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## Actor arouses strong feelings with performance

Publicity stunt raises ruckus

By **Matt Montgomery**  
Editor  
and **Dillon Hart**  
Staff Writer

Street theater met college life in the commons area of the Main Building Sept. 30, leaving one professor frustrated and a student actor the center of attention.

Students who observed the staged event found themselves wondering what happened and what it all meant.

University of Oklahoma adjunct professor Matt Despain's class was disrupted at 12:45 p.m. by the noise on the central stairwell landing between the first and second floors of the Main Building.

An actor was performing an excerpt from the upcoming play, "In The Blood," performed on campus the first weekend in October.

Theater major Roderick Wright was shouting his ideological message at anyone in the vicinity.

Shortly after Wright began his monologue in the middle of the center stairwell. Despain ran out of his classroom to find the source of the disruption.

Despain shouted at the actor to shut up. "I'm teaching a class," he said.

Despain repeated his command several times, but Wright ignored him and persisted with his speech.

Students on the ground floor began shouting back at Despain.

One student yelled, "Go back to your class."

After a moment, one of Despain's students appeared next to the professor. The student was visibly upset, and shouted and cursed at the theater students on the ground floor to stop the noise.

"I paid for this class, so shut ... up," the student said.

Despain was teaching "The American West," a University of Oklahoma course with a predominantly OU student enrollment.

Despain said he has dealt with situations like this several times on OU's campus.

"Down at OU, quite frequently, we have these fundamentalists and evangelicals that come out (and speak)," he said.

"And that's fine if they want to do that, but do it outside where it doesn't intrude. It's so loud that my students are turning their heads, and I've got my door shut. How can I teach a class? I can't compete with that."

Eventually, the situation died down and everyone returned to their respective activities.

Theater Professor Brent Noel said he set up the performance

See "Theater," page 12

## Decisions



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Amber Allen, undecided major, waits patiently to speak to a counselor concerning her enrollment. OCCC recently opened up enrollment for the spring semester. All students are encouraged to enroll early so that they are more likely to get in the classes they want.

## Awareness fair set for Oct. 15

By **Greer Colton**  
News Writing Student

An Ability Awareness Fair will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 15 in the OCCC general dining area.

"The hope is that this will bring greater awareness and participants will understand the need for an accessible environment," said Students with Disabilities Adviser Jenna Howard.

Howard said activities are planned that day that, hopefully, will help people understand the everyday struggles disabled people face.

A couple of those activities are a wheelchair and blind experience course.

Students, staff and the community can learn what it might be like to navigate

a wheelchair or use a cane to guide themselves, Howard said.

For one of the obstacle courses, a wheelchair is needed to participate, Treadwell said. She said those will be provided.

To complete the other obstacle course, the participant will be blindfolded to give the experience of what it's like to go through places without your vision, she said.

"Other activities include a sign language activity, a technology demonstration and a short concert during lunch," she said.

At noontime, country singer Allison Mullins will perform.

Sponsors for the Ability Awareness Fair include Empowered Students and

Individuals, Student Life and Student Support Services, Howard said.

ESI is a club that gives additional support for people with and without disabilities while increasing public awareness about disabled people.

ESI President Michael Hendricks said he hopes everyone will learn something while enjoying the fair.

"We're trying to have fun but, at the same time, we're trying to show the staff and students what disabled people face every day," Hendricks said.

"Ability Awareness Day is a fun way to [do that]."

For more information about the fair, call the Student Life office at 405-682-7523.

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

# Enjoy the green

The environment on Earth has undergone some drastic changes in the past few hundred years.

Some of those changes may be directly related to human activities.

Since the Industrial Revolution, human activities have substantially added to the amount of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere, according to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The population is increasing at an astounding rate, ocean levels are rising and the atmosphere is changing for the worse.

Earth is getting warmer every year, resulting in an irreversible climate shift, many scientists believe.

The burning of fossil fuels also has resulted in emissions of aerosols that absorb and emit heat, and reflect light.

The increase in ocean temperature is causing the polar ice caps to melt, resulting in rising sea levels.

If sea levels continue to rise, Earth continues to warm and the population continues to grow, we as a civilization may enter into a stage of catastrophe.

What can modern civilization do to help our planet recover from this muck we are wallowing in?

We must make valiant efforts to curb our energy consumption.

Simply said, use less stuff.

Consuming less power and using alternate sources of energy may very well be the key to saving the environment.

Turning off electrical devices when they are not in use would help out drastically in not only saving money but also reducing energy consumption.

Everyone could start caring more instead of turning a cold shoulder to the problem.

We should all be more conscious of our wasteful habits.

Stop littering and polluting the atmosphere with harmful emissions.

Pollution and lack of recycling are, at least in some part, to blame for the environmental changes that are occurring.

Recycle, recycle and recycle some more.

Look for local places to recycle and utilize them.

If society would take more of an initiative to help recycle and consume energy, the environment would be a lot better off.

Everyone should collectively take part in conserving the planet's natural resources.

We should cherish our green planet while it's still green.

We are the only ones who can make a difference.

—Matt Montgomery  
Editor

# Student loans prove helpful

To the editor:

The Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program, Oklahoma's designated guarantor of Federal Family Education Loan Program student loans, reports that the state's student loan cohort default rate has remained stable, while default rates in surrounding states have increased significantly.

The rate is the U.S. Department of Education's primary indicator of borrower success in the repayment of student loans, and according to figures recently released by USDE, Oklahoma's cohort default rate held steady at 5.9 percent in 2006, compared to 5.8 percent in 2005.

"We attribute the state's exceptional loan repayment rate to a broad range of innovative early assistance and financial education programs that support the default prevention efforts of Oklahoma schools and lenders," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

"Programs and services

include a selection of print and online resources to educate students and families about loan management, repayment and personal finance, and useful tools for the financial aid community, such as the Default Prevention School Tool that helps educational institutions track and contact at-risk borrowers."

The cohort default rate reflects the percentage of borrowers who default on federal student loans by the end of the federal fiscal year following the year they enter repayment.

"Outreach to borrowers through our early assistance, financial literacy and default prevention initiatives is an important part of our mission as a FFEL Program guarantor," said Mary Mowdy, OGSLP executive director.

"The FFEL Program community of schools, lenders and guarantors commit to reducing the cohort default rate through active engagement in programs that build money management

skills and emphasize the importance of loan repayment."

To learn more about OGSLP's outreach and educational programs, call 800-442-8642 or visit [www.ogslp.org](http://www.ogslp.org).

—Ben Hardcastle  
Oklahoma Regents for  
Higher Education

## PIONEER

Vol. 37 No. 9

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

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## off the mark by Mark Parisi

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Mark Parisi

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## Comments and Reviews

# Local artist Lil' Re has lil' creativity in new singles

Oklahoma City isn't exactly known for its hip hop scene. The area is far more recognized for its hard rock, country and indie artists. However, there is a growing hip hop scene spearheaded by artists like City Boyz and Lil' Re.

Lil' Re just released his new singles "She" and "Out of Control" in preparation for his upcoming full-length "Respect," out soon on Bomb City Records.

"She" is a slower, '80s influenced track about Lil' Re's lover. The song goes back and forth between being loving and sweet to overtly sexual and sexist.

"Out of Control" is clearly meant to be a party track. It's catchy, danceable and features hints of both soul and electro.

It's easily the stronger track of the two, but it's a strange combination that doesn't exactly work.

Both tracks are put together and performed, but there is little about them to set them apart from the countless other hip hop tracks. Lil' Re seems to be sex obsessed, and he presents said obsession within his music in ways everyone has heard dozens of times.

While it's great that Oklahoma hip hop artists like



Lil' Re are finding success, it's a shame they aren't doing so by being more creative, groundbreaking and bringing new things to the hip hop table.

**Rating: C**

—Cameron Buchholtz  
Staff Writer

# 'In The Blood' a powerful play

Hester LaNegrita is the single mother of five children. Each of Hester's children has a different father so society has branded her a "slut" and stopped treating her as a human being.

Her naivety allows her to hope her life will get better.

One by one, Hester's dreams are crushed until she explodes in anger and harms the last person she intended, one of her children.

Oct. 2, 3 and 4, the OCCC Theater gave an impressive portrayal of "In The Blood."

This adaptation by Suzan-Lori Parks brings Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Scarlet Letter" into modern times.

From her makeshift living quarters to the graffiti on the wall, it is obvious from the beginning of the play that Hester has little in the way of material things.

What Hester does have, she treasures — her white shoes and her children.

Vivian Le gave a remarkable performance as Hester.

Le's powerful presence on stage drew the audience into Hester's world. Le cre-

ated an empathetic bond between the viewers and her character.

While Hester is the main character, there are 10 other roles in this play. Five cast members played these parts.

Jeremy Kimbro was Jabber, the eldest of Hester's five children. Kimbro also played Chilli, Hester's first love and Jabber's father. He gave convincing performances as both.

Roderick Wright was as corrupt as the Reverend D as he was innocent as Baby. A difficult transition to make, but Wright accomplished it.

Tyersa Lowery had the roles of Beauty, one of the children, and Hester's best friend, Amiga Gringa.

While there wasn't much to the part of Beauty, the role of Amiga with her backstabbing ways, displayed Lowery's talent.

Vaneza Ceballos elicited laughter with her portrayal of Bully, and sadness with the character of The Welfare, another person who abused Hester's trust.

Last on the list of cast members, but by no means

least, was Phillip Aken.

Aken has a unique quality about him. He could appear to be a naughty child, Trouble, in one scene and change his demeanor to become convincing as a doctor in the next.

One minute Trouble was teasing his siblings and the next The Doctor was sliding under Hester's skirt to check her "woman parts."

An actor with less skill would not have been able to make that change as smoothly and maintain the integrity of both roles.

Hats off to Brent Noel, Jace Henley and Kristen Hennessy for their directing skills.

From the music of the '30s at the beginning, to the talkback session with the cast at the end, "In The Blood" was an excellent evening of entertainment from OCCC.

**Rating: A**

—Cynthia Praefke  
Staff Writer

View from the  
**PRESIDENT'S  
OFFICE**



## October brings exciting events

The month of October marks two important events at OCCC.

First, at the Oct. 20 meeting of the Board of Regents, we anticipate accepting the new OCCC Visual and Performing Arts Center. This new academic building provides our faculty and students with new vocal and instrumental music studios, film and video production studios, a digital video editing lab, and a number of art classrooms and labs.

Second, on Oct. 21, we will dedicate our new OCCC Health Professions Center. This new facility houses our registered nursing, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapy assistant and emergency medical sciences programs.

The Division of Health Professions administrative offices are housed in this new building. The faculty and staff in the division not only support the programs offered here, but also programs offered cooperatively with Francis Tuttle, Moore-Norman and Metro Tech Technology Centers.

These two buildings were constructed with funds from the 2005 Higher Education State Bond Issue. This bond program was supported by the Governor, state legislators and eventually, by a vote of the people of the state of Oklahoma. On behalf of everyone at OCCC, I offer my sincere appreciation to everyone who supported these significant construction projects on the OCCC campus.

Of course, what is even more important is what will go on in these buildings. The bottom line is that these buildings are simply tools to help our faculty be more effective in teaching and helping our students be even more successful.

The month of October — two new buildings — teaching and learning forever enhanced. While I am always proud to be a part of OCCC, I am especially proud this month.

—Paul Sechrist  
OCCC President

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

Listen to audio versions of Pioneer reviews online  
**www.occc.edu/pioneer**

Election Coverage '08

# Three down, one debate to go before presidential elections

The only scheduled vice presidential debate goes smoothly while McCain and Obama turn up the attacks during the second presidential debate

**By Cameron Buchholtz**  
Staff Writer

Voters had yet another chance to learn more about the presidential and vice presidential candidates and their respective policies recently.

The first and only vice presidential debate was held Oct. 2 at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo., and the second of three presidential debates was held Oct. 7 at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Much focus was placed on the vice presidential debate, mostly because of Gov. Sarah Palin's supposed inexperience and limited exposure to the media in the weeks following the Republican National Convention.

Many students believed Palin would be a disaster against Sen. Joe Biden.

"After her awful showing in her one-on-one interviews with [CBS News anchor] Katie Couric, I just

knew Biden would mop the floor with her," said political science major Brianna Mock.

By most accounts, Palin did better than expected and held her own against the seasoned Biden.

Although most political pundits dubbed the vice presidential debate as one of the most anticipated vice presidential debates in history, some students failed to buy into the hype.

"Whoever wins the election won't be winning because of their vice presidential candidate," said freshman Ryan New.

In the days leading up to the debate, Palin faced harsh criticism stemming from her interviews with Katie Couric, but many of those objections were silenced after the debate.

"It was an interesting debate and I think both candidates came off fairly well," said political science pro-

fessor Rick Vollmer.

Palin's main focus was pushing her "track record for reform" and portraying herself and McCain as a "team of mavericks."

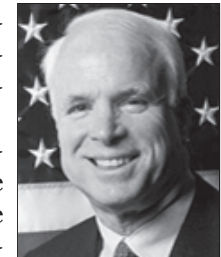
Instead of criticizing Palin, like many thought he would do, Biden focused primarily on linking McCain to Bush and the status quo.

"It went better than I thought it would for Palin," said sophomore Dustin Dwertt. "They both performed on par for what each candidate should. I think Palin was good at putting Biden on the offensive."

"She tried to make herself come across as more of the people."

On the presidential side of things, Obama also aimed to link McCain to Bush by mentioning McCain's support of the Bush administration during nearly every topic of discussion.

McCain tried to portray



**"McCain seemed erratic and all over the place. He seemed more interested in attacking Obama's positions than outlining his own."**

—Rick Vollmer  
Political Science Professor

himself as a "consistent reformer" and claimed that Obama "does not understand" the country's national security challenges.

"McCain seemed erratic and all over the place," said Vollmer. "He seemed more interested in attacking Obama's positions than outlining his own."

The current economic crisis was obviously a hot topic in both debates.

Obama attempted to blame the crisis on Bush

and McCain, saying they had done a lot to "strip away regulation."

Overall, neither debate revealed much new about the candidates, and it's doubtful that either did much to change the minds of voters in either party's favor.

"I don't think the debate was illuminating in any way," Vollmer said.

Staff Writer Cameron Buchholtz can be reached at [StaffWriter1@occc.edu](mailto:StaffWriter1@occc.edu).



**National polls show Obama with a 4 to 7 point lead over McCain on Oct. 8**

AP: Obama 48% McCain 41%	Washington Post: Obama 50% McCain 46%	Gallup: Obama 48% McCain 44%
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**The 2008 presidential elections are Tuesday, Nov. 4**

**Have you educated yourself?**

**In Oklahoma, polls show McCain with a commanding lead on Oct. 8**

AP: McCain 61% Obama 30%	Gallup: McCain 63% Obama 34%
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**What they say...**

**Students on 'Who won the Oct. 7 debate?'**

*The Pioneer staff conducted an unscientific poll of 120 students, asking them who they believe won the second presidential debate. This is what they found:*

**McCain 3%**

**Obama 28%**

**Neither 26%**

**Did not watch 43%**

## Student Life activities planned

**By Bartees Cox**  
Staff Writer

Deal or no Deal and a Brown Bag meeting are a couple of the upcoming events taking place through Student Life in October.

Deal or no Deal will take place at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the general dining area, said Service Learning and Student Life Programs Coordinator Katie Treadwell.

Tickets are needed to play, she said. Those will be given out the day of the event in the general dining area.

Treadwell said the game is won by choosing from 15 cards with dollar amounts on the back side.

The goal is to try and

choose the cards with the smallest amounts to eliminate them from the game. That way, Treadwell said, a person has more of a chance to win the larger amounts of money.

Winnings can be used in the bookstore, Treadwell said.

A "banker" will act as a mediator and will try to get players to accept offers to get them to stop playing the game.

His offer could be higher or lower than the money that is on the back of the cards, she said.

At the first Deal or no Deal game, earlier in the semester, a player walked away with a \$50 prize and another got the maximum \$100, she said.

"This is a way to lighten the mood to get their mind off midterms and classes so they can relax and have a good time," Treadwell said.

Because enrollment for the spring semester has recently begun a Brown Bag meeting "Enrollment Basics" will take place at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 21, in college union room 1.

The meeting will teach students how to effectively use MineOnline to enroll for classes instead of driving to school and waiting in line.

"Why drive all the way up here and wait in line when you can enroll in your bed?" Treadwell said.

Also, the meeting will address taking classes needed to complete your major so that all of your classes can transfer to your next school, she said.

For more information on Student Life contact Katie Treadwell at ktreadwell@occc.edu.

Staff Writer Bartees Cox can be reached at Staff Writer2@occc.edu

## OCCC soccer team suffers two losses

**By Eduardo de Leon**  
News Writing Student

Exhaustion and a shortage of players contributed to a weekend of losses for OCCC's soccer team. The team played two games, one on Saturday, Oct. 4, and one on Sunday, Oct. 5, losing to Tulsa 10-1 in the first game and losing to OU-Black 5-0 in the second.

The team looked excited and ready Oct. 4 but played the first half with only one substitute. Tulsa was up 5-0 at the end of the first half.

"We have a goalkeeper but he didn't show up today," coach K.B. Yeboah said.

D.J. Pursell played goalie for the first half and Juan Luna took over for the second half. The first half ended and frustration was visible on the players' faces.

"You guys are letting them push you around," Yeboah said. "You can play better than this. Let's do it together as a team."

Two more players showed up during halftime and OCCC seemed ready for the second half. With a penalty in favor of OCCC and a couple of good shots to the goalie, the team did their best against Tulsa, but it wasn't enough.

After the loss to Tulsa, the team played their second game on Oct. 5 against OU-Black in Norman.

OCCC started the game two players short.

"I know we are missing two players but let's just go out there and have fun," Yeboah said.

Fifteen minutes into the game, two more players showed up. OCCC had a full roster on the field but was already down 2-0.

OCCC passed the ball around and took some good shots to the goalie but the first half ended with OCCC losing 4-0.

During halftime OCCC looked tired but optimistic.

Going into the second half, the OCCC players had possession of the ball more, allowing OU-Black to score only one goal. The game ended in a 5-0 loss.

## Faculty Association garage sale set for Oct. 16 and 17

**By Karlee Bohn**  
News Writing Student

Need some new furniture for your apartment? How about some winter clothes for the upcoming months?

You might find all that and more at the annual Faculty Association Garage Sale Oct. 16 and 17 in rooms CU 1, 2 and 3, said Linda Boatright, reference librarian for the college and chair of the Faculty Association scholarship committee.

She said students and faculty volunteers are needed to help with set-up Wednesday night.

"We have to move everything from the library to the Main Building so we need lots of help," Boatright said. She said more donations also are needed.

So far, she said, 10 racks of clothes have been donated for the sale. Large items such as sofas and dryers also are needed.

The proceeds of the garage sale go toward student scholarships which are awarded in both the fall and spring.

Boatright said 27 scholarships were awarded last fall and six in the spring.

To make a donation or volunteer, call Boatright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468, or e-mail lboatright@occc.edu.

## Man banned from library after second Internet offense

**By Stephen Sossamon**  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 30, Safety and Security officer Tim Densmore was dispatched to the library on a report of a man looking at pornographic material, according to a filed report.

Library employees told Densmore they observed Chris Collins, who isn't a student of the college, looking at pornographic websites.

Collins told Densworth he was watching cartoons and looking at videos on YouTube.

When Densmore reviewed the Internet history of the computer Collins was using, he determined Collins was looking at pornography, according to the report.

The incident was Collins's

second offense, so Densmore told him he could no longer use the college's library. He also was told if he returned he would be arrested for trespassing, according to the report.

Also on Sept. 30, security officer William Busby took a report from Omar Rodriguez about a missing book bag.

Rodriguez said he arrived at OCCC around noon and went to the locker room to change into workout clothes.

He said after he changed, he set his blue book bag on a bench with his jeans and books, and went to work out at the gym.

Upon his return around 1:35 p.m., Rodriguez noticed his bag missing, according to the report.

On Oct. 1, a non-injury automobile accident oc-

curred on campus.

Security officer Brandon Wheeler was dispatched to parking lot A to assist Jon Teague and Henrietta Koomson with a non-injury accident, according to a report.

Teague, who drives a 2004 GMC Sierra, said he was sitting in his vehicle when Koomson, who drives a 2004 Mitsubishi Lancer, backed out of the parking space next to him.

As Koomson backed out, she hit the driver-side rear quarter panel of Teague's truck, according to the report.

Both Teague and Koomson had their driver's licenses, but Koomson didn't have insurance verification, according to the report.

Staff Writer Stephen Sossamon can be reached at [onlineeditor@occc.edu](mailto:onlineeditor@occc.edu).

# ESL students explore Oklahoma

By **Kenny Hilburn**  
Staff Writer

Forty international students, belonging to the English as a Second Language class, took a field trip to Lawton to learn about some of Oklahoma's unique historical icons.

"We do this every year," said ESL Professor Abby Figueroa. "I think that the students really enjoy it, and learn a great deal about Oklahoma too."

The first stop was to Oklahoma's tallest mountain, Mt. Scott.

Mt. Scott rises 2,646 feet above sea level and is located on the eastern edge of the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge.

After the bus slowly ascended the twists and turns of the mountain road, the students poured out at the summit, and were greeted by a beautiful day and a view of the horizon.

"The view, it is so beautiful," said Anastasia Abakumova, Russian student. "I can see the curve of the earth. Russia is that way." The Wichita Mountains

National Wildlife Refuge Museum provided a whole different kind of learning. It displayed many animals native to the mountain and its surrounding areas.

The students seemed to be most interested in the giant stuffed buffalo that stood in the entrance to the museum.

"I never knew these [buffalo] were so big," said Turkish student Rejoe Ozgunesliler. "They are so hairy too, definitely not cute,"

Most students viewed a 15-minute video that discussed the history of the buffalo.

The Fort Sill Museum inside of Fort Sill would be the final stop for the trip. There, students were given Fort Sill key chains and allowed to look at all the displays.

The students also were allowed to enter an unfinished area of the museum devoted to Native Americans and their rich history with Oklahoma.

"I enjoyed this trip," South Korean student



Photo by **Kenny Hilburn**

Tai Pham, English as a Second Language student, leads his classmates, Sami Oussama and Mohammad Alsharu, around the top of Mt. Scott. The ESL students went on a field trip where they were allowed to tour Mt. Scott, The Mt. Scott Wildlife Refuge Museum and the Fort Sill Museum.

Gihyun Kim said. "I have never seen some of these things in my life.

"I hope to see them again."

On the trip were 40 students representing more than 15 different countries, said Patricia Brooks, modern languages professor.

The countries represented were: Vietnam,

Mexico, Colombia, Mali, China, South Korea, Ukraine, Cameroon, Morocco, Germany, Jordan, Kuwait and Japan.

The students considered the trip a success.

"They teach a lot of different things, like listening and speaking," Kim said. "I like the people and I want to study here more."

## OCCC grad visits journalism class

By **Gabe Lenners and Victory Reneau**  
News Writing Students

Richard Hall, online editor for Newsok.com, visited professor Clay Randolph's News Writing class Oct. 1. Hall gave students a look into what his duties are at the Oklahoman's online newspaper.

Hall, an OCCC graduate in journalism, started his career by taking News Writing with professor Sue Hinton. While at OCCC, he worked as student editor and was the lab assistant for the Pioneer.

Last summer, Hall landed an internship at The Oklahoman. At the internship he blogged and managed feedback questions on the website. The internship helped him gain insight into a journalism career.

"Don't pass up opportunities for internships and take as many classes as possible so that you are well rounded," Hall said.

Following his internship, Hall was hired on as an online editor for Newsok.com. He does photographer editing, audio and critiques news stories.

His main duty at Newsok.com is managing the web site.

"I put content on the site and edit video for podcasts," Hall said. "I never thought about doing online editing.

"It is great to discover that there is more to journalism than writing."

Many newspapers across the country have gone to using more news video content on their websites, Hall said. Newspapers, as a paper medium, are declining. More and more people are going to the newspaper's website for their first source of news instead of subscribing to newspapers.

"Even if you cut down on newspapers that are printed, there will always be a need for content," Hall said.

Hall is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma and plans to graduate in December.

## Photography Lab preps for move, equipment upgrade

By **Josh Perry**  
News Writing Student

The photography lab will be in a new location with upgraded equipment next semester, said Graphics Communications Professor Randy Anderson.

He said the lab will transition to the Visual and Performing Arts Center next semester.

They will switch to an all-digital photo lab and transition away from the manual printing processes they were doing in the Main Building, Anderson said.

The black-and-white photography classes will also be canceled.

The photography lab will upgrade to all new Apple computers as well, he said.

The digital photography lab will use all new 20-inch iMac computers that contain the Intel core 2 duo processors. Each instructor will receive the 24-inch model of that iMac.

Anderson expressed his excitement for the changes.

"I'm excited about the switch to an all-digital lab and the new iMac computers," he said.

Anderson said he has been working with Apple computers since the days of his first Apple in 1990, so this is a transition he is embracing whole-heartedly.

Students affected by the change in equipment voiced their feelings.

Seth Patterson, business major and second-year stu-

**"I'm excited about the switch to an all-digital lab and the new iMac computers."**

—Randy Anderson  
Graphics Communications Professor

dent at OCCC, said, "Since I have dabbled in both the world of Apple and the world of photography, this new transition to an all-digital and all-Apple lab could mean a change in majors for myself in the near future."

Anderson said the former art room will house the news writing and video editing classes in the future.

For more information on the photography lab, e-mail Anderson at randerson@occc.edu.

# New Health Center offers bigger classroom space, learning tools

By **Daniel Martin**  
Staff Writer

Spacious classrooms and new labs in the recently-opened Health Professions Center offer three times the area of the old building.

Health Professions Division Dean Jo Ann Cobble said she is excited to be working in the new HPC.

She said all four programs in the Health Professions Division are holding some or all of their classes in the new building.

"Emergency Medical Sciences, Occupational Therapy Assistant and the Physical Therapist Assistant departments all have new classrooms and labs designed especially for them," Cobble said.

Besides the larger classrooms and new offices, the new HPC also offers students teaching tools that were not previously available.

"One thing that is new to the HPC is we now have an ambulance," Cobble said. "The ambulance, donated by St. Francis Hospital and

Tulsa Life Flight, is located just outside the EMS lab.

"It makes it possible for EMS students to assess a patient, begin treatment and to move the patient to the ambulance and continue treatment en route."

Cobble said she has heard nothing but positive feedback from students.

"They are thrilled to be working with all new lab space," she said. "It will make it much easier to practice skills and view demonstrations more easily."

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director Jennifer Ball also is enthusiastic about the new HPC.

"It is exciting to have a working ambulance for the EMS program," Ball said.

However, Ball said, the PTA is pleased with how the larger building has offered more space.

"The PTA program is really excited about the much larger work space and the new therapy tables installed that work as desks but also fold out and allow students to practice their



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

A new ambulance, donated by St. Francis Hospital and Tulsa Life Flight, sits in the main foyer of the new Health Professions Center. The new building is designed to give students more hands on learning experiences.

therapy skills."

She said the new building is a great facility for all of the health profession programs and everybody involved has been looking

forward to it for quite some time.

"The transition has been handled smoothly, Bell said.

"Now we are looking for-

ward to the HPC dedication at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21," she said.

Staff Writer Daniel Martin can be reached at Staff Writer2@occc.edu

## OSU professor to visit campus to discuss censorship in conjunction with 'Big Read'

By **Kelly McGill**  
News Writing Student

Professor Joey Senat, of Oklahoma State University, will lecture on censorship at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, in the general dining area. Senat's lecture is entitled, "Popular Intolerance And Political Cowardice."

His speech is part of "The Big Read," sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The event is open to all OCCC students, faculty, staff and community members.

The book selected for

"The Big Read" is "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury.

The story is about a fireman who burns books for a society where books have been outlawed.

Senat will discuss how society can promote censorship.

"My lecture will address the issue that censorship comes from the people," Senat said. "People become intolerant of views and then censorship takes place."

OCCC student Megan Fite is reading the book and sees Senat's viewpoint.

"In 'Fahrenheit 451' it is the people of the commu-

nity who don't approve of the reading of certain books," Fite said.

"They are the ones who don't tolerate reading; therefore, the government then censors it."

Senat said, "In the novel, censorship is tolerated by people. People not seeing other viewpoints becomes censorship."

OCCC student Cathy Murray said she is enjoying "Fahrenheit 451."

"The novel is keeping my attention in many ways," Murray said. "From the futuristic setting to the writing style of Bradbury, I am

"... People not seeing other viewpoints becomes censorship."

—Joey Senat

Oklahoma State University professor

thoroughly enjoying reading 'Fahrenheit 451.'"

According to its website, the NEA hopes that by reading "Fahrenheit 451," participants will be encouraged to continue reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

According to the NEA website, "The Big Read" is meant to restore reading to the American culture.

The website states the

goal for the public is to read a book and discuss the theme, ideas and principles behind the book with the people in the community.

The project was launched in 2006 with 10 communities featuring four books. By 2009, it will have taken place in 400 communities, including Oklahoma City.

For more information on "The Big Read," visit the NEA at [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov).

# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

- **Oct. 13:** OCCC Chance club basketball team plays Southern Nazarene University at 7 p.m. in Bethany.
- **Oct. 17:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Geek Squad vs. Short Bus and Zilla vs. OCCC1.
- **Oct. 18:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. ReMix vs. Geek Squad and Pretty Boyz vs. Spartans.
- **Oct. 20:** OCCC Chance club basketball team plays Southwestern Christian University at 7 p.m. in Bethany.
- **Oct 24-26:** The OCCC Aquatic Center will host the Chesapeake Halloween Invitational swim meet. For more information on Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 682-1611, ext. 7662.
- **Oct. 24:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. OCCC1 vs. Zilla and Pretty Boyz vs. ReMix.
- **Oct. 25:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Short Bus vs. ReMix and Spartans vs. Geek Squad.
- **Oct. 31:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Pretty Boyz vs. ReMix and Geek Squad vs. OCCC1.
- **Nov. 1:** Intramural basketball games scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Zilla vs. Spartans and Short Bus vs. OCCC1.
- **Nov. 2:** OCCC club soccer plays the University of Oklahoma-Colsa at 11 a.m. in Edmond.
- **Nov. 4:** OCCC Chance club basketball team plays Southwestern Christian University at 7 p.m. in Bethany.



Short Bus guard Joshua Vanover (left) protects the ball from Pretty Boyz guard Ryan New in the 88-83 overtime win for the Short Bus on Oct. 3.

Vanover said to his team, "Never give up," despite trailing 24 points early in the second half.

Vanover scored 29 points during the game; 25 of those points came in the second half.

The Short Bus will challenge Zilla in week 2 of Intramural basketball 1:30 p.m. Oct. 10, in the Wellness Center gym.

Photo by Kenny Hilburn

## Short Bus win after trailing

### Josh Vanover leads team from 24 point deficit to win

**By Matt Bishop**  
Staff Writer

The Pretty Boyz blew a 24-point lead, which resulted in a 88-83 overtime win for the Short Bus the first week of Intramural basketball, Oct. 3.

The over-ego of the Boyz wasn't very pretty after an explosive first half.

"It's easy," said Pretty Boyz guard Ryan New at halftime. "We aren't even playing hard and we are still winning."

"I think we will win every game this year."

However, the Short Bus was determined to turn things around.

Joshua Vanover led the surge for the Short Bus, scoring 25 of his 29 points in the second half.

While making the comeback, the Bus's Jeremy Phillips hit a 3-pointer with 4 minutes left in the second half to cut the deficit to a single digit, 70-61.

The lackadaisical Boyz team fired 3-pointer after 3-pointer, apparently oblivious to their surging opponent.

Defensive rebounds, followed by coast-to-coast baskets by Vanover, Phillips and Anthony Carter, eventually tied the game up for the Short Bus at 77-77 with 1:12 remaining.

Pretty Boyz forward Robert Pruitt hurried down the floor to hit a bas-

ket at the minute mark.

Short Bus guard Anthony Carter was then fouled on a shot, but only made one out of his two free throw attempts.

On the other end Pruitt would make another shot to put his team ahead 81-78, with 0.6 seconds left when Short Bus called for time out.

During the time out Vanover told his teammates, "Never give up."

Phillips got the inbounds pass and made a clutch 3-pointer to send the game into overtime as time expired at 81-81.

The Short Bus showed no signs of fatigue in overtime, even with no subs the entire game. The Pretty Boyz had three men rotating in and out.

The Short Bus dominated the Pretty Boyz during the overtime period.

Vanover said after the game that despite the rough start, he knew the game wasn't over.

"I told my team not to get their heads down," Vanover said. "We were 14 points down with 10 minutes left. We had to make up two points a minute and we did."

Vanover said Phillips' shot also gave the team more confidence going into overtime.

"When overtime came, we had the momentum," Vanover said. "We never gave up and stayed with it the whole time."

Phillips said hitting the 3-pointer

at the end of regulation wasn't as easy as it may have looked.

"I thought I was going to get my shot blocked," Phillips said. "I followed through my shot and it was good, and we went into overtime and we came through with the victory."

Despite the second half letdown, the Pretty Boyz did show talent that may lead them to the finals, if they keep a level head throughout the rest of the season.

Pruitt scored 33 points in the loss and Cassidy Young scored 16, including a block and steal, which turned into an alley-oop pass to Pruitt.

Pruitt then stole the inbound pass and alley-ooped it back to Young.

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

### Intramural Power Rankings

RANK	TEAM	RECORD
1.	Spartans	1-0
2.	Short Bus	1-0
3.	Pretty Boyz	0-1
4.	ReMix	1-0
5.	Geek Squad	1-0
6.	Zilla	0-2
7.	OCCC1	0-1



# Concurrent enrollment offers head start

**By Sarah King**  
News Writing Student

Almost 500 high school juniors and seniors are enrolled in OCCC college courses this semester.

Concurrent enrollment, a program for high school students attending college, was started more than 10 years ago.

"It is designed to show students if they will be successful in college and that encourages those who are to continue," said Gloria Cardenas Barton, Admissions dean.

Almost all of Oklahoma City public schools are now offering concurrent enrollment to high school juniors

and seniors who meet the GPA requirements and have a high enough ACT score. Some students are graduating high school with up to 35 hours of college credit.

High schools such as Northeast Academy allow OCCC professors to teach on their high school campuses, with the high school library supplying the textbooks.

Taking college courses is slowly becoming part of the new junior and senior year of high school, said Marvic Ray, a current OCCC student who took college classes throughout his junior and senior years of high school.

Close to 460 students are concurrently enrolled this fall, said Jon Horinek, Recruitment and Administration director at OCCC. This number is slightly lower from last year's 506 students, he said.

"Some Oklahoma City public schools, such as Capitol Hill, were unable to enroll due to a change in the administration at the high school," Horinek said.

He said he thinks concurrent enrollment is a good replacement for the traditional high school advance placement courses.

"When taking AP classes, if you don't pass the test then you receive no credit for the course on a college

level," Horinek said.

With concurrent enrollment, if high schoolers pass the class with a C or above, the credit not only counts for college credit but also for high school credit.

Ray graduated from Northeast Academy with 35 hours of transferable college credit.

Ray said he completed classes such as English, college algebra, biology, government, speech and statistics all before stepping foot in a college classroom.

That helped him get ahead, he said.

High school teachers are different from college professors, Ray said.

"The college professors treated us more like adults and the work load was a lot harder."

And, with programs like OKC-Go, which allows eligible students like Ray to have two year's tuition paid for, OCCC is making going to college just the next step in life for many high school students, Horinek said.

For more information on concurrent enrollment or OKC-Go, call 405-682-7580.

## Campus birds relocated at FAA's request; safety cited

**By Matt Bishop**  
Staff Writer

Most of the Canadian geese that once made the campus their home are gone, but they haven't been cooked.

Vice President of Business and Finance Mark Davis said in a Sept. 19 e-mail that the geese, mallard and gull populations on campus would be relocated to a rural area.

He said the Federal Aviation Administration told OCCC officials they consider the birds on campus to be a flight hazard.

Will Rogers International Airport reported having problems with flight patterns from the birds migrating between the airport and campus.

The FAA petitioned the U.S. Department of Agriculture to relocate the geese to a rural area.

The USDA made sure the relocating process is done in the most humane method possible, Davis said.

Director of Facilities Management J. B. Messer said the birds are being fed at

the pond routinely in an attempt to gather as many as possible every week.

The USDA has designated rural areas around water where they are taking the birds.

The USDA started feeding the birds about a month ago, Messer said.

On Sept. 19, the USDA operated their first netting and caught approximately 60 to 70 birds.

The USDA will continue feeding and netting until the population is down to a minimum, Messer said.

He said the USDA will monitor the bird population after the relocating is complete to ensure no other

safety issues arise.

Although people throughout the community enjoy the birds, Messer said, the population needs to be controlled for sanitary and traffic issues.

"I think the community as whole appreciated the birds and enjoyed coming to campus to see them," Messer said.

Student Sharon Pile said she will miss seeing the geese around campus.

"It's too bad they have to move," Pile said. "I always enjoy seeing the birds in the mornings."

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

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# Highlights

## Fall Writing Workshop

The next fall writing workshop entitled "MLA Style: A Necessary Evil" will be at noon Monday, Oct. 13, in room 2F3 of Arts and Humanities. For more information, contact Communications Lab Assistant Nick Webb at 405-682-1611, ext. 7678.

## Psychology/Sociology club planning UCO trip

The Psychology/Sociology club is planning a trip to University of Central Oklahoma to see the real "Rain Man" (Kim Peeks). The club will leave at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13. The club will provide transportation. For more information, contact Isela at 405-519-6222.

## OU and OCU Campus Tours

The OCCC Transfer Center is taking groups of students to the University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma. Students will receive a campus tour, information on application deadlines and transferring. Limited space is available. The tour dates for UCO are Oct. 21 and Nov. 13; tour dates for OU are Oct. 14 and Nov. 6. For more information, call Kim Lusk at 405-682-7566 for more information or to reserve a spot.

## College Poets and Writers meeting

The College Poets and Writers will meet from 1 to 1:50 p.m. on Wednesdays, in room 1C3 of Arts and Humanities. For more information, contact Chris Verschag at 405-682-1611, ext. 7140.

## Native American club meetings

The Native American Student Association will hold its club meetings from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday, in room 2N7 of the Main Building. NASA is an excellent place for Native Americans to meet other Native Americans and create lifelong friendships. For more information, contact NASA publicity officer Paul Varela at 405-313-2076.

## Health Professions speakers

The Health Professions Club will host speakers from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 13 and Oct. 14, in College Union Room 1. Oct. 13 will feature University of Oklahoma Nursing adviser Margaret Robinson; Oct. 14 will feature University of Central Oklahoma Nursing adviser Brenda Brent. For more information, contact Claire Echols at 405-682-1611, ext. 7729.

## Jennifer Richardson to speak about OU Pharmacy

The Health Professions club will host Assistant Director of Student Affairs Jennifer Richardson, who will be talking about the OU pharmacy program, application procedures and prerequisites from noon to 12:50 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15, in 2A7 of the Science, Engineering and Math Center. For more information, contact Steve Kamm at 682-1611, ext. 7268.

## WLCC offering tutoring

The World Languages and Cultures Center is now offering U.S. History and Government tutoring for international students. Non-English speaking college students needing help in those areas are encouraged to sign up. For more information, contact the World Languages and Cultures Center at 405-682-7560.

## Frybread sale

The Native American Student Association will host a frybread sale from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 21, at the College Union counter. For more information, please contact Paul Varela at 405-313-2076.

## Dance classes starting up

The Community Outreach and Education program will host several dance classes for the fall semester. There will be 2-step shuffle and west coast swing classes from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning Oct. 16, in the OCCC aerobics room. Also, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., the program will offer ballroom dancing, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. country and western dancing and from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. swing dancing on Mondays, beginning Oct. 20, also in the OCCC aerobics room. For more information, visit [www.occc.edu/coe](http://www.occc.edu/coe).

## Blood talk



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

University of Oklahoma Physician's Assistant Sarah Hawk talks about blood disorders to the Nursing Students Association. Club president Susan Fryrear said NSA will have another guest speaker in November.

## Phi Theta Kappa elects officers

By Matt Bishop  
Staff Writer

Jenny Atteberry is the new 2008-09 president for Phi Theta Kappa.

Other officers include, Kendra Spaulding, vice president of scholarship; Suzie Fryrear, vice president of leadership; Sydney Mann, vice president of service; Chrissy Marston, vice president of fellowship; and Ricky Kilmer as public relations secretary.

All officers can serve until May, Atteberry said.

"It looks like the officers are here to stay [until May]," Atteberry said.

PTK is still looking to fill the office of recording secretary, she said.

The duties of the recording secretary include taping the minutes, taking roll call and keeping records and photos, Atteberry said. The recording secretary is to keep PTK organized, she said.

Students who are interested in filling the position also must be eligible for PTK. They must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 and

have taken a minimum of 12 college credit hours, Atteberry said.

"There are a myriad of opportunities for scholarships and personal development and leadership skills through the programs that PTK is based on, which are scholarship leadership, service and fellowship," Atteberry said.

New member introduction will be held sometime in November, Atteberry said.

Letters will be sent to all students that are eligible for PTK, she said.

"Students can be looking forward to getting these letters in the following weeks," Atteberry said.

The letters will be sent to all students who are eligible to join PTK based on academic performance at the end of last semester.

Meetings have been scheduled from noon to 1 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. on Oct. 14, Nov. 18 and Dec. 9, in room 1H2 in the Main Building.

Meetings will be scheduled for the spring semester during the December meeting, Atteberry said.

PTK will work on a joint project with the Student Nursing Association and the Black Student Association to get plastic recycling bins set up around campus, Atteberry said.

The same three clubs will serve a Thanksgiving dinner at Food and Shelter for Friends in Norman.

PTK also will participate in OCCC's Halloween carnival.

The more students who show up and participate in PTK will gain better knowledge about scholarship opportunities, Atteberry said.

They also will be able to join more activities with other colleges and universities around the area, she said.

"PTK is an international honor society for two-year colleges that opens new doors in your academic journey," Atteberry said.

Any students who have questions about PTK, they can leave a message in the PTK box in Student Life, on the first floor of the Main Building.

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



# Reaction to student acting scene from play unexpected

*"Theater,"*  
Cont. from page 1

to see what the audience response would be.

"I was trying this out with an unsuspecting audience to test what would happen," Noel said.

"I was shocked at the reaction from the student and teacher who were shouting."

Noel said he had the staged event approved through security beforehand.

Sociology freshman Rebecca Money thought the publicity performance was in poor taste.

"I don't think it's right," she said.

"I felt it was religious based."

Money said that although she is a Christian herself,

she did not like the presentation.

"Had he been speaking about another subject, I may not have responded the same way," Money said.

At the same time, she said she felt the student who came out of the classroom cursing was out of line, and the professor too angry.

"We need to keep our cool to get things accomplished," she said.

A student from Nepal shook his head and sighed.

"This would not happen in my country," Business student Sandeep Rimal said. "It would not be allowed."

"We go to school to attend class; for discussions we leave the campus."

Security officers at the scene said the theater stu-

dents and Noel had permission to be there to give their performance.

Staff Writer Dillon Hart can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

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



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