower clocks have their problems, save one

By Yvonne Oberly
News Writing Student

Students and faculty may be confused about what time it is if they use the clock on top of the campus library.

There are four faces to the clock with one face, which can be seen from parking lot C, being incorrect from a range of one hour ahead or behind to many hours ahead or behind.

Gary Belcher, Maintenance and Operations supervisor, said the incorrect time has spurred complaints from students and the gen-

eral public.

"It is not proper etiquette," said Blake Shockley, OCCC student.

"[The clock] should be on time since we are a highly educated institution."

Some students said they have used the broken clock as an excuse for being late to class.

J.B. Messer, Physical Plant Director, said the clock is computer-controlled and a broken mechanism needs replacing.

"The same mechanism had to be replaced approximately two years ago and has since been broken again," Messer said.

"One would think you could easily replace assembly parts to the face but not with these clocks."

The college has an annual maintenance and repair agreement contract with Simplex Grinnell Company.

Company workers will make the repair by removing the hands so they can replace the mechanism in the motor.

Rental for the crane operator is estimated at \$20,000.

"They [Simplex Grinnell] are responsible for everything. We just have to make sure [the clock] works," Messer said.

"One would think you could easily replace assembly parts to the face, but not with these clocks."

—J.B. Messer
Physical Plant Director

Messer said a Simplex Grinnell technician will visit the college to repair the northwest clock as soon as possible. A technician was scheduled to tend to the clock the week of July 9, but bad weather didn't allow that to happen, Messer said.

Lifeguard Games whets participants' appetites

Lifeguard teams from Oklahoma and surrounding states participated in the 22nd annual Southwest Lifeguard Games July 6 at White Water Bay.

Teams competed in seven events that demonstrated the lifeguards' proficiency with life-saving skills and equipment.

OCCC sent three teams from the Aquatic Center pool: one lifeguard team (the 33.3 Feet Club) and two junior guard teams (the Hobos, and Hawt and Spycee Kewl Aid).

The IronGuard and deepwater tug-of-war events focused on endurance and athleticism. The simulation, spinal injury, swim and tow rescue-relay race, and pick-up sticks events focused on response and rescue techniques.

The Sole Survivor event was a question-and-answer based game that tested the competitors' knowledge of skills and techniques in which lifeguards are required to be trained.

The OCCC 33.3 Feet Club lifeguard team placed ninth overall, while the Hawt and Spycee Kewl Aid junior guard team placed third and the Hobos junior guard team placed seventh.

The team from Plano, Texas, won first place overall for the lifeguard competitions, while the junior guard team from the Mustang pool won first place overall in that group.

Lauren Patrick, OCCC lifeguard and lifeguard instructor, said the games provide beneficial experience to the lifeguards.

"We get to practice our skills and we get to improve ... especially in an emergency situation when it is kind of crazy and chaotic," Patrick said.

"We get to really see how that plays out, because it is chaotic here (during the games)."

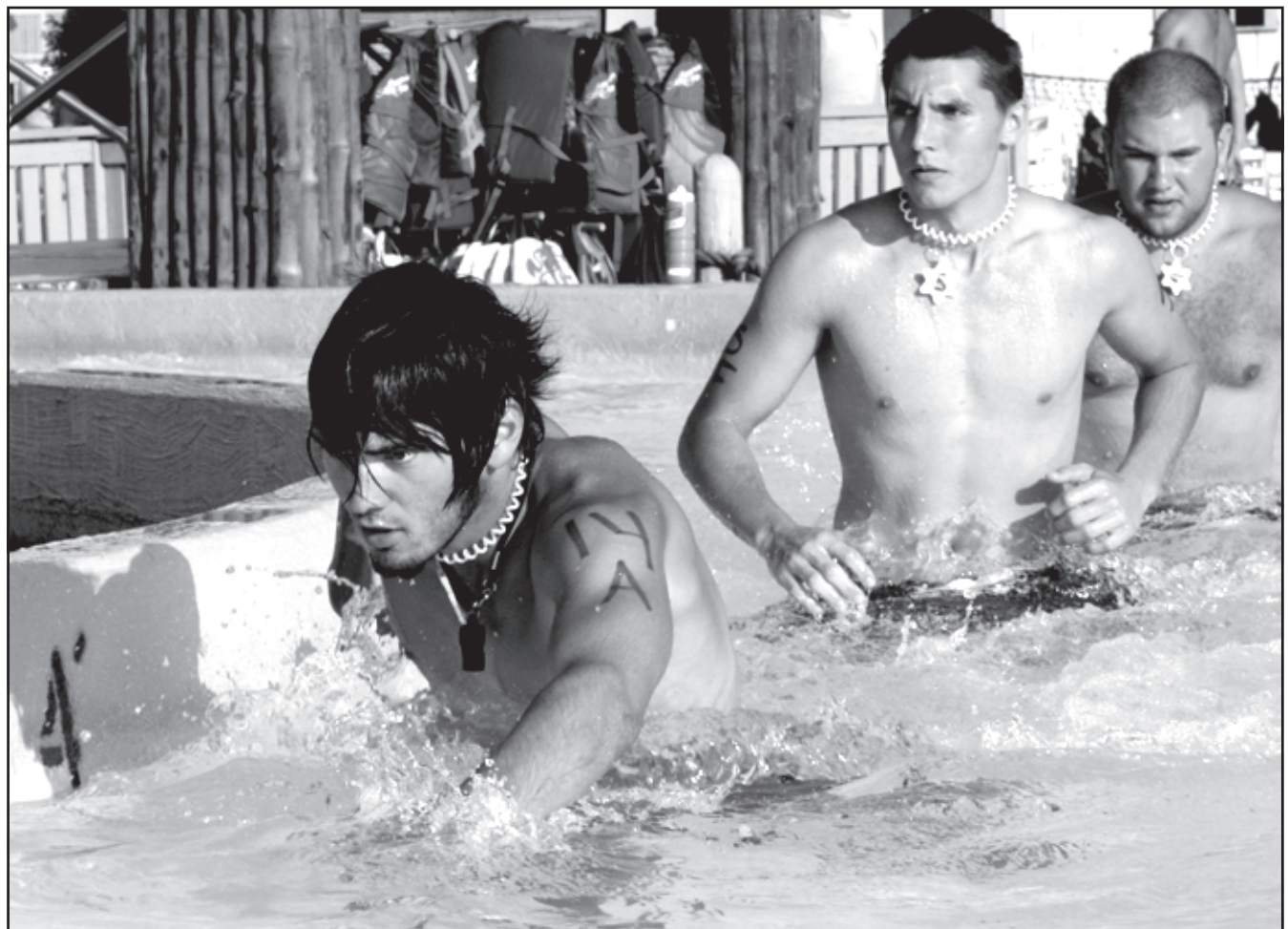
Roxanna Butler, Aquatics and Safety Training Coordinator, said Oklahoma requires lifeguards to complete four hours of in-service training each month and the games are a great source of motivation.

"The Lifeguard Games provide incentive for lifeguards and facilities to spend time practicing skills and techniques," she said.

She said she felt the lifeguard team did very well during the games.

Patrick said the team members worked and communicated well together which enabled them to complete the events with good times.

Butler said OCCC has been a major part of the event since the Aquatic Center opened and said the college "became financially responsible" for the games in 2001, after the American Red Cross determined they could no longer host the event.



Scott Christian, left, Reno Swim and Slide lifeguard in Midwest City, battles the current during the second leg of the Iron Guard race at White Water Bay July 6. Fourteen teams from surrounding areas competed in the regional lifeguard tournament of life-saving skills.

Cameron Cook of Reno Swim and Slide races down the tube slide after first swimming in the wave pool and climbing the stairs to the top of the slide. Events designed to test the lifeguards' endurance came first, further testing their discipline for the remaining events.



**Text by Carrie Cronk
Photos by Jay Rocamontes
and LaWanda LaVarnway**



OCCC lifeguards (left to right) Wyatt Fairchild, Lauren Patrick, Ryan Stewart, Natasha Myers, Chris Griffith, Jesse Dages, Tracy Lister, Pete Van Dyke and Brett Whitsitt came in ninth in overall points for the 2007 Southern Regional Lifeguard Games. The OCCC junior guards (not pictured) came in third.

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**July 18-21:** The Speedo Champions Series Central Section Region VIII Long Course Championship begins at the OCCC Aquatic Center. The meet is sanctioned by USA Swimming and Oklahoma Swimming.

Competition starts at 9 a.m. each of the four days. Individual event finals will be held at 5 p.m. each day. For more information, contact Meet Director Paul Thompson at 405-570-6529.

•**July 23-27:** After a summer full of outdoor activities, the final RCS summer sports camp is chess. The camp is held 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. It is geared toward the skill level of each participant.

The camp costs \$65 and includes a camp T-shirt. Payment and registration is due Thursday, July 19 at the RCS office. For more information, contact the RCS office at 405-682-7860.

•**July 27-29:** The Oklahoma Long Course Age Group Championship starts at the OCCC Aquatic Center. It is an event for all registered USA Swimming athletes ages 19 and under within Oklahoma. Competition begins at 10:30 a.m. July 27 to 28 and at 10:45 a.m. on July 29.

Entry fee and deadline information is available from Meet Director Eileen Hatfield. All entries are due by noon Friday, July 20. For more information, contact Hatfield at 405-834-2892.

•**July 30:** The Wellness Center gymnasium will be open during the day. It was closed daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for summer sports camp usage.

Beginning today, gymnasium hours are 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6 a.m. through 6 p.m. Friday. The hours will change after Friday, Aug. 24. For more information, call the Wellness Center Cage attendants at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Aerobics in action



Photo by Jay Rocamontes

OCCC Recreation and Community Services employee Jennifer Woods instructs a combo aerobics class July 9 at the Wellness Center. The class runs from noon to 12:55 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until Monday, July 30. Cost is \$20 for students, \$30 for seniors and \$40 for all others. For more information, contact Recreation and Community Services at 405-682-7860.

Wellness Center has summer fans

By **Matt Caban**
Staff Writer

The sound of clanging weights and moving machines filled the Wellness Center July 6.

Such activities are normal happenings around the weight room, said Kevin Tran, Wellness Center desk attendant.

"I'd say Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays are the busiest days," he said.

"On Wednesdays, they use the [gymnasium] the most [for basketball and volleyball]."

"The other days they use the weight room and cardio stuff."

Tran said the summer is generally a slower time of the year.

"During the spring, we usually had 100 to 150 people come in when I worked [in the afternoon

and evening]," he said.

Tran said the number is down to 50 to 75 users during the summer.

"Since it's summer, people have other plans," he said.

But there are still a few students such as Freddie Bontress who visit the Wellness Center often.

Bontress, an Aviation Technology student, said he uses the area daily.

"I use it Monday through Friday to get in shape," he said.

Bontress said most of his workouts are in the weight and cardio room. He said plenty of people workout depending on the day.

Fewer users also means the Wellness Center is open fewer hours, Tran said.

"In the summer we cut off Saturdays and close two hours earlier on Fridays," he said.

"It's closed during the day for the summer camps," he said.

Starting July 30, the gymnasium will have the same hours as the weight and cardio room.

Tran said students who use the Wellness Center must check in using their student ID year round.

"They have to be currently enrolled," he said.

Tran said OCCC staff and faculty also have free access to the Wellness Center.

He said memberships are available for all others.

Tran said daily memberships cost \$2.75 for seniors, \$4 for children ages 3 to 15 and \$6 for adults.

For more information, call the Recreation and Community Services Office at 405-682-7860.

Staff Writer Matt Caban can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.

Learning Skills professor leaving college this fall

By Drew Hampton
Staff Writer

After nine years of teaching at OCCC, Learning Skills Professor Mark Schneberger is leaving the college this fall.

Schneberger, who teaches developmental writing, English, and news writing, said he was moving to Minnesota to teach at St. Cloud Tech, roughly 45 minutes away from Minneapolis.

"I've been seeing someone for about eight years now, and we made the decision that if (my partner) Ding got into school, a very good art school ... then I would find a job (nearby) to support Ding."

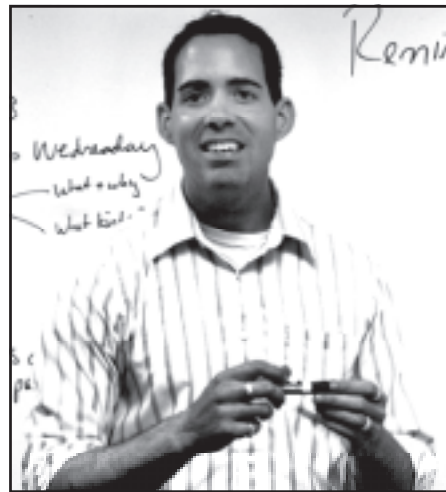
"Luckily, I get to continue doing what I'm doing now ... it's actually the exact same job, just at a different community college."

Schneberger began teaching at the college in 1998 as an intern, then hired as an adjunct the following year. He was offered a full-time teaching position in 2001.

"I was really, really lucky to have that happen," he said. "So many adjuncts work for a long time, and just never get on full-time ... it really changed my life."

Schneberger said he became interested in teaching after nearly ten years in journalism.

"I worked as a reporter for about a decade and became burned-out with it," he said. "It was a job that



Mark Schneberger

never ended, so I wanted a change in career."

After leaving the field, Schneberger said, he decided to go back to school rather than return to his home state of Iowa.

"I had a friend that always told me I'd make a good teacher but I never really took her seriously. I took an education class just in case ... and I fell in love with it."

While far away from Oklahoma, Schneberger said he will continue to teach online developmental writing classes for OCCC.

"I picked another job that never ended but I picked one that [doesn't take] more than I can give back to the community."

Staff Writer Drew Hampton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

New history course offered for fall

By Drew Hampton
Staff Writer

This fall, the Division of Social Sciences is offering a new history course to students.

Survey of World Civilizations to 1500 C.E., HIST 1713, is a freshman-level introductory course to non-western civilization taught by History Professor John Ehrhardt.

"It's a very brief overview of the major civilizations of the past 4,500 years," Ehrhardt said. "We will be studying various civilizations around the world."

As a survey course, Ehrhardt said, the students would spend a few weeks studying one civilization, then move on to the next civilization as the course continues.

"There are a number of 2000-level history courses [offered at the college], but this (class) is necessary to compliment (what students learn about in) western civilization," he said.

Ehrhardt said his courses on western civilization and the Middle East generally draw around 30 to 35 students per class but said he would be happy with half of that for the new course.

"It's the first semester and en-

"[This class is] something students need. In the current situation in the world ... we're all forced to deal with other cultures, directly or indirectly."

—John Ehrhardt
History Professor

rollment is lagging," he said. "We just need to beat the bushes and get the word out."

According to MineOnline, the college's online enrollment site, only five students have signed up for the 1 p.m. Monday and Wednesday class as of July 12.

Ehrhardt said the new course or its counterpart HIST 1723, Survey of World Civilizations since 1500 C.E., will be a degree requirement for all history majors, since these courses have potential application in fields as diverse as Political Science and Business.

"It's something students need," Ehrhardt said. "In the current situation in the world ... we're all forced to deal with other cultures, directly or indirectly."

Staff Writer Drew Hampton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

On-campus high school needs more students

By Drew Hampton
Staff Writer

Pathways Middle College at OCCC is looking for an additional eight to 10 eighth-grade students for the upcoming 2007-2008 school year.

Pathways Principal Carol Brogan said the goal of the school, which opened to eighth-graders in January 2001, is to prepare students to concurrently enroll in college courses by the time they reach their junior year of high school.

"[Pathways] is for students willing to get involved in a college prep program," she said.

"[We want] to get as many

hours of college credit for our students before they graduate as we can."

Because Pathways has fewer eighth-grade students than in an average year, she said the school was willing to look elsewhere for new students.

"We're still trying to get students from Oklahoma City Public Schools," she said, "but we're willing to take students from outside the district at this point."

Applicants from the southern half of the Oklahoma City Public School district are generally considered for admission first, Brogan said, followed by students from the rest of the district.

While unusual, this is not the first time Pathways has faced a shortage of students from its home district.

"I have had parents call me from other districts asking (if they can enroll their children), and I have to explain ... that the only place we have any openings is in eighth grade, because the other levels are full," Brogan said.

Since the school's inception, Brogan said Pathways has graduated three classes of high school seniors, most of whom have already earned a significant amount of college credit.

"We also had \$224,000 of scholarship money (awar-

ded to our students last year), and one Clara Luper scholar this year," she said.

Brogan said one student from each graduating class had received the prestigious Luper award, which provides a four-year "full ride" to Oklahoma City University.

She said the award was valued at \$125,000.

"The belief is that any kid can be successful and we really, really work towards that goal," she said.

"We work hard to educate our students so they can be successful in whatever they want."

Brogan said that interested students must fill out an application, submit rec-

ommendations from core subject teachers, and have their own means of transportation to and from the college.

In addition, students under suspension from any school are not eligible for the program.

"[Enrolling is] generally not a big deal, she said. "It's a very simple process."

Interviews will take place until the first week of August.

For more information about Pathways, contact Brogan at 405-682-1611, ext. 7722, or by e-mail at cbrogan@occc.edu.

Staff Writer Drew Hampton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Highlights

Chesapeake scholarship offered

Chesapeake Energy Corporation is offering, 10, \$1,000 scholarships to Chesapeake scholars for the 07-08 academic year. The scholarship provides assistance to native Oklahomans or students who attended high school in Oklahoma. Students eligible to apply must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours at OCCC with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. The student must also be involved in an OCCC club or a community organization. Students should apply no later than July 31. Students needing an application should contact the Oklahoma City Community College Foundation office at 405-682-7591.

Fall tuition waivers available

Department tuition waivers for the 2007 fall semester are available to students in the Financial Aid Office. Waivers and academic histories must be submitted to Financial Aid no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 1. For more information, contact the Financial Aid office at 405-682-7527.

Engineering scholarship offered

Kelly Engineering Resources is accepting entries for its fifth annual Future Engineers Scholarship Program. Sophomore and junior-level college students can apply by submitting an essay on a designated engineering topic for a chance at the \$5,000 scholarship. Applications are due Oct. 1. For more information, contact Amy Grundman at 248-224-5630, or visit the organization's website at www.kellyengineering.com.

Frontier City and White Water Bay tickets available

Consignment tickets to Frontier City and White Water Bay are now available for purchase in the OCCC Bookstore. Tickets are \$19 for a one day pass and \$65.01 for a season pass. Also available are one-day passes to Six Flags at \$28 each. For more information, contact Bookstore Director Brenda Reinke at 405-682-1611, ext. 7242.

All Highlights must be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday.

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Show me a sign



Photo by Jay Rocamontes

OCCC Service-Learning and Student Life Coordinator Jon Horinek displays the new vinyl signs made for Opening Day 2007. On Saturday, Aug. 18, opening day will be a time for new students to familiarize themselves with the OCCC campus and meet with division directors while enjoying music, snow cones and other snack foods.

Students can form campus clubs

By Drew Hampton
Staff Writer

With the fall semester fast approaching, many student clubs and organizations will be seeking new members.

For those looking to form a club of their own, there are options.

Karlen Grayson, Student Clubs and Organizations assistant, said interested students can start their own clubs by following specific procedures detailed in the Student Clubs and Organizations Manual, available in the Student Life office.

"They will need the interest of 10 other students," Grayson said.

The students must first petition for Formation of a Club or Organization, available in the Student Life office.

In addition, Grayson said, the proposed club must have two sponsors, one of whom must be a full-time faculty member at the college.

"The other sponsor can

be a community leader or professional ... in the community," she said.

Once the petition is complete, Grayson said, the proposed club must return the form to Student Life. It is then sent to Marion Paden, Enrollment and Student Services vice president, for approval.

At the moment, Grayson said, there are between 35 and 38 active clubs registered with Student Life. She said these numbers could change in the fall.

"There have been a couple of people asking about starting clubs," she said.

One, Grayson said, is Career Transitions Program Director Nora Pugh-Seemster, who is interested in forming a Transitions club for students.

She said a member of the Society for Performing Artists also was looking into creating a club in the spring to support the SPA.

"I think they will be coming through," Grayson said. "They just need to get their petition together and sub-

mit it."

LaWanda LaVarnway, Photography Lab assistant and Photography Club sponsor, said she remembers the process.

"It's been a few years ... but it wasn't easy," she said.

"The students came to me, asking me to be the sponsor so they could have a club."

LaVarnway said the club did very well in its first year, winning "Best New Club of the Year" and starting the annual campus Easter egg hunt, which is now organized by Student Life.

Grayson said she hopes students remember the option is available to them.

"If [students] see ... that there is not a club (on campus) that fits them and they have ideas, then they have the option to form their own club."

For more information, visit the Student Life office or contact Grayson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7185.

Staff Writer Drew Hampton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all 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

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ROOMMATE WANTED: Mature female part-time student and full-time educator wants to share apartment near OCCC during school week. Non-smoker, non-drinker. Please call 405-255-7752 and leave message or e-mail Battershell@aol.com.

ROOMMATE WANTED: For the Fall/07 and if possible Spring/08. To share a 3 bedroom, 1 bath house with a male friend and I. Two minutes away from OCCC. Quiet and clean environment for studies. \$220 a month for rent. Bills shared among 3 of us, about \$150 for internet, light, water, trash, and gas. We are both students at OCCC. Room is available August 13th. If interested contact Ethel at 405-361-0251.

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Do you want to... learn to speak and write Chinese?

Have you ever wanted to travel to the Great Wall? Have you ever considered working in China? OCCC is offering **Intro. to Chinese** this Fall on Tues. & Thur. from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about this fun and interesting course, check out www.occc.edu/acoakley.

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TEXTBOOKS

TEXTBOOK FOR SALE: I have an introductory & intermediate Algebra book, 3rd edition for sale. Great condition! 206-4125.

The Pioneer accepts **CREDIT CARDS!** Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674 or e-mail adman@occc.edu for details.

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ACROSS

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

- 1 Circle parts
- 2 Pocket billiards
- 3 Poet Teasdale
- 4 Of the mouth
- 5 Universal
- 6 Ms. Landers
- 7 Tallness
- 8 Removes
- 9 Fencing sword
- 10 Not too smart
- 11 Started
- 12 Carol
- 13 Twisted
- 18 Cut (branches)
- 24 "The Old — Bucket"
- 25 Years
- 26 Gaels
- 27 Farewell, Henri
- 28 Hedges that lessen gale forces
- 29 Fr. holy woman
- 58 Shoves off
- 63 "— for All Seasons"
- 64 Certain audition
- 66 Cod's relative
- 67 Licorice-like flavoring
- 68 Toledo's lake
- 69 Old map inits.
- 70 Boxer Marciano
- 71 Colored (eggs)

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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Many insurance companies offer affordable health care plans to students

"Insurance,"
Cont. from page 1

cover everything [students] might need," she said. "We've had situations where students thought [insurance] would cover maternity benefits and it didn't."

Students also may consider searching online for a company.

One site, www.ehealthinsurance.com, offers a variety of plans through a number of companies, after taking a few factors into consideration.

For instance, insurance rates for a full-time male college student who doesn't smoke range from \$47 to \$145 per month, depending on the company.

Available benefits vary by company. Some may offer coverage others don't.

The site asks for such information as a zip code, gender and age as it generates quotes.

Another online insurance company is Assurant Health, www.assuranthealth.com, which charges those age 17 to 24 \$600 for an annual plan, or \$50 per month.

The company charges a

\$2,500 deductible, the amount an insurance company requires a client to pay out-of-pocket before insurance pays the remaining medical costs.

Assurant Health does not cover costs associated with pregnancy or childbirth, according to the online brochure.

American Association of Community Colleges offers insurance plans to students enrolled in six or more credit hours, according to the website www.studentinsuranceusa.com.

AACC charges \$89 a month for a 12-month, 6-month or 3-month plan.

Sentry Life Insurance charges \$37 per month, but has restrictions on what the company will cover, according to the brochure.

For example, Sentry Life will not cover costs for vaccinations, dental x-rays and most dental treatment or eye examinations.

Turner said there also are places that help students who have little or no income.

"There are agencies out there that will work on a sliding scale, waive fees and that type of thing depending on where students live,"

she said.

Organizations and clinics in Oklahoma also are available to provide service to some lacking insurance.

Health for Friends offers medical, dental and pharmaceutical services, Administrative Assistant Kim Cain said.

The services are free but donations are welcomed, she said.

Only Norman residents can receive care from Health for Friends, Cain said, with the exception of pregnant women.

The clinic is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and can be contacted at 405-329-4161.

Another alternative is Oklahoma Community Health Services, which provides medical and dental services to low-income or uninsured patients, according to the website www.okchs.com.

OCHS is open 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; 8:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday.

OCHS can be contacted at 405-632-6688,

Editor Eric Nguyen can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

Free or low-cost health care providers for low-income or uninsured people

Oklahoma Community Health Services

(children's services, dental care, general care, women's services)
1025 Straka Terrace, Oklahoma City
405-632-6688

Health for Friends

(children's services, dental care, eye care and glasses, general care, women's care)
317 E. Himes St., Norman
405-348-4680

Olivet Baptist Church

(children's services, dental care, eye care and glasses, general care, women's services)
1201 N.W. 10, Oklahoma City
405-951-2645

Charity Eye Clinic

(eye care and glasses)
701 N.W. 8, Oklahoma City
405-236-5212

Little Flower Clinic

(children's services, general care, women's services)
11 and N. Walker, Oklahoma City
405-235-7055

Oklahoma City County Health Department

(children's services, general care, women's services)
921 N.E. 23, Oklahoma City
405-427-8651

University of Oklahoma School of Dentistry

(dental care)
1201 Stonewall Ave., Oklahoma City
405-271-6056

—courtesy of www.oumedicalcenter.com

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405-682-7519
Employmentservices@occc.edu

Book buy back way for students to recoup money

"Books,"
Cont. from page 1

whereas most bookstores strictly use one wholesaler," he said.

Students also can sell textbooks by placing ads on the used book board located on the college website www.occc.edu.

The used book board is free to students with a valid ID. Ads are automatically removed after 60 days online.

Another option to sell textbooks is placing a classified ad in the Pioneer, which is free to students with a valid ID.

Pioneer ads must be sent to adman@occc.edu or dropped off at the Pioneer office on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevators.

For more information, call 405-682-1811, ext. 7674.

All ads will appear at the Pioneer Online as well at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

For more information on OCCC's book buy back week, contact the bookstore at 405-682-7510.

For more information on Textbook Brokers, contact Adamson at 405-703-3434.

Editor Eric Nguyen can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

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