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PIONEER

www.occc.edu/pioneer

Sunshiny day



Photo by Amber McBride

Psychology major Emily Dewitt studies outdoors in the courtyard on Tuesday, March 4, taking advantage of one of the last warm days of the week. Local forecasters predicted snow and rain for the remainder of the week. According to www.yahoo.com, the first day of spring is Thursday, March 20, the week students are on spring break. Classes resume Monday, March 24.

Guns on campus bill opposed by students, cops

By Chris Lusk
Editor

A bill that would allow college students to carry concealed weapons on campus is on its way to the state House of Representatives for deliberation.

Although the bill's author sees it as a plus, college officials are skeptical.

House Bill 2513 recently was approved 14-2 by the House Judiciary and Public Safety Committee, said Rep. Jason Murphey, R-Guthrie.

Murphey said he authored the bill following the Feb. 14 shootings that left six dead at Northern Illinois University.

He said the bill would allow students to protect themselves in case of an emergency situation.

"As long as students keep their weapons concealed, they would be able to go to class with them," Murphey said.

He said another benefit of this bill would be that a potential shooter might think twice about entering a college campus.

"A shooter wouldn't know who has a gun and who doesn't," Murphey said.

"We allow people to protect themselves on the street," he said. "They should be allowed to protect themselves elsewhere, even on a college campus."

Sophomore Ricky Brown, an avid hunter, said although he believes in the right to bear arms, schools are not the place for weapons.

"I own 12 different guns," Brown said. "I love hunting, I love guns and I love the rights protected by the Second Amendment."

"But allowing students to carry weapons on campus is a recipe for disaster and illogical."

OCCC President Paul Sechrist expressed his concerns with HB 2513.

He said while he recognizes the bill is intended to provide increased safety on campus, law enforcement experts oppose these efforts because students carrying concealed weapons to class could increase the risk to other students.

"For ex-
a m p l e , See "Guns," page 11

Fast-track classes time savers for busy students

By Callie Campbell
News Writing Student

Five-week fast-track courses can be a lifesaver for students who work full-time jobs or have other obligations during the work week, said Jack Kraettli, adjunct business Professor and Evening Administrator.

The classes, held all day on Saturdays for five consecutive weeks, "are one of the most advantageous academically," he said.

Among the benefits of fast-track classes, Kraettli said, is they seem to have a higher retention rate than 16-week courses.

Kraettli said the student interaction rate in his business administration classes seems stronger and more frequent.

Classes are a little more difficult to teach, he said, because they require a more intense preparation time before the course.

Students agree.

"It's over faster," said Nathan Engram, aviation science major who has taken English Composition through the fast-track program. "For some students that's a plus.

"But you have to be able to dedicate your entire Saturday to it."

Engram said fast-track courses

help him balance a full-time job with going to school.

Professor Chris Oehrlein teaches an Introduction to Statistics fast-track class.

He said he usually gets a positive response from students going through the program.

Oehrlein said he believes students get the same value from the fast-track classes as regular classes if they are willing to put the work into it.

"Some students try to add a fast-track class to a full course load and have a harder time," Oehrlein said. "That creates some problems."

Alan Stringfellow, associate reg-

istrar, said fast-track courses provide the opportunity for students to take classes in a shorter time span.

"They especially help students who need to meet prerequisites to enroll in other institutions."

Fast-track courses occur at three intervals throughout the semester and all meeting times are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays.

Joyce Morgan-Dees, research support analyst in the Institutional Research Development department at OCCC, said 77 fast-track courses were held last year, and 1,644 students were enrolled in fast-track classes.

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Life isn't fair, but we learn from it

"If you cant take the heat, get out of the kitchen." — President Harry Truman

That saying rings true for any student at any college or university. It's referring to being able to take constructive criticism.

Not everyone is going to have a perfect path in college, but the ones who can't handle criticism should reconsider and play it safer through less demanding choices.

Even those who grew up being mother's perfect child or having been valedictorian in high school will find equal-opportunity criticism abounds in college and in the working world that follows graduation.

It's not that professors or others associated with the student body are out to get any of us.

Their criticism may be no more than just a way to say there is room for improvement, nothing personal.

You take it and you go on, while keeping in mind what is needed.

And, isn't that what college is all about? Every person has something to improve on. If not, then why be here?

I have taken criticism from a few professors along the way but I didn't get mad. I simply got better at what I am doing.

Most of the professors I hear the criticism from teach within my major. I don't consider their remarks to be rude. Them pointing out my flaws is what enables them to show me how I can get better.

Because of that, I feel more confident in my field than when I first started.

The human resources website www.personneltoday.com offers the following advice on how to better handle criticism — pointers which are recommended for the workplace but that also should be practiced while in college, readying for that time.

- Resist the temptation to argue or make excuses.
- Evaluate the criticism. If it is valid, accept it gracefully and tell the person you appreciate their comments. Be enthusiastic about your willingness to improve your performance.
- Let go of negative feelings. Then hold your head up high and move on.

Those are tidbits of advice that will serve anyone well, during or after college.

It is better to learn to take criticism gracefully now than later after you graduate and go to work in your chosen profession where, chances are, the criticism will be even more harsh and likley will carry with it, consequences.

—Matt Bishop
Staff Writer

Students speak out over review

Reader says 'open mind' needed to appreciate art

To the editor:

Brecht may have said, "it was written to be seen in 1941," but it doesn't mean that it cannot be reproduced.

Miss Praefke must not understand that expectations aren't always met when entering a theater.

In fact, expectations aren't always met in life. To appreciate the theater arts, you must be able to enter a theater with an open mind.

I realize this is an amateur newspaper, but if you want to write an article, personal opinions should not be a part of the article.

Entertainment value 'subjective'

To the editor:

I certainly hope this letter is not misconstrued as sour grapes, since I played the lead role in "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui."

The reviewer gave a pretty scathing analysis, but I don't have any problem with that.

She is certainly entitled to her opinion, and I did not delude myself into thinking everyone would enjoy the performance.

What I specifically take issue with is Cynthia writing "I realized this is amateur the-

ater, but when admission is charged, entertainment becomes mandatory." This is just completely illogical to me.

Being entertained is a completely subjective thing, and is not something that can be mandated whether money is charged or not. I've been to countless plays and movies where I was not entertained. I had hoped to be entertained going in, but did not think "I paid money, therefore I WILL enjoy myself."

Does Miss Praefke go to a movie, paying up to \$8, and demand her money back if she is not pleased?

Does Miss Praefke know how the character Arturo Ui is suppose to be portrayed?

Mr. Fowler portrayed a man with too much power and little

emotion. To me, this character was portrayed magnificently.

Just some advise for Miss Praefke: Journalism may not be the best field for you if you cannot keep an open mind and appreciate art, however unusual it may be.

—Elizabeth Shultz
Student

PIONEER

Vol. 36 No. 25

Chris Lusk.....Editor
Matthew Bishop.....Staff Writer
Scott Glidewell.....Staff Writer
Stephen Sossamon.....Staff Writer
Yvonne Oberly.....Staff Writer
Brian Schroeder.....Staff Writer
Amanda McCutchen.....Staff Writer
Cynthia Praefke.....Staff Writer
Amber McBride.....Photographer
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Brian Stansberry.....Webmaster
Richard Hall.....Lab Assistant
Ronna Austin.....Lab Director
Sue Hinton.....Faculty Adviser

The PIONEER is a publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts and Humanities. It is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session.

All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

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

Letters to the editor can be delivered 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

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



Comments and Reviews

'Semi-Pro' funny, predictable

Take the comedy of Will Farrell as Jackie Moon, the inept owner of a basketball team, Andre Benjamin as Coffee Black, the star player and Woody Harrelson as Monix, a washed-up championship team player. Add a basketball court.

Now pull out all the stops that would censure this movie in any way, and you have "Semi-Pro."

From Jackie Moon's opening song, "Love Me Sexy," to the love scene between Monix and his ex-girlfriend (while her new boyfriend cheers them on), this movie is raw comedy.

Moon owns the Flint Michigan Tropics, an American League basketball team that is held together only by the enthusiasm of its owner.

There is an opportunity for the team to become one of those absorbed into the National Basketball League, but it will take an act of God.

Moon buys Monix for the price of a refrigerator. He is hired as a player, but the other players decide he should coach them as well. Monix wants to move to Flint to get back with his ex, Lynn (Maura Tierney).

There is a surprise twist when Jackie's mom appears as an angel when he is hurt, and gives him a secret play to help him win the "big game."

I won't spoil the surprise by exposing the identity of the mother.

Andre Benjamin does not get to stretch his comedy muscles much, but he is good in the straight man role of a player who keeps changing his name.

Despite the over use of 'm... f...' (even by Father Pat the referee, played by Matt Walsh), the diverse audience did a lot of belly laughing during the fight scenes.

As with most movies of this genre, the plot and



the outcome are predictable, but there is plenty of amusement to compensate if you enjoy Farrell's naïve craziness.

There are some good basketball moves by the Tropics in their final games.

I went expecting blatant humor because of the cast involved, and I was not disappointed. I'm sure the DVD will be out soon.

Rating: C

—**Cynthia Praefke**
Staff Writer

'Boleyn Girl' true to history

"The Other Boleyn Girl" is another movie that weaves history into fiction, causing the person watching the movie to wonder if it really could have happened.

King Henry VIII tore England apart by breaking away from the Catholic Church, because he wasn't allowed to divorce his first wife.

In this movie you see that history, as well as him discarding his first wife for another woman.

The movie centers on two sisters pulling the viewer in on the family's origins.

Mary Boleyn (Scarlett Johansson) is a kind and tender girl. She bends to whatever her family asks of her, even if it means destroying all other relationships, including her own marriage.

Anne Boleyn (Natalie Portman) is a vicious, strong woman who doesn't want anything to do with her family's wishes.

She is selfish, placing her wants before her family's needs.

These sisters are pitted against each other over the desire of their father and uncle, the Duke of Norfolk (David Morrissey), wishing to attain a better life for themselves as well as the sisters. This dream ruins them.

The duke is not only a man of greed, but also a man that will do anything in his power to control King Henry VIII (Eric Bana).

When the duke notices the king's happy marriage is starting to fail because the Queen (Ana Torrent) has been

unable to produce an heir, he sets out to put his nieces before the king's eyes.

Yet Anne is a little too wild and manages to hurt the king's pride.

From there, the story spirals into a world of secrets, lies, and warfare for the king's affection.

I recommend this movie, not only for the history of it, but because the plot line stays true to history. This movie will leave an impression.

The actors and actresses stepped beautifully into their characters, setting the stage for some great drama.

"Boleyn Girl" asks the question: What would you sacrifice to have what you want?

Rating: A+

—**Amber McBride**
Staff Writer

ADVISERS

Advice. Advice. Everywhere advice. Don't do this. Don't do that. Here ... have some advice. Advice is served up in many ways, shapes, and sizes. Sometimes, it comes nicely packaged, and, sometimes, it is just thrown at you. Good or bad, no matter which way we turn, we will be able to get advice. The key is to know which advice is beneficial.

This month, I want to offer you some beneficial Academic Advice. Start planning now for the summer and fall semesters.

As a current OCCC student you receive a free gift every semester. It is the ability to select and enroll in classes for the next semester before the new students enroll. It is the college's way of saying, "Thank you for being a current OCCC student; we want you to come back next semester; and we want you to have a chance to build the class schedule of your dreams to meet your needs."

Early registration for summer and fall begins March 24 for all current OCCC students. This is great! It is a gift to accept without any thank you cards to mail.

If you are not sure how this can benefit you, ask anyone who has attempted to enroll during the early weeks of August or January. They can tell you about waiting in long lines, searching for the few classes that were still available, and stressing out over how to make it all work.

If you aren't sure which classes you should take or which degree you want to pursue, come to Academic Advising now and let's talk about it. Let's explore your interests and evaluate what classes would be ideal for you to enroll in for next semester.

We can also discuss how your current classes are going, what subjects you have found interesting, and what you want your schedule to look like for the future. As you begin planning your next semester, think back. Were there classes you wanted and could not enroll in because they were already full?

We procrastinate. It's true. We all do. We put off today what we can do tomorrow. But eventually tomorrow catches up to us. It is better to select classes now and change your schedule around later if you need to.

Enrolling early does not mean you have to pay early. But enrolling late definitely has its penalties. Start planning now and take advantage of early registration, put this gift to use for you personally. Mark your calendars because March 24 is just around the corner.

—**E.J. Warren**
Academic Advising Director

Have a question about OCCC?
We'll help you find the answer.

Contact Chris at
editor@occc.edu, or
405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

Summer and fall enrollment begins March 24 for current OCCC students

By Brian Schroeder
Staff Writer

Registration for the summer and fall terms begins March 24 for current OCCC students. Open enrollment begins March 31. The first day of the summer session is June 2. The fall semester begins Aug. 18.

Students also can enroll in a May intersession, which runs May 12 through 31.

Student Jennifer Waldrup said she usually enrolls in classes the last minute and is limited to which classes she can take.

"I'm going to register early this time. I will be able to sign up for the classes I want before they are full," Waldrup said.

Alan Stringfellow, associate registrar, said many students prefer the shorter eight-week and

two-week intersession classes because they can complete the courses quicker than in a 16-week session.

"Some students will take a prerequisite in May for a course offered during the eight-week session," he said.

During the summer term, students taking at least six credit hours are considered full-time for financial aid purposes.

A summer and fall

course list will be available online March 24. Stringfellow said he anticipates hard copies of the summer and fall course catalog will be available the day before class registration.

Stringfellow added the course sections will soon be available to view on the OCCC website under the "Mine Online/Student Records" tab.

"I would encourage students to enroll as soon as

possible," Stringfellow said. "Don't wait too late because there are some classes that will fill up in weeks. [Students] can begin building their schedules once it is out online and can begin enrolling those first few days."

For more information, call Stringfellow at 405-682-7522.

Staff Writer Brian Schroeder can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Former Pioneer staff writers earn awards from Society of Professional Journalists

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Several former Pioneer staff members won awards for their work March 1 at the Society of Professional Journalists Oklahoma Pro Chapter annual awards banquet.

The contest entry period was late 2006 and early 2007 so winners were former Pioneer staff.

Former editor Eric Nguyen and former staff writer Matt Caban won first place in Criminal Justice Reporting for their story "Remains May Be Those of Missing International Student."

"It's a big deal to be rewarded for what you do in this field," Nguyen said. "It's a way to measure your results and how you are doing."

Caban and Nguyen also placed third in Political Reporting for their shared story, "Immigration Ban Could Affect 104 Students."

Nguyen said he was surprised, in a way, because

he wasn't really thinking about an award when he and Caban wrote the story.

Caban was humble about winning the award.

"It's nice to be recognized, though it's not why I write," he said. "I just had some interesting stories come my way."

Caban is working part-time at The Oklahoma while he completes his bachelor's degree at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Two former staff writers, Amanda Bittle and Kinber Roberts, also were recognized with first place in Health Reporting for their story "Domestic Violence can be Stopped."

Former editor and photographer Carrie Cronk won first place in Spot News for her picture of a suspect being handcuffed by Safety and Security officers, titled "Do Not Pass Go."

Former staff writer John Savage won first place in General News Reporting for his story "Tattoos Inked Into OK History."

Savage attended the banquet at the Skirvin Hotel where the awards were presented.

"I was taken by surprise," Savage said.

"I was really excited and felt honored."

Drew Hampton, another former staff writer, won third place in In-Depth Enterprise Reporting with "Students Hone Medical Skills in Cadaver Lab."

Journalism Professor and Pioneer faculty Adviser, Sue Hinton, also attended the banquet. She said she felt great knowing her former students won awards.

"It's a big deal to be rewarded for what you do in this field. It's a way to measure your results and how you are doing."

—Eric Nguyen
Former Pioneer Editor

Hinton recalled the story "Remains May Be Those Of Missing International Student" as one that was "spontaneous and sticks in your mind."

Hinton said the awards ceremony was a chance for her students to meet professionals in the journalism industry.

"It was a festive atmosphere," she said. "Jour-

nalists from all over the state came."

The SPJ awards are given every year. This year, the Pioneer submitted 10 entries, with six winning awards, and four of those being first place.

"We came away winners again," Savage said.

Staff Writer Stephen Sossamon can be reached at onlineeditor@occc.edu.

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Go Baroque in college theater

By **Cliff Cameron**
News Writing Student

The theater will be filled with the sounds of 17th century classical music when the ensemble Go for Baroque performs in concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 11.

Go for Baroque consists of pianist and harpsichordist Peggy Payne, violinist Densi Rushing, trumpeter Stephen Goforth, cellist Jim Shelly, and husband and wife duo Roger and Parthena Owens playing percussion and flute, respectively.

Dan Yates, cultural programs director, said he looks forward to showcasing Oklahoma talent that he said is of national caliber.

At 11 a.m. on the day of the concert, Go for Baroque will lead a free educational program in the theater. This will allow the group to showcase their knowledge of music from the Baroque period and also share their passion for classical music.

"Go for Baroque performs with the intention of having a good time with their audience," said Payne, who manages the group.

The group's trademark is performing serious music in an entertaining fashion, Payne said.

She said, even though the instruments are sometimes thought of as only a part of serious music, in the right format they can be appreciated and enjoyed by anyone and everyone.

The performance will feature instruments of the Baroque era, playing the top 40 hits of 1640 to 1740.

Payne is an acclaimed pianist and harpsichordist throughout the region, according to the group's website. She also has developed pilot education programs to bring the arts to the public, especially children. Payne has received the Governor's Arts and Education Award and the Business Arts Award.

Densi Rushing has played violin since she was 7. She said she began playing because she could not stand seeing her sister do anything she could not. Rushing taught elementary, junior high and senior high orchestra for 14 years and is now a professor of violin at Southern Nazarene University.

Stephen Goforth has played the trumpet with Go for Baroque since 1986. He has performed for such individuals as former Presidential First Lady Barbara Bush and former President Ronald Reagan. Goforth currently is principal trumpet with the Bartlesville Symphony and Signature Orchestra in Tulsa.

Jim Shelly, master cellist, also plays violin, guitar, and recently has tried his hand at singing and song-writing, according to the group's website. Shelly has been playing with Go for Baroque since 1992. He is also the director of orchestra at Alcott Middle School in Norman.

Parthena Owens, flute professor at Oklahoma City University, is the woman behind the flute in Go for Baroque. She said her passion is teaching her students. She owns and operates her own flute studio where she offers guidance to 14 award-winning students.

Roger Owens, percussion and drums, doesn't allow his wife to have all the attention, according to the group's website. He began playing at age 9, had his first professional gig at 12, and at 15 he began playing night clubs in Oklahoma City, Tulsa and Dallas. He also has performed with musicians Ray Charles and the Electric Light Orchestra.

Go for Baroque has been recognized as a member of the Oklahoma Arts Council's Touring Program and the regional Mid-America Touring Program.

Yates said the ensemble is entertaining for people of all ages. Tickets are \$10 for children, \$17 for students and staff and \$22 for general admission.

For more information, visit at www.GoforBaroque.org.



Going for Baroque will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 11. They specialize in Baroque era music.

Photo provided

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Colleges vie for students at transfer fair

By Andrew Coleman
News Writing Student

Students prepared to move on to other institutions at the College Transfer Fair on March 3. Thirty-one colleges attended the event in order to recruit transfer students.

The colleges set up displays for students to gather more information about the transfer process along with specific information about opportunities offered at each school and on each campus.

"We are letting them

know about all of our majors and admissions requirements," said University of Oklahoma journalism Adviser Melanie Adams.

Colleges such as OU are very specific about which credits transfer from which university, Adams said, so it's important that students know what credits will transfer from what schools.

"We want to make sure credits transfer, especially classes that they have already taken for their major," said OU student Crystal Mason.

OCCC students seemed pleased such a fair was being offered to them.

"It's amazing to get all these colleges in one place," said OCCC student Chris Stewart.

"It's like shopping at a mall for colleges."

The fair offered students the opportunity to talk in person with representatives from various colleges, talk with students that attend the university, and to make more educated decisions about the transfer process, Stewart said.

Transfer students are

"We want to make sure credits transfer, especially classes that they have already taken for their major."

—Crystal Mason

University of Oklahoma student

concerned about some of the complications of the transfer process.

"I am most worried if my classes will transfer," said OCCC student Melissa Le. "I don't want to transfer and then have to take extra classes once I get to my transfer school."

It is helpful if transfer

students come to the four-year institutions with their introductory level courses already completed, said Adams.

Students should get started in the transfer process as early as possible because each school has differing requirements for transferring.

Enrollment workshop enlightens students

By Amanda McCutchen
Staff Writer

Students learned that an adviser is almost crucial to making the right enrollment choices during a recent enrollment workshop on campus.

"Students need to be proactive and plan ahead," said OCCC Academic Adviser Melissa Aguigui.

Every semester, Aguigui offers the opportunity to learn more about the enrollment process in a workshop on campus.

In the Enrollment Essentials workshop, Aguigui informed students about all the different degree oppor-

tunities, new ways to enroll and specific deadlines and dates for adding or dropping courses.

Several students attended the workshop and seemed eager to learn more about enrollment.

"I think these workshops really contribute to my success in college," said Rachel Johnson, freshman Business Management major.

Aguigui also spoke about the importance of an academic adviser and a faculty adviser.

"An academic adviser has a wealth of general information, whereas a faculty adviser has specific information for students about

their degree."

Students must declare a specific major in order to acquire a faculty adviser.

"The concept of having an adviser was new to me, but having one was very helpful," said freshman computer science major Daniel Vargas.

Academic and faculty advisers are available to all students.

To acquire an adviser students may go to the Advising and Career Services office, said Personal and Academic Adviser Ed Williams.

OCCC offers two types of associate degrees, Williams said.

The first is designed for students who plan to earn bachelor's degrees after they finish their program at OCCC.

The Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees are university parallel degrees, Williams said.

"This degree makes a good connection to a four year institution," he said.

The second type of degree is an associate in Applied Science, Technical/Occupational degree. It leads directly to work.

"This is a technical degree for students choosing to move right out to the job market from here," Williams said.

Anna Powell, freshman pre-education major, said she learned something new at the workshop.

"I did not know that there are two different types of associate degrees," Powell said.

For summer and fall enrollment, an important date to remember is March 24, when both online and paper copies of summer and fall '08 schedules will be available.

Also, returning students can enroll March 24 and enrollment is open to all students including new students, on March 31.

For more information, visit www.occc.edu.

Student magazine looking for submissions

By Lauren Purdy
News Writing Student

The long-standing student literary magazine is gearing up soon for new submissions to be contributed to the 2009 volume of the Absolute Literary Magazine.

Soon after the release of the 2008 edition on May 1, the lines will open for artists of all kinds to be recognized in the campus publication.

Submissions of poetry, short fiction, nonfiction, artwork and photography will all be accepted. In the past, submissions have been accepted all the way through December, but this year there will be a

shortened deadline.

Marybeth McCauley, associate faculty editor of the magazine, said, "We may move the deadline up to November this year to allow the student editors to have their work finished before finals week."

This is a great opportunity for the students of OCCC to be published, she said.

"Though we accept submissions from anyone, the Absolute really is a showcase of the talent on this campus."

McCauley said the artists and writers whose work is published in Absolute 2008 are proud of their accomplishments, enjoy the thrill of being selected and to inspire oth-

ers to submit their writing and artwork for Absolute 2009.

Information on the submission process and entry forms are available at <http://www.occc.edu/ah/absolute>.

CORRECTION

In last week's Pioneer, Jonathan Mills, who played Greenwool in the recent play "The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui," was incorrectly identified in the page 1 photo. We apologize for the mistake.

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Student get in-the-know on education day

By Amber McBride
Staff Writer

Higher Education Day at the state Capitol featured a stream of students from colleges from all parts of Oklahoma. The speakers ranged from freshmen to seniors, each having their own unique flare as to what college meant to them.

Speaker of the House of Representatives Chris Benge talked about the importance of getting a college education when he ad-

ressed the students.

Bill Burgess Jr., Oklahoma Regents for Higher Education chairman, cracked jokes over how great the college system in Oklahoma was.

Many of the representatives pushed to make students more aware of how much college helps them throughout their lives as a whole rather than just a career. Many of the speakers made it known running on an even playing field was important.

Lt. Gov. Jari Askins recognized the students for their actions to come to Higher Education Day, as well as commending them for attending college.

Many students, like Kyle Foster from East Central University in Ada, reminded a lot of students of the importance of the journey through college.

Other students including Chris Stewart and Jennifer Akpabio represented OCCC on Higher Education Day, but did not speak.

Deidra Carpenter, Scholars for Excellence in Child Care coordinator, sits in the House Chambers during Higher Education Day.



Photo by Amber McBride

Businessman speaks on Asian, Europe development

By Matt Bishop
Staff Writer

International businessman Akio Miyabayashi visited OCCC to give students advice on the global business world.

Miyabayashi traveled from his home in Germany to visit the college theater Feb. 27 where more than 150 people interested packed the theatre to hear Miyabayashi speak.

Miyabayashi is considered the outstanding Japanese businessman of Europe, after he became CEO of Minolta Europe in 1975.

His success and techniques helped launch his career into becoming the CEO in Minolta Europe.

He said it is important to know different languages and cultures in global business.

He focused his seminar on European and Asian development in the 21st century.

China is the factory of the world because many products are manufactured there, India is the electronic software center, Miyabayashi said.

Four Asian countries will be in the top five of most populated countries in the

future, he said.

They are India, China, Pakistan and Indonesia.

He said though China is the factory of the world, there are many problems that face the country due to fast growth.

India will be the leader because they use English as a second language and their education system is designed to help them excel in the software industry, Miyabayashi said.

He gave advice to the audience. He said to focus on talent and to realize that everything will be unpredictable.

"We are living and going to live in the time where nobody has answers, nobody can predict the future.

"Globalization, the world is flat ... we are thinking the thing that in the past no one could think of.

"So we have to be ready for anything that may come," Miyabayashi said.

He said if you put 20 people together, there could be 20 different ideas, any of which could be the best.

He also said to be a good boss is to be a good motivator.

"The core definition of a leader is to motivate and to pull out the best quality of

each individual so that they enjoy working, rather than being told to work," Miyabayashi said.

He warned students to be aware of global problems that can affect global business such as the environment and terrorism.

He also stressed being educated. Don't do assembly work but do the technical work because that is where you can use your skills.

Miyabayashi graduated with a master's degree in International Business from New York City College in 1963.

He helped set up the first Minolta of Europe before coming to Chicago where he would start a distribution facility for the Japanese companies.

He said at that time the success of coast-to-coast distribution was struggling because the American companies did not want to lose over 20-percent revenue.

He said knowing leadership skills and knowing different cultures enabled him to achieve all his goals as a businessman, now internationally known.

Staff Writer Matt Bishop can be reached at Senior Writer@occc.edu.



Photo by Matt Bishop

International businessman Akio Miyabayashi speaks to OCCC students Feb. 27 about the impacts of global business. He focused his discussion on Asian and European developments in the 21st century.

Miyabayashi stressed the importance of being multi-lingual, being educated about various cultures and also being educated on the scope of global business. More than 150 people attended the speech in the college theater.



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Spring break deals at your fingertips

For those of you who don't have plans yet for spring break, the Pioneer put together a list of possible destinations and prices for all you last-minute travelers:

• **Panama City Beach, Fla.**

This is the site of MTV's Spring Break 2008. If MTV is gonna be there, you know it will be a party. Artists Kid Sister, We The Kings, Panic at the Disco, DJ Khaled and others are slated to perform and MTV will be broadcasting live from Hotel mtvU at the Boardwalk Beach Resort. Orbitz.com lists airfare from \$988, departing March 16 and returning March 22. The website Springbreakrooms.com, which only books rooms, lists several package deals for this week: Legacy Resort for \$849 and Emerald Beach Resort for \$609. Both prices include the "Ultimate Party Package" which includes free cover and beer at local clubs, food and drink discounts, free shirts and other crucial party needs.

• **Daytona Beach, Fla.**

Packed with infamous clubs and bars like Razzle's Nightclub, The Oyster Pub and The Ocean Deck Beach Club, Daytona Beach Spring Break is an endurance trial in debauchery. Travelocity.com has a package deal including airfare and five nights in a standard guestroom at The Plaza Ocean Club Resort. This is a full-service resort located directly on Daytona Beach, within walking distance of bars, clubs, dining and the boardwalk. Price: \$1,511.

• **Montego Bay, Jamaica**

White sand beaches, clear blue water and a distinct Caribbean atmosphere provide a unique charm to Jamaica's second-largest city. Priceline.com is offering an all-inclusive vacation package to Breezes Montego Bay Resort. It includes all meals, entertainment, snacks and water sports. A five-night stay costs \$2,174 for airfare and hotel.

• **Cancun, Mexico**

Cancun is like the "Mecca" of spring break. Every year thousands of college students descend upon this 14-mile island during March looking for sun, fun and alcohol. Orbitz.com has a five-night Cancun package for only \$1,560. It includes five nights stay at Margaritas Cancun Hotel, located in downtown Cancun, and roundtrip airfare.



Cancun, Mexico



Jamaica



Panama City Beach, Fla.

Local travel agents

- Journey House Travel** — 405-232-9215
- Travel Agents Corp.** — 405-752-5252
- Bentley Hedges Travel** — 405-685-7401
- Rainbow Travel** — 405-528-5741
- Big Sky Tours** — 405-840-8220
- Travel Inc.** — 405-232-2300

Photos provided

Stuck in Oklahoma? There's hope yet!

If you are unhappy with what there is to do in the area for spring break, then get out.

If you cannot travel very far but still want to have an eventful break, Oklahoma has much to offer for a week or even a few days of relaxation this spring break.

Of course there is Bricktown, which will be enjoyable if the weather cooperates.

Unfortunately Frontier City will not begin enter-

In-state fun

- Bricktown — the usual club-lined streets are sure to offer an escape from normalcy (maybe?) during spring break.
- Little Sahara State Park — in Waynoka, 1,600 acres of sand dunes and chances for off-roading, whoo!
- Turner Falls — serene, calm, peaceful... Has 35 lakes for swimming and fishing.

taining until the week after the break. So, what is there to do?

Here are some interesting holiday ideas if you have time for a magical mystery tour or if you only want to be a day-tripper.

Little Sahara State Park

in Waynoka offers over 1,600 acres of naturally occurring sand dunes for off-road vehicle adventuring, located only 130 miles northwest of Oklahoma City.

If you prefer the outdoors, but not the overcrowded,

touristy Turner Falls, why not try one of the other 65 lakes and rivers the state has to offer.

Get a taste of wine grapes grown in Oklahoma's red earth at Cimarron Cellars Winery in Caney.

Whatever you do, get out

and see a part of the state you have heard about or have wanted to visit. The smorgasbord of mom-and-pop roadside eateries across the state is enough to keep anyone's attention for a week.

Instead of going to the mall every day, or watching recorded versions of TV reruns, get out and discover something new in your state or community during spring break.

—**Brian Schroeder**
Staff Writer

What students have planned

By Ellen M. Trebilcock
News Writing Student

As soon as students returned to campus for the start of the spring semester, they immediately began thinking about one important date nine weeks away, Saturday, March 15.

This date marks the beginning of the most anticipated week of the spring – spring break.

Students at OCCC are headed all over this year, from the sunny beaches of Mexico to the comfort of their own homes and families.

For sophomore Zyanna Meyers, bypassing all the major spring break “hot-spots” is on her to-do list. Meyers will be visiting her family at Lake Havasu in Arizona.

She and her family will go out on the lake on their boat to partici-

pate in a number of water sports, including water skiing.

“We’ll also make the trip to Vegas and Phoenix,” Meyers said of her family visit.

For Daniel Vargas, a freshman from Mexico City, it is all about the crazy spring break experience.

Vargas will be meeting up with some of his friends from Mexico City to head to this year’s number one hot spot, Cancun.

Kathleen Crislip, About.com’s veteran guide to student travel, rated Cancun at the top of the list for spring break.

Vargas said he is most excited to enjoy the nightlife. He also said in

addition to clubbing he would like to swim with the dolphins. Vargas chose Cancun because he has been there before and considers it an entertaining spring break destination.

Lauren Weir and Chandler Hemphill, both 20-year-old part-time students, will be braving the cold in Breckenridge or Keystone, Colo., to go skiing and snow-boarding.

Weir and Hemphill are traveling together through a travel agency that works alongside Sun and Ski Sports, a sporting goods store.

For freshman David Pappoe, spring break is focused on family. “[I will be] going to visit my cousin

who lives in New York city,” Pappoe said.

“I haven’t seen [my cousin] in about five years.”

For his first trip to the Big Apple, shopping and sight-seeing are at the top of his to-do list.

“I would like to visit the Metropolitan Art Museum as well as ground zero,” he said.

Sophomore Brandon Slover represents a handful of OCCC students staying home to work this spring break.

Slover said he will be spending his spring break working on cars at Bob Moore Cadillac, a job he has had for more than three years now.

Whether it is hot, sunny weather or cold, white powder luring students to vacation destinations, everyone is looking forward to a week without classes.

Keystone, Colo.

Lake Havasu, Ariz.

OKC, Okla.

New York City, N.Y.

Go green of a different shade

With St. Patrick’s Day — Monday, March 17 — rapidly approaching, you may wonder where and what the best deals are for the day of the Irish. Here are some specials and locations for various pubs and grills around the town:

Baker Street Pub and Grill, 2701 W. Memorial Rd., 405-751-1547. Baker Street will have a tent set up outside with three different live bands playing. At 4 p.m., Eighty’s Enough will be playing, followed by Jumpsuit Love at 8 p.m., and Yes, No, Maybe at 9:45 p.m., playing ’80 and ’90s top-40 cover songs. There also will be bagpipers along with live radio broadcasts.

There will be no cover charge, but customers are encouraged to arrive early. The pub will have Coors Light green beer and some signature drinks, along with corn beef and cabbage, and Irish stew. It’s 21 to enter.

O’Connell’s Irish Pub and Grill, 120 E. Lindsey St., 405-364-8454. O’Connell’s will sell mugs of green beer for \$20, with refills for \$5.

Bennigan’s, 13593 N. May Ave., 405-752-7600. Bennigan’s will have the band Mystery Dates playing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Usually, Bennigan’s also has bagpipers earlier in the day. Bennigan’s will sell green beer for \$1.

Dan McGuinness Pub, 1003 SW 19 St.,

405-703-3367. Dan McGuinness will open at 9 a.m. with drink specials. They will add green beer a week before St. Patrick’s Day and will have Budweiser and Bud Light aluminums available. They will have an outdoor party featuring the trio of Aaron Newman, Rock Canega and Gabriel Marshall at noon, followed by the headline Jim The Elephant. There also will be Irish bagpipes.

McFinn’s Pub, 902 Straka Ter., 405-631-1026. McFinn’s will run \$1.50 domestic beer until 7 p.m. They also will have Irish beer at \$2.50 all day with some drink and shot specials.

—Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

A brief look in history...

St. Patrick's Day

- St. Patrick is believed to have driven the snakes from Ireland. St. Patrick is one of Christianity’s most widely-known figures.
- The modern secular holiday is based on the original Christian saint’s feast day. In 1737, Irish immigrants to the U.S. began observing the holiday publicly in Boston and held the first St. Patrick’s Day Parade in New York in 1766.
- Today, the tradition continues with people from all walks and heritages by wearing green, eating Irish food and attending parades.
- St. Patrick’s Day is bursting with folklore — from the shamrock to the leprechaun, and to pinching those that are not wearing green.

—Source: history.com



Go cultural with Carson's Fresh Market Café



Photo by Amber McBride

Chef Jeff Cosby from Carson's Fresh Market Café sautés some vegetables for students buying lunch March 4.

By Chris Kirby
News Writing Student

Recently, Carson's Fresh Market Café has added some new items to their menu to bring more "cultural diversity" to the food they offer students, said Corrine Aguilar, Carson's general manager.

"We are very proud of the fact that we can offer fresh cut vegetables that customers can pair with their choice of meats to have cooked to order in front of their eyes," Aguilar said.

On Tuesdays, the sauté bar becomes the Southwest bar, where fajitas are the special of the day for \$2.49. Adding rice and beans as side dishes costs an extra 99 cents each.

Wednesdays, the sauté bar becomes the Italian station, where students, faculty and staff can choose their favorite pastas cooked-to-order. White cream sauce, marinara or vegetable garlic sauce are the options. With a choice of meat and a couple breadsticks, the meal's total adds up to \$5.25.

Asian sauté cooks up on Thursdays. Fresh vegetables such as bean sprouts, bok choy, water chestnuts, carrots, celery and onions can all be added to white or brown rice, which is then topped with ginger sauce, sweet and sour sauce, black bean sauce or the special sauce of the week. An eggroll can be added for 99 cents.

All of the new specials can be purchased in addition to the array of different food items that Carson's offers every day.

In the "From the Grill" line, diners can find daily specials such as chicken fried steak with country gravy for \$2.49. Side items like mashed potatoes, carrots, corn, green beans or cobbler can be added for 99 cents.

"We are very proud of the fact that we can offer fresh cut vegetables that customers can pair with their choice of meats to have cooked to order in front of their eyes."

—Corrine Aguilar
Carson's Fresh Market Café
General Manager

Class to focus on environmental issues

By Heather Neskorik
News Writing Student

An environmental issues class is making its return in the fall after more than a 10-year absence from the OCCC curriculum.

Ecology and Environmental Issues will be a general education class, fulfilling a biology credit. The class, Biology 2404, will include a lab component and be taught by biology Professor Richard Trout.

Trout said he has great expectations for the class, with plans to modernize it.

Biology 2404 will cover everything from habitats and land, to pollution, air and water.

The study of global warming, which is the gradual increase in the Earth's temperature as a result of the greenhouse effect, also will be included in the course, Trout said.

The class will be hands on, Trout said. He said he plans to use the school's greenhouse, which is located in the Robert P. Todd Science, Engineering and Math Center.

He also plans to use local bodies of water, such as ponds and streams. Trout said he might even use a boat at some point in the course to take water samples.

Heather Black, OCCC nursing major, said she would be interested in this class.

She said she feels it would be beneficial to her because specific environmental issues are important in the management and prevention of many diseases.

Black said she had Trout as a professor for a nutrition class, and said she enjoyed his teaching.

"He lives what he teaches," she said.

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Students oppose bill that would let weapons on campus

"Guns,"

Cont. from page 1

when officers arrive on an active shooter scene," Sechrist said, "if students who are trying to be helpful also have their weapons drawn, the officers would not be able to distinguish between the dangerous person with a gun from the helpful students who also have guns."

Other concerns include the potential accidental discharge of a weapon by a student, Sechrist said.

Safety and Security Director Ike Sloas said, that while he was not aware of the college's official stance on the issue, he personally is against HB 2513.

"As a security officer, [HB 2513] would make re-

sponding to incidents very confusing," Sloas said. "Most of the time you have to react in a matter of seconds.

"If you hear gunshots, arrive at the scene and find three people with weapons drawn, you would have to quickly determine who is the bad guy and who are the heroes."

Sechrist said The Oklahoma Council of Presidents of Colleges and Universities has adopted a resolution opposing HB 2513.

"Following the advice of law enforcement experts and desiring to do everything I can to increase safety on campus," Sechrist said. "I join with the other Oklahoma [college] Presidents opposing this bill."

"... I love the rights protected by the Second Amendment. But allowing students to carry weapons on campus is a recipe for disaster and illogical."

—Ricky Brown
OCCC Student

Both Sechrist and Sloas argued that other safety measures would be more constructive.

Sechrist said, in response to recent incidents, schools across the nation have enacted a number of initiatives to increase safety.

"We have begun requiring active shooter training for our safety officers," he said.

"We have also added emergency warning capabilities to all areas of the

campus, including classrooms."

Students across OCCC also expressed their views on HB 2513.

English major Sherree Cantrell said allowing students to carry weapons at school makes sense in theory, but not in reality.

"I'm sure everyone sees the reason behind this bill," Cantrell said. "As often as school shootings are happening, campus safety is a pressing issue and everyone wants to figure out

what to do.

"There would be too many risks having people walking around armed."

Freshman Isaac Daniels said he had not heard about HB 2513, but was surprised after hearing what the bill proposed.

"Are you serious?" Daniels said. "This seems like a no-brainer to me. Why are our elected officials even debating this? If everyone was carrying a gun at school, I'd drop out."

Editor Chris Lusk can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

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Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**March 10:** Meeting for the Student, Faculty and Staff Volleyball league will be held at noon inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. This intramural event will be open to all students and faculty and the season is scheduled to start in April. For more information, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**March 14:** Intramural Basketball Championship. Game time is to be announced.

•**March 15:** Club Soccer plays the University of Central Oklahoma at noon on the campus of Oklahoma State in Stillwater.

•**March 26:** Meeting for the Student, Faculty and Staff Softball league will be held at noon inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. This intramural event will be open to all students and faculty and the season is scheduled to start in April. For more information, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**March 29:** Club Soccer plays Rose State College at 4:30 p.m. here at OCCC.

•**April 7:** Intramural Dodgeball will start its season. This league is for both men and women. It is for all students with a current student ID. For more information on how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Club Soccer Season Schedule

March 1 vs. East Central @ Rose St
 March 9 vs. OU-Colsa @ UCO
 March 15 vs. UCO @ Okla St
 March 29 vs. Rose State @ Home
 April 5 vs. Okla St @ There
 April 12 vs. Oklahoma @ There
 April 19 vs. Arkansas @ There
 April 26 Playoffs TBA
 May 3 CHAMPIONSHIP TBA



Photo by Miles Herndon

OCCC soccer player Erik Medina, (white), battles for ball position in a 1-1 tie versus East Central University March 1.

Soccer opens season with 1-1 draw

By Ashley Karr
 News Writing Student

Wind gusts from the south up to 25 miles per hour could not stop the OCCC intramural soccer team from tying their first game of the season, 1-1 against East Central University, on the campus of Rose State College.

With a new season underway, OCCC had 16 players at the first game. There were some returning players from last season, but there also are many new faces this year.

In the first half, OCCC had shots that were very close to being goals, but none went in.

OCCC goalkeeper, Osvaldo Covarrubias, made a great in the first half, keeping East Central from scoring their first goal.

Shortly after that, an East Central player was given a yellow card and OCCC was to shoot a penalty kick, which just missed the goal and went over the top.

Coach K. B. Yeboah encouraged his players. "Finish, you need to finish," he said. A second yellow card was given to the same ECU player for holding and he was out of the game 20 minutes into the

first half.

Only 15 minutes after that, ECU scored the first goal of the game, taking their team to half time up 1-0.

At the break Yeboah was not pleased with his players' performance. There was much silence by the players while Yeboah lectured the team.

"What's wrong with you?" he asked them repeatedly. He then told them they needed to get it together before the second half started.

The team came out much stronger in the second half, taking a total of five shots. Thanks to Ricardo

Sigala, OCCC managed to tie the game 1-1 midway through the second half. The assist came from Roberto Hernandez.

OCCC saw other opportunities to score but couldn't convert as two hit the cross bar as the game ended in a tie.

After the game, Yeboah said he was disappointed with the outcome. He said his player's could have won if they had played with more intensity.

Sigala said the team would be ready for the next game. OCCC plays OU-Colsa at 5 p.m. March 9, at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

Meet the players...

See more, pg. 13

Ice Cream	Tu Nguyen	Intramural Basketball	Bradley Cosby	Hustlas
				
21		Age		21
6'3"		Height		6'1"
187 lbs.		Weight		175 lbs.
Westmoore Nutrition		High School Major		Edmond North Business Management
Kobe Bryant		Favorite b-ball player		Michael Jordan
LA Lakers		Favorite b-ball team		Boston Celtics
"For the competition"		Reason for playing		"I play for the fun"

Sports



In black, Ice Creams Justin Rozell (left), Nik Grant (middle) and Tu Nguyen (right) collapse on the Hustlas Bradley Cosby in the week four match-up between the two.

Ice Cream's 2-3 zone defense held the Hustlas to a season-low 58 points in the final week of the regular season. A last-second shot by the Hustlas Kevin Small completed an undefeated regular season for the Hustlas.

The Hustlas earned the top seed in the post-season single elimination tournament.

The Hustlas will play 8th-seeded Zilla at 2 p.m. March 7. Ice Cream earned the 5th seed and will play 4th-seeded Geek Squad at 3 p.m., March 7.

If both teams win, they will face each other in the second round semi-finals held on March 14.

Also, the 2nd-seed White Outs play the 7th-seed Mixed Powers at 2 p.m. March 7, and the 3rd-seed Spartans 6th-seed Go Home now at 3 p.m. on March 7.

Photo by Matt Bishop

Hustlas remain undefeated by way of buzzer beater

By **Matt Bishop**
Staff Writer

The Hustlas remain undefeated by converting a last second shot by Kevin Small as time expired for a 59-58 win over team Ice Cream.

During the final minute of the game, the Hustlas missed an easy basket with a 57-56 lead.

Ice Cream came down with under 30-seconds.

Charlie Tarver sent a pass in to Nik Grant, who converted an easy bucket with 18.1 seconds left to take a 58-57 lead.

Bradley Cosby took the ball coast to coast for the Hustlas, but saw his shot get blocked by Grant.

The Hustlas got the ball back and were fouled with 5.9 seconds left.

An inbounds pass to the inside was deflected back out of bounds by Ice Cream with 3.4 left.

Small received the final inbounds pass and made a shot from the short corner as time expired to give the Hustlas the 59-58 win.

The game winning shot was the second of that kind to defeat Ice Cream as they fell in week one to Go Home Now's buzzer beater.

After the game Small said, "I knew I was going to make that

shot... We are still undefeated!"

Small contributed to his team's win largely with 19 points.

Cosby helped lead the way as well with 21 points in a tough victory.

"The refs were letting us play a physical game," Cosby said. "That was the toughest game we have played yet."

After a quick 7-2 lead in the opening minutes, Ice Cream closed the gap with 3-point buckets by Tarver and Tu Nguyen.

Ice Cream slowed the pace down by running a 2-3 zone defense.

The zone slowed down the Hustlas' full court offense, but the Hustlas still found easy baskets through great ball movement and second chance points.

"Their zone slowed us down but we were able to be patient and hit our free throws," Small said.

The Ice Cream zone defense did, however, prevent the Hustlas from opening a wide lead and kept their deficit between three and five as the teams swapped baskets.

Before halftime Cosby dished a no look pass behind his back to Hill. The lay-in was missed, but he got a second chance and converted.

At half time, the Hustlas led 33-

27.

During half time, the Hustlas showed signs of frustration as they discussed the first half.

Ice Cream kept the 2-3 zone in the second half as it slowed the Hustlas down even more.

The Hustlas ran a 4-in-1-out offense but struggled to find gaps inside the paint.

The 6-point lead at halftime was cut down to one point as Ice Cream caught fire in the opening minutes, making the score 35-34.

"We are slower than them, so with a big man we decided the zone would work best," Nguyen said.

The game was back-and-forth with the Hustlas holding a slight lead.

At the 12:52 mark, the game became a little more heated.

Cosby went to save a ball that was going out of bounds. He threw the ball at Nguyen so that it would bounce off and go out of bounds on Nguyen.

The ball hit Nguyen below the waist and Ice Cream members called for a technical foul.

Late in the second half Nguyen would show resiliency. He pulled up on a 1-on-1 fast break to nail a 3-pointer to pull his team within

one with under a minute left.

"I was just trying to win," Nguyen said. "He backed off and I had the open three."

The surge was not enough, but gave Ice Cream reason to look forward to the playoffs.

Nguyen said he liked his team's chances going into the playoffs.

He said they played so well, even without Dylan Deluso who Nguyen says may be the best player on their team.

Deluso will be back for the playoffs after suffering an ankle sprain in the third week of play.

Ice Cream opens their playoff run against the Geek Squad, while the Hustlas play Zilla on March 7.

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

Intramural Basketball Standings After Week 4

1 Hustlas	4-0
2 White Outs	3-1
3 Spartans	3-1
4 Geek Squad	3-1
5 Ice Cream	2-2
6 Go Home Now	1-3
7 Mixed Powers	0-4
8 Zilla	0-4

Highlights

Easter Eggstravaganza

The Nursing Student Association will host an Easter Eggstravaganza from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, in the Health Professions lobby area near entry 6. They'll be selling Easter baskets and more. Prices begin at less than \$1 and do not exceed \$15. Proceeds go to the Nursing Student Association scholarship fund.

Auditions for Shakespeare play

Auditions for "Shakespeare in Pieces" to be held at 7 p.m. Monday, March 10 and Tuesday, March 11, in the college theater. The play has five to seven openings. Auditioners must have prepared one sonnet to demonstrate familiarity with Shakespeare's language. Performances begin May 1. For more information, contact Brent Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246, or e-mail bnoel@occc.edu.

President's Award for Excellence in Teaching

The President's Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented during the spring of each year to a full-time faculty member who exemplifies teaching excellence. The office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs administers the process of receiving nominees and developing recommendations to the President. Faculty members, current and former students, and staff members can nominate. Nomination forms can be found at www.occc.edu/institutionalcommittees, and by clicking on President's Award for Excellence. Nominations are due April 4. For more information, contact Brenda Harrison, Academic Affairs associate vice president, at 405-682-7534, or e-mail bharrison@occc.edu.

Free income tax assistance on campus

Drop by and receive free income tax preparation assistance between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. through April 10 at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance booth across from Student Life. Bring your W-2's, 1099 tax forms, Social Security cards for all members of the household, a photo ID card, a copy of last year's return and any information concerning other income as well as information for deductions or credits.

Cultural Arts Series Spring 2fer Offer

There are 20 2fers — two tickets for the price of one — available on a first-come, first-served basis from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Cultural Arts Series ticket office located in the Office of Cultural Programs, Main Building Room 1G1. If you have questions, call 405-682-7579.

Student newspaper seeks work-study

The Pioneer student newspaper has an opening for a qualified work-study student employee to serve as circulation manager. The job entails picking up the newspaper from the Edmond printer on Friday, a valid driver's license is required. For more information, or to apply for the position, please contact Pioneer Lab Director Ronna Austin at 405-682-1611, ext. 7307.

OCCC medical billing and coding classes

In an effort to meet the demands of the growing medical and health care industry, OCCC now offers classes in Medical Billing and Coding. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/corporatelearning.

It's meetin' time



Photo by Amber McBride

Business Professionals of America officers Ryan Crow, Tino Ceballos and Sande Jarrett talk March 4 about what to do to bring more members to the club. The BPA meets every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in room 2R7 of the Main Building.

Askins to speak about politics, people March 26

By **Ryan Donahoo**
News Writing Student

Lt. Gov. Jari Askins will speak at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 26, in the College Union. Her topic will be "Politics and People."

Askins served 12 years in Oklahoma Legislature before being elected lieutenant governor in 2006.

Askins is excited about the visit, said Kim Roberts, Askins' media consultant. Roberts said Askins is happy to be invited to OCCC by John Horinek, Student Life programs coordinator.

Askins was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 1994, followed by being named vice-chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee. After being re-elected in 1996, she served as chairman of the Government Operations and Agency Oversight Committee, and became the first woman assistant majority floor leader.

She was re-elected a third time in 1998 without any opposition, and then re-elected in 2000 for a fourth term, at which time she was named deputy floor leader.

After serving in the Legislature for many years, Askins earned the position of Democratic house leader in 2005 and became the first woman to lead a political party in the Oklahoma Legislature.



JariAskins

The details

What: Lt. Gov. Jari Askins will speak on "Politics and People"
When: 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 26
Where: OCCC College Union
Cost: Free



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TEXTBOOK FOR SALE: I have an introductory & intermediate

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Serve soup
- 6 Volcano's dust
- 9 Cowboy movie
- 14 Bay window
- 15 Health resort
- 16 Broadway offering
- 17 Group of stars
- 19 Duck-hunter's need
- 20 W. alliance
- 21 Actor Foxx
- 22 Entices
- 23 — National Park, Utah
- 25 Glue
- 26 Stoneworkers
- 29 Actor Grey
- 31 — upon: take advantage of
- 32 Rowboat part
- 36 Microbe
- 37 — Wiedersehen
- 38 Ghostly sound
- 40 Computer networks
- 43 Riches
- 45 Squadron
- 46 "Messiah" composer
- 47 Green stones
- 50 Hawaiian island
- 51 Regulations
- 52 Skip over
- 54 Reporter's question
- 57 Trojan War tale

- 58 Sense failure, slangly
- 61 Singer Ross
- 62 Consumed
- 63 Chicago's airport
- 64 Pert
- 65 Actor Beatty
- 66 College student's assignment

DOWN

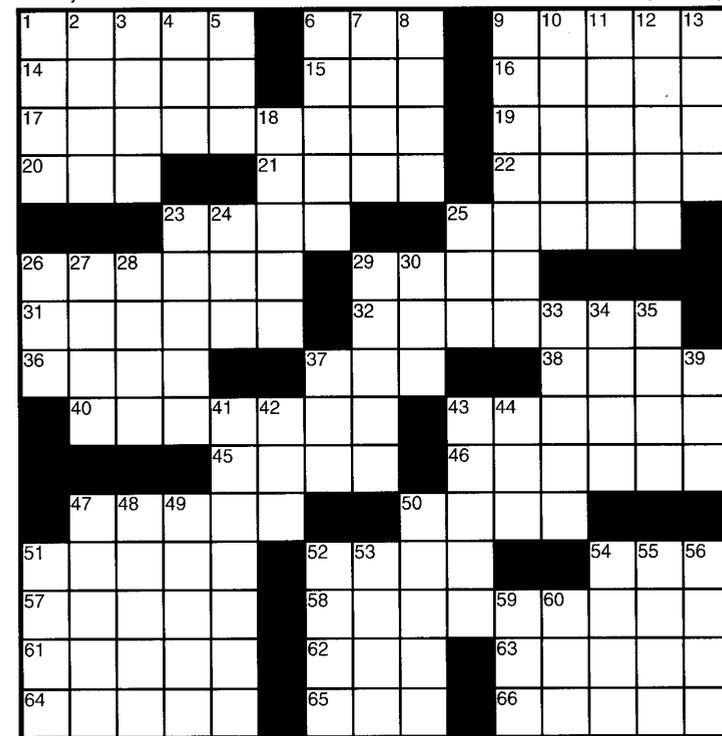
- 1 Gray wolf
- 2 Operatic highlight
- 3 Uses a shovel
- 4 Guided
- 5 Yale alumnus
- 6 Rocky Mountain tree
- 7 Went 95
- 8 Difficult
- 9 Crackpot
- 10 Territories
- 11 Unspoken
- 12 Overact
- 13 Sunbeams
- 18 Not poetry
- 23 Skyrockets
- 24 Be-: hippie happenings
- 25 — capita
- 26 Russian fighter
- 27 Iowa town
- 28 Agile
- 29 Knight's contest

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

T	A	B	C	R	I	S	P	U	S	A			
M	O	V	E	H	E	N	N	A	R	I	N	D	
O	L	I	N	A	V	A	I	L	U	N	D	O	
A	D	V	E	R	S	E	T	O	N	G	U	E	S
S	N	A	I	L	S	A	N	I	T	A			
C	A	C	T	I	S	W	A	N	Y	A	R	N	
O	P	E	C	A	L	D	R	O	N	Y	O		
W	A	D	I	F	E	U	D	O	C	E	A	N	
M	U	U	M	U	U	T	E	A	M	S			
A	S	S	E	R	T	S	M	I	S	T	I	N	G
S	H	U	N	T	A	K	E	N	E	L	I	E	
H	E	R	S	E	V	E	N	T	R	I	C	E	
R	Y	E	R	E	A	D	S	N	E	E			

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- 30 LummoX
- 33 Muscat native
- 34 Frosty
- 35 Singer Smith
- 37 "How — doing?"
- 39 Edmonton Oilers org.
- 41 Calendar box
- 42 Printer's measures
- 43 "— up, Doc?"
- 44 Water, in Montreal
- 47 Chef Child
- 48 Pen name
- 49 Faculty heads
- 50 Worked underground
- 51 Disencumbers
- 52 North African port
- 53 Silent
- 54 Prepare for mailing
- 55 Not there
- 56 Frankfurt's river
- 59 Uniform wearer
- 60 Triumphant cry



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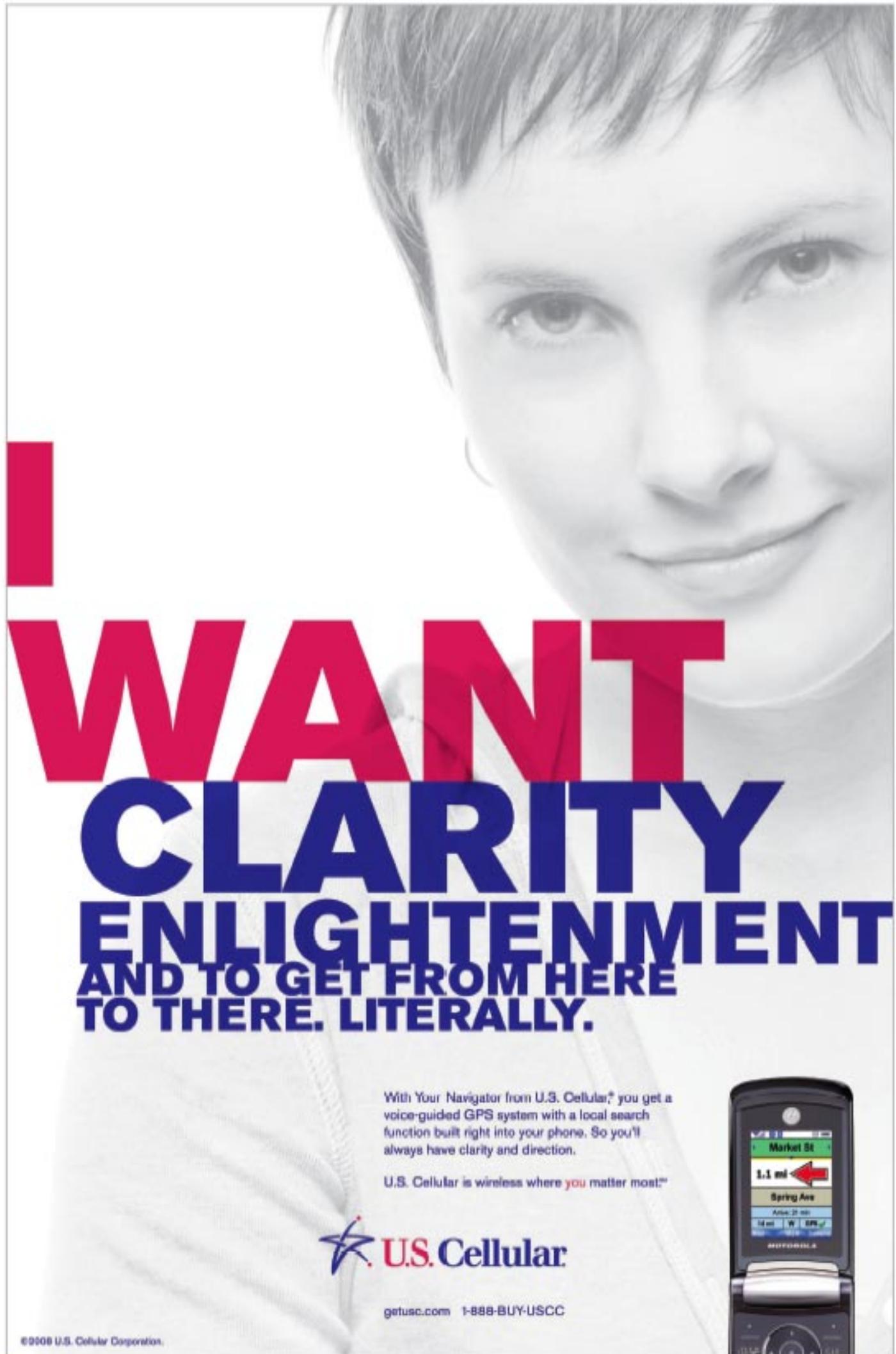
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