

SCHOLARSHIP

APPLY NOW

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is offering up to \$30,000 in scholarship money. Find out more.

NEWS, p. 7

EDITORIAL

HEED THE WARNINGS

Dr. Stephen Wolf had been treated multiple times for mental issues, yet was still practicing medicine in Oklahoma. This should have been cause for concern, says staff writer Landa McClure.

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ORGANIZATIONS

AVOIDING THE STRESS

With the holiday season in full swing and finals right around the corner, OCCC counselors encourage students to plan ahead in order to avoid added stress.

CLUBS, p. 10

SPRING PLAY

AUDITIONS

The drama department has begun planning for "The Odd Couple," the first play of the spring semester, and will hold open auditions this week.

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INTRAMURALS

CIRCUIT TRAINING

Recreation and Fitness officials said the three-month circuit training class ended up being one of the most successful courses this fall. Learn more inside.

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PIONEER

DECEMBER 7, 2009

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Mick Cornett presents MAPS 3 details

WHITNEY KNIGHT

Staff Writer

staffwriter1@occc.edu

Mayor Mick Cornett spoke to an audience of OCCC students, faculty and staff, as well as Oklahoma City citizens, when he presented an informative session about the MAPS 3 initiative on Dec. 2, in College Union rooms 2 and 3.

About 100 people listened to the mayor's hour-long presentation, detailing the success of previous MAPS projects as well as providing information regarding MAPS 3, which will be voted on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

If passed, Cornett said, MAPS 3 will improve Oklahoma City with eight projects including a park, a high-tech transit system, walking and bicycle trails, and a new convention center.

"A few years ago, Oklahoma City was seen as a great city to live in, and to raise a family in, but not to visit," Cornett said. "That's not the case today.

"Ever since the first MAPS program passed in 1993 and the Bricktown Ballpark was built, the city has been riding a momentum.

"What we are doing is working."

The MAPS 3 initiative first began in January 2007, when Cornett launched a website where citizens were allowed to vote on what they would like to see in an upcoming MAPS program, he said.

After 2,747 responses and an overwhelmingly positive reception, Cornett said, the site closed in May 2007.

Out of the 14 ideas that garnered the most votes, Cornett said 12 of those have either already been accomplished, or are a part of MAPS 3.

See **MAPS** page 9



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Mayor Mick Cornett speaks about continuing the momentum with MAPS 3 at an information session held at 4 p.m. Dec. 2 in the College Union. The session lasted just over an hour and concluded with the mayor answering questions the audience had submitted.

PROFESSORS REFER STRUGGLING STUDENTS TO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Early Alert designed to help students succeed

CHAVON MCMILLIAN
News Writing Student

The faculty at OCCC want students to do well, which is one reason for the Early Alert system, said Mary Turner, Learning Support specialist.

Turner said the Early Alert system is designed to reach students who are struggling.

When professors see signs that students may

be getting off track, she said, they will submit their names to Student Support Services.

Turner said she usually receives a total of 500 students a semester.

A representative of her office will contact the students to find out what problems may be keeping them from coming to class or completing assignments, she said.

The goal is to help students before it is too late, Turner said.

Mark Schneberger, English professor, said faculty are not looking just at grades, but at all facets of a student's life — including their ability to build healthy supportive relationships.

The Early Alert system serves as a good approach to seeing the success of both, he said.

Students "sometimes are mad" when they get notification letters, Schneberger said.

"They have not been in a situation where someone tries to help."

He said the system can't save someone; but can help students help themselves.

"The student has to want it," Schneberger said.

The success rate of the Early Alert system

is high, he said.

Schneberger said he usually refers six or seven students a semester, but with the high enrollment and H1N1 virus, he has referred 12 so far this term.

He said it's disappointing when students are unresponsive to text messages, phone calls, and letters he sends.

Schneberger recalled

See **ALERT** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Early signs should have been reported

Medical board failed public

Many people have heard of the tragic incident that occurred in Nichols Hills on Nov. 16 when a father brutally murdered his 9-year-old son.



**LANDA
MCCLURE**

When I first heard what happened, all I could think about was the family and how hard it would be for them.

Secondly, I wondered if there was any way it could have been avoided.

Of course, no one can expect the worst but there were warning signs that were not acknowledged.

According to a report given by The Oklahoman, who spoke to Lyle Kelsey from the Oklahoma State Board of Medical

Licensure and Supervision, if a practicing doctor has been hospitalized or had any major illness that could impact their ability, the doctor has to notify the licensing board.

Dr. Stephen Wolf had been admitted to psychiatric help numerous times for depression and unresolved issues from his childhood, according to articles from The Oklahoman.

It saddens me to know that people knew Dr. Wolf needed help and yet no one really did anything. Neighbors told The Oklahoman Dr. Wolf was supposed to enter rehab very shortly.

Dr. Wolf first started seeking psychotherapy during the spring semester of his first year in medical school and took a year off.

Then, his psychiatrist said he was OK to return to work in 1991, but after five years, Dr. Wolf was once again admitted.

There was a trend that was developing and needed to be taken care of. The hospital Dr. Wolf worked for should have had a closer eye on him and so should the licensing board.

The incident did happen at his house, but if the hospital would have notified the licensing board or spoken to Dr. Wolf directly urging him to seek psychiatric help or suggesting he take some time off, he could have been getting the appropriate care.

There was a problem at hand and no one was paying attention, so how can one prevent another tragedy from happening?

Simply paying attention and connecting the dots is the first thing. Even the slightest hints could be an indicator that someone needs help.

However, there is still a problem at hand. The



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

Oklahoma State Mental Health Board recently voted to lay off 100 employees, close mental health centers (including the Norman Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center), and eliminate the state's mental health beds for children.

How can people who have a mental problems be helped if hospitals and facilities are being cut back?

People need help as soon as possible and it is not something that should be put off.

At OCCC, if a student needs help or knows someone who does, the student can contact Student Support Services at 405-682-7520.

YOUR VOICE | Faculty sticks to mission of graduation

The college stands behind students

To the editor:

We were somewhat surprised by your Nov. 16 editorial "More availability could increase graduation rate at the college."

Please note that we are very committed to all of our students achieving their educational goals including graduation.

To achieve this end we offer all major required

courses at least once a year.

In courses with smaller enrollments, we alternate courses in the fall and spring semesters.

When this happens our divisions generate grids and course plans, that, when followed, will allow a student to graduate on time.

In the 2000 level courses, we oftentimes

run small sections because we know that students need them to graduate.

Finally, when necessary, we will work with the student to find substitutions and/or set up individualized study with the student.

We work very hard to make sure that there are no barriers to students' graduation.

If there is a case of a student's not being able to graduate because of lack of availability of a course, that needs to be brought to the attention of the appropriate dean or to my attention so we can take steps so that the student can graduate on time.

—**FELIX AQUINO**
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

YOUR VOICE | More recognition for Veterans

A question of priority

To the editor:

I was amazed by the front page of the Pioneer, dated Nov. 16. The headlines read "Holidays cause depression for some," "Students to perform 'Tartuffe' this week" and "Design class displays movie posters." There was a beautiful Veterans Day ceremony on Nov. 11.

Is that how "un" important a day such as Veterans Day has become? Is it so trivial that it is placed on page 10, not on the front page of your paper?

Thanks for your support of Veterans Day.

—**C.W. WEST**
FINANCIAL AID

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or 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. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the author's name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has

the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be fewer than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, faxed to 405-682-7843, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed on the Internet at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Color printing this semester is paid for, in part, from a grant from OPUBCO Communications Group.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | The wolves steal the show

'New Moon' pleases fanatics

And so the lamb fell in love with the werewolf.

"The Twilight Saga: New Moon," the hugely-anticipated sequel to last year's original blockbuster, sank its fangs into theaters everywhere Nov. 20.

The film is adapted from the second installment of Stephenie Meyer's wildly-popular "Twilight" saga, a series of four books centered on mortal teenager Bella Swan and Edward Cullen, her vampiric love.

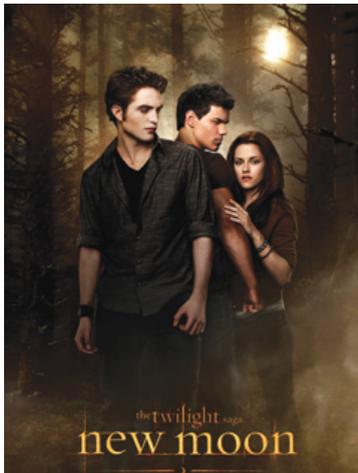
"New Moon" easily picks up where its predecessor left off — on the eve of Bella's (Kristen Stewart) eighteenth birthday, a date she laments for the eternal age difference it solidifies between her and her immortal soulmate.

When her surprise party ends in her blood being shed, Edward (Robert Pattinson) makes a startling decision to abandon his human girlfriend and forever depart from Forks, Wash., with his family, leaving Bella and a plethora of teenage fans heartbroken.

Eventually, she finds solace in Jacob Black (Taylor Lautner), her warm-hearted childhood friend who restores the light to her life and harbors a furry little secret of his own: He is a werewolf.

As if her heart being torn between two monsters isn't enough, Bella must also contend with evil vampire Victoria (Rachelle Lefevre), hell-bent on avenging her beloved James (Cam Gigandet), killed by Edward in the first film.

"New Moon" is a whimsical, non-stop adventure full of action, romance, and a surprising amount of laughs — a welcome reprieve from Bella's dreary demeanor following Edward's departure.



SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

Fans of the book series will take delight in knowing "Moon" translates near-flawlessly from paper to film, losing little of the novel's original intrigue in the process.

Less thrilled, however, will be the rabid Edward fans, who may find Jacob's amount of screen time frustrating.

I hate to break it to them: It is the wolves who steal the show.

Their transformations between human and wolf form are in themselves mesmerizing, but it is the gargantuan, teeth-baring wolves who provide the film's most exhilarating action sequences.

Visually, the film is a vast improvement over the original, which was generally panned by critics for its poor special effects.

In addition, the film's acting talent — another aspect heavily criticized in "Twilight" — has definitely improved since the first movie. Performances by Stewart and Lautner should be especially applauded, though Pattinson's portrayal of Edward leaves something to be desired. Fortunately, that is not enough to ruin a great movie.

For those who have not read the book, the film's ending may seem a little abrupt, but true fans will appreciate the prelude to "Eclipse," currently slated for a 2010 release.

To non-Twilight fanatics, "New Moon" may seem drawn-out and derivative. For the true fans, however, it delivers on every level.

Rating: A-

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
STAFF WRITER

YOUR VOICE | Knowing is half the battle

You can't always get what you want

To the editor:

Ethan Hendricks beams OCCCs graduation rate and suggests that inadequate course availability is a significant factor. He asserts: "[m]any students ... are finding out the hard way that some classes they need for their degree plan aren't offered at convenient times — or, in some cases, not at all."

Although Mr. Hendricks provides data

on enrollment and the graduation rate, his criticism of this supposed course availability problem takes the form an unsupported generalization. Worse, he casts doubt on the college's commitment to student success.

No doubt some students experience difficulties finding the right course, at the right time, but college is not like a WalMart Supercenter, where one can get al-

most anything, at any-time. If Mr. Hendricks thinks that OCCC can and universities do always offer required courses "once each semester," at "convenient times," he is mistaken. Higher education requires planning and adaptation.

In my experience, a fair number of students who encounter problems graduating "on time" either have unrealistic expectations or

failed to plan ahead.

I have two pieces of advice for any incoming student. First, get a faculty adviser and visit her or him every semester. Your adviser wants you to graduate, and most will go far to help.

Second, avoid the Burger King mentality — i.e., "have it your way" — for you cannot always do whatever you want, whenever you want.

—JOHN EHRHARDT
HISTORY PROFESSOR

YOU *asked* FOR IT

Q: Who is the most famous person to graduate from OCCC?

A: "There are numerous ones to mention, but every graduate is successful in our viewpoint."

—PAT BERRYHILL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Q: How much does a non-student have to pay to use the Wellness Center?

A: "Visiting adults must pay \$6 per day and children ages 3 to 15 have to pay \$4. In addition, punch cards are available for \$40, which allow the visitor to use the Wellness Center 20 times within a four-month period. Furthermore, membership can be purchased for \$170 for a year."

—ERIC WATSON
SPORT AND RECREATION SPECIALIST

Q: I am interested in learning a language that is not currently offered on software in the World Languages and Cultures Center. Are there any other resources available?

A: "If we don't have the resource available here, your best bet would be at our own Keith Leftwich Memorial Library, or at any of the 17 libraries within the Metropolitan Library System."

—CHIAKI TROUTMAN
WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURES
CENTER LAB ASSISTANT

Q: Will OCCC expand the OKC-GO Program?

A: "Students from Oklahoma City Public Schools and Western Heights Public Schools are eligible for OKC-GO because both school districts are included in OCCC's Technical Tax District which was created when the college was founded in 1972. This means that OCCC has a special relationship and commitment to the students and taxpayers of Southwest Oklahoma City. The OKC-GO program is one way that the college demonstrates that commitment. Currently, there are no plans to expand the OKC-GO program to other districts. However, we are always looking for ways to make college as affordable as possible as limited resources will allow."

—JON HORINEK
RECRUITMENT AND
ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | Good talent and good book make for a bad movie

Even with all-star cast, 'Mr. Fox' not very fantastic

How do you produce a bad film with talent such as Meryl Streep and George Clooney?

You do an adaptation of a children's book and change the personalities of the characters.

That is what happened in the stop-motion animated picture from Twentieth Century Fox, "Fantastic Mr. Fox."

Wes Anderson ("The Royal Tenenbaums") wrote a screenplay based on Roald Dahl's story of a fox family living in the British countryside.

Mr. Fox, his wife and son, Ash, live in a hole in the ground.

Mr. Fox steals chickens for a living, but his wife thinks it is too dangerous a job.

Fox gets a job as a newspaper writer, but his love for the excitement of the hunt gets the best of him, and he wants to pull one last chicken raid.

The story is taken from the end of the book by Dahl.

The farmers get upset about having their coops raided, and decide to band together to kill Fox.

That rings true, but the way the farmers use excessive force, and try to kill all the animals to get to one, is not entertaining.

The screenplay paints a picture of Fox as a selfish jerk.

This is not the same wonderful character that is portrayed in the

book.

As the voice of Mrs. Fox, the talent of Meryl Streep is under used. Her character has little to say.

One highlight of the film is a cuss fight between Badger (Bill Murray) and Fox.

It is funny because they strike poses as two animals but yell at each other and use the word "cuss" instead of another four-letter word we are familiar with.

Unfortunately, the rest of this 87-minute movie drags on and is not as entertaining.

The animation is not well done, and is, in fact choppy in some places.

Another discrepancy is the humans are English, while the ani-



TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

mals are very obviously American.

It added a hint of confusion to an already scattered plot.

Rated PG for smoking and slang humor, that is the least of this movie's faults.

"Fantastic Mr. Fox" is

just a title. The movie is only mediocre.

Rating: C-
—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
STAFF WRITER

PLAY REVIEW | Students exhibit extraordinary acting skills

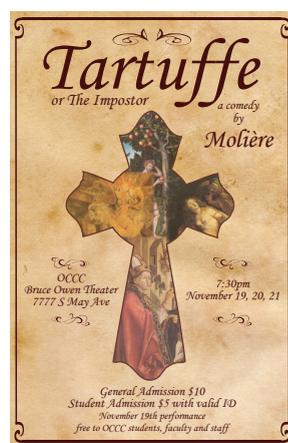
'Tartuffe' delights audience with well-played drama

A full house filled the Bruce Owen Theater Nov. 19 for an impressive rendition of Moliere's "Tartuffe."

The comedy, which debuted in France in 1664, is told in five acts.

It centers mostly on Orgon, played by Nicholas McDaniel, a wealthy, well-intentioned aristocrat who takes in a stranger by the name of Tartuffe, played by Sean Henry.

Regarded by Orgon as an extremely pious, devout man of religion, Tartuffe is seen by the rest of Orgon's family for what he really is: a scummy impostor trying to swindle Orgon not only of his home



and fortune, but also of his wife, Elmire, played by Kate Robertson.

Despite multiple warnings from his friends and family, Orgon is blinded by his hero-worship of Tartuffe.

He places the needs of the so-called holy man above those of his own

family, going so far as to promise his daughter's hand in marriage to the scoundrel — as well as disinheriting his own son in order to make Tartuffe the sole heir to his vast fortune.

It is not until Orgon overhears Tartuffe trying to seduce his wife that he realizes his so-called man of piety is, in fact, a con artist.

But by then, it may be too late for Orgon to reclaim his home — and his very well being — from the hypocrite.

Though comedic by nature, "Tartuffe" manages to touch upon some more serious themes, such as religious hypocrisy.

That a man could be so blinded by a false prophet of sorts is frightening, but sadly, not unfathomable.

Perhaps that is what made "Tartuffe" so enthralling: not only did it get the audience thinking, but also had them rolling with laughter in the process.

The cast as a whole was simply spectacular, though performances by Henry and Lauren Thomas, who played the smart-mouthed housemaid Dorine, really shone.

The night's biggest disappointment came not from the play.

It came instead from audience members and

their rampant cell phone usage.

Not only did several phones go off during the show, it seemed that at least one person in the crowd was text messaging at any given time.

They disrupted the darkness of the theater with annoyingly bright cell phone screens and distracting ring tones.

This was not only distracting to those of us who were actually trying to enjoy the play,

but also disrespectful toward the students and faculty members who put so much time and effort into their performances.

Shame on those rude audience members who so casually disregarded the play and its cast.

While they were busy chattering away, they missed a spectacular show.

Rating: B+
—WHITNEY KNIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Don't be left in the dark.
Follow us for instant news and updates!

[www.twitter.com/
OCCCPioneer](http://www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer)

CONCERT TO BE HELD OFF CAMPUS AT MID-AMERICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Popular, traditional holiday songs will be performed by three choirs Dec. 10

MIA CANTU
News Writing Student

OCCC's three choirs will unite to perform a free, festive concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. The concert will be held at Mid-America Christian University, 3500 SW 119th St.

The concert is designed specifically for the holidays, providing the audience with Christmas songs of all genres, said choir director Ron Staton, also a music professor.

Staton said popular holiday songs, such as "Going on a Sleigh Ride" and "Rise Up

Shepherds and Follow," will be on the concert's song list.

He said the choir also will perform the unique "Children's Letters to Santa Claus."

Staton said the choirs will sing the classical favorite, "Hallelujah Chorus," a song from "Messiah" by Handel, that has been performed for audiences since the early 1700s.

OCCC offers three choirs: the Chamber Singers, the Symphonic Community Choir and the Concert Choir, he said.

Each choir has been working since fall break on the

music that will be performed for the December concert, Staton said.

He said since the October concert, the symphonic choir has grown about 10 members.

Both the Symphonic Community Choir and Concert Choir are made up of all who are interested in joining. In order to become a Chamber Singer, however, an audition is required.

Chamber singer and concert choir member Caleb Dickinson said the holiday concert will provide good entertainment.

"The Dec. 10 concert is going to be fun and festive," Dickinson said. "The audience should come to laugh and enjoy themselves for a concert that is exciting and not formal."

The choirs typically draw a large audience of about 500, Staton said, which is why they perform their concerts off campus at Mid-America's theater — a venue about double the size of OCCC's Bruce Owen Theater, which has a capacity of 287 seats.

One choir fan said there is a reason for the large crowds.

OCCC student Cadence

Dickinson said he attends the concerts regularly.

"I think the fact that the students can do classical and actually give it merit is exceptional," he said.

The students said they have been working hard this year to bring their audience a holiday concert worth attending.

"I feel like we're really very prepared for this concert," said Cathleena Vanloan, chamber singer and concert choir member. "We've worked very hard to get where we're going."

The choirs perform two concerts a semester.

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PROTECTING ENVIRONMENT THE SUBJECT OF FINAL CAMPUS VOICES LECTURE

Wildlife conservationist takes students on adventure through stories, photos

SHYLA ROBINSON
News Writing Student

Wildlife conservation was at the top of Marty Essen's to-do list as he gave a lecture on Nov. 17 about his travels to the seven continents with his wife Deb.

"Around the World in 90 Minutes with Marty Essen" was the third Campus Voices lecture hosted by Student Life.

Essen filled his presentation with on-the-scene photos, humorous stories, and a message of how important protecting the environments is.

Essen said he and his wife

have visited all seven continents in search of adventure and wildlife.

He discussed the importance of understanding animals. He also talked about the importance of wildlife conservation and its impact on the environment.

Essen first brought his audience to the country of Belize in Central America where he met and photographed the vampire bat. He talked about how, although many people fear them, the bats are actually very helpful.

When the bats bite an animal, they secrete a very effective anticoagulant. This anticoagulant is actually used

in modern medicine to help patients by preventing blood clots.

From there, Essen took the audience to Chillagoe, Queensland, in Australia where Essen described an encounter with a wallaroo named Bonnie. Bonnie was found inside her dead mother's pouch and is now being rehabilitated.

Essen was able to bottle feed her. His friends, the Bondesons, take in wildlife and rehabilitate them with the hope that someday they can release them back in the wild.

When the Essens headed to Canada, they were able to witness the annual caribou migration, a sight that

he fears might be ruined if people are allowed to drill for oil in the migration path. The caribou range from Alaska and the Yukon in the summer to near the Brooks Range in the winter. Many people say drilling would be OK because it's a big stretch of nothing, he said, but every inch has some kind of life form.

Not only that but when the caribou migrate, they do so for the nutritious cotton grass in the area that makes their milk better for the ba-

bies which means a better survival rate for the calves.

But their adventures don't stop there. Essen has turned them into an award-winning book, "Cool Creatures, Hot Planet: Exploring the Seven Continents."

It has won the National Indie Excellence Award and the Best Books Award. This past year it won the first place at the 2009 Green Book Festival and was named a Top-10 Green Book by the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

Campus arrest tops reports

MARK SMITH
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Police arrested a visitor on campus Nov. 24 on outstanding warrants for two counts of second-degree burglary and two counts of making a false declaration to a pawnbroker.

The visitor, Michael Cobbs, first came to the attention of Safety and Security Officer Austin Plackmeier when Plackmeier responded to a computer misuse complaint against Cobbs in the library.

In the report, Plackmeier confirmed Cobbs was viewing inappropriate material so he asked Cobbs for his identification.

After checking Cobbs' name against the Oklahoma State Courts Network, Plackmeier discovered the warrants.

An Oklahoma City police officer took Cobbs to jail.

A few days earlier, on Nov. 18, Plackmeier responded to a fire in a trash can near the front entrance of the Main Building.

Carlos Robinson, extended services coordinator for Enrollment and Student Services, told Plackmeier he was working the Welcome Desk when the fire was reported to him.

Plackmeier reported he was able to extinguish the fire before any major damage occurred.

Safety and Security Officers Jeffrey Porter, Brandon Wheeler, and Kevin Tipton assisted Plackmeier.

After putting out the fire, Tipton started to back his security vehicle out of the plaza near the main entrance when he struck a light pole.

No one was injured, and minimal damage was caused to the security SUV and light pole, according to Wheeler's report.

Another traffic accident occurred Friday, Nov. 20, in Parking lot A in front of the Main Building.

Safety and Security Officer Tim Densmore reported he was on patrol when he noticed an Oklahoma City Po-

lice officer speaking to several people.

Visitor Bobbie Morrow told Densmore and the police officer that she was backing out of her parking space when she heard a "boom."

She told both officers she had checked both ways and all mirrors before pulling out of her parking space.

Visitor Lilly Chic told the officers she had made a left hand turn into the lane and didn't see the vehicle in her way.

Densmore reported surveillance video footage revealed Chic was already in the lane when Morrow pulled out and hit her.

There were no injuries and minimal damage, according to Densmore's report.

Two other computer misuse reports also were filed by library staff during the week, according to reports.

On Nov. 16 and 24, two library visitors, Kenneth Craig and Thomas Brown, were identified as violating library policy and asked to leave.

SPRING 2010

"Employment & Career Power Workshops!"

Location:

Student Employment & Career Services
(Room 1G7 - Main Building - 1st Floor)

Wednesdays

12:30pm - 1:00pm

February 3 _____ Job's On Campus/Off Campus

February 24 _____ Job Fair Strategies

March 10 _____ Job Board Registration

March 24 _____ Application/Cover Letter Creation

April 7 _____ Professional Dress for Interviewing

April 14 _____ Optimal Interviewing

April 28 _____ DISCOVER-Career Exploration

May 5 _____ Internships "Greater Grads"

May 12 _____ Ethics at Work

For more Info: 405-682-7529
employmentservices@occc.edu

JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION OFFERING UP TO \$30,000 IN ASSISTANCE

Scholarship available to transferring students

SHANNON WEST
News Writing Student

Students planning to transfer to a four-year university in fall 2010 can now apply for scholarships through the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, said Sara McElroy, Transfer and Academic Advising coordinator.

Through the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship Program, the private foundation is awarding up to \$30,000 annually per recipient to help students and recent alumni from community colleges pursue a four-year degree at any accredited college or university in the U.S. and abroad, McElroy said.

Students from two-year colleges nationwide will com-

Scholarship eligibility requirements:

- Currently enrolled at a two-year college with sophomore standing or a graduate within the last five years
- Transferring to a four-year university in fall 2010
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better
 - Demonstrate financial need based on income

Apply online at
jkcf.org/scholarships/undergraduate-transfer-scholarships

pete for this scholarship, she said, but only 30 students will be awarded.

Last year, the foundation received more than 480 nominations for these awards, she said.

The scholarship can provide funding for tuition, room and board, required fees, and books for the length of the undergraduate degree, generally two years.

Award amounts vary de-

pending on such factors as the cost of the institution each recipient attends, she said.

There are certain criteria students must meet to be eligible for the scholarship, McElroy said.

Students must be currently enrolled at a two-year institution with sophomore standing as of Dec. 31, she said, or be a graduate within the last five years.

They must have a cumula-

tive GPA of 3.5, or better, and plan to transfer to a four-year institution in the fall of 2010.

Applicants also must demonstrate financial need based on student and family income and other scholarships or grant awards.

To apply, visit www.jkcf.org/scholarships/undergraduate-transfer-scholarships.

Applications are strictly online and are due by Dec. 18.

McElroy said a committee will review the applications and will nominate two OCCC students for the award.

The college will notify the nominees once they are chosen, she said.

Nominees are judged based on academic achievement and critical thinking ability, financial need, will to succeed, and breadth of interest and activities, McElroy said.

OCCC nominees have not won this award in the past, she said, but that should not discourage students from ap-

plying.

“It’s a great opportunity,” McElroy said. “But students need to get started on the application process right away.”

She said students will need to acquire many documents for the application including official college transcript for all undergraduate coursework, high school transcript, two letters of recommendation, a résumé, applicant tax forms, and parent financial information and tax forms.

All of these documents must be scanned and uploaded to each student’s online application, McElroy said.

Student Employment and Career Services can help students with scanning and uploading documents, she said.

“Students can also contact me,” McElroy said. “I can help walk them through the process.”

For more information, contact McElroy at 405-682-7567.

Making children happy



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Jennifer Maracara, OCCC bookstore cashier, displays some of the toys donated to the Toys For Tots program. Bookstore Office Assistant Denise Smith said the bookstore has teamed up with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as a drop-off site through Dec. 18 for toys that will be given to needy children. “The Marine Corps Reserve has asked that all donations be new, unwrapped and non-violent in nature,” she said.

Firestone donates \$10,000 to college

BRYAN HOGLAND
News Writing Student

For the fifth year in a row, Firestone has donated \$10,000 to the OCCC automotive program to run the light vehicle repair program, said Richard Steere, automotive professor.

Steere said Firestone is one of the college’s industry partners in providing this training.

“It is very important to us and to them,” he said. “We both benefit from each other.”

Firestone benefits by sending its employees to the college program for training, Steere said, and also by selecting students from the program to work for them.

“They can come in and look at students, and try and hire them,” he said.

“The students can go work in the stores and also get a college credit for that.”

There are other companies that have donated to the college, like Hibdon Tires Plus, but Firestone is by far the largest donor, Steere said.

For more information on OCCC’s automotive program, contact Steere at 405-682-1611, ext. 7351.

SPORTS

INTRAMURALS | Fitness intramural active all semester

Circuit training class a success

LANDA MCCLURE
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

Ten students completed a three-month circuit training class this semester, making it one of the most successful fitness courses of the fall, said Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist.

The goal of circuit training is more about toning up and not so much trying to lose weight, said Chris Riley, instructor for the course.

Riley said the classes were successful due to people who were dedicated to the program.

"We had a couple of people drop out of the program, but we always had a full class because people were lined up to join," he said.

"I was quite surprised to see that many people interested in the class," Riley said.

He said he would have the students lift weights, do exercises that worked different muscles and, in between the workouts, jog.

"You want to work different muscles so they all get toned up," Riley said.

He said during one class he would have the students work their back muscles.

In the next class they would focus on their lower body.

Then, the third class would work on their upper body muscles.

Riley said the circuit training program started in late August and finished in mid-November.

"The program really works because the person trains in different levels," he said.

"Every class the participants increase their workouts."

"I would recommend this class to everyone," Riley said.

"It's a fun way to get into shape and you will see positive results."

Watson said he is very pleased with the outcome of the circuit training class. He said the students seemed to agree.

"The participants really enjoyed the class and Riley did a good job as their instructor," Watson said.

He said Recreation and Fitness was



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Chris Riley, circuit trainer, instructs Tu Nguyen, radiology major, through Nguyen's workout during a circuit training class. Circuit training was a fitness intramural added this semester. Recreation and Fitness officials said the course was well-attended and one of the most popular classes this fall.

looking for a fitness intramural program that would last throughout the semester.

Watson said they also wanted a program students could progress in throughout the semester.

"Circuit training consists of different levels, and when I saw Riley already helping students with their workouts, I knew he would make a good trainer," he said.

Riley said it felt really good being able to help others and knowing they were satisfied with their results.

"Seeing people feel good about themselves and knowing I helped them is the best feeling," he said.

"We are mainly doing outside intramurals in the spring like rock climbing, but we are trying to have some version of the class again," Watson said.

Watson said he will be looking for new trainers next semester because

“ I would recommend this class to everyone. It's a fun way to get in shape and you will see positive results.”

—CHRIS RILEY

CIRCUIT TRAINING INSTRUCTOR

Riley is moving to California.

"I wish Riley the best of luck in California and I am very grateful he stayed long enough to establish the circuit training program," he said.

For more information about circuit training or other fitness classes, contact Recreation and Fitness at 405-682-7860.

If anyone is interested in becoming a circuit trainer or participating in any of the activities that the Recreation and Fitness Center has to offer, contact Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786 or e-mail ewatson@occc.edu.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **Dec. 1-22:** Hatha Yoga classes held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 1-22:** Zumba classes held from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4:30 to 5 p.m. and 5 to 5:30 p.m. Fridays in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 1-22:** Pilates classes held from noon to 12:55 p.m. and 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 1-22:** Deep water exercise classes held from 4:30 to 5:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Aquatic Center.

• **Dec. 1-22:** Shallow water exercise classes held from 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Aquatic Center.

• **Dec. 1-22:** Body Sculpting classes held from 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Classes are held in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 2-22:** Combo Aerobics classes held from noon to 12:55 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 2-22:** Cardio Boot Camp classes will be held from noon to 12:55 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the Wellness Center.

• **Dec. 5:** Youth Basketball. Free pre-season tournament for registered teams. Tournament will begin at 9 a.m. and will be held at the Recreation and Fitness Center's gymnasium.

For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Do you have an idea for an interesting sports story? Contact Landa McClure at 405-682-1611, ext. 7440 Or e-mail staffwriter2@occc.edu

Library to add computer log-in system in January

SABEENA MAHARJAN
News Writing Student

A new computer log-in system in the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library goes into effect in January, said Dana Tuley-Williams, systems librarian.

“When a student sits down at a computer, the computer screen will ask them to input their log-in information,” Tuley-Williams said. “The students will be using their Mine Online account ID and password.”

Tuley-Williams said the log-in system should make more library computers available for student use.

Non-students will be required to show identification in order to use the machines,

she said.

There are approximately 80 computers in the first floor of the library which are available to the public as well as to students.

Tuley-Williams said the library does an annual survey which indicates that students were having difficulty finding computers to use.

Jay Ramanjulu, Public Services coordinator, said occasionally students have approached librarians for help in locating a free computer to use in searching for library resources.

“There are many incidents of underage people using the library computers,” Ramanjulu said. Visitors must be at least 16 to use computers without supervision, Tuley-

Williams said.

The large increase in students this semester is not the cause of the change in the log-in system, Tuley-Williams said.

“But this increase is a good reason for us to work harder to make sure our students are given priority in using computers,” she said.

Barbara King, Library director, said the new log-in system will still allow the public to use the computer freely.

Tuley-Williams said library staff members have filed several reports about the misuse of library computers this semester.

“If the new log-in system, cuts down on the public who use the computers for watching pornography, that is fine,”

she said.

Orville Silva, a freshman from Mexico studying economics, said he doesn't favor a log-in screen, which would require extra time to use the computers.

However, another student,

Milan Thapa, said a log-in system would improve the college's ability to monitor computer use.

“The college could track what kinds of activities are being carried out by whom,” he said.

MAPS: Up for vote Dec. 8

Continued from page 1

Cornett said a successful MAPS 3 program would greatly benefit college students.

“Many of these projects will impact generations to come,” he said. “Not only will they provide something for this community to be proud of, they will provide opportunities for college graduates to stay here.

“We have to create a city where they want to be,” Cornett said.

Terry Pierce, an Oklahoma

City citizen who attended the session, said he opposes the MAPS 3 initiative and will be voting against it.

“These are fluff projects that we don't need,” Pierce said. “What we need is the money that's going into them.

“People who have kids to feed, people who are losing their jobs and struggling in this economy; they're not interested in this stuff.

“It's stupid,” he said.

For more information regarding the MAPS 3 initiative, visit www.okc.gov/maps3.

ALERT: Helpful system

Continued from page 1

a student whom he referred four times to the Early Alert program.

He said once the student saw he was genuine in his concern, the student's performance improved.

Not only did this student survive the semester, Schneberger said, but he went on to enroll in three consecutive semesters with Schneberger.

Lisa Adkins, Administrative Office Technology professor, said students must realize professors are willing to work with them if there is an open line of communication.

“[Faculty] ... are the authority figure, but we are approachable,” Adkins said.

She said most of her students do well as long as they attend class.

For those struggling academically due to stress, depression, family, or other

personal issues, Adkins said, she is able to set up make up schedules.

Though current assignment deadlines must be kept, this gives the student an opportunity to complete the class, as opposed to dropping altogether, she said.

Adkins too, admitted having to refer more students than usual this semester with a total of 11.

All of the referred students have not shown up for class, she said.

Adkins said students can easily avoid being turned in to the Early Alert system.

“If students don't want to be in the system ... show up to class,” she said.

Students are encouraged to keep all contact information updated with the school, including phone numbers and mailing address.

For more information, contact Turner at 405-682-1611, ext. 7544.

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STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

With honors



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Sharla Dollin, theater major, receives a white rose as part of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society induction ceremony. The ceremony was held on Phi Theta Kappa's 91st birthday, Nov. 19, and featured guest speaker Richard Rouillard, Phi Theta Kappa adviser.

STUDENT LIFE | Brown Bag focuses on combatting seasonal turmoil

Holidays cause stress for some

MARK SMITH
Senior Writer
seniorwriter1@occc.edu

There are five basic triggers of holiday stress: unrealistic expectations; financial difficulties; a person's health and their unhealthy habits; time management; and relationships with family, friends, and significant others, said Jenna Howard, mental health counselor.

Howard started the presentation with a Folgers Christmas commercial to emphasize what unrealistic expectations are.

She said, often times, life is not like the commercials.

A group of about 20 students joined Student

Life for the Brown Bag Lunch topic "Dealing with Holiday Stress" Tuesday, Dec. 1, looking for advice on dealing with stress during the holidays.

Howard offered some suggestions on how to help alleviate stress and depression.

"People sometimes have unrealistic expectations of what Christmas should be," Howard said. "This causes them to have increased stress."

With so many expectations this holiday season, she said, she advised students not to fit the idea of "Christmas into a box."

Erin Guzik, TRiO Student Support Services Adviser/Counselor, spoke about financial

stress during the holidays.

With so many friends and family to buy gifts for, Guzik said, it is easy to become overwhelmed financially by charging up large debts or by neglecting bills to purchase gifts.

She said she advises students to make a budget and stick with it.

"Tell your family what your goal is," she said.

Wanting to please fam-

ily is an easy lure to overspending, she said. However, people remember loved ones more than they remember the gifts they receive.

Guzik and Howard said they recommend using time management to ease stress.

For more help with stress management during the holidays or anytime of the year, students can contact Howard at 405-682-1611, ext. 7621.

For more tips to reduce holiday stress,
read the Pioneer blog at
occcpioneer.wordpress.com

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER
Online
www.occc.edu/pioneer

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

'Odd Couple' auditions to be held

Auditions for Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, in the Bruce Owen Theater and at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in Room 1C3 of Arts and Humanities. No experience necessary. For more information, contact Brent Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246.

Foreign language scholarship offered

Applications for the 2010 Wilhelm Foreign Language Scholarship are now available. To qualify, a student must: have and display the desire to enroll in and study an offered foreign language at OCCC, have a minimum GPA of 2.0, and be committed to the study of foreign language while attending OCCC with plans to continue future study at a four-year university or use in a career path. The amount awarded is up to \$500 per semester for tuition, fees, books, foreign language materials or studying abroad. Applications may be obtained at Recruitment and Admissions as well as the OCCC Foundation office. Applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11.

Free pancake breakfast scheduled

Celebrate a successful semester! The Student Life Finals Breakfast will be held in the College Union from 8 to 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 14. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Generator program planned

In spring 2010, OCCC Corporate Learning will offer a Generator and Emergency Power Technician certificate program. During the course, students will learn how to keep their facilities running even when electricity fails. This class is designed for anyone involved with power generation in the work place. Dates and times for the upcoming course have not been set. For more information, contact Corporate Learning at 405-682-7562.

Veterans benefits available

The Department of Veterans Affairs has made funds available for Veteran students who are still awaiting their education benefit claim to be processed. Eligible veterans can receive up to a \$3,000 advance, which will be recouped from future benefit payments. If you are a student who applied for one of VA's educational programs and have not yet received your monthly benefit payment for the Fall 2009 semester, you can request a one-time advance payment at your local VA Regional Office or through VA's website at www.va.gov. For more information, contact Janis Armstrong at 405-682-1611, ext. 7527.

All Highlights are due Monday by 5 p.m.
for inclusion in the next issue.

Highlight forms can be picked up in
the Pioneer office, located on the second floor
of the Main Building, across from the elevator.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Mondays prior to the publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 2000 Nissan Altima. 170,000 miles, black, 4-door, automatic. Fully loaded, power steering, A/C, stereo, new tires. Best condition for this price. \$3,000. Call 405-885-5297.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: Iomega zip drive, new, never out of box. 250MB, USB powered. PC/Mac. \$40. Call: 405-682-1611, ext. 7765.

EMPLOYMENT

NOW HIRING: Employees to conduct surveys over the phone. Part-time work. You set your own schedule. Located in Moore at 210 N. Broadway. Please call William Perez of CHS and Associates at 405-799-6362.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Kenmore washer and dryer in very good condition. \$250. OBO. Queen-size bed \$200, OBO. Blue leather recliner \$60 OBO. Call: 405-436-4964.

RIDE NEEDED: Looking for someone who could give me rides from the OU campus in Norman to OCCC. Also need rides to Norman from OCCC. Call me at 405-413-2177, or e-mail: juanse2606@hotmail.com.

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FOR SALE: This commercial advertising space for \$8 a week for the first seven lines and \$1 each additional line. Call Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, for details.

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ROOMMATE NEEDED: Live with 2 males and a female in a 3 bedroom home. 2 car garage. no internet or cable. Close to OCCC. Rent is \$300 per month all bills paid. Call Lou: 405-596-5929.

AUDITIONS

Neil Simon's
"The Odd Couple"
Tuesday, Dec 8, 7:00 P.M.
Bruce Owen Theater
Wednesday, Dec 9,
4:00 P.M.
Room 1C5 AH
Need.6 Men and 2 Women
No Experience necessary



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WANTED: 60 copies of each: American History by Alam Brinkley, 12th edition. McGraw-Hill, 2007, Volume 1 to 1877. Volume II, since 1865. Either free or sold cheap. Please contact Professor Claudette Robertson at: claudette.robertson@occc.edu, or call: 405-522-7842, M-F, 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

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occc.edu/wellness

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Norway's capital
- 5 Anchor
- 9 Daisy Mae's creator
- 13 Jungle charger
- 15 Act like a wolf
- 16 Flu symptom
- 17 Buffalo
- 18 Witnessed
- 19 Nothing more than
- 20 Mineral spring
- 21 Capri, for one
- 23 First game of the season
- 25 Pepsi's rival
- 26 Slim
- 27 Word with the opposite meaning
- 30 Paving substance
- 31 Impends
- 32 Toss overboard
- 37 Melody
- 38 Yawning
- 40 Singer McEntire
- 41 — but: by no means
- 43 Coral or poppy
- 44 Pie — mode
- 45 Filmmaker
- 47 Soft fabric
- 50 Scurries
- 51 Thin coat

DOWN

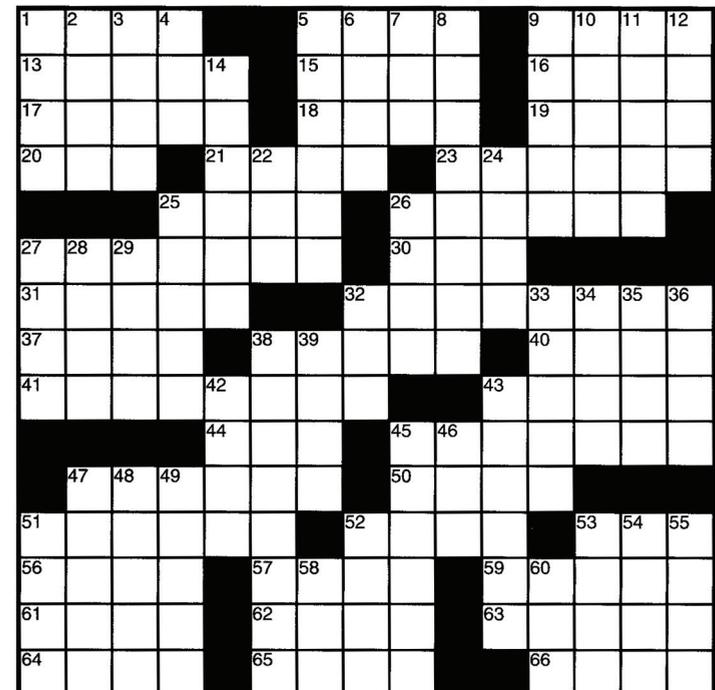
- 1 Spheres
- 2 Freighter
- 3 Mona —
- 4 Lennon's love
- 5 Islam follower
- 6 S-shaped molding
- 7 Bullfight cheer
- 8 Restore to an earlier condition
- 9 Desert animal
- 10 Representative
- 11 Fruit pulp
- 12 Look closely
- 14 Liver and —
- 22 Shade of blue
- 24 Sassy
- 25 Hale-Bopp, e.g.
- 26 Pace
- 27 Can. province
- 28 It could be

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



8-17-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate

- proper!
- 29 Actor Perkins
- 32 Notch
- 33 Golf clubs
- 34 Peddle
- 35 Woodwind
- 36 — a: not any
- 38 Wing parts
- 39 Tiny fly
- 42 "Only Angels — Wings"
- 43 Kind of salad
- 45 Turtles' homes
- 46 — Man, "Oz"
- character
- 47 Ground-cover plant
- 48 Boredom
- 49 Main roles
- 51 Suit part
- 52 Carnival
- 53 Extinct bird
- 54 Throat-clearing sound
- 55 Empty
- 58 Architect I.M. —
- 60 Cover



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SIX WOMEN, TWO WOMEN BEING SOUGHT FOR ROLES

Casting call for 'Odd Couple' to be held this week

STACI BRINKMAN
News Writing Student

The drama department will begin casting for its first play of the spring 2010 semester this week, said Brent Noel, theater professor.

Noel said auditions will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, in the Bruce Owen Theater and at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 9, in the Arts and Humanities Center, room 1C3.

Six men and two women are being sought for the cast of Neil Simon's classic comedy "The Odd Couple," which

will be performed on campus in February, he said.

Noel said those who audition will be asked to fill out forms about their acting experience.

However, he said, no experience is required to perform in the production.

"It's great if [those who audition] have experience but it's also giving people a chance who want to give it a try," Noel said.

He said the audition will consist of a combination of cold readings from the play and certain exercises to check

out how creative people can be.

Noel said "The Odd Couple" is a must-see play.

"It is the ultimate comedy about two people stuck together who don't get along," he said.

The story revolves around two men with opposite personalities and habits, who are thrown together in the same apartment after one's divorce leaves him homeless.

The compulsive neatnik moves in temporarily with his childhood friend, a happy slob, resulting in friction from

“

It's great if [those who audition] have experience but it's also giving people a chance who want to give it a try."

—BRENT NOEL
THEATER PROFESSOR

the start.

It first appeared on Broadway in 1965, according to www.endnotes.com.

"The Odd Couple" will be performed Feb. 25 through 27, Noel said.

Adjunct professor Jacque Hocking will direct the play.

Hocking said rehearsals

will begin toward the end of January, but she plans for cast members to spend time over the semester break studying the script and memorizing their lines.

For more information on the drama department, contact Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246.

Regents vote to renew architecture contract

OCCC chooses Triad to complete projects but leaves options open

ETHAN HENDRICKS
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

The Board of Regents unanimously voted Nov. 23 to end Triad Design's monopoly on architectural design and construction at OCCC.

In a 6-0 vote the board de-

ecided to renew their contract with Triad for the next five years but gave themselves the option of choosing another firm to handle a major project if they so wished.

"Triad has done a really good job," said James White, Board of Regents chairman. "However, there were some valid questions raised about Triad and their timeliness."

Jerry Steward, executive vice president, told reporters there was some lack of communication between Triad

and OCCC staff which reduced both team's efficiency in completing their jobs.

"The Board of Regents decided five years ago to adopt a procedure to evaluate Triad's performance every five years in order to find issues just like this," he said. "Now we will evaluate their performance every year."

"What we voted on (at the meeting) will allow us to choose whether to give projects to Triad or fill out a Request for Proposal and allow

“

It's great if [those who audition] have experience but it's also giving people a chance who want to give it a try."

—BRENT NOEL
THEATER PROFESSOR

other architectural engineering firms to compete for the project."

Steward confirmed that Triad would still complete several more projects already planned, both on campus and off campus.

"Triad will start working on the new \$14 million theater here at OCCC very soon," Steward said. "Triad has been given permission by the Board of Regents to undertake the remodeling of the faculty offices in the Health and Technology Center."

Steward also confirmed

Triad would undertake the remodeling of OCCC's new Capitol Hill outreach center.

This new center will help the Capitol Hill community by offering pre-college level training classes and gateway credit courses to disadvantaged students.

White said this center will be a big help.

"It will be a big opportunity for students who are struggling to get help and succeed," White said.

"Disadvantaged students will get the help they need to succeed in college."



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