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## OCCC makes \$3 million deal to sell building

John Massey Center being sold to Chesapeake; deal in final stages

By Cynthia Praefke  
Staff Writer

The John Massey Center, the college's satellite facility that houses finance, purchasing and payroll, is being sold for \$3 million.

While the sale may not be final until the beginning of 2009, the purchase agreement has been drafted and the Board of Regents has approved the sale of the property to Chesapeake Land Company, which owns the surrounding property.

Four years ago, John Massey donated the land and building on S.W. 119th and Interstate 44 to OCCC.

The land and building were in foreclosure and Massey was an official with the United Bank of Durant, which held the mortgage.

He convinced shareholders in the land that it would be in their best interest to donate the property to the school, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist.

Since space was limited on campus at the time, the Massey Center proved to be the ideal option for relocation of Human Resources and financial services, he said.

Sechrist said the sale means these offices are likely to be moved back to the main campus, or at least closer.

"While, these operations have functioned quite well at this location, having them closer or on campus will provide some advantages," he said.

Faculty and staff often need to meet with Human Resources staff. Sechrist said having the office close to or on campus will facilitate more face-to-face meetings.

The Board of Regents has a number of other reasons for deciding to sell the property, he said.

"The John Massey Center is a very nice office and conference facility, but its location has some challenges including limited parking, being isolated from the main campus, and long-term access to the property concerns, since the building does not have its own entrance to a main road," Sechrist said.

The agreement between OCCC and Chesapeake is in the final stages of completion. The next question is where to house the center's operations.

"At this point, no final decision has been made as to a new loca-

See "Sale," page 11

## Service with a smile



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Carson's Fresh Market deli clerk Beverly Haley makes a specialty turkey sandwich for Joel Gifford, occupational therapy assistant major. Along with a deli sandwich bar, Carson's also offers a hot bar, pizza, salad and pasta bar, soup, and a made-to-order grill featuring such favorites as French fries, hamburgers, grilled sandwiches and chicken strips. Patrons also can choose from both fountain and bottled drinks. Carson's is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays.

## Nov. 7 last day to drop classes

By Dillon Hart  
Staff Writer

Friday, Nov. 7, is the last day OCCC students can drop classes without receiving a grade.

Students who drop a class between now and the deadline will receive a "W" grade, which means the student did not complete the course.

"A W is not as bad as an F," said Registration Assistant Mary Vick, because a W does not affect the student's GPA.

Vick said after Nov. 7, students cannot drop from a class unless given specific permission from the course instructor.

She said a good way for a student to decide whether to drop a course is to look

at how well they did on the mid-term exam.

Vick said students also should put their class grade in context with their major.

"If you're a nursing student here, they only accept grades B or higher," Vick said. "So if you got a C on your mid-term and your in-class exams haven't been so good, get out."

Another option for students is to transfer to audit status.

Vick said students who change over to audit can still come to class and get the benefit of all of the assignments and lectures, but they cannot receive a grade in the course.

An audit is a good option for students who are having trouble grasping the

concepts of a class or feel like they will receive a bad grade, Vick said.

They can attend class and learn the material without having to stress about what grade they will receive.

That way, when they take the class again, they will already have an understanding of the subject.

"You won't get your money back anyway; you should at least get something for the money that you paid," Vick said.

However, switching to auditing the class will not help in the area of insurance or financial aid, said Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner.

Some students must

See "Drop," page 16

## Editorial and Opinion

### Editorial

# These are times for changing

Artist Andy Warhol once said, "they always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."

Warhol died in 1987, but his advice is still relevant 20 years later.

The world is desperately in need of change. Looking around, the world is consumed by strife, violence and war. The global economy is collapsing. Sectarianism is winning the day.

Do students at OCCC care about this? No, judging by the level of student activities.

OCCC has more than 30 student clubs and organizations.

Why, then, are the Campus Events bulletin boards devoid of events? Why is the calendar published by Student Life bare of anything save dutifully scheduled regular "meetings?"

The most hotly-contested presidential race in recent memory is coming to a close. Were there political rallies on campus? Awareness events? As far as OCCC is concerned, the election will wash over us without causing even a ripple.

Politics aren't the only thing we seem to be disinterested in, however. The environment faces grave threats in the future.

Are students on campus doing anything to help? If they are, they're not telling anyone or inviting anyone to help.

Change starts with us, and in order to change things, we have to find a cause and become involved. A pervasive apathy blankets this campus and we need to shake ourselves out of our malaise.

We are the America of tomorrow. Whether we are young or old, Democrat or Republican, male or female, we are the people who will create the future. We must participate in that future and work to ensure it will be the absolute best possible future for all of America.

That participation starts on the college level. It's not too late to break free from collegiate apathy. Start now by finding a student organization to join. Plan events.

Get passionate about something.

The times need changing and we're the only ones who can change them. It's time to start.

—Meagan Bradley  
Staff Writer

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

# Don't forget about flu shots

### To the editor:

The Oklahoma City-County Health Department will begin giving influenza vaccinations on Monday, Nov. 3.

This year the immunization clinics will be held in various locations throughout the county. Clinics are planned to continue through Dec. 11 with additional clinics to be announced based on availability and demand.

This year, 404,000 doses of adult and children vaccines have been ordered by the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

OCCHD is expecting to have an estimated 9,000 doses available for the residents of Oklahoma City and Oklahoma County.

Health officials believe this year's supply of vaccine will be sufficient to meet the demand for shots. Vaccine is also available through private healthcare providers.

Health department officials want to make the public aware of new recommen-

dations regarding who should receive the immunization.

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, children ages 5 to 18 years of age should receive the vaccination annually.

Annual vaccination of all children age 6 months through 4 years and older children with conditions that place them at increased risk for complications from influenza, should continue to be a focus of vaccination efforts as providers and programs transition to routinely vaccinating all children.

Parents are encouraged to speak with their child's pediatrician or other health care providers.

As in previous years, the vaccine is also recommended for all pregnant women, anyone age 50 or older, person of any age with chronic medical conditions, residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, and those who live with or care

for persons at high risk of flu complications, especially health care workers.

For more information go to the Center for Disease Control's website at [www.cdc.com](http://www.cdc.com).

—H.R. Holman  
Oklahoma County  
Health Department  
Public Information

## PIONEER

Vol. 37 No. 12

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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.

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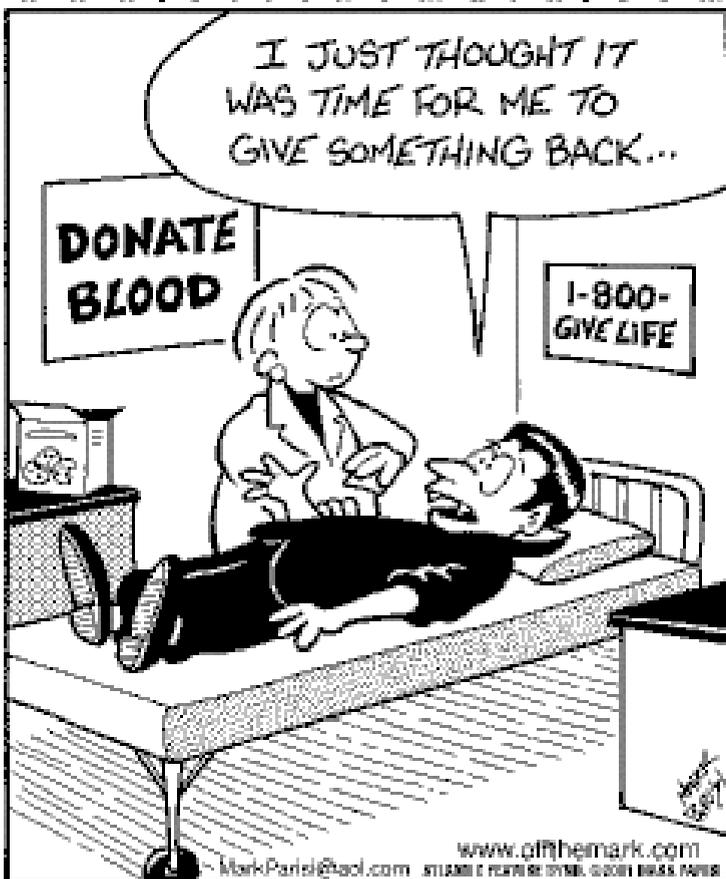
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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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## Comments and Reviews

# Ray LaMontagne's voice soothes listener's hearts

All the way from Maine, Ray LaMontagne is back and this time he has taken his classic folk style to a whole new level.

"Gossip in the Grain," released on Oct. 14 by RCA records, is LaMontagne's third and much anticipated album. It captivates listeners from the very start.

"You are the Best Thing," the album's first song, is an old-time tune comprised of a fleet of brass instruments and tromping bass beats that resemble the works of The Band and Bob Dylan. Complete with a chorus of female backup vocalists, this song puts a smile on your face.

LaMontagne's voice is accompanied by some of the most emotional acoustic guitar licks heard since the years of Crosby, Stills and Nash and James Taylor.

He has a rustic sound



that will sooth your soul upon contact.

The album's second song, "Let It Be Me," is a slow ballad, made up of beautiful piano riffs and classy percussion rhythms that showcase eloquence.

This song helps portray an image of Lamontagne that many will see for years to come.

One of the best songs from this album is track six, "Meg White." It starts out with a high-pitched whistling tune that sounds like it could have been taken from Clint Eastwood's *The Good*, the

Bad and the Ugly. Then suddenly the song breaks down into sections of romping drumbeats and soothing vocals that completely take over.

Producer Ethan Johns touched upon a wide range of LaMontagne's musical styles that include settings of pastoral folk, railroad blues and front porch country.

"Gossip in the Grain" has proven to be one of LaMontagne's most creative and emotionally-expansive collections to date.

Simply put, this CD has quickly made its way to my vault of favorite albums.

I would highly recommend this album to anyone.

Do yourself a favor and get a copy of "Gossip in the Grain."

**Rating: A**

—Daniel Martin  
Staff Writer

## AC/DC's 'Black Ice' frozen

Ah, Wal-Mart ... Where the only thing lower than their prices is the quality; where the shelves are stocked with clothes, electronics, groceries and despair, and now, where you can exclusively get the AC/DC album, "Black Ice."

AC/DC's move to have their first album in eight years be a Wal-Mart exclusive says a lot about the album and where the band is in their career.

They seem to have completely abandoned any sense of creating music for artistic or creative expression, and are doing so now for only financial reasons.

AC/DC has been a corporate rock band for a long time, but the Wal-Mart deal

puts an even bigger emphasis on the corporate part.

AC/DC's always been known for repeating themselves.

They even changed lead singers and managed to retain their same exact sound.

But the repetition featured on "Black Ice" is far more obvious and lazy than it's ever been before.

The album, just like every other AC/DC album, is filled with big blues riffs, chugging verses, pointless solos and an endless barrage of lyrics about partying, sex and the importance rock 'n' roll.

The word "rock" appears in not one song title, not two, not even three but four

song titles.

The song structure is bland and boring, with each song following the exact same song structure as the one before it.

Something is seriously wrong when a 55-minute album feels like an hour and half.

AC/DC claims that they are still an "album band," which they say is the main reason they made the Wal-Mart deal; people would have to buy the album in its entirety.

But if they really were an album band the new album wouldn't consist of so much filler.

**Rating: F**

—Cameron Buchholtz  
Staff Writer

## Counselor's Corner

It's a difficult time in the semester. Looking back, you can see the long, and perhaps rocky road you've traveled so far. Yet, the end isn't quite in sight. As we slip into our twelfth week, some of you have some hard decisions to make regarding this semester's classes. Is it reasonable to remain in class, or cut your losses and plan for a better semester in the spring?

Sixteen weeks might seem like a lifetime. You don't have to think about winding things up for four months so surely there is time along the way to gather your wits about you and pull out of whatever bogs you might have stepped in. For you, life is about the destination. When the proverbial plane lands, you'll start to think about where you are and what you want to do. If that strategy works for you, so be it.

There is no reason to attempt to fix what apparently isn't broken. Others, however, might find that this strategy is less than ideal, and fraught with stress and academic peril. If you find that you belong in the latter category, please allow me to offer some suggestions.

The snails in the quote arrived at their destination because they considered their journey. Since they are not the fastest creatures on the planet, they had to develop a plan and stick with it. Eventually, by doing as much as they could every day, they arrived at where they were going. Had they waited until the day before the ark set sail, they never could have made it.

Getting through school is a similar process. It helps to know where you are going. Having long-range and short-range goals can help you plan, not only your destination, but also your journey. If you know which classes you need to take for a degree, it can be easier to understand why you need them. Then, at the beginning of a semester, you can plot out a strategy for how you will move step-by-step through each of those 16 weeks, knowing that each one is important.

It's also important to remember each student gets through the process at his or her own pace. Snails aren't nearly as swift as cheetahs, but they get through life in their own time. If your life situation will only let you attend part-time, then that is the strategy you should employ. What do you gain by enrolling in, and dropping out of, classes that you must pay for but get no grade for?

It's wiser to save your money, and the wear and tear on your psyche, so that you might experience some joy and success along the way.

As you ponder decisions that might be looming on the horizon for this semester, don't forget to speak with someone about the semester ahead. If you need a safe place to catch your breath before you journey on, remember that we in Student Support Services are here for you.

—Mary Turner  
Learning Support Specialist

Check out audio versions of Pioneer reviews online  
[www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer)

## Comments and Reviews

# Kings of Leon continue to impress with new album 'Only By The Night'

During the month of April, the highly successful Kings of Leon returned to Blackbird Studios in Nashville to record their fourth full-length album with the guidance of experienced producers Angelo Petraglia and Jackquire King.

The Kings of Leon consist of brothers Caleb, Jared, Nathen, and cousin Matthew Followill.

They released their latest album entitled "Only By The Night" on the heels of three chart-topping albums.

"Only By The Night," picks up where "Because of the Times" left off.

However, it seems that Kings of Leon have moved into a more mature sound, while still retaining their carefree grooves.

The album kicks off with a song aptly entitled "Closer," highlighted by spacey guitar riffs, accom-

panied by surprisingly understandable vocals from lead singer Caleb.

"I just hid my singing for so long because I was nervous that people would listen to my lyrics, assume I wasn't intelligent because I'm from Tennessee, and pick me apart" he said.

The first single to come from the album is a song entitled "Sex on Fire" and is by far the catchiest song on the album.

Its upbeat guitar rhythms and an undeniably brilliant chorus that invites the listener in to sing along.

"There's always been an element of sex in our music, so I thought I'd just wrap it all up in one song and be done with sex for the rest of the record," Caleb said.

Track six, a song titled "Revelry," slows things down a bit and begins with

a melodically moving kit beat, soothing piano and soft slide guitar that stays apparent throughout the entire song.

"Revelry" could easily be considered the best song on the album, lyrically and musically.

In the song, the drums build to a light peak with all instruments, vocal harmonies soon become apparent by the end of the song.

The album closes with an emotionally-charged ballad entitled "Cold Desert," which, according to their website, is about a man at the end of his rope.

The song is beautiful and harmonious in every way.

Evoking pure emotions ranging from sadness to euphoria, "Cold Desert" is a great closer to an album that is sure not only to define Kings of Leon, but also push them to the next level.



"Only by the Night" is one of the best albums of the year and is sure to catch the attention of many.

For more information about the band or about

the new album check out Kings of Leon on MySpace at [www.myspace.com/kingsofleon](http://www.myspace.com/kingsofleon).

**Rating: A**

—Kenny Hilburn  
Staff Writer

## 'In the Ever' sixth album release from Jennings

Mason Jennings has been called the best-kept secret in pop music, and after hearing his latest album I am inclined to agree.

"In the Ever" was released May 20 of this year with positive reviews.

"In the Ever" is Jennings' sixth full-length album, his first on his friend Jack Johnson's Brushfire label. It is a definite positive step up from his last album "Boneclouds."

Jennings produced the album with Mitchell Froom, who has worked with the likes of Elvis Costello, Los Lobos and Phantom Planet.

To record "In the Ever," Jennings decided to venture to a recording studio in the woods and begin work with a couple of microphones and a laptop.

Jennings has a sound that seems familiar yet

unique at the same time.

His songs are heartfelt and he doesn't seem to write anything that cannot be related to on a personal level.

His acoustic and folk sound is reminiscent of Neil Young or Bob Dylan.

So much so, that Jennings was recruited to perform the songs "The Times, They Are a Changin'" and "The Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll" in the recent biopic about Dylan, "I'm Not There."

Jennings carries on the traditional topics of his folk roots.

He covers political issues like Hurricane Katrina and the war in Iraq with his song "Going Back to New Orleans."

He sings about his feelings on religion with songs like "I Love You and Bud-

dha Too" and "How Deep is that River," on "In the Ever"

The most interesting and intriguing songs on the album are also some of his best.

He sings about love in several songs and it always seems a little tongue-in-cheek.

In "New Man" Jennings sings about a girl he dumps but then wants back after he finds out she's with a new man. It's definitely a stand-out song on the album.

Another example of his quirky view of love is a song called "Fighter Girl."

This song is a heartfelt plea to pick him over another. It has a sound that is most familiar to his fans.

Jennings will be touring with Brushfire label-mate, Zack Gill, through the end of November.



Mason Jennings

For more information on tour dates, to read his blog, watch his videos or to listen to music from Jennings' current album or check out Jennings' website at

[www.masonjennings.com](http://www.masonjennings.com) or at [www.myspace.com/masonjennings](http://www.myspace.com/masonjennings).

**Rating: A**

—Luke Carter  
Staff Writer

# National accreditation earned by Computer Aided Design program

OCCC becomes first two-year college in the state to receive this recognition

**By Rachel Bryan**  
News Writing Student

The Computer Aided Design program at OCCC has now joined the rankings of schools like the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

The CAD program re-

cently received national accreditation, making OCCC the first two-year school in Oklahoma to receive this honor, said Doug Gregory, Computer Aided Technology professor.

Gregory said the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology recognizes thousands of programs every year that ex-

hibit leadership and quality assurance in applied science, computing and other areas.

"It takes the whole program to a different level," Gregory said.

The award not only recognizes students and faculty for their hard work, it also generates increased respect and interest in the CAD curriculum, he said.

Gregory has been with OCCC's CAD program for 23 years. He said the philosophy of CAD is to "always be ahead of the technology."

OCCC's program, which Gregory said is "the best in the Southwest," resembles those of OSU and Southwestern Oklahoma State

University in that all three have technology specific targeted programs.

He said these programs focus mainly on design creation through computers.

Because graduates will now be recognized as having been part of a distinguished curriculum, Gregory believes the accreditation will attract more students to the program because of the heightened level of opportunities that will be available to them following graduation.

Gregory said many of OCCC's CAD graduates have gone on to hold leadership positions in the industry.

Five to 10 percent have also gone on to engineering

**"Graduating with a degree from a renowned program would be an honor."**

—Christina Dobrovony  
OCCC Student

technology and technology education bachelor programs, he said.

OCCC student Christina Dobrovony said she was happy to hear of the accreditation.

She said this honor has caused her to consider learning more about the CAD Program.

"I'm excited about the [accreditation]," she said.

"Graduating with a degree from a renowned program would be an honor."

## Prof speaks on African economy

**By Rachel Bryan**  
News Writing Student

When discussing the African continent, its economy is typically not the most popular topic of conversation. That is, unless you are talking to Germain Pichop.

Pichop, economics professor at OCCC, spoke to journalism students on the sub-Saharan Africa's improving economy.

Pichop passionately discussed Africa's increasingly modernized society, while putting particular emphasis on the positive strides many of its countries have made in past years.

"The media only reports what is going wrong, never what is going right," Pichop said. A lot of progress has been made that has been widely unpublicized.

The economy in Africa relies heavily on raw materials, Pichop said. The mining of cobalt, copper and other minerals is essential to the continent's continued economic success.

Pichop also spoke of currently unexploited resources, such as some minerals, tourism and human resources. These resources will further the prosperity of Africa's economy in the years to come, Pichop said.

In addition to discussing the booming economy, he also addressed the possibility of other countries conducting business in Africa.

"Profitability is consistently higher for foreign companies in Africa than most other regions," Pichop said.

"Africans want investments, not just the aid of others," he said. "The people of these countries want their economy to grow so they can afford their own food by working.

"They are eager to do away with the 'beggar' label."

Pichop grew up in Cameroon, in west Africa, and moved to Oklahoma after receiving a Fulbright scholarship to Oklahoma State University. After graduating with his doctorate, he worked as a research economist in Tanzania.

## TLC gives students a voice

**Christina Barger**  
News Writing Student

Students at OCCC have a voice, even if they don't know it.

The Leadership Council was established more than 25 years ago and is made up of student club leaders, said Darin Behara, TLC co-sponsor and Student Life director.

The goal of The Leadership Council is to represent the student perspective and enhance student life on campus, he said.

The issues on the agenda at the TLC meetings include campus development, job fairs, transfer fairs, college tours, tuition fees and book costs.

Students get to vote on

topics that affect the student body.

TLC member Sharee Demby said she has been able to participate in important votes.

"The most important vote that I've taken part in was whether or not tuition fees should be increased in order to raise money for the new school theater," Demby said.

The vote was passed and fees were raised.

If it happens on campus, there is a good chance it was discussed at a TLC meeting, said Demby.

Meetings are held every other Thursday in college union room 1.

The group hears from speakers like Vice President for Business and Finance

Mark Davis, who gave a presentation on the master plan for OCCC campus development.

Davis discussed making campus more people friendly and adding building signs, Demby said.

There are several ways to become a member of TLC. Every student club selects one member to represent their group in TLC.

Or, students can become independent members by filling out an at-large application in the Student Life office.

For students who want to know what's taking place on campus or wish to have a voice in student life and school development, TLC is the place to be, Demby said.

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

# Engineering lab to be ready by spring

**By Bishal Malla**  
News Writing Student

Although the program was established in 1972, for the first time in its history, the engineering program at OCCC is getting a dedicated laboratory, said Gregory Holland, engineering professor.

The engineering students will experiment with new technology in a well-equipped laboratory by the spring semester, Holland

said.

He said the construction of the lab has started.

The large room, which used to be the math lab, was given to the engineering department last year and will be converted into a lab.

"The lab will give students more practical knowledge and a chance to interact with each other once the lab is constructed," said Holland.

He said there also will be

a geology lab and another room where students can work on chemicals needed for demonstrations of engineering projects.

The department has already started to purchase the equipment, Holland said.

The majority of the work will be done by the end of this semester, he said.

The professors and students in the engineering department are looking forward to new lab.

"I am very excited to see the new lab," said Steve Kamm, physics professor. "After all, it's an idea that has been waiting for 20 years."

OCCC Engineering club president Donna Schruben said the engineering lab will be good for the students to work in.

"It's great and we feel so blessed to get the new lab as we all get a chance to experience more practical, rather than theoretical,

knowledge," said Engineering club vice-president Kevin Hecksher.

"It's like a dream come true," Engineering club secretary, Ben Farber said. "Because now we will be able to get better results compared to earlier in the semester."

The engineering students are doing their labs in the old math lab, which is not equipped with the technologies needed in the engineering field.

## Faculty Association garage sale raises funds

**By Karlee Bohn**  
News Writing Student

This year's Faculty Association garage sale brought in more money than last year, said Linda Boatright, reference librarian and Faculty Association scholarship committee chair.

"The grand total was \$2723.70, up \$723.70."

Boatright said she thinks more people were counting on the garage sale this year, both as a way to clear out their clutter and to help

students in need at the same time.

All the proceeds of the garage sale go toward student scholarships.

During one shift, Assistant Nursing program director Debbie Myers said she sold many large and expensive items such as printers, vacuum cleaners, shelves and antique dishes.

Boatright said a few of the most unusual items were a 1970s combination record player and radio, and an original copy of the front page of the newspaper

depicting the moon landing from July 1969.

One of the shoppers was Lisa Adkins, Administration Office Technology professor.

Adkins said she was buying clothes for the Business Clothes Closet.

The business faculty created the Business Clothes Closet for all business majors who may not own business clothes.

It was created to provide proper attire for job interviews for those who may not be able to purchase

them otherwise.

Adkins said the Clothes Closet was funded by a donation received from the OCCC Foundation.

The garage sale did more than just help students furnish their apartments and fill their closets.

Boatright said she would like to thank the Scholarship Committee and the many students, faculty and staff who helped make the sale a success.

The garage sale will be held in October again next year, Boatright said.

## Testing Center low on space, plan ahead before test-taking

**By Alison Travis**  
News Writing Student

With the group testing room in use by Arts and Humanities this semester, students need to plan ahead to take tests in the Testing Center, said Testing and Assessment Director Jim Ellis.

The group testing room currently unavailable for testing.

Only 100 seats are available and the Testing Center is only using two-thirds of its normal size.

However, group testing will be moved to other places around campus, said Ellis.

The Testing Center has

been using the academic side of the Test Center, along with rooms in the Library, old Heath Professions building and the group testing room when it is not in use, Ellis said.

"Students do not need to worry about not being able to take a test," said Ellis. "They do need to choose a wise time and plan ahead to take their tests."

However, there may be delays in taking tests since there are fewer seats available, Ellis said, which makes it harder to find a seat to take a test.

"The most open time in the Test Center is earlier in the day, between 8 to 10 a.m.," Ellis said. "Between

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 4:30 p.m. seem to be the busiest hours in the Testing Center."

The Testing Center is doing everything it can to make sure that everything runs smoothly and no one has to wait, Ellis said.

Some Arts and Humanities classrooms are undergoing construction, which was supposed to be finished early October.

"Now we're hearing that they won't be out of the group test room until next semester," Ellis said.

The Testing Center is busy during finals so students need to take their tests in a timely manner, Ellis said.



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## Election Coverage '08

# Nov. 4 elections more than about choosing a president

Voters to elect senators as well; a supermajority is in sight for Democrats

By Meagan Bradley  
Staff Writer

As the 2008 election looms, Democrat and Republican Senate candidates are in a high-stakes race for the future of the Senate.

Democrats have held the majority in the Senate since the 2006 midterm elections. This year, however, the Democrats are making a strong push to hold not just a majority, but a supermajority of 60 seats.

Holding a supermajority in the Senate is significant for a number of reasons.

A common delaying tactic in the Senate is a filibuster, where a senator speaks for hours in order to prevent passage of legislation.

According to the U.S. Senate website, a supermajority of 60 votes is required to invoke cloture, a vote to end the filibuster.

"Having a supermajority will make the Democrats

filibuster-proof," said Dana Glencross, political science professor.

Additionally, holding a supermajority in the Senate would make it easier for Congress to override a presidential veto, if necessary.

Overriding a presidential veto requires that two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate vote to override the veto. A Democratic supermajority would give them 60 of the 67 votes needed.

A supermajority is within reach for the Democrats. The Democratic party needs to pick up nine more Senate seats during this election.

Incumbent Republicans are seeking to retain their seats in 23 Senate races.

Pundits predict Democrats will pick up at least five and possibly as many as nine of those seats.

"With every day they get

closer. There are races now that are competitive that were not competitive a month ago," political analyst Jennifer Duffy said in an interview with CNN.

Both Democrats and Republicans are concerned about the possibility of a supermajority. According to CNN, the Democrats are urging voters to help them push for 60 seats, while Republicans warn of uncontrolled spending and unchecked legislation if it happens.

Duffy said that failing to prevent the Democrats from picking up 60 seats would be a psychological blow to the Republicans.

Some are worried about a possible Democratic supermajority for other reasons. Glencross pointed out that a single-party supermajority short-circuits the federal system of checks and balances.

"[A supermajority] essen-

**"[A supermajority] essentially lessens the power of the executive because it lessens his power to override [the Senate]. The founding fathers put checks and balances in place for a reason."**

—Dana Glencross  
Political Science Professor

tially lessens the power of the executive because it lessens his power to override [the Senate]," Glencross said. "The founding fathers put checks and balances in place for a reason."

In a blog posting on CQPolitics.com, analyst David Nather makes note of the problems with a one-party government.

"One-party government certainly helps to break the endless stalemate in Washington, but it can easily lead to a decline in oversight of the executive branch and a general refusal to ask healthy questions about the president's

agenda," Nather writes.

Glencross said a Democratic supermajority could be beneficial, though.

"The executive will have to work with Congress more," Glencross said. "That might force more compromise."

Oklahomans may find themselves affected by the possible Democratic supermajority.

Both of Oklahoma's senators are Republican and are likely to remain in the minority in the Senate.

"That puts us in a weak position compared to other states," said Glencross.

The election is Nov. 4.

## Failing economy unanimous top concern for educators in upcoming presidential election

By Daniel Martin  
Staff Writer

With the 2008 presidential elections just around the corner, OCCC's educators are overwhelmingly concerned with the state of the national economy, among other issues.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said the economic crisis has affected his opinion on what the most important issues are.

"In normal times, I always place my high priority on the differing candidates' views on education," Sechrist said. "However, I

do not believe that America and the world are in normal times.

"We are on the brink of an economic crisis."

Sechrist may be right. The government was forced to pass a \$700 billion bailout package last month, the stock market has been extremely volatile and many people are losing money daily.

English Professor Jon Inglett had concurring thoughts.

"According to a Gallop Daily poll, 81 percent of U.S. citizens do not have confidence in the econ-

omy," he said, "The economy is the issue."

Inglett said regardless of who wins the election, the president needs a bipartisan cabinet, economic advisers with multiple viewpoints, and long-term solutions developed by Republicans, Democrats and Independents in order to face the problems ahead.

"We need trust in the American citizens' efforts to transform themselves and their community," Inglett said.

Although the economy appears to be the main concern, it is not the only is-

sue facing voters.

Iraq, the environment, alternative energy, education, health care and the mortgage industry also are hot topic issues being discussed by both presidential candidates.

Community Outreach Director Jessica Martinez-Brooks said the other issues are important because of the candidates' different views.

"It will be interesting to see who is elected because their views on healthcare, tax cuts and the middle class seem to be completely opposite," she said.

Martinez-Brooks said the financial state Americans are in must be taken care of first and foremost.

It is by far the most imperative issue the new president must face first, she said.

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

**The elections are  
Tuesday, Nov. 4**

**Have you educated  
yourself?**

# New building boasts top lifesaving equipment:

## Students say OCCC prepares them well for saving lives in the future



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Student Lori Hogan and EMS professor Bruce Farris do an intubation demonstration during the dedication of the new Health Professionals building. The EMS lab is fully stocked with everything paramedics would need to save a life. Students are able to use real medical equipment like oxygen tanks, cervical collars and laryngoscopes during practice drills. College President Paul Sechrist said OCCC has the only nationally accredited paramedic program in the state.

At 3 p.m. Oct. 21, an emergency call went out to the paramedic students of OCCC. According to their instructor, an 82-year-old man collapsed while walking at the mall and they were needed to save him.

Visiting students and professors milled around, watching as the students worked together to rescue the patient. With a combination of electrical defibrillation and CPR, the team resuscitated the patient.

After the students stabilized the patient, they loaded him into the waiting ambulance.

It was a successful call — except the patient was actually a medical dummy called an ALS simulator, used to teach emergency medical students critical lifesaving skills.

The emergency call was staged as part of a demonstration of the new Health Professions Center, which was dedicated that day.

The building includes new classrooms, labs and offices for the health professions students and professors.

Students took turns showing off the equipment, including various patient simulators and medical equipment.

The most prominent feature of the new EMS lab is its working ambulance, permanently stationed outside the lab. St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa donated the ambulance to the school.

OCCC is the only college in the state to have a working ambulance in the building that can be used for training.

“What a privilege we have with all the new equipment,” said Kamila Willyard, EMS student. “They really prepare us well here.”

The new facilities and labs allow emergency medicine students to practice a variety of skills. “If they have areas they need to get checked off on their skills, they can do that here,” said Valerie Frederick, lab coordinator for health professions.

Frederick said the lab has facilities for students to practice patient trauma assessment, treating patients for shock and splinting broken bones, among other things.

Students take turns practicing on each other and on the lab’s advanced medical simulators.

One of the newest simulators is an infant-sized dummy in an incubator, used to teach students how to treat the youngest patients.

The EMS lab is also fully stocked with everything paramedics would need to save a life. Students are able to use real medical equipment like oxygen tanks, cervical collars and laryngoscopes during practice drills.

EMS students praised the new facilities.

“It’s really nice,” said Matthew Burns, paramedic student. “It’s a lot more spacious. You’re not having to share space with other students.”

College President Paul Sechrist said OCCC has the only nationally accredited paramedic program in the state.

EMS students are enthusiastic about the program.

“We learn a lot of skills to help people,” said Tyler Patterson, EMT Basic student.

“This is honestly the best way to learn to help people. We’re doing this for the knowledge.”

# OCCC only college to have working ambulance



Above: One of the newest medical simulators is an infant-sized dummy in an incubator, used to teach students how to treat the youngest patients. Valerie Frederick, health professions lab coordinator, said lab students take turns practicing on each other and on the lab's advanced medical simulators.



Above: OCCC is the only college in the state to have a working ambulance in the building that can be used for training. The ambulance is secured to a pad and stays within the lab. "What a privilege we have with all the new equipment," said Kamila Willyard, EMS student. "They really prepare us well here."



Right: EMS students Adam Taylor and Kamala Willyard practice an emergency situation inside OCCC's new lab ambulance.

# College plans Veterans Day activities

**By Barteas Cox**  
Staff Writer

Student Life will host the Veterans Day Recognition 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, in the College Union. Student Aid Programs and Services Coordinator Janis Armstrong will cohost the event.

The date of the event is significant considering that at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 Veterans Day became a national holiday.

The recognition will feature a host of speakers who will share their experiences and also thank veterans for their service, Armstrong

said.

Transcript assistant Gary Wallace will play bagpipes. Also, William Brown will speak, Armstrong said.

Brown works with veterans in Oklahoma City and has just returned from Iraq.

Another guest will be Career and Employment Services Director Debra Vaughn.

Vaughn will speak about the history of Veterans Day and how the holiday developed over time, she said.

Vaughn is an American history adjunct professor at OCCC and a member of the Daughters of the American

Revolution.

She said a member of her family has been in every major war since the Civil War and her cousin recently returned from his second tour in Iraq.

"Most Americans also have this history," Vaughn said. "I am very honored to have this opportunity to speak in this recognition of the veterans."

Students also are getting involved in the Veterans Day Recognition.

Dentistry major Kylie Willis said she plans to attend the celebration.

"I will definitely be there. Some people treat veterans

**"I am very honored to have this opportunity to speak in this recognition of the veterans."**

—Debra Vaughn

Career and Employment Service Director

bad and don't give them a fair opportunity to work and live a normal life," she said. "They deserve recognition."

Engineering major Josh West said he would be there because he has close friends and relatives who have served who deserve to be recognized daily, not just one day out of the year.

For more information on Veterans Day activities, e-

mail Armstrong at [jarmstrong@occc.edu](mailto:jarmstrong@occc.edu)

Staff Writer Barteas Cox can be reached at [StaffWriter2@occc.edu](mailto:StaffWriter2@occc.edu).



# Veteran's Services office helps combat increasing suicide rates among soldiers

**By Rachel Ewers**  
News Writing Student

More than 600 students who are active military or armed forces veterans attend classes at OCCC, according to the college's Veteran's Services office.

OCCC is prepared to help those students who have experienced combat and may be particularly at risk for depression or post traumatic stress disorder, said Janis Armstrong, Student Aid Programs coordinator and Veterans Certifying official.

This year's suicide rate among U.S. soldiers is on pace to break last year's all-time record. Ninety-three active-duty soldiers had killed themselves by the end of September, according to a report from the Army Behavioral Health website.

Experts say the main factors leading to suicide are stress, insufficient support, and post traumatic stress disorder. Soldiers experiencing PTSD have usually witnessed or been involved in a traumatic, life-threatening situation, reports the Army. They are unable to stop thinking about what

happened to them and often have feelings of anxiety, anger, and depression, according to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Veteran's Services office is located across from financial aid. Armstrong said the office is there for any guidance a veteran might need and can offer referrals to students who have symptoms of PTSD, depression or thoughts of suicide.

A Student Support counselor is located right down the hall, or a veteran might be referred to a specialist off campus, Armstrong said.

"It is up to the veterans to reach out for help, because we do not always know they are in need of help," Armstrong said.

She also recommends pamphlets, full of advice, that are always available outside the Veteran's office for students who may not feel comfortable speaking to staff.

J.C., a current student who worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs office in Ardmore, recalls talking to veterans about their return home from war.

"Sometimes it is more difficult for soldiers to come home after war," J.C. said. "Especially if they have witnessed a traumatic event,

because they don't know whether they are going to be welcomed with open arms or spit on and having negative things said to them."

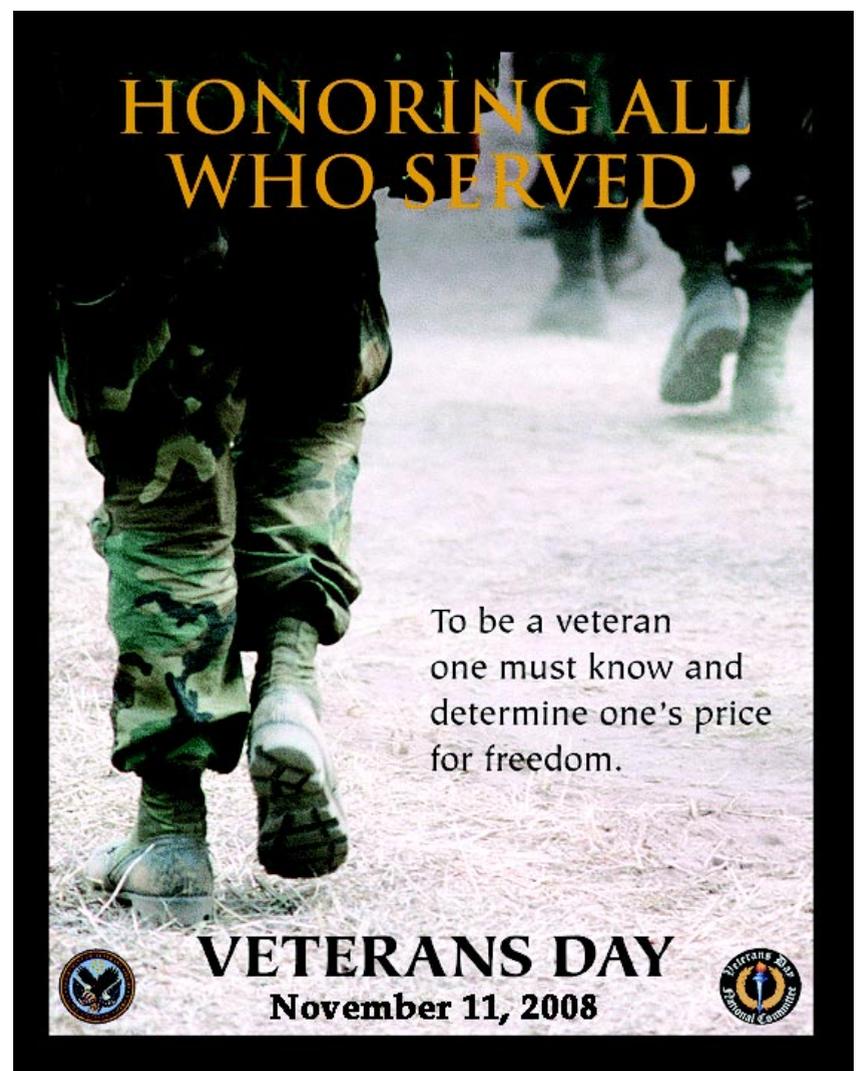
The Ardmore branch of Veterans Affairs offers long-term care for any veterans that need help.

"The Army continues to make forward progress in issues involving depression and suicide for soldiers," medical correspondent, Col. Paul Little, M.D. reports on the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine website.

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs website, a problem is that soldiers are taught to

be tough, strong and unemotional, so when soldiers return home from war, they may not feel comfortable seeking help.

Without proper support from family or community, they may just give up trying, according to the website.



# Beavers strike, cost college \$2500 in trees

By **Danniel Parker**  
News Writing Student

In mid August, a lone beaver launched a three-day reign of terror over OCCC's plant life.

On the first day, a tree went missing from the island in the pond. No one knew who was responsible. Later that evening, a campus security officer witnessed the offending beaver but was unable to apprehend it.

"Beavers are a nuisance," said J.B. Messer, facilities management director.

"They can stay underwater for long enough periods of time that they just disappear."

The next morning the beaver continued to wreak havoc so Messer called in a specialist — Robert Frost, owner and operator of Critter-B-Gone, a wildlife nuisance removal service.

"On a few different occasions I caught the beaver on dry ground and chased him," Frost said. "But the sucker was faster than me."

Frost said beavers generally have specific points of entry into any body of water. So Frost set up underwater traps to catch the beaver.

He said the traps are used to grip a beaver's body so the animal can be held underwater long enough to drown. The traps didn't work.

The last bald cypress was taken from the island on the third day of trying to capture the beaver. After that, it was decided, the beaver had won.

"The problem with catching this beaver was that we believe the path the beaver took transversed outside of the campus to a pond area to the south of us," Messer said. "The beaver would

then go through the drainage pipes and sneak into our pond to get his lumber.

"Another problem is we don't know where the beaver took the trees it stole."

In March of 2005, when the city of Oklahoma City built the retention pond on the corner of S.W. 74 and May Avenue, the three bald cypress trees were used as the centerpiece of the island in the water.

"It takes time and money to plant trees and let them mature," Messer said.

"After you add in all the equipment we rented to transport and plant the trees and then the time it took the trees to grow, I'd say that beaver did \$2,500 worth of damages to our campus.

"Since then we've put wire mesh frames around the trunks of our remaining trees."

Frost said he has en-

**"On a few different occasions I caught the beaver on dry ground and chased him. But the sucker was faster than me."**

—Robert Frost

Critter-B-Gone Owner and Operator

countered the financial strain of dealing with beavers before, albeit on a larger scale.

"Once, Oklahoma City paid me to exterminate beavers downtown on the river walk," Frost said. "The city had planted 125 cypress trees. Only six were left. Those beavers cost the city over \$20,000 worth of damages."

Frost said a common tactic in preventing a beaver committing acts of eco-terrorism is to introduce predators into its habitat.

It is considered a practical solution to release alligators into any wetlands that a beaver is destroying,

according to Wildlife damagecontrol.net. Alligators are heralded for their ability to protect wetland flora.

"The problem with releasing alligators into the pond is that the body of water leads out to a private golf course, just north of I-240," Messer said.

"I don't believe those gentlemen want to deal with a prowling alligator when they're teeing off in the morning.

"Our plan is plant a few more trees on the island, along with some native bluegrass. We will replace the trees whenever we have the money."

## Students tour occupational therapy classroom

By **Esther Chong**  
News Writing Student

Professor Reeca Young walked swiftly into the Occupational Therapy Assistant lab filled with news writing students Oct. 14, excited to teach them a little about her field and the work of an OTA.

The lab is designed to look like a one-bedroom efficiency apartment with a living room, bedroom, non-working bathroom and a functioning kitchen. It's set up so that OTA and Emergency Medical Technician students can experience professional training in a real-life environment, Young said.

Occupational therapy is a means of teaching adaptive skills to those with disabilities so they can engage in daily living activities, she said.

An occupational therapist holds a master's degree and an occupational therapy assistant is trained in a two-year program, such



Reeca Young

as the one available at OCCC. The goal of the profession is to help people to live as independently as possible.

Young said OTAs work with those who are born with a disability and also with those who have been injured due to an accident or illness, such as a car accident or a stroke.

OTAs work with disabilities such as memory loss, and difficulties in physical movement, she said.

Young showed the differ-

ent types of devices OTA students work with.

In the kitchen, a one-handed cutting board with a rocker knife allows a person who is paralyzed on one side to cut food.

Slanted mirrors under the vent hood on the top of stoves can help those in wheelchairs view what is cooking on the stove.

Plate guards are put on plates to help food stay where it belongs.

There also are varieties of eating utensils.

Large-handled spoons help those who have decreased strength in their hands, Young said.

A spoon that wraps around the wrist minimizes the need for hand dexterity and is usually used by those who have arthritis and cerebral palsy, Young said.

And for those with shaky hands, she said, a weighted spoon helps decrease the shakiness.

News writing student Kenny Hilburn had an op-

portunity to use the button hooker to fasten a button on his shirt. Limited to using one hand, he experienced a portion of the frustrations and difficulties of the disabled in something as easy as to button up a

shirt.

Young said she was pleased the students were eager to hear what it means to be an OTA.

"OTAs are there to improve the quality of life," she said.

## Human Resources, Finance, will move to new location

*"Sale,"*  
Cont. from page 1

tion," Sechrist said. "But it will be a priority to return the operations and staff currently housed at the John Massey Center to the main campus."

The buyer has agreed to allow OCCC to remain in the building for up to two years, the time it may take to prepare for the move.

"Since it will take almost that long to design, build or renovate new space for the operations and staff, it is anticipated that the move will take place in approxi-

mately two years or slightly less," Sechrist said.

He said the move will be financed with the money from the sale.

"The details are being worked out. This sale will be for the good of the college."

Staff Writer Cynthia Praefke can be reached at [adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu).

Contact the editor  
with story ideas  
Call 682-1611,  
ext. 7409  
or e-mail  
[editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)

# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

- **Nov. 4:** OCCC Chance club basketball team scheduled to play Southwestern Christian University at 7 p.m. in Bethany.
- **Nov. 7:** Intramural basketball game scheduled for 1:30 p.m., ReMix vs. Pretty Boyz.
- **Nov. 8:** OCCC club soccer plays Arkansas University at 3 p.m. in Tulsa.
- **Nov. 8:** Team meeting scheduled for OCCC Chance club basketball team at noon in the Wellness Center gym.
- **Nov. 9:** OCCC club soccer plays Oklahoma State University at 3 p.m. at Rose State College in Midwest City.
- **Nov. 21-23:** OCCC Aquatic Center will host the EAT Turkey Meet. For more information about upcoming Aquatic Center events, call Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 405-682-1611. ext. 7662.
- **Dec. 6:** OCCC Aquatic Center will host the Joe Stocker High School Swimming and Diving Invitational. For more information about upcoming Aquatic Center events, call Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 405-682-1611. ext. 7662.

Get up-to-date information on all OCCC Intramural sports, as well as news on college and pro sports around the nation.

Listen to the OCCC Sportscast at:

[www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer)



Photo by Matt Bishop

Remix's Chris Taylor goes up for a shot over the Pretty Boyz Edward Winslett during their game Oct. 24. Taylor scored 8 points for ReMix in their 53-52 win over the previously number one ranked Pretty Boyz.

## Highly touted Pretty Boyz get ReMixed in weekend nail-biter

### DeMarco Baucom hits 3-pointer to win in final seconds

By **Stephen Sossamon**  
Staff Writer

ReMix picked up its third win of the season, upsetting the Pretty Boyz 53-52 in intramural basketball Oct. 24, in the Wellness Center gym.

The previously number one ranked Pretty Boyz, played a tough game against a good team.

The game went back and forth and was close through its entirety. "We're keeping up with them," said Timothy Nguyen during half-time.

"We need to pick up our pace and make lay-ups."

ReMix came out of halftime rejuvenated as they jumped out to a 35-29 lead over the Boyz.

Then, from 15 minutes down to 13 minutes, the Boyz showed their sense of urgency by speeding up

the pace.

The Boyz found themselves in an unfamiliar place playing catch-up to ReMix.

At the 10:20 mark, in the second half, ReMix led the Pretty Boyz 40-33.

Ryan New sparked the comeback for the Boyz with a huge one-on-one block just 10 seconds later.

New said he wasn't worried.

"It's a done deal," New said with the Boyz trailing 50-47 with just over a minute remaining. "We've got this."

With 10 seconds remaining in regulation, the Boyz were up 52-50. The Boyz, trying to conserve the win, played aggressively in the final seconds.

But it wasn't enough.

Demarco Baucom found a hole in the defense on the perimeter and hit a three-pointer with six seconds

left to give ReMix a 53-52 lead.

After the crowd of about 20 spectators erupted over the improbable shot, the Boyz had one last shot but could not connect.

"I knew I was going to hit it," said Baucom after the game. "It feels good to win over the number one team."

Baucom led the charge for ReMix's upset with 15 points, 12 of which were in the second half. Baucom was 5 for 8 on three-point attempts.

Chris Taylor contributed 8 points and had numerous rebounds to help keep ReMix in control of the ball.

New led in scoring for the Boyz with 12 points, followed by Antonio Watson with 6 points.

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

## Sports

# Short Bus take first place with dominating weekend showing

The Bus amasses an impressive 214 points in back-to-back games

By **Matt Bishop**  
Staff Writer

The Short Bus once again showed why they are the best team in intramural basketball.

During their two games played Oct. 24 and 25, the Bus totaled 214 points against the Geek Squad and Zilla.

In their game against the Geek Squad, the Bus won 113-53, led by Josh Vanover scoring 35 points.

After the game Vanover said the Short Bus is clicking on all cylinders and looking forward to maintaining the top position.

"We are really starting to come together as a team," Vanover said after the win.

"We stay focused, the [other teams] are over confident. We just go play hard and that's why we are on top."

Against the Geek Squad, the Bus opened up a 22-2 lead during the first eight minutes. Later, Todd Holmes blocked a shot from Timmy Nguyen and went coast-to-coast for a lay-in to put the Bus up 35-7.

Juggernauting its way through the remainder of the game, Sean Trosper owned the offensive boards and scored 23 points.

Todd Holmes and DeJuan Smith each scored 21 points, Tony Carter scored 11 points and Aaron Rigsby counted for 2 points.

Another key to the Short Bus's success, is lack of selfishness among the players on the team.

Vanover said the Bus likes to get all players involved during each game.

"We have a bunch of guys on our team that want to win, instead of just being a one-man show," Vanover said.

Vanover hit a basket with four minutes left in the game to put the Bus over the 100-mark.

After the Bus reached triple-digits, Vanover went to the bench to let his teammates finish off.

Leading 101-46, the Bus started taking a few bad shots, all in fun.

"I don't want to play sloppy," Vanover said. "Even if we are up 130-46.



Photo by Stephen Sossamon

Short Bus guard Josh Vanover charges the Geek Squad's David Gray in the 113-53 win for the Bus, Oct. 25. The Bus displayed their dominance scoring 214 points in two weekend games.

I don't mind the bad shots but we need to play defense."

During the last four minutes of the game, the Bus only gave up 7 points.

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

## State flag football tournament canceled due to lack of teams

By **Casey McCallister**  
News Writing Student

OCCC's champion intramural flag football team was disappointed to learn the October flag football tournament at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater was canceled due to a lack of participation.

"It's disappointing because we were prepared and we have a solid team

that can compete," said Devil Dog's team captain Zack Pinkerton. The Dogs won the right to represent the college at the tournament after winning the intramural championship on campus.

The last two years OSU hosted the NIRSA Region IV Flag Football Tournament which was moved to Texas this year. OSU was trying to continue with the tradi-

tion of Extramural Sports in Oklahoma by having their own flag football tournament.

"There just simply weren't enough teams," said Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson.

The tournament needed 12 teams, but with only three registered, OSU was forced to cancel, said Bonnie Mitchell of OSU.

Intramural Basketball Power Rankings		
RANK	TEAM	RECORD
1.	Short Bus	5-1
2.	Pretty Boyz	3-2
3.	ReMix	3-1
4.	Spartans	1-1
5.	Geek Squad	1-2
6.	Zilla	0-5

Watson said he is currently working with people from other colleges to work on rescheduling the tournament, possibly at the

University of Central Oklahoma.

The tournament would be held mid-November, Watson said.

# Highlights

## Lifeguard training offered

The OCCC Aquatics Center will offer a lifeguard training class through Saturday, Nov. 8 in the Aquatics Center. Participants must be at least 15 years old and able to pass a swimming skills test. Fee for the class is \$130. For more information, contact James Hensley at the Aquatics Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7442.

## Future Alumni Network to host speaker

The Future Alumni Network will host immigration and general practice attorney Michael Brooks-Jimenez at noon Wednesday, Nov. 12, in Main Building room 3K2. Brooks-Jimenez will speak and answer questions on issues like economic development, immigration law, education and philanthropic groups. For more information, contact publicity officer Harmony Curry at 405-886-8165.

## Absolute 2009 looking for entries

Absolute 2009, the college literary journal, needs poetry, essays (non-academic), short stories, screenplays, plays and musical scores. OCCC students and staff are invited to submit their work. Deadline for all submissions is Monday, Dec. 1. Submission forms are available on the table outside of the Arts and Humanities office. For more information, contact Clay Randolph at crandolph@occc.edu or Marybeth McCauley at mmccauley@occc.edu.

## OU and UCO Campus Tours

The OCCC Transfer Center will be taking students to the University of Oklahoma and University of Central Oklahoma. Students will receive a campus tour, information on application deadlines and transferring. Limited space is available. The tour date for OU is Nov. 6 and UCO is Nov. 13. 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 in the Arts and Humanities area. For more information, contact Chris Verschage 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 life-long friendships. For more information, contact NASA publicity officer Paul Varela at 405-313-2076.

## 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.

## Fall writing workshop

There will be a writing workshop entitled "Recognizing Rhetoric" at noon Monday, Nov. 10, in College Union room 2. Workshops usually last about 45 minutes. For more information, contact Communications Lab assistant Nick Webb at 405-682-1611, ext. 7678, or visit [www.occc.edu/commlab](http://www.occc.edu/commlab).

## Psychology and Sociology club meeting

The Psychology and Sociology club will meet from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 11 in room 1X3 of Arts and Humanities. For more information, contact Isela Perez at 405-519-6222.

## Tuition fee waiver information

Tuition fee waiver applications for the spring semester are now available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7524.

## Delightful treats



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Donna Schruben, engineering club member, sells some baked goods to Jennifer Jackson, elementary education major. The engineering club, along with other clubs, have taken to bake sales as a main way to raise funds for trips, meetings, and activities.

# Program benefits students' leadership skills for future

## LeaderQuick workshops helpful for everyone

By **Stephen Sossamon**  
Staff Writer

Six students sharpened their leadership skills over the last eight weeks and were recognized Oct. 28 with certificates.

Harmony Curry, Debbie Wantland, Heather Creekmore, Tiffany Martin, Brandi Mills and Danielle Shuman earned LeaderQuick recognition for completion of the program.

"To receive certification, the students had to attend seven of the eight sessions," said Student Life Director Darin Behara.

The LeaderQuick program is a series of eight workshops designed to offer insight into practical leadership skills and principles that students can apply to their lives, careers and future endeavors, he said.

The sessions were generally 35 to 50 minutes, Behara said.

Curry said she thought the workshops were helpful

"[Behara] covered a lot of areas that are important for considering leadership in your daily life or career," she said.

The workshops were once a week, she said, and were during the typical lunch hour of noon, so it wasn't too hard to attend.

Curry also said her favorite session was week six.

"[Behara] talked about organizations, whether they be society or business, are set up and have different functions of leadership," she said. "Some fail and some succeed."

Behara said he taught a lot of the workshops, but Student Life coordinates the events.

"We hope it's beneficial in a manner people can apply to their life, family and jobs," he said.

Behara also said Student Life was developing their

spring semester calendar and was planning on doing more workshops then.

Other students on campus find the workshop an interesting idea.

"It's always good to learn new leadership skills," said accounting major Victoria Witte. "Everyone has room to improve."

Sophomore Traci Browne said she agrees with Witte.

"I wouldn't mind attending a couple of the workshops," she said.

For more information on LeaderQuick and its future programs, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

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

**Does your club have an event coming up?**

**E-mail Stephen Sossamon at [onlineeditor@occc.edu](mailto:onlineeditor@occc.edu)**

# Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ads must be submitted in writing with IDs supplied or work area and college extension included. Deadline for advertising is 5 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or adman@occc.edu

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OSU	AAA	
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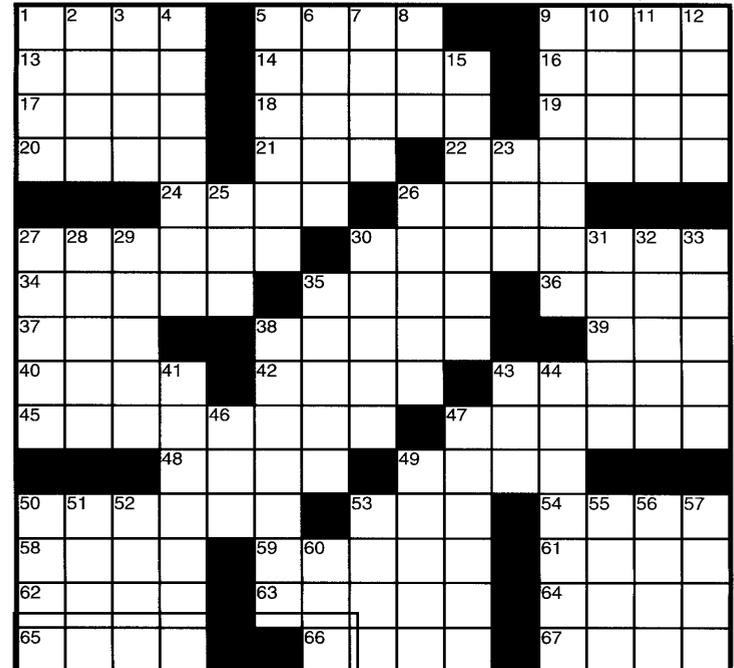
29 Winding dance	46 Actor Johnson
30 Australian city	47 Courageously
31 — out: making ends meet	49 Diamond corners
32 Take delight in	50 Bargain event
33 Stockholm native	51 Ruse
35 Idaho capital	52 Director Clair
38 Dreadful	53 Martial art
41 Did a film-editor's job	55 Prima donna
43 Battle	56 Cast a sidelong glance
44 Lit	57 Seabird
	60 "Alley —"

### ACROSS

- 1 Learn by —: memorize
- 5 Omelet needs
- 9 Sword handle
- 13 Gumbo veggie
- 14 River nymph
- 16 Part of HOMES
- 17 Cry of woe
- 18 "The Sweetheart of — Chi"
- 19 Tibetan monk
- 20 Enthralled
- 21 Be- —: hippie happenings
- 22 Church book
- 24 Units of energy
- 26 — gin
- 27 Synthetic fiber
- 30 Picasso and Van Gogh
- 34 O. Henry's forte
- 35 Type of blocker
- 36 Distort
- 37 Wrongdoing
- 38 AI and Tipper
- 39 "— had it!"
- 40 Beer barrels
- 42 Strikes
- 43 — and dined
- 45 Hasty and careless
- 47 Geese group
- 48 Misplace
- 49 Farm sight
- 50 Short race
- 53 Toast topper
- 54 Not working
- 58 Baldwin or Guinness
- 59 Cad
- 61 Row
- 62 The — Ranger
- 63 Alpine song
- 64 Level
- 65 Viewed
- 66 Bouquet unit
- 67 Challenge

### DOWN

- 1 Bellow
- 2 Tex. neighbor
- 3 Snare
- 4 From Asia
- 5 Naval officer
- 6 Profits
- 7 Musicians' jobs
- 8 Spade of whodunits
- 9 Firefighters' headgear
- 10 OPEC member
- 11 Type of bean
- 12 Shade of blue
- 15 Shaggy flowers
- 23 Over there
- 25 Cowboy Rogers
- 26 Cloys
- 27 Computer-users' needs
- 28 "The Tempest" spirit



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## Students who drop could audit instead

*"Drop,"*

*Cont. from page 1*

maintain a certain amount of credit hours for their health insurance plan.

Turner said an audit will affect insurance and financial aid in the same manner a drop will.

"Financial aid rules require that you complete a certain percentage of the credit hours that you're enrolled in."

Since an audit means the student did not complete the course, it could still affect the financial aid plan.

Turner can be reached by phone at 405-682-1611, ext. 7544, or by e-mail at [mturner@occc.edu](mailto:mturner@occc.edu).

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