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Debate called on lowering 21 drinking age

Some university presidents sign petition in favor of change

By **Matt Montgomery**
Staff Writer

It's time to rethink the national drinking age of 21, say a group of college presidents. Since 1984, 21 has been the age that one can legally purchase or consume alcohol in the U.S.

Launched in July 2008, the Amethyst Initiative is an organization made up of U.S. college presidents and chancellors to reconsider the national drinking age. It was founded by John McCardell, the former president of Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vt.

McCardell said he was inspired to start the initiative during his time as president of Middlebury College.

"During my 13 years as president I witnessed a culmination of drinking patterns among young adults that weren't in touch with reality," McCardell said. "I then decided that there needed to be a public debate and discussion to address the problem directly."

"Adults under 21 are deemed capable of voting, signing contracts, serving on juries and enlisting in the military, but are told they are not mature enough to have a beer," the initiative reads.

McCardell argues the 21-year-old age limit causes young people to drink clandestinely, without supervision.

"It is time to take a thorough look at the 21-year-old drinking age and determine whether it is in tune with social reality or not," McCardell said.

He said underlying problems that often accompany hidden drinking, such as binge drinking and underage drinking on college campuses, need to be addressed. He said unsupervised drinking tends to be excessive.

"There needs to be a discussion concerning binge drinking among those under the age of 21," McCardell said, citing there were 5,000 young lives lost in 2007 due to alcohol abuse with 3,100 of those happening at parties where binge drinking occurred.

"Binge-related behavior is more likely to occur behind closed doors," McCardell said.

"Those 18 to 21 behave and act



See "Drinking," page 4

Scientifically speaking



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Rocio Ramirez, social sciences major, transfers chemicals into test tubes. The Biology Science Center is open to all OCCC students with a valid school ID. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

Anniversary Party week to celebrate college's 36th year

By **Dillon Hart**
Staff Writer

OCCC is planning an Anniversary Party Week Sept. 22 through 26 to celebrate its 36th year of classes.

Different activities that celebrate student life and community involvement will occur each day of the week.

Free sno-cones will be handed out on Monday, Sept. 22. Information tables will give students an idea of what the week will be like, said Student Life Coordinator Katie Treadwell.

"Students are so often kind of coming and going, especially since we're a commuter campus," Treadwell said.

"So, (this is about) build-

ing that community and just kind of having a time where they can stop and do something fun, talk with their friends, be in one place."

Tuesday, Sept. 3 will be the day of the Volunteer Fair for students interested in public service.

"We work with almost 100 community agencies who have all different needs and serve all different populations in the Oklahoma City area," Treadwell said.

"That Tuesday, all of our community agencies are going to come in and have a booth. They'll get to showcase their agency and what they do, and they can recruit volunteers at that time."

Treadwell said the opportunities range from hospice work to internships, and

everything in between.

Students can encase their hands in wax on Wednesday, Sept. 24. Treadwell said students can pose their hands in any position and get wax molds made.

A birthday party on Thursday, Sept. 25, will celebrate the college's actual birthday. The event will be in the dining area during lunchtime.

Treadwell said the party will feature balloons, birthday cake, guest speakers, and student musicians performing.

On Friday, Sept. 26, students can participate in the Adopt-a-Street program.

It is one of four service days that Student Life organizes per semester.

See "Anniversary," page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Technological distractions

Technology has been around for a long time and is ever growing.

The progression has been fierce, with cell phones making pagers obsolete and television going completely digital soon.

With all the latest gizmos and gadgets on the market, though, comes a costly price — our attention.

The average attention span of a college student is 25 minutes, according to Google Answers.

Most classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are almost an hour long. Classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays are almost an hour and a half long.

Plus, there are the once-a-week classes, usually lasting two and a half hours.

This means paying attention can be tough with all of the technological distractions around.

Just think how irritated professors get when they are trying to teach a class and notice someone texting on their phone.

Or, maybe, when students are trying to discretely listen to their iPods because they find the subject matter a little boring?

Sure, the professor could liven up the class, maybe by getting all the students involved in a classroom activity or something similar.

But it is also the student's responsibility to be respectful and keep their technological distractions put away in the classroom.

After all, we are, in one way or another, spending our valuable money on the class, so why not get our money's worth?

Plus, paying attention will pay larger dividends in the future.

All the new technological toys out right now, such as the Zune, the iPod, the PlayStation Portable and cellular devices, can become such a temptation for distraction.

How can we combat this temptation?

The quick and simple solution is just not to bring them into the classroom.

But if they are needed for emergencies with family members or health needs, they should be kept on hand, but silent.

Most professors won't mind if your phone is on silent and you take an emergency call by stepping out of the room.

As for the iPods and portable gaming devices, surely a student can let them go for an hour or an hour and a half.

With these temptations out of the way, students should be able to concentrate better and learn more, since that is the reason he or she is at the college.

Let's make the most of our learning experience, and keep these distractions out of sight and out of mind.

—Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Geese on college property need protection from traffic

To the editor:

Over the weekend, I noticed on the way to the Arts Festival that there was a big grease spot in the road in front of the E&J store. It had the looks of the end results of one of our precious friends — the geese — and an automobile of some sort.

This past year, not only my family and I, but many others have noticed how large the gaggle, or flock, has become.

Many people enjoy the beauty of them, how they act when you feed them, their slow easy way of getting from one place to another, their resounding sounds when in flight and

the fact that they have not only made our pond area their home but seem to have brought in what seems to be other family members.

Isn't there anything the college could do to protect these magnificent creatures that have decided to make our pond their refuge?

Possibly something similar to the orange netting used in the construction sites, about 2 to 3 feet tall that would deter the geese from getting into the main city streets where the heavier traffic is not as cautious about their care as most of the students, staff, faculty and others from the college try to be.

I know that completely

stopping them would be impossible with the drives that have to allow the humans on the property, but then the geese usually do not use the drives.

—Kay Woods
OCCC student and staff member

**Comments? Opinions?
E-mail Chris at
editor@occc.edu
Let your voice be heard!**



PIONEER
Vol. 37 No. 4

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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

Comments and Reviews

Dylan brings his band to Tulsa

For the times they are a-changin, there's no doubt about that.

Then again, things don't take long to change when Bob Dylan is calling the shots.

Whether he is reinventing himself, his catalog of folk-rock classics or his modern contemporaries, Dylan has never been one for letting things be.

He certainly hasn't left his own music alone, although no one in the universe has more right to do so than the iconic 67-year-old Pulitzer Prize recipient, Dylan's musical accomplishments have produced legions of legends throughout the years.

Which is why, 20 years and counting into his "Never Ending Tour," Dylan is still tweaking the ideas he first etched in vinyl decades ago.

However, the right to explore does not automatically translate into successful ventures.

Dylan performed for a sold-out crowd on Aug. 27 at the Brady Theater in Tulsa.

With the help of his quintet of backing musicians, Dylan churned out more than two hours of...well, partially unrecognizable and mostly incomprehensible music.

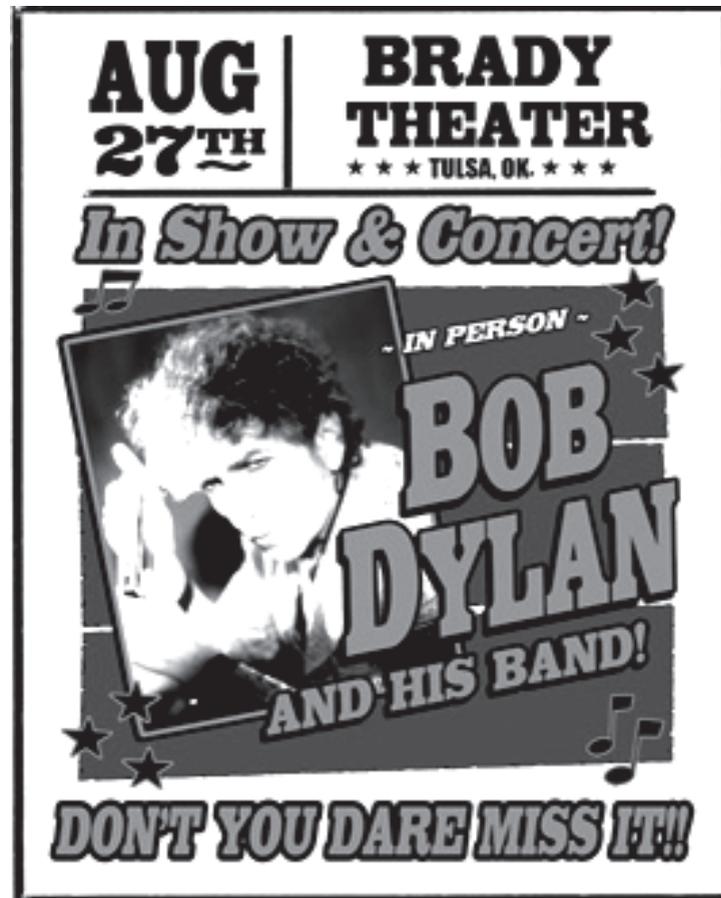
And while you have to respect such a brilliant songwriter and an artist whose career has spanned more than four decades, it was painfully obvious that Mr. Tambourine Man is well past his prime.

I can count on one hand, two hands tops, the number of words I could actually understand him singing.

His speaking voice was not much better, never mind he only used it once during the encore to introduce his backing band.

Even then, Dylan's words were nothing but mumbles.

Dylan's voice was lower and more incoherent than



his unique style of yesterday — evidence of his diminished vocal range.

At 67, Dylan's weak vocals are completely excusable; however, taking his artistic license to wild extremes put a small damper on the concert.

While I did not expect a two-hour show with a solo Dylan, an acoustic guitar and his harmonica, I was disappointed when the entire show remained a showcase of unknown tunes and a handful of rearranged classics.

Not that his musical musings weren't enjoyable, but when you can't recognize a song until halfway through, that is a bit tragic — especially when the song is "Like A Rolling Stone."

Another detail that left me feeling unfulfilled was that Dylan only touched a guitar once, for the opening number, opting for his keyboard instead.

This instrument change-up isn't new though. In fact, it's been well documented for many years. I just wish I could have seen Dylan with a guitar for

more than five minutes.

And let's not forget the harmonica work, or more accurately, the lack of.

Three songs contained harmonica pieces, and even at that, Dylan's harmonica never seemed to fit where he played.

However, these letdowns are not to say the show was bad. It was an enjoyable event, by far.

Toward the end of the night, Dylan had a huge hit with the overly-patient and gracious crowd.

Until that point, the audience would cheer after each song out of respect for the man, regardless of how unknown or unrecognizable the song was, but when the familiar chords of "Highway 61 Revisited" struck, a roar erupted throughout the theater.

People jumped out of their seats, danced and sang loudly back at Dylan.

Seeing the audience, both young and old, react so enthusiastically made me grateful to be experiencing a Dylan show.

As a young adult, oppor-

View from the
PRESIDENT'S
OFFICE 

Historic events please president

With Sen. John McCain's choice of a woman as his vice-presidential running mate and Sen. Barack Obama's nomination as the first African-American presidential nominee of a major party, 2008 is shaping up to a year filled with historic firsts. I feel grateful and proud to be a part of these events.

For our younger students, faculty and staff, these events may seem quite expected and not that unusual. If that is the case, that attitude is something to be celebrated.

For some like me, while I celebrate where we are as a nation, I am old enough to have experienced firmly-held beliefs that severely limited opportunities for people of color and women. America's past was often accurately described as a "white man's world."

As a child, I experienced the rise of the civil rights and women's liberation movements. In my optimism as child, I expected Americans to quickly embrace the fundamental principle that all people are created equal, should have equal rights — including the right to realistically dream of being president.

Today I realize the struggle for equal rights continues. But the progress, while slower than I expected, has been remarkable and required the sustained efforts of many leaders. The presidential election of 2008 is a wonderful confirmation of this progress.

Again, I feel grateful and proud.

—Paul Sechrist
OCCC President

tunities to see such important and transcendent stars of the past are few and far between. Sitting there, watching Dylan on stage, I couldn't help but be overwhelmed with appreciation for the influence he has had.

This is an artist who has received top honors and recognition from multiple countries from the U.S. to Spain to Sweden, to name a few.

So although I was a little disappointed at the conclusion of the night — Dylan only played three of his über-popular classics

and zero songs with an acoustic guitar — I couldn't help but smile and be glad that I made the trip to see Bob Dylan and his band.

While his credibility as a musician, and the fact that it was Bob Dylan, earns the concert extra points, the show was still filled with too many weak points to stand on its own merits.

Bob Dylan is incredible; his show in Tulsa however, was not.

Rating: B-

—Chris Lusk
Editor

Students sound off on drinking age law

"I don't think it should be purchased by somebody at the age of 18, but 18 just to drink wouldn't be bad, but only under supervision of somebody over 25."

—**Joseph Buchanan, 19, Engineering major**



"The main point is to stop binge drinking. Lowering the age limit wouldn't make them have to drink all at once anymore."

—**San Cho, 18, Business Management major**

"I am opposed to lowering the drinking age because I don't think they are mentally stable enough to drink. There would be more DUI's."

—**April McCann, 22, Surgical Technology major**

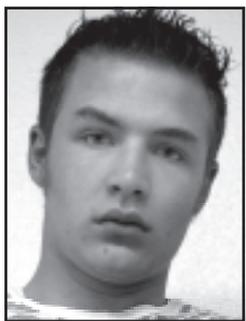


"I think 21 is fine. The younger you start drinking, the harder it may be to stop drinking later in life."

—**Aissata Cisse, 20, Engineering major**

"I'm all for it. If people can get into the military at 18, why not be able to have a drink?"

—**Madison Brickman, 19, History major**



"We're going to drink whether the legal age is 18 or 21. Lowering the drinking age would save us some jail time."

—**Jerad Reed, 19, Engineering major**

History of the legal drinking age

- During the height of the Vietnam War in the early 1970s, 29 states began lowering their drinking age to align with military enlistment and the voting age, which had been reduced to 18.
- Of those 29 states, drinking ages varied from 18 to 20. Sometimes the drinking age depended on the type of alcohol. For example, the age would be 18 for beer and 20 for hard liquor.
- April 14, 1982 President Ronald Reagan established the Presidential Commission Against Drunk Driving, which was the first step in raising the minimum drinking age to 21 in all states.
- In 1983, 16 states voluntarily raised their legal drinking age up to 21 due to traffic fatalities and injuries.
- On July 17, 1984, President Reagan signed the Uniform Drinking Age Act mandating that all states adopt 21 as the legal drinking age.
- By 1988 all states had set the minimum drinking age to 21, where it has remained since.

Information gathered from: chooseresponsibility.org

Students mixed about lower drinking age

"Drinking,"
Cont. from page 1

more responsibly out in the open."

Recent responses to the initiative have been encouraging, he said.

McCardell said since July, 130 college presidents and chancellors have signed on in support of the initiative, mostly at universities, both public and private, with on-campus housing.

He said if more universities hold discussions, then more presidents will be in favor of signing the initiative.

Among the college presidents and chancellors who have signed the petition are Dr. Richard Brodhead of Duke University and President William Brody of Johns Hopkins University.

Only a few community college presidents have signed, he said.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said he is leaning toward not signing the initiative at this time.

"I haven't had the opportunity to compile all of the research to make an accu-

rate decision," Sechrist said. "There are a lot of behavioral patterns that must be addressed concerning drinking habits."

Sechrist said he advocates responsible drinking.

"I would encourage people to drink responsibly and never drive after drinking," he said.

"Alcohol reduces your inhibitions. I would encourage students to drink responsibly whether they are 18 or 21."

Other Oklahoma college presidents were reluctant to sign the petition as well.

University of Oklahoma President David Boren said he does not plan to sign the initiative.

"Since we adopted our alcohol policy three years ago, alcohol-related offenses, including DWIs, have been reduced by almost 50 percent," Boren said.

"In addition, if the state government were to take such action, this would cost the state millions of dollars in state highway funding."

Boren is referring to the National Drinking Age Act,

which imposed a penalty of 10 percent of a state's federal highway appropriation on any state setting its drinking age lower than 21.

Oklahoma college leaders will discuss the initiative Sept. 15.

OCCC students expressed reactions to the proposal.

Environmental studies sophomore Cliff Broadway said he would be angry if the drinking age were lowered.

"Alcohol kills people," Broadway said.

Zoology sophomore Alexis Smith had mixed emotions about the initiative.

"I think it's a good idea to give younger people a chance to prove themselves," Smith said.

"I think it's a bad idea because the majority of them aren't responsible enough to behave properly when they get a few drinks in them."

For more information about the Amethyst Initiative, go to www.amethystinitiative.org.

Staff Writer Matt Montgomery can be reached at seniorwriter@occc.edu.

Stolen property reported in campus crime

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Theft highlighted crime this week.

On Aug. 29, security officer Larry Lundy was flagged down by an artist at Arts Festival Oklahoma, according to a report.

Steven Harkey, arts festival artist, said when he arrived back at his assigned booth, he noticed a jewelry case missing.

The case is a gray nylon bag with black straps and

trim. Inside were wooden trays and individual jewelry boxes in each tray, according to the report.

Harkey said he didn't know if there was jewelry inside the case. He said he didn't have an inventory list.

The value of the case and boxes is listed at \$200.

In another incident, security officer Brent Williams was flagged down Aug. 29 by student Safia Franks.

Franks said someone had gone through her car and taken items from her glove compartment.

Williams inspected the vehicle and noticed three of the four windows were rolled down about three or four inches, according to

the report.

Franks said her doors were locked when she left her vehicle around 9 a.m., and they were unlocked when she arrived back at 10 a.m.

The things that appeared to be missing were the title to her car, her checkbook, some old check stubs, the vehicle owner's manual and some cleaning wipes, according

to the report.

Williams said the total cost of replacing the items was estimated at \$30.

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

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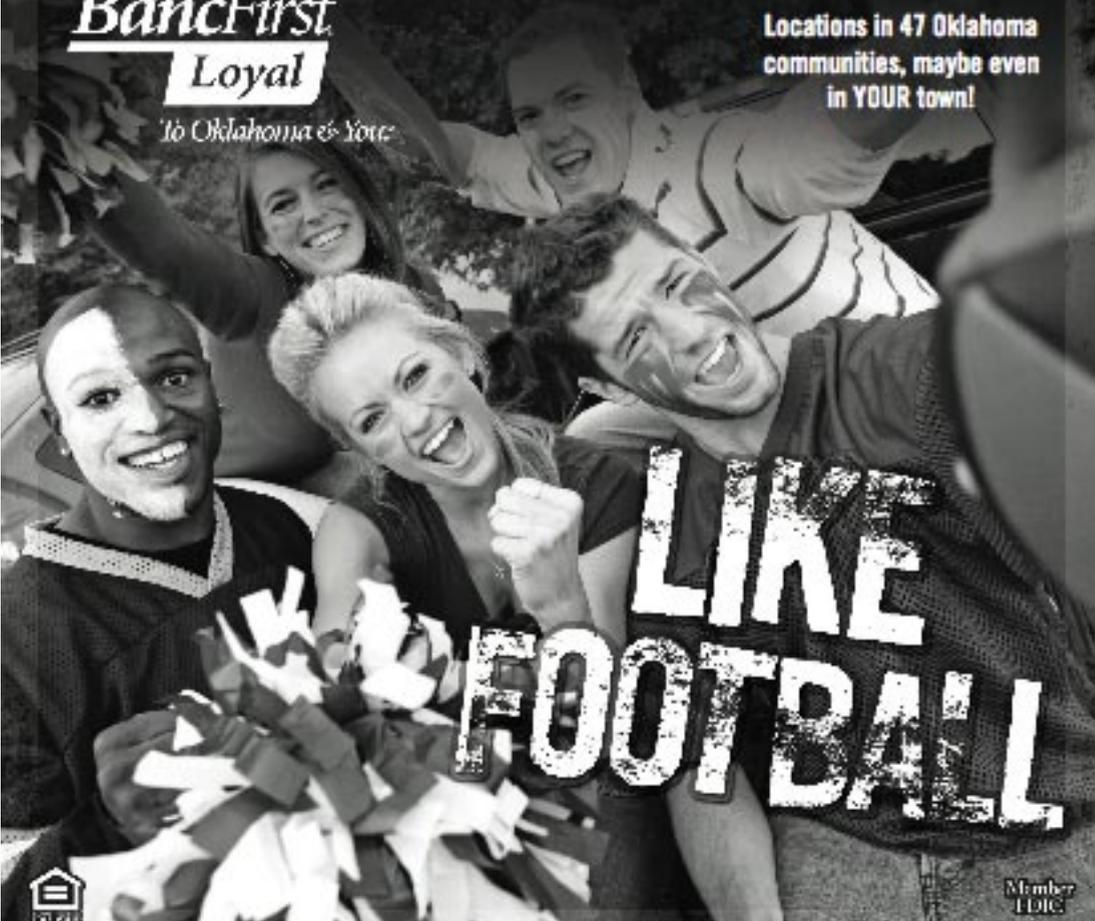
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Arts festival show goes on despite rain;



Rainy weather put a damper on some activities at Arts Festival Oklahoma, on campus over the Labor Day weekend. But the art, food and music kept patrons coming back.

Multiple events on Friday night and the Philharmonic performance on Saturday night were canceled due to bad weather, but that was not enough to deter people from attending the rest of the weekend.

This year's festival featured many artists displaying works ranging from traditional paintings to clay sculptures.

There was a multitude of talent including Rory Morgan, a landscape painter, who recently sold one of his paintings to OCCC.

Children also were given an opportunity to participate in the arts with activities ranging from sand castle building to face painting.

Aside from the art, many performing artists provided attendees with non-stop music throughout the days and evening, offering a wide variety of music ranging from folk to rock.

And what would any festival be without food? This year's festival allowed people to choose from many vendors offering an assortment of flavors. The crowd favorite undoubtedly seemed to be Sweis's Gyros.

Numerous organizations including clubs from OCCC and Pathways High School showed their support as volunteers. Volunteers shuttled people to and from the parking lot, and took water to the many artists and workers.

Left: Chris Morley, bassist for rock/pop group Alter Ego, rocks out on the main stage. More than 15 bands performed at this year's Arts Festival Oklahoma.

Below: Sean Corner, a clay sculptor, creates a piece of art. Corner, like many other artists present, drove from out of state to attend Arts Festival Oklahoma.



Text and Photos by Kenny Hilburn

Vendors provide good time for all ages



Above: Codi Madrid, 8, gets his face painted to look like Spiderman. The children's tent offered fun and exciting activities for children of all ages.



Right: Ali Martin, 8, works meticulously on sculpting sand art. Arts Festival Oklahoma offered many activities for children.



Photo by
LaWanda LaVarnway

Above: Fireworks explode during Sunday night's events at Arts Festival Oklahoma. Patrons were also treated to beautiful art, live music, and great food.



Right: Stacy White, analyzes artist J.D. McCoy's woven works. Both were attending Arts Festival Oklahoma for the first time.

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

Sept. 6, Sept. 27, Oct. 4: OCCC Aquatics Center will offer a stroke development clinic from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on the above dates. Participants must be able to swim 25 yards and be knowledgeable of different swim strokes. They will learn to improve their technique, stretching, endurance and speed. The cost of the camps is \$6. For more information, contact Melissa at 405-682-1611, ext. 7442, or call 405-682-7860 to register.

Sept. 20: OCCC will host the NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition on Saturday, Sept. 20. The program is a national skills competition for boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15 to compete separately against their peers. Girls and boys in four separate age divisions (8-9, 10-11, 12-13 and 14-15) compete against each other in punting, passing and place kicking in a fun and engaging forum. The PPK program will start at 10 a.m. and is free for everyone.

Do you have an amazing sports story you would like to share?

Call Daniel Martin at 405-682-1611, ext. 7440 or e-mail StaffWriter2@occc.edu

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Fade away

Jeremy Jackson gets some exercise playing basketball in the gym. He takes a shot with his teammates and opponents looking on. The Wellness Center gym is open for any students or staff with a valid school I.D. The gym also is open to any patron with a Wellness Center fitness membership.

Photo by Kenny Hilburn

OCCC advocates Campus Wellness

By Daniel Martin
Staff Writer

All study and no exercise leads to health problems in the future, so OCCC is offering incentives to get students out of their chairs and onto their feet.

"We established a Wellness Task Force last year to make recommendations regarding the implementation of a comprehensive wellness initiative," OCCC President Paul Sechrist said.

"The overall recommendation, which I support, is to create a 'culture of wellness' at OCCC," Sechrist said. "Striving to live a healthy lifestyle should be important for everyone because it improves an individual's overall quality and length of life."

To help students and faculty get involved, Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson said OCCC will again be offering Fall-into-Fitness programs.

"Fall-into-Fitness is a fitness incentive program brought to you by the OCCC Wellness Center for all faculty, students and wellness center members," Watson said.

He said there are no set requirements for specific cardio or weight training exercises, but points are

accumulated for time spent in the Wellness Center.

"If members spend time in the pool, the weight room, running, or in the gymnasium then they will be rewarded with points depending on how long they were exercising," Watson said.

He said at the end of the semester, the people who complete the program will receive a "cool prize."

"It helps Wellness Center members, faculty and staff to stay active," Watson said, "Incentives seem to help motivate people."

Anyone interested in Fall-into-Fitness can find a complete overview using the Wellness Center button on the OCCC's online homepage

Registration ends Sept. 19 and the program lasts from Sept. 22 to Nov. 15.

Participants of Fall-into-Fitness can also accumulate points by attending any student-life activities, According to www.occc.edu/RF/FallFitness.html.

Fall-into-Fitness isn't the only way to stay active. Simply eating healthy and exercising can help improve a person's well being.

"Overall wellness for our students, faculty, and staff is an important issue for a number of rea-

"... we need to work together and inspire each other to live healthier lives."

—Paul Sechrist
OCCC President

sons," Sechrist said, "Encouraging a healthy lifestyle for our faculty and staff could have a positive impact on health care costs for the college as well as potentially improving the employee's ability to work effectively and efficiently."

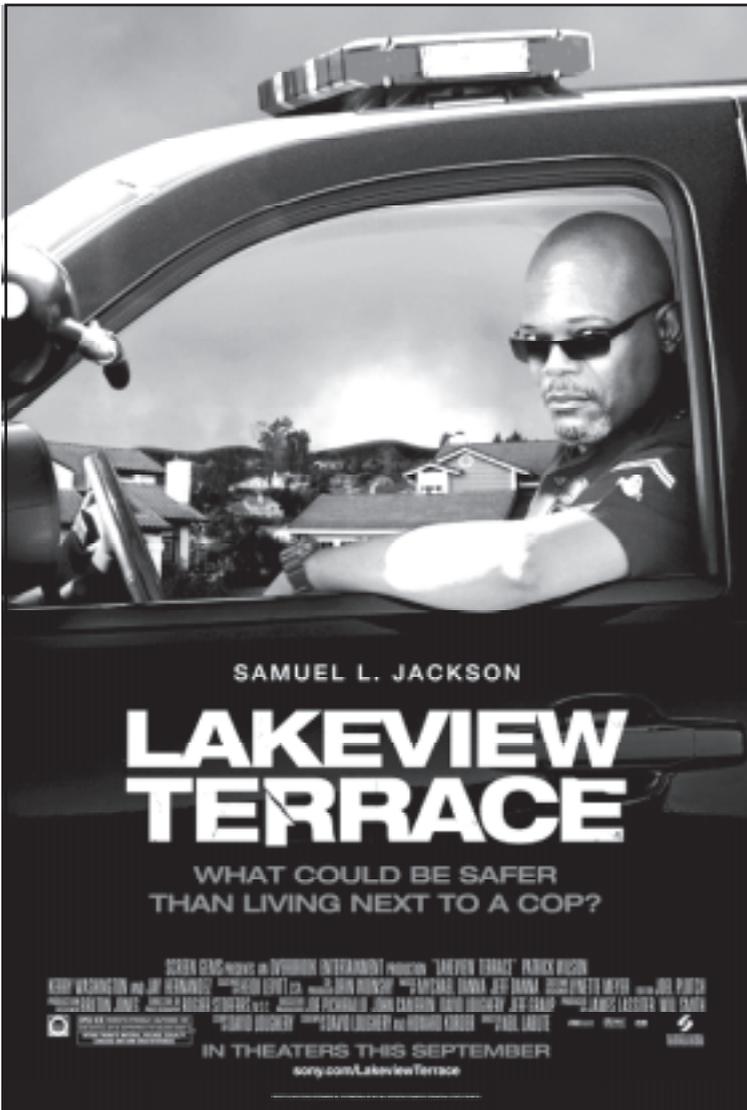
He said encouraging students to adopt a healthy lifestyle is an important life lesson that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

"To be all that we can be as individuals, as a collective staff and as a campus community, including our students, we need to work together and inspire each other to live healthier lives," Sechrist said, "And if we work together successfully, we will all live longer and have a healthier quality of life."

For more information on Campus Wellness or OCCC's Fall-into-Fitness, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Staff Writer Daniel Martin can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

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PIONEER



SCREEN GEMS.

IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPT. 19

Correction

Carson's Market Fresh Cafe is open until 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, not 6:30 p.m. as was reported in last week's issue.

YOUR IDEAS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS!

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Highlights

World Languages and Cultures Center Open House

The World Languages and Cultures Center welcomes everyone to its open house from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, in the World Languages and Cultures Center. Appetizers will be served for the entire open house. For more information, contact WLCC at 405-682-1611, ext. 7560.

OKC-GO Kick-Off

The OKC-GO Kick-Off will be at 3 p.m. Sept. 9, in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Employment and Career Power Workshops

The Job Board Registration workshop will be from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Sept. 10, in the College Union advising area. The Optimal Resume Creation workshop will be from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Sept. 17, in the College Union advising area. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Hispanic Heritage Day approaching

Hispanic Heritage Day is Sept. 15. Student Life will bring in a Mariachi band to entertain from noon to 1 p.m. in the College Union general dining area. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Leader Quick sessions Sept. 9 and 16

There will be Leader Quick sessions at 12:30 p.m. Sept. 9 and 16, in the Student Organization Meeting Room in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Brown Bag lecture

The next Brown Bag lecture focusing on MineOnline will be from noon to 1 p.m. Sept. 16 in College Union room 1. You may bring your lunch to the meeting. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

First Lecture Series of the semester

The first Lecture Series, "Race, Gender and Media in the 2008 Elections," with media critic Jennifer Pozner, will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Oct. 9, in College Union room 1. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries meeting

The Baptist Collegiate Ministries will meet at noon every Monday in the lobby in the Arts and Humanities building and at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday in room 3N0 of the Main Building. There will be a free lunch. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Mike Barnett at 405-323-0583.

Chi Alpha meeting

Chi Alpha, a Christian group, will meet Wednesdays at noon in the theater lobby. Every other meeting will serve pizza. For more information, contact sponsor Greg Tiffany at 405-308-3737.

Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday for publication in the next issue of the Pioneer. Students can submit any club event, or other function, into the Highlights section.



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Amy Banks, early childhood development, Brittney Virtue, business, and State Director Greg Tiffany listen to prayer requests from other Chi Alpha members. Chi Alpha is a Christian organization that meets weekly in the theater foyer.

Clubs add new members during Organizations Fair

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Hundreds of students made Student Life's Club and Organizations Fair a success.

"There were 834 total students that signed up for a club of some sort," said Karlen Grayson, Student Clubs and Organizations assistant.

These numbers were down from last year's 1,128 total signed up, but Grayson said she believes the fair was a success.

Grayson said students showed interest in 38 different clubs.

Among the 38, several stood above the others, bringing in the most members.

The Psychology/Sociology club had the most sign up this year with 77, Grayson said.

In a close second was the Nursing Students Association, which had 73 new students sign up, Grayson said.

The third highest total came from the Student Art Guild, with 46 new mem-

bers, she said.

Student Art Guild sponsor Mary Ann Moore said she was "quite shocked" to see so many students signed up.

"I think [the signup total] is wonderful," she said. "Sometimes we have a lot of interest, sometimes we don't."

The Business Professionals of America acquired 44 new members, Grayson said.

The Black Student Association gained 40 members also, she said.

The other health technologies club, the Health Professions club, gained 43 members, Grayson said.

The newest club, the Future Alumni Network, raked in 59 new members, she said.

Finally, the Photography

"I think [the signup total] is wonderful. Sometimes we have a lot of interest, sometimes we don't."

—Mary Ann Moore
Student Art Guild club sponsor

Club had 36 new members sign up, Grayson said.

For more information on Student Life or clubs and meeting times, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

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

Interested in joining a club? Student Life, located on the first floor of the Main Building, has information on all available clubs and organizations. For more information, call 405-682-7523.

Week of fun, food, socializing planned

*"Anniversary,"
Cont. from page 1*

Students can help adopt a street, which means they would take charge of a particular section of May Avenue.

OCCC is responsible for May Avenue between S.W. 74th St. and S.W. 89th St.

The student would be responsible for keeping their section clean by devoting a few days per year to its upkeep.

Anniversary Party week has a theme of connecting the college with the surrounding community and to celebrate that relationship, Treadwell said.

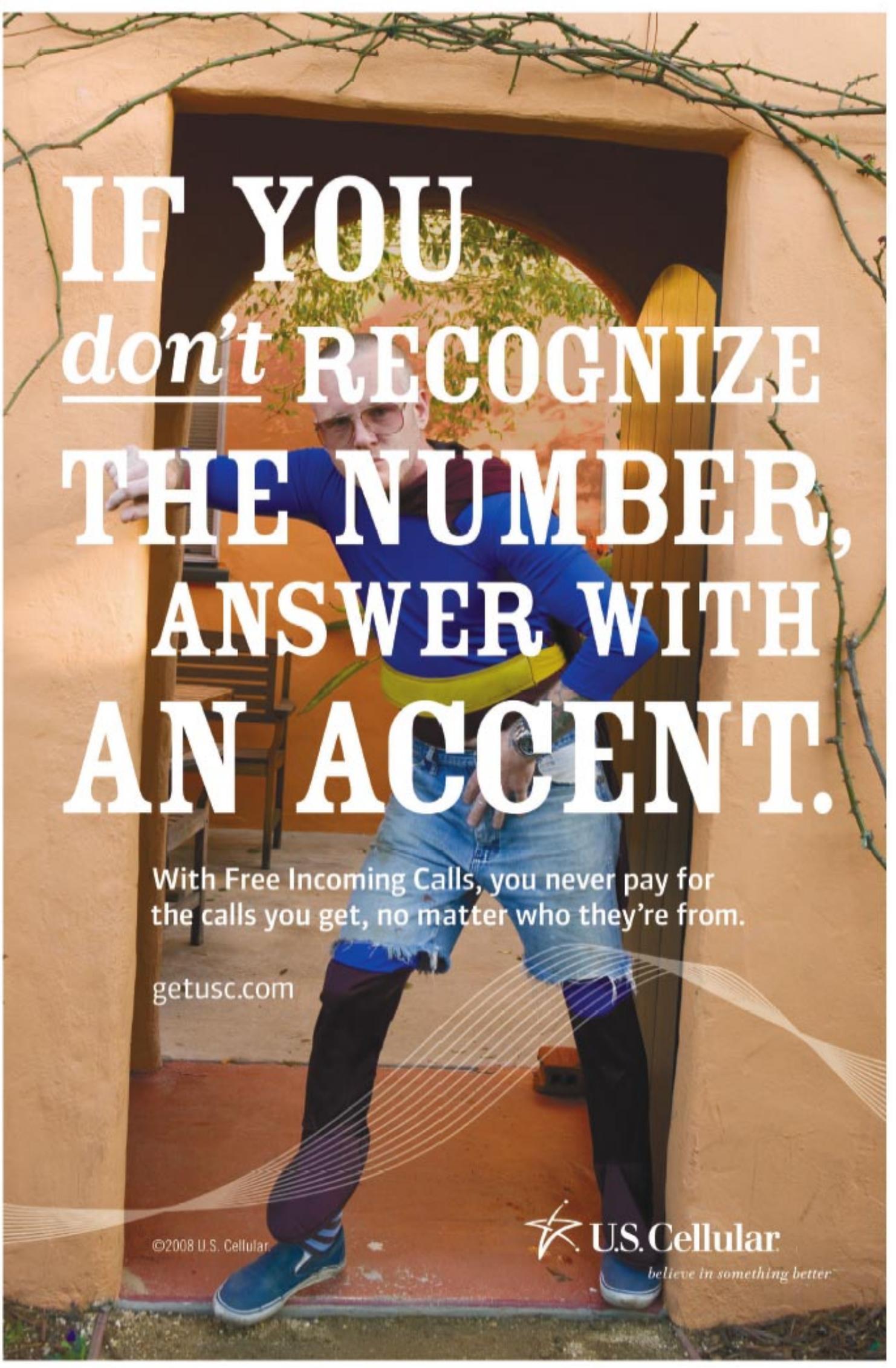
"OCCC is here to serve the community. That can be students giving back to the community, but it also relates directly back to the students, because the students here are from the community.

"So, in a way, it's almost giving back to themselves and making the area where they live a better place."

Staff Writer Dillon Hart can be reached at Staff Writer2@occc.edu.



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