

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

OCCC GETS GRANT

OCCC has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.



INSIDE PACKAGE

HONOR ROLL STUDENTS NAMED

Students who made the grade and got on the vice president's and president's honor rolls are listed inside. Are you there?

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TWO SIDES ON PRAYER AT CONVOCATION

Pioneer staff writers tackle the issue of the Constitutionality of prayer at OCCC events. Read both sides.

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Students who are active on campus fare better later in life. Read more on the Pioneer's club page.

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PIONEER

JUNE 4, 2010

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Fit for learning



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Pathways Middle College graduate Brenden Simonds investigates the many pockets of fellow graduate Isac Swift's backpack recently in front of the OCCC Bookstore. Their grandmother and bookstore clerk, Pam Simonds, lent the oversized red backpack, a bookstore prop, to the pair. The backpack was spotted around the Main Building near the bookstore.

OCCC considers replacing security with police force

JUSTIN COMBS

Editor
editor@occc.edu

Starting in 2011, OCCC may have its own police department and replace security guards with armed police officers said Jerry Steward, executive vice president.

Steward said his recommendation to President Paul Sechrist that the college transition to a police department was not prompted by a Feb. 26 incident, when a gunman was mistakenly thought to be on campus.

However, he said, that incident did refocused the college's attention on safety and security and may have affected the timing of the recommendation.

"I had been in discussions with Dr. [John] Boyd and the director of Safety and Security months before the incident on whether it was the right thing to do or not and what was the rationale for it," Steward said.

Steward said his reasoning for the recommendation of implementing armed police officers is the college's size.

"We have all of the issues here related to safety, security and crime that people have out in the community," he said.

See SECURITY page 9

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Cultural Arts '10-11 season tickets discounted

Ticket packages available at discount until July 14

JEREMY CLOUD

Staff Writer

Students and faculty who purchase tickets for the OCCC 2010-2011 Cultural Arts Series can save a lot of money by buying them now, said Scott Tigert, Cultural Programs assistant.

Until July 14, season tickets for the Cultural Arts Series are 50 percent off, Tigert said.

The Cultural Programs office also is offering discounts for six- and four-ticket packages,

he said.

Tigert said people can choose six performances and receive a 25-percent discount, or they can pick four and get a 15-percent discount.

Single-showing tickets will be sold at full price.

Joseph Wright, nursing major, said he would consider buying a ticket package.

Wright said he plans to bring his family to at least one performance, and more if they enjoy it.

"My son and I are both freshmen here, and this is the family college," Wright said.

"I'd love to get the rest of my family up here doing something."

The Cultural Arts Series features artists and performers from around the world, Tigert said.

The fall season features a world jazz and contemporary group, the longest-running "Phantom of the Opera," Scottish fiddle music and a Christmas presentation.

The spring performances include a blend of Western music and storytelling, chamber-style classical music, a mix of big band and classical brass music, and a bluegrass group.

All performances will be held at 7 p.m. in the OCCC Bruce Owens Theater.

See ARTS page 9

Cultural Arts Series advance tickets

Season tickets

- General admission: \$98
- Seniors, faculty, staff: \$78
- Students, children: \$50

6-ticket package

- General admission: \$110.46
- Seniors, faculty, staff: \$87.96
- Students, children: \$56.46

4-ticket package

- General admission: \$83.48
- Seniors, faculty, staff: \$66.48
- Students, children: \$42.48

Single-showing tickets

- General admission: \$24.50
- Seniors, faculty, staff: \$19.50
- Students, children: \$12.50

*Source: www.occc.edu/cas

OPINION

POINT/COUNTERPOINT Prayer at commencement: Freedom of beliefs or subsection to dogma?

Biblical intrusion at graduation

Last month, OCCC trampled all over students' First Amendment rights to freedom of speech during the most recent graduation ceremony.

At invocation, a prayer invoking God's presence was given to the eager graduates and audience by OCCC Regent Member Teresa Moisant.



JENNIFER PEARSALL

The First Amendment refers to the separation of church and state. Since OCCC is a state institution, religion should have been separated from the commencement.

Yet, the college didn't seem to care that her words, and those endorsed by the college, could have been very offensive to students who were forced to listen to an invocation to God.

Included in those being forced to listen were international students, atheists, people who deny any supreme being, and the agnostic — people who are skeptical of the existence of God but do not profess atheism.

Clearly God was chosen over all else during the 2010 graduation

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said the college, chose to allow the prayer because "OCCC has always included an invocation at its annual commencement exercises."

The number of public institutions, such as OCCC, that continually disregard the First Amendment year after year are astounding. And some are landing in legal trouble because of the choice.

At least one community college, South Orange Community College District in California, has been sued in federal courts for allowing prayer at graduation ceremonies.

So, how can one graduation speaker be allowed to pray to one God when OCCC has four religious groups on campus or when so many students claim to have no faith at all? It's simple. She shouldn't have.

OCCC should end invocation all together and leave the expression of religion to the churches.

Reserve the right to express beliefs

At the start of OCCC's May graduation ceremony, Board of Regents member Teresa Moisant gave a prayer. The prayer was a simple prayer to bless the ceremony — a tradition at college ceremonies.

Some would argue that prayer violated the First Amendment and should not have been given.

However, the prayer did not violate any Constitutional clause or amendment. The reason for this is because the clause, separation of church and state, is not in the Constitution at all.

The first amendment to the Constitution says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of a religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

Reading it without interpretation, the amendment does not mention a separation from religion.

Rather, this amendment was created to keep the United States from becoming another Europe where the Catholic church held sway and dominance over the rulers. The country originators created this amendment to keep one religious group from having dominance and influence over the political scene of America.

The clause, "separation of church and state" rather comes from a Supreme court interpretation of a letter written by Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptists, a religious minority group, that was worried about the large number of Congregationalist politicians in the Connecticut government.

In the 1879 Reynolds vs U.S case, the Supreme Court examined Jefferson's involvement with the first amendment and concluded that his interpretation was "almost an authoritative declaration of the meaning of church and state."

However, no court ruling has applied this idea to one-time community college graduation addresses.

As such, Moisant's prayer did not violate the Constitution nor did it violate a ruling by a court.



ETHAN HENDRICKS



MARK PARIS/OFFTHEMARK.COM

YOUR VIEW Campus labs underutilized

Lab hours available

To the editor:

I feel that I must respond to the May 7 editorial concerning, among other things, GCOM lab hours.

It was the writer's opinion that there were too few lab hours available to students to complete their work, and the \$600 cost of the Photoshop software was cost-prohibitive to students to purchase and install at home.

I have several suggestions that may be of help. Adobe CS4 is installed on all computers in Rooms 1C1 and 1C2, and on several in the Visual and Performing Arts Center, Room 113.

Students can check for lab schedules at occc.edu/gcom/lab_classsched.htm.

They can go to any of these three Macintosh labs to work on their GCOM coursework.

If these labs are not available, students can go to the Library. It also has Adobe CS4 and it does cross platform between PC and Macintosh.

To check its schedule, go to occc.edu/IT/scc.html.

GCOM had more lab hours scheduled this spring semester than we ever have before. They are far from sporadic, but often underutilized.

The key to success by any student seems to be starting early. When students have initiative, they will ask questions and voice concerns early on, then find and use any available lab.

—CATHY BOWMAN
MACINTOSH COMPUTER TECHNICIAN

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER

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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 at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | A visual feast

'Prince of Persia' delivers great quality acting and production

A game beloved by millions has made the leap to the big screen. "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time" hit theaters May 28, and is an adaptation on par with the "Tomb Raider" and "Resident Evil" movies.

For those new to the Persia story, it centers on the mystical Sands of Time, a force of nature created to wipe earth clean, which has the power to rewrite history or destroy the world.

The movie focuses on the efforts of Prince Dastan (Jake Gyllenhaal) and Princess Tremina (Gemma Arterton) to protect the Dagger of Time, a weapon that allows the wielder to rewind one minute of

time.

The dagger is made even more powerful in that it is the key to unlocking the Sands, and thereby offers limitless power to anyone who holds it.

The film, which runs 116 minutes and is rated PG-13, all but explodes off the screen with stunning visual effects by Industrial Light and Magic, the effects company behind both Star Wars trilogies. From the gorgeously choreographed combat scenes, to the huge variety of costumes and settings, the film is a visual feast.

Also supporting the movie are high quality performances by all the actors. Jake Gyllenhaal

portrays Dastan with warmth and depth, a rogue who is by turns serious and witty.

The difficult role of Tamina is carried off with resounding success by Gemma Arterton, who manages to showcase Tamina's gift for subterfuge and acting, while staying true to the character's core personality.

And Ben Kingsley turns in a faultless, believable performance as the Vizier/Nizam, never losing touch with the complex evil that is the character's hallmark.

The only problem with "Prince" is that it tries to cover too much.

The movie attempts to hit all the highlights of a trilogy of games.

It succeeds, but in the process the plot jumps around a bit and introduces odd elements to stay true to the style and feel of the games, which can make the movie a little confusing.

Overall, "Prince of Persia: Sands of Time" is a fast, fun, and often hilarious action movie. The actors all deliver fully developed, beautiful performances, and the special effects are incredible.

Bottom line: whether you're a fan of the games, or just going to see Jake Gyllenhaal shirtless and buff, "Prince of Persia" is a fun action romp, and well worth seeing.

Rating: B+

—JEREMY CLOUD
STAFF WRITER

FILM REVIEW | Better the first time around

Utter disappointment found in 'Sex'

Glamour returned to the big screen when "Sex and the City 2" hit theaters last Friday.

"SATC" fans will appreciate the fashion but the rest of the world will want two and a half hours of their life back. The film is over indulgent, cheesy, and completely unrealistic.

Sarah Jessica Parker and the rest of the "SATC" gang are dressed to the nines in this visually-appealing film.

The story picks up where the first movie left off. Two years have passed since Carrie and Big finally made it down the aisle.

Carrie finds herself doing what she does best — writing about her experiences in love and her idea of marital bliss.

The honeymoon period is over and the couple find themselves dealing with everyday married life.

Enter traditional, overly-analytical Carrie.

Her fears about living a mundane life push her to accept her friend Samantha's offer of a girl's getaway and the women are jetted off to the Middle East to experience the trip of a lifetime.

The men in "SATC2" are ultra-masculine eye candy.

The women glitter in the latest fashion, and the destinations are stylish and artfully designed.

Unfortunately, style isn't enough to carry the film's flimsy storyline.

The four main characters are burdened with clunky punch lines, and the men in their lives are forced to react with sincerity.

Parker does her best to keep the film real, but a lack of quality writing is dominated by grand scenes of seven-star desert hotels and a wedding featuring Liza

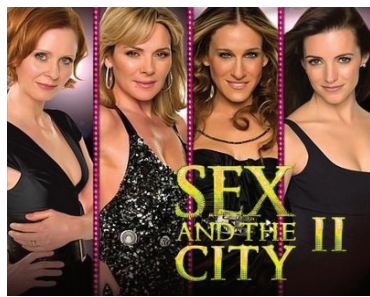
Minnelli as the main act.

While the rest of the world is feeling the effects of a lagging economy, this film shows viewers exactly what they don't have.

It is time to shelve the botox and retire the "Sex and the City" franchise.

Rating: D

—JENIFER MASSEY
STAFF WRITER



COURTESY OF NEW LINE CINEMA

COUNSELOR'S Corner

As we begin another summer term, it's hard to believe that 2010 is nearly halfway over. It seems like just last week, we were canceling classes due to ice. Now we're staking out places to keep cool. If you've never taken summer classes before, know that they move quickly. There is hardly time in the day to look up or take a breather. Assignments and tests and projects whiz by at double time. Your best defense, then, is to have a good offense. Get off to a good start and just keep your momentum going.

The college has tremendous resources that can help you along the way, but you must be aware of them and seek them out. Obviously, we have our learning labs and the library which are scattered all around the campus. The people, the technology, and other materials in each area can help you reinforce what you're learning in class. The thing is, you have to go there and ask for help. OCCC also pays for Smarthinking, an online real time tutorial program that can provide some relief when the campus is closed or you're not able to be here.

If you're taking an online class for the first time, it's important that you log in and begin working on the first day of the semester. There is usually at least an introductory assignment on the first day just to make sure that you're able to log in and get started. If you're not sure about how to do that, or if you experience technical difficulty, let us know right away. The clock never stops ticking.

Don't forget that Student Support Services also provides a variety of support. If you have a documented disability and may need an accommodation, come in and get that process started (Once the due date for a test or assignment is past, you can't go back and get an accommodation for it).

If you currently work with our office, be sure to get the necessary documentation to your professors. If you're concerned that your academic skills are not up to par, or if you experience some difficulty in a class, come in to speak with the learning specialist to learn some strategies that might be effective for you.

Lastly, if it feels as though life is beating you up, come see one of our licensed counselors. Sometimes, just the process of sharing your problems with someone can be enough to give you a new perspective. If necessary, you may be referred to resources in the community. Whatever your needs might be, we want to support you in your quest for success. Happy summer!

—MARY TURNER
LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

NO MORE SITTING AROUND THE HOUSE

Annual Kids Camps focuses on keeping learning process fun

BONNIE CAMPO
Staff Writer
clubreporter@occc.edu

Children in first through eighth grades are expected to learn sports, and get fitter and smarter this summer by participating in OCCC's Summer Kids Camps.

OCCC is offering an affordable series of camps for children June 7 through July 30.

The college is offering a Sports, Fit Kids, and Recreational camp, directed by Eric Watson, Recreation and Fit-

ness Specialist.
"We will see about 25 to 30 kids a week," Watson said.

Signup for both camps is the Thursday before the Monday the children are attending class, but exceptions can be made if class size is low that week.

"In the Sports camp we will teach basic fundamentals for basketball, tennis, golf and swimming," he said.

"Our Rec camp will include fieldtrips to places like the Zoo and Earlywine Park, and our Fit Kids Camp offers Zumba and Pilates," he said.

"But the most important thing is to keep the kids active."

Watson said the Sports and Recreation camp will run 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday.

The Fit Kids camp is 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday with lunch at noon to 1 p.m., he said.

However, the week of July 4 the camps will run Tuesday through Friday.

Athletic camps are \$60 for a week of half-day participation.

Rec. camp is \$35 to \$40 for a week of half-day camp,

Watson said.
He said he believes the impact is huge for the children participating because they will not just be sitting around this summer.

Prices for the academic classes are \$39 for a single class, and \$99 for a full day of classes or a week of one particular class, said Brannon Dresel, coordinator of Community Outreach Education.

Children also can choose from a variety of non-athletic classes offered at the new Family and Community Outreach

Center. Classes such as computer, math, arts, and science, run 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dresel said.

"Currently 1,500 spots are enrolled in 28 academic classes and children will take more than one class so we expect to see about 200 different kids," Dresel said.

"The program is about providing experience, and building core values to be a leader in a safe environment," Dresel said.

For more information contact Watson at ewatson@occc.edu or bdresel@occc.edu.

| JUNE—YOUTH SPORT CAMPS | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| Camp is held Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Cost: \$60 | | | | |
| Memorial Day Week No Sport Camps, May 31–June 4 | | | | |
| Camp | Age | Dates | Time | Section # |
| BASKETBALL—boys | 9–11, 12–14 | June 7–11 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0107 001 |
| SOCCER | 6–11, 12–14 | June 7–11 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0104 001 |
| TENNIS | 10–11, 12 14 | June 14–18 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0112 001 |
| GOLF | 10–14 | June 14–18 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0101 001 |
| BASEBALL—Santa Fe South | 6–11, 12–14 | June 21–25 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0105 001 |
| BASKETBALL—girls | 9–11, 12–14 | June 21–25 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0107 002 |

| JULY—YOUTH SPORT CAMPS | | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Camp is held Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Cost: \$60 | | | | |
| July 4th Holiday Week No Sport Camps, July 5 –9 | | | | |
| Camp | Age | Dates | Time | Section # |
| MULTI-SPORT 1 | 6–11, 12–14 | June 28–July 2 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0100 001 |
| SWIMMING | 9–11, 12–14 | June 28–July 2 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SDCC 0404 001 |
| MULTI-SPORT 2 | 6–11, 12–14 | July 12–16 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0100 002 |
| SWIMMING –Competitive Stroke | 9–11, 12–14 | July 12–16 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SDCC 0403 001 |
| VOLLEYBALL | 8–14 | July 19–23 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0130 001 |
| SOCCER | 6–11, 12–14 | July 19–23 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0104 002 |
| CHEER & DANCE | 6–14 | July 26–30 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0109 001 |
| FLAG FOOTBALL | 6–11, 12 -14 | July 26–30 | 8:00am–12:00pm | SCMP 0103 001 |

For children of working parents, we offer an Early Morning and After Camp Fun-Time. Participants enrolled in classes or camps that begin at 8 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. may enroll in both to be held in the gymnasium. Fee: \$20/weekly

EARLY FUN-TIME:
7 A.M. - 8 A.M.
AFTER FUN-TIME:
5 P.M. - 6 P.M.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

College opens new outreach, education center

DANNIEL PARKER
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

OCCC's Community Outreach and Education office opened its doors at the Family and Community Education Center May 27 for an expo to showcase the classes and services provided by the Outreach and Education staff.

The center is housed in the former John Glenn Elementary School building, 6500 S. Land Ave.

Outside, the building is old red brick. Inside, the halls are bare, beige on gray under fluorescent light. Soon the stark walls will be covered by the artworks of children, said Martin Ramirez, COE education assistant.

Brannon Dresel, Community Education coordinator said the staff is excited.

"Before, all of our classes were spread out in different locations, but now we have all of our staff under one roof."

The COE office offers classes ranging from ballroom dancing for adults to gardening for first graders, said Ramirez.

"We offer a summer camp type program called College for Kids, which is \$99 per week," Ramirez said. "We also offer

some courses for free."

Free courses include English as a Second Language and classes to help adults earn their General Equivalency Diploma.

The waiting list for GED and ESL classes is about 500 people long, said Jessica Martinez-Brooks, COE director. The waiting period is five to six months, she said.

Walking the hallways during the open house, one could hear an ambient squeal similar to that of an old air-conditioning system or a mice infestation.

Down a flight of stairs, nestled in the very back of the school, was one occupied classroom, and from that room came the sound of African drums.

Deborah Goodhead pounded away on a Djembe, an African drum, to demonstrate the World Drumming class she teaches.

Then Nick and Nate McKellips, ages 8 and 6, ran into room grinning and began to produce a racket with assorted percussion instruments.

"It's important to teach your kids music," said Goodhead.

"What we are teaching our kids isn't just how to play music. We are teaching them how to work together," Goodhead said.

She then cradled a ukulele and played the theme to

"I'm impressed by what I've seen and I think it'll be worth it."

—CARRIE MCKELLIPS
MOTHER

"Sponge Bob Squarepants."

"It's important to teach kids with games, because you have to reach kids where they are," Goodhead said. "And usually where kids are is sitting in front of a videogame. We have to compete with that as teachers, so our classes have to be fun."

Carrie McKellips, the mother of Nick and Nate, said her boys are enrolled in classes every week day for the entire summer.

"I'm impressed by what I've seen and I think it'll be worth it," McKellips said. "It's a bit more money than having to hire a baby sitter. And this way I won't have to deal with all their phone calls."

Then McKellips raised her voice as a warning.

"And if they get kicked out of this summer camp, they are going straight to boot camp," she said. "I mean it."

For more information, call 405-682-7860 or 405-682-7859, or visit www.occc.edu/RF/SportsCamps.html.



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Deborah Goodhead, College for Kids instructor, shows Colton Morris, 7, how to play the cajon drum May 27 during the OCCC Community Outreach and Education open house at the Family and Community Education Center. Goodhead said the cajon drum is one of the many instruments she uses in her music classes.

Greater Grads interns ready to meet with 'movers and shakers'

JENNIFER MASSEY
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

College students from all over the state, including 22 from OCCC, will rub elbows with the elite members of Oklahoma business and society as part of a summer internship with Greater Grads, said Debra Vaughn, Career and Employment Services director.

The interns will attend luncheons all over the city including places such as the Skirvin Hotel, Ford Center and the

Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Vaughn said the goal of the Greater Grad internship program is to open doors for students and help them to make contacts.

Greater Grads is sponsored by the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

"The idea for you is to network with other college students and businesses," Vaughn said in her presentation to the group June 1 at the college.

She said the program exposes successful college students to what they can expect in the

world of business.

With help from Judi McGee, Student Employment and Career Services coordinator, interns from OCCC were treated to a formal luncheon in the college union where they were given a short presentation about dining etiquette.

"You are going to be meeting with the movers and shakers in Oklahoma City," McGee said during a presentation to the interns.

More than 300 students from colleges and universities were recommended by professors

in majors ranging from early childhood education and visual arts to business finance and advertising, Vaughn said.

In addition, known members of Oklahoma City society will also attend the Greater Grads events.

In the past, Mayor Mick Cornett has attended, as well as CEO's of major Oklahoma companies including Chesapeake and Devon Energy, Vaughn said.

Allison Phisaiwatn, English literature major and Greater Grad intern, said networking

with people and meeting all of the other interns was what she most looked forward to.

Zack Stevens, Entrepreneurship major, agreed.

"I'm ready to meet some people," Stevens said.

Chris Anthony, Graphic Communications major, said he will use the internship to find out what will be available in future job markets.

For more information about the Greater Grads program, contact Vaughn at dvaughn@occc.edu or 405.682-1611, ext. 7362

Students named to President's Honor Roll

Students are eligible for the President's Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 4.0 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 4.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Matthew Adair, Sharon Adams, David Addison, Gilley Aguilar, Sunbal Ahmad, Casey Akard, Oluwafemi Alademehin, Claudia Alamillo.

Mary Albright, David Alexander, Khalid Alzubi, David Amarquaye, Sean Anderson, Tina Anderson, Sarah Antari.

Christopher Anthony, Natalie Arismendez, Verna Ashalintubbi, Emmanuel Attah, Rhonda Audette, Justin Austin, Chancey Babb, Sunni Bailey, Allison Bailey.

David Baldwin, Taylor Barnett, Randall Baum, Andrew Beaulieu, Jana Beihl, Lisa Bell, Clois Bellah, Kaleb Belveal, Amy Bender, Jesse Benson.

Charlene Bentley, Sean Berno, Krishna Bhattarai, Ricky Birdwell, Johnny Blanco, Ronald Blevins, Paula Boatner, Jennifer Bohn, Brandon Bolt, Anthony Boon.

Brandon Brackett, Ronald Bradley, Pamela Bradley, Caitlin Brasel, Rebecca Brayley, Ashley Bright, Christopher Brown, Joshua Brown, Taylor Brown.

Michael Bruce, Gail Brumley, Ethan Burchett, Brittney Byrd, Andres Calderon, Phillip Calfy, Rebecca Callaway, Ellen Campbell.

Dennis Camper, Nathan Cannon, Angelica Carbajal, Daniel Card, Ivan Caro, Sheri Carr, Manuel Carrillo, Benjamin Carson-Janusiewicz, Charla Casteel,

June Castle, Mario Cervantes, James Chandler, Miles Chaney, Ho Joon Chang, Ali Arslan Chaudahry, I-Chun Chen, Kathryn Childers, Cyndi Christopher,

Lila Church, Ronald Ciancarelli, Amber Clark, Justin Clark, Melanie Clason, Debra Clayton, Teresa Clayton, Rebecca Clyma, Rachael Colbart, Melinda Collum.

Ryan Collvins, Christopher Conklin, Brenton Conrad, Irving Contreras, Brett Corlett, Joanna Couch, John Couture, Hannah Cox, Willie Cox.

Edvin Coyoy, Shae Cribbs, Matthew Crofford, Caitlin Cross, Tobra Crownover, Tina Curtis, Susan Curtiss, Mitchell Czarneski, Joyce Dagenais, Jana Dake, Anh Dang.

Matthew Davidson, Melissa Davidson, Lisa Davis, Jennifer Davis, Jackie Dawes, Rebecka Day, Jonathan Decker, Ashley Deeds.

Annette Dillingham, Fabrice

Dingbulla, Duc Dinh, Felecia Dixon, Sharla Dollins, Shanna Drach, David Drake, Julie Dunham, Kelsey Easley, Rachel Easley.

Paul Eastland, Corey Edwards, Athena Eggleston, Lindsey Einer, Sarah El-Fouly, Shams El Din El-Fouly, Narjisse Elaoufir, Michelle Ellington, Sara Ely.

Christopher Engstrand, Ouiame Errahmouni, Kyle Espinosa, Brian Evans, Corey Fair, Justin Fancher, Pamela Fields.

Mary Fillmore, Jynet Finley, Ja'Mae Fitzgivens, Kaci Ford, Gillian Foster, Emily Franklin, Carl Franklin, Micah Freeman, Amanda Freeman.

Anthony Frierson, Cheyenne Frizell, Heather Frost, Heather Fry, Katelynn Fry, Katrina Garcia, Christine Garlitz, James Gay, Jeena George, Rachel George.

Annalyn Gill, Madison Gillham, Brooke Gilson, Amber Giordano, Monica Gliva, Rebecca Glover, Becky Gomersall, Lorely Gomez, Stefanie Gonsalves.

Jessica Gonzalez, Jennifer Goodwin, Alicia Goudeau, Dana Green, Kady Groh, Ashley Guthrie, Joshua Hacker, Jennifer Haddock, Angela Haggard.

Andrew Hall, Sara Hamidi, Kenneth Hamilton, Christine Hamilton, Belinda Hand, Susan Hanks, Sarah Hanks, Michelle Hanley, Justin Harden.

Michelle Harper, Bethany Harper, James Harris, Travis Harris, Hannah Harrison, Daniel Harry, Erica Hastings, Bryan Hathaway, Patricia Hauck.

Kristin Haworth, Amber Hayes, Sean Henry, Nancy Hensley, Phillip Herman, Elsa Hermsillo, Patricia Hernandez,

Shelley Herr, Adrian Herrera, Alicia Hibbard, Ami Hicks, Veronica Hight, Derek Hileman, Holly Hiles, Sarah Hill, Erica Hildebeitel, Lauren Hines.

Randall Hiyane, Khanh Ho, Johnny Ho-Chau, Ronnie Ho-Chau, Sandra Hodges, Veilvete Hood, Joann Hopkins, Brandy Houchin, Ryan Huffer.

Jennifer Hughes, Jennifer Hughes, Melissa Hulsey, Daryl Imhof, Keith Immatty, Charles Ines, Jacob Ingram, Adam Jackson, Shawnda Jameson.

Theresa Jankowski, Daphne Jeffries, Lonnie Jimboy, Elisabeth Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, Shameika Johnson, Valerie Jones, Rachel Jones.

Jason Jones, Pauline Juneau, Bikash K.C., Coty Karr, Steven Karr, Liehn Kelley, Leslie Kellogg, Mar-

lee Keobounthan, Vickie Kersey, Shekhar Khadka.

Rhonda Knight, Insook Kim, Tusuna Kimball, Mark Kimble, James King, Nicholas Kipnetich, Jennifer Kirk, Lucas Kirkham, Rhonda Knight.

Kelsey Knott, Daniel Koehler, Kimberly Koelling, Sabina Koirala, Sheila Koob, Grace Kowalski, Derek Krigbaum, Gloria Kryslar, Soo-Hyun Kwon.

Suyoung Kwon, Jackson Laizure, Ashley Langdale, Christopher Larocco, Jason Lauderdale, James Laws, William Layden, Teresa Le, Jennifer Le.

Puoc Le, Bao Le, Phuong Le, Hoang Le, Lan Le, Sue Lee, Ki-Il Lee, Matthew Leveridge, Sue Lewis, Haibin Liang,

Sandra Lima, Shawn Lindsay, Paul Little, Rowena Little, Kristina Logan, Elizabeth Lopez, Lorri Lopez, Gloria Lopez.

Petrina Lorenz, Chevonne Lovelace, Jonathan Loveless, Jacob Loveless, Barbara Lowery, Tracy Lucas, Brooke Lucas, Marc Lucey, Amanda MacDonald, James MacDonald.

Kelly Mack, Nikesh Maharjan, Veronica Maldonado, Christopher Malone, Autumn Mansfield, Jennifer Maracara, Cesaria Marquez, Carmen Marrs.

Celia Mata, Brian Matheson, Jibumon Mathew, Jared Mattern, Shannon McCann, Calandra McCool, Ashley McCoskey, Tonya McCracken, Phillip McDonald.

Kathleen McElvany, Mitchell McFarland, Matthew McFarland, Abigail McGee, Erin McKee, Mark McLaughlin, Leah McLennon, Christina Medlin, Stephanie Menotti.

Beatriz Meyer, Patrick Meyer, Ashley Milam, Amber Miller, Amanda Milleson, Brandi Mills, Angela Millsap, Taylor Mitchell, Christopher Mitchell.

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Brandy Muldoon, Emily Muisick, Sally Myers, Savanna Myers, Thuong Ngo, Tien Nguyen, Thanh Nguyen, Michael Nguyen, Trung Nguyen, Kevin Nguyen.

Hoang Nguyen, Trinh Nguyen, Vivian Nguyen, Dat Nguyen, My Nguyen, Tram Nguyen, Vy Nguyen, Khuong Nguyen, Christopher Nhan.

Alecia Nicholson, Darnell Nicks, Nelly Njaramba, Ida Nkwinkwa Tchoume, Ericka Noah, Nakeisha

“ I commend these students for their outstanding academic achievement.”

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT



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Katherine Weis, John Weis, Rebecca Wellendorf, Shannon West, Desiree Westman, Lindsay Whelchel, Christopher White, Chelsea Williams.

Katherine Williams, Katie Williams, Timothy Williams, Joshua Wilson, Nicholas Wilson, Tommy Winebarger, Abby Winstone, Jeffrey Woidke, Jeremy Wood.

Zachary Woodard, Stephanie Woodard, Karen Woodring, Kyle Woods, Harrison Wright, Justin Wright, Brian Wright, Yu Jeong Yang.

Jamie Yeabower, Alexandra Young, Sheila Zawisza, Justin Zawoiski, Boutaina Zerouali.

SPORTS



Feel the beat

Zumba instructor, Laura Horn, left, works out to the Latin dance craze with 1986 OCCC graduate, left, Velma Walje.

Zumba classes are held throughout the summer with classes July 2 through July 30.

Classes are 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Thursdays and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. every Friday.

Class cost only \$25 per person. Students can sign up in the Wellness Center or can call Recreation and Fitness at 405-682-7860 for more information.

JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

RECREATION | Summer sports programs designed to encourage children mentally and physically, sports specialist says

Youth plus sports equal fun

DEMERYE PAULIN
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

Wellness Center staff say summer activities have sped up, and they are excited for camps and sporting events to begin this week.

"I am really excited to get my camp counselors back, and showing parents that the kids will be taken care of as close to the description of the agenda as possible," said Eric Watson, Sports and Recreation specialist.

"My attitude right now is pretty cool and ready to get things done."

One event Watson said he and his staff are preparing for is a series of children's recreation and fitness camps.

June 1 to July 30, 6- to 15-year-olds can enroll in OCCC's Summer Kids Camp.

Camps include baseball, flag football, soccer, golf, tennis, volleyball,

swimming, cheer dance camp, and basketball.

For Watson, his attitude heading into another summer sports experience is relaxed, he said.

Watson said the top goal he has for the children is teaching them the fundamentals of getting and staying active in a positive atmosphere.

He said he guarantees any individual involved in his summer program will benefit.

"One assurance is that the environment is positive, safe, and the kids will be exposed to countless opportunities," Watson said.

Another of Watson's goals is to help the children's social development, he said.

Watson said his camps will teach children the importance of respecting each other.

He said he also is eager to begin planning the fall sports events.

Watson said in mid-June, the Wellness Center staff will begin organizing fall intramurals, outdoor sports, fitness programs, and sports clubs.

Some incentives would be established to draw more students into intramurals for the fall/spring semesters and beyond, he said.

Watson said what separates OCCC Summer Kids Camp from all other camps, are the little details that other camps tend to overlook.

He gave an example.

"I make sure the coaches are certified because parents are attracted by the credentials.

"Coaches that have experience combining with our professional environment create a wonderful setting."

For more information about Summer Children's Camp and Intramural Sports, contact Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or e-mail ewatson@occc.edu.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **June 7-11:** Youth Sports Camps will offer boys basketball and soccer for children ages 6 to 14 from 8 a.m. to noon for \$60 per child. FitKids Camp will offer Sports Extravanzas for children ages 6 to 12 at \$35 per child. Adventure Land activities will resume at 8 a.m. to noon for \$40 per child. Sports in Movies also will be available for children ages 12 to 15, at 1 to 5 p.m., for \$40 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **June 14-18:** Children ages 10 to 14 will be offered tennis and golf lessons in the Youth Sports Camps at 8 a.m. to noon. The price per child is \$60. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **June 14-18:** FitKids Camps will offer Going 4 Gold for ages 6 to 12 and ESPN OCHO Sports for ages 12 to 15 with both times at 1 to 5 p.m. The price for Going 4 Gold is \$35 and the price for ESPN OCHO Sports is \$40 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **June 14-18:** All Ball, 8 a.m. to noon for children ages 6 to 11. The price is \$40 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **June 21-25:** Youth Sports Camps will offer children Baseball (Santa Fe South) and Basketball for girls ages 6 to 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. The price for the activities is \$60 per child. The FitKids Camps will offer Moving and Grooving and Olympic Week at 1 to 5 p.m.. The Price of Moving and Grooving is \$35, and the price of Olympic Week is \$40 per child. For more information, contact Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness specialist, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• Have sports news? Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Suspicious person, vandalism top crime reports

Ethan Hendricks
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Campus Safety and Security officers detained a local man with an outstanding state warrant at the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library May 19.

OCCC Security officers Tim Densmore and Tanya Vroenen apprehended Eric Scott Hill after Densmore received a call from Circulation and Reference Librarian Linda Boatright about his activities, which were unnerving to library patrons, according to a report.

Densmore asked Hill for identification and Hill replied he had none.

During questioning Hill told officers he did not have identification, didn't know his name and did not know how he got on campus or where he lived.

Hill also stated he had seen his friend's hand get cut off, people were after him and "he could feel them and had ESP and telekinesis."

Densmore and Vroenen escorted Hill to the Security Office and called for the Oklahoma City Police Department to send an officer to the college.

OCPD arrived at the campus at 11:18 a.m. and questioned Hill.

According to the report, Hill told the officer he was from southern California

and was born Aug. 7, 1975. Officials asked Hill if he wanted to go somewhere safe to which Hill replied, "yes."

OCPD then escorted Hill off campus and took him to the OCPD Crisis Center.

Campus security also responded to two calls of vandalism at the college's Family and Community Education Center May 17 and again May 25, according to reports.

Officer Austin Plackmeier reported the office windows of the center, located in the Old Library South, were shot with what appeared to be BB-style projectiles.

Plackmeier and Sgt. Kevin Tipton photographed the windows and circled bullet holes.

They reportedly counted 30 breaks and holes in the windows.

Tipton contacted OCPD and filed a vandalism report.

On May 25, Officer Chad Clingman discovered new BB holes in the windows. The holes were documented with pictures and circled with markers, according to reports.

Officers also apprehended a female after she attempted to deliver alcohol to her husband May 27.

At 8:36 p.m., Officer Jeffery Porter observed a female pouring what appeared to be an alcoholic beverage into a container.

The female placed the bottle back into her car and began to walk toward the campus buildings.

Porter along with officer Brandon Wheeler, Tipton and Clingman questioned the woman, and made her pour the liquid out and toss away the bottle.

The female told officers she was bringing vodka to campus to give to her husband.

Officers also responded to an automobile accident May 17, in parking lot C at the north east end of the lot

Vroenen responded to the accident at 10:52 a.m. between a Nissan Altima belong to Earnesten Chase and a Honda Accord belonging to Naji Naoufel.

Major Keith Bourque reviewed the video of the accident and determined that Naoufel had struck Chase while she was driving past him.

Chase told officers he or she was driving down the parking lot row when Naoufel pulled out of the stall and hit the front passenger side of his Honda.

Naoufel said he had seen the vehicle coming and had tried to get out of his parking space, but Chase did not stop to let him out.

Vroenen reported damage to both of the vehicles as minor and both cars were able to drive off campus.

Arts: Series to showcase music, artists from across the world

Continued from page 1

For more information or to order tickets, call the Cultural Programs office at 405-682-7576 or visit www.occc.edu/cas.

Cultural Arts Series event schedule

- Sept. 28 — Wijeratne, Azmeh, Bhaumik Trio
- Oct. 12 — Franc D'Ambrosio
- Nov. 9 — Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas
- Dec. 9 — To be announced
- Jan. 18 — K.C. Clifford
- Feb. 8 — Trio Cavatina
- March 1 — Dallas Brass
- April 12 — Bearfoot

**Source: www.occc.edu/cas*

Security: Campus size a factor in potential switch to police

Continued from page 1

The type of issues the college manages are sometimes best handled by trained police officers, Steward said.

Nursing major Gina Crudden said it's a bad idea to replace the existing security guards, since the unemployment rate is high.

"It's wrong to get rid of the armed security we already have," Crudden said. "I've been laid off before and it's not fun for anybody."

The changes in security personnel is just one of the many changes the college may see as it reorganizes in an attempt to become a safer campus, said John Boyd, Business and Finance vice president.

"We know that we are going to have a Chief of Police and certified officers," Boyd said.

Boyd said he and Steward

have met with all the Safety and Security officers.

He said the college is trying to determine a way to allow current security officers to keep their jobs by providing enough training so they can become certified and stay on staff.

"We have made a commitment to provide them the necessary training they need and believe that at this point the officers are supportive," Boyd said.

A transition period has not yet been determined, he said.

However, Boyd said, Sechrist has approved the recommendation, which still has to be approved by the college's regents.

Beau Lewis, Communications Lab tutor, said police on campus would be a disturbance.

"Police professionally harass people and I don't want somebody professionally harassing

me while I'm at work," Lewis said. "Security guards don't do that. They're not here to enforce the law, just make sure everyone's OK."

Justin Murphy, education major, said he would feel safer with police officers on campus.

"I feel police officers would be more prepared to handle any security risks at the college," Murphy said.

While the college is undergoing this change, security officers will be required to undergo more firearms training.

"The courses involve the officer's handling of the weapon as far as their familiarity with the weapon, skills and also under stress situations," Boyd said.

These training sessions are going to be required every year, Boyd said. He said the target date to complete all training is mid June. The college will

continue to review safety procedures and make updates as necessary, Boyd said.

"Standard operating procedures evolve. They're not something you do only once," he said.

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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Smiling with success



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pictured above are the Greater Grad interns representing OCCC this summer. These students were nominated by professors and chosen by the Student Employment and Career Services office. For a complete list of names, visit www.occc.edu/pioneer.

STUDENT LIFE | Involvement within an organization can aid students

College Clubs promote success, offer social skills for their members

BONNIE CAMPO
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

OCCC offers approximately 40 clubs students can join, yet only 2 percent are student members, said Karlen Grayson, Student Clubs and Organization assistant.

Student Life staff hopes to change that trend by encouraging students to enroll in clubs or to start a club, Grayson said.

She said college studies have shown that those who participate in school clubs tend to be more successful.

"Clubs provided leadership skills, develop character, and offer a way for students to network with professors and their peers," Grayson said.

She said the reason stu-

dents are more likely to succeed is because of the resources that are made available to them within the club structure.

Photography, honors, academic, departmental, special interest and religion are some of the categories most of the clubs fall into, Grayson said.

She said campus clubs work to promote a student's particular major.

If students can't find a club they want to join, they are encouraged to start their own, she said.

Grayson said the criteria to become a club can be found in the Student Organizations Manual available in Student Life and students can join online.

Each potential club must have 10 enrolled

students, and two sponsors, one being full-time faculty.

Both Vice President for Enrollment Marion Paden and Director of Student Life Darin Behara must approve the organization.

Gay-Straight Alliance President Camryon Decarlo said she strongly believes in what clubs can do for individuals.

Decarlo said her participation helped her learn how to build more positive relationships with others.

"For me I had a hard time communicating with people," she said.

"I was able to improve my interpersonal relationships, become a leader, and educate people about the community.

"It is a great way to build or start when you are new to an area."

Behara said if a club hopes to last, it needs a good adviser, structure, and the ability to recruit new members through leadership and excitement about the club.

"It is also about being able to balance and time management," Behara said.

Clubs teach people to be able to prioritize and multitask if they are faced with outside issues such as being a parent or having a job while involved in school, Behara said.

The tools students gain from club participation benefit them in later life, Grayson said.

For more information, go to www.occc.edu/studentlife.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Cultural Art Series tickets available

Advance tickets for the 2010-2011 Cultural Arts Series are on sale at a discount. Season tickets are 50 percent off until July 14. Six-ticket packages are on sale with a 25-percent discount and four-ticket packages are 15 percent off. The Cultural Arts Series is a series of eight performances that showcase artists and musicians from around the world. The series begins Sept. 28. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.occc.edu/cas.

Midlife Career Change?

The Boomer Institute is designed to help the 50 plus-year-old generation become more aware about personal strengths and goals. Successful Interviewing Techniques is scheduled at 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 26. To enroll, contact Francine Gissy in Corporate Learning at 405-682-7856 or e-mail fgissy@occc.edu.

F.A.C.E. Center opens

The Family and Community Education Center has begun to receive its first participants. The center will offer free GED-assistance courses. Summer Kids Camp is also held there. For more information or to enroll, call 405-682-7860 or 405-682-7859, or visit www.occc.edu/RF/SportsCamps.html.

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.

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EXTRA! EXTRA!

Do you have news you'd like to share? Maybe you know of an OCCC student worthy of a mention. If so, contact Justin at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

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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.

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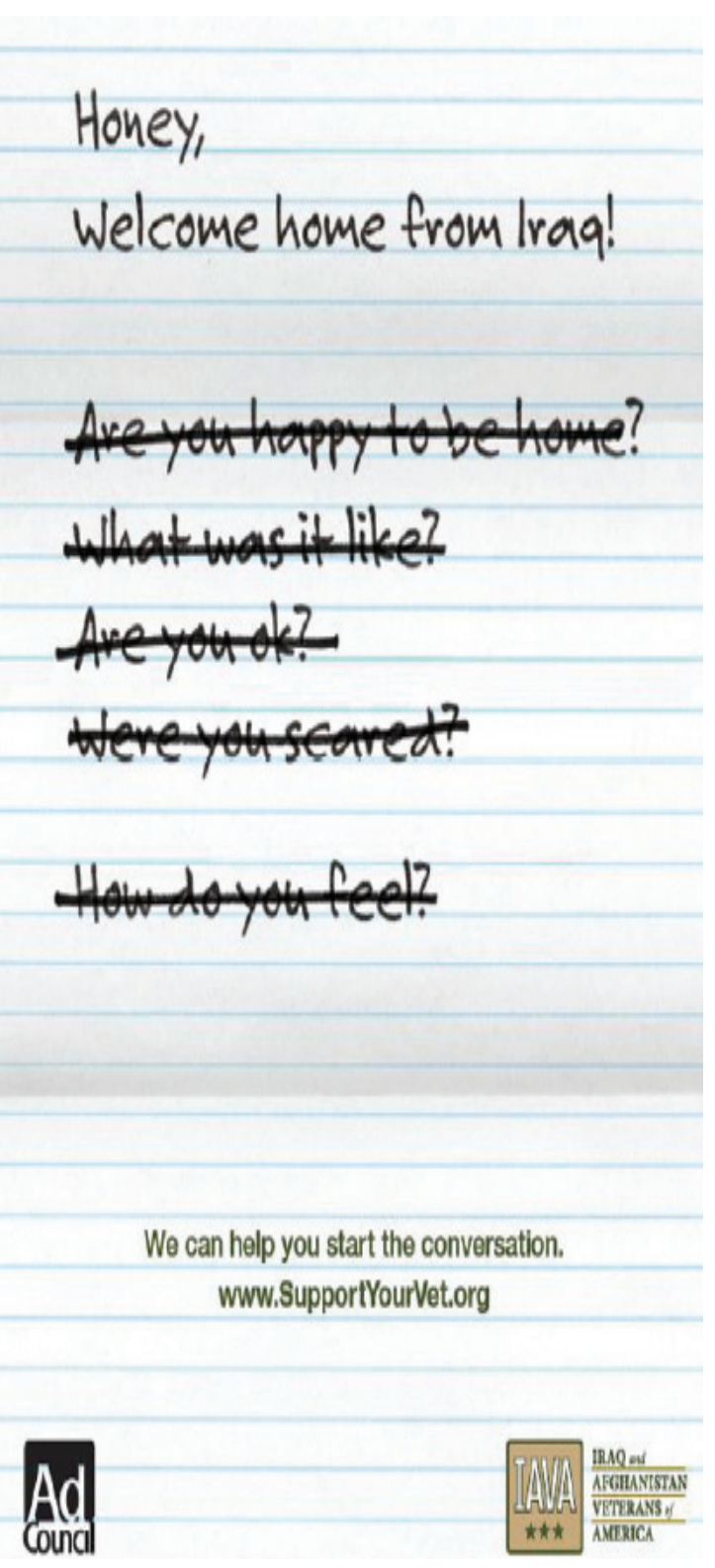
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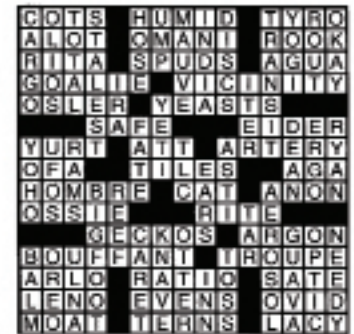
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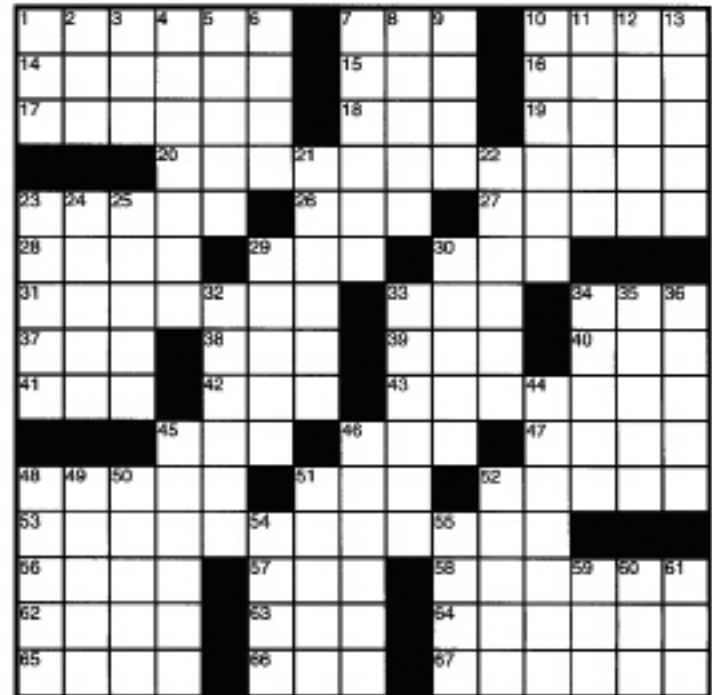
TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Desert sight
 - 7 Pod ingredient
 - 10 Makes a choice
 - 14 Actress Sanford
 - 15 Al Sharpton's title: abbr.
 - 16 Arrested person's need
 - 17 Lusters
 - 18 Before, poetic
 - 19 "I'm — your tricks!"
 - 20 Road signal
 - 23 Dish
 - 26 Actor Majors
 - 27 Curvy letters
 - 28 Several
 - 29 Rower's need
 - 30 Took a break
 - 31 Famous magician
 - 33 Gab
 - 34 Yank
 - 37 Gues.
 - 38 Comeback
 - 39 Male title
 - 39 Ajar, to a poet
 - 40 1932 film "Three — Match"
 - 41 Zee's predecessor
 - 42 Mayday!
 - 43 Glider's need
 - 45 Phoenix player
 - 46 Tampa — Buccaneers
 - 47 "Garfield" dog
 - 48 Bart's friend
 - 51 Have a cold
 - 52 Stops eating
 - 53 Storm sight
 - 56 Conceal
 - 57 Grow old
 - 58 Type of control
 - 62 Once more
 - 63 Dine
 - 64 Scratched
 - 65 Inquisitive
 - 66 "Certainty!"
 - 67 Quaking trees
- DOWN**
- 1 "Chance" lead-in
 - 2 Suffix meaning "sort of"
 - 3 "Norma —"
 - 4 Helped (felons)
 - 5 Type
 - 6 Movie lioness
 - 7 Like better
 - 8 Creepy
 - 9 "With," to Henri
 - 10 Orchestra member
 - 11 Twinges
 - 12 Church tax
 - 13 Casino machines
 - 21 Talents
 - 22 Disclosed secrets
 - 23 "Bart"
 - 24 Crazy
 - 25 Entertain
 - 29 Leek's cousin
 - 30 Excessively sentimental
 - 32 Handed out
 - 33 Southern pronoun
 - 34 Warty critters
 - 35 Out of shape
 - 36 Fence parts
 - 44 Traveler's item
 - 45 Tough and wiry
 - 46 Arm muscle
 - 48 Vermont patriot
 - 49 Alien
 - 49 Horned animal
 - 50 Some portraits
 - 51 Bicker
 - 52 Energy sources
 - 54 Like pie?
 - 55 1977 whale movie
 - 59 Have debts
 - 60 Decade number
 - 61 Asner and Koch

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



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Controversial professor retires after 35 years at OCCC

DANNIEL PARKER
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

After 35 years of teaching at OCCC, English professor Ernest Clay Randolph, 65, will retire at the end of the summer.

Randolph developed many courses for OCCC, including film studies, magazine feature writing, and museum studies, the first travel based course in the school's history.

"I have some regret," Randolph said. "If a man doesn't have any regrets, then he's probably wasted his life. It's been a good profession. Now it's time for me to find a new life."

Randolph began teaching in 1967 at North Central Texas College in Gainesville.

At the time, many of his students were very vocal about their actions in the Vietnam conflict and there was a strong pacifist movement on campus,

he said.

"Today I'm teaching veterans who've just returned from Iraq," he said. "Most of my students unquestioningly support their actions. I don't see the polarization or passion in this current generation that I saw when I began."

In 1975, when OCCC was in its third year, Randolph was hired to teach freshman English, he said.

The school's first academic dean, Bruce Owen, allowed Randolph to rewrite the freshman English program in his first year.

In 1992, he helped launch Absolute Magazine, OCCC's creative writing journal. Since then he's edited the publication.

Jon Inglett, English professor, has worked alongside Randolph for 10 years.

"Clay teaches us younger colleagues how to teach and questions our ideas," Inglett

said. "Just him being here makes the faculty better."

Randolph teaches through the Socratic method, trying to force his students to think, ask questions and make up their own minds about the material he is teaching, he said.

"I don't think learning institutions are challenging their students any more and that's a problem," Randolph said.

"I am very demanding. I don't allow people to run away from learning, and they resent that."

Randolph holds a slightly-above-average rating on Rate-MyProfessor.com. The reviews on the site show strong reactions from past students

They either love him, and say he's the best professor they've ever had, or they hate him, and caution others to avoid him like the plague.

He admits his style hasn't always been popular and says today's students are very dif-

ferent than when he began teaching.

"Students today learn a lot from the internet and television," Randolph said. "Our culture is spilling out so much instant distraction it kills our ability to concentrate on what matters."

"We are bombarded with a lot of insignificant, hollow information, so there is less value in what young people choose to learn."

He also said he has seen a change in the faculty at OCCC.

"Bruce Owen had a great knack for hiring extraordinary professors to get this college off the ground," Randolph said.

"Back then we were young and had a lot of idealism, we felt like we were doing something new."

"I don't see that idealism in our current crop of professors."

Randolph built and owns a cabin in the Colorado Mountains where he plans to retire

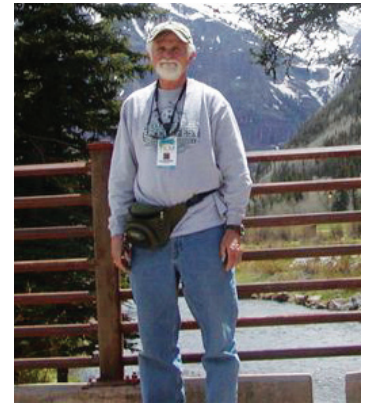


PHOTO COURTESY CLAY RANDOLPH

After 35 years of teaching at OCCC, English professor Clay Randolph is retiring.

alongside his wife. He said he hopes to enjoy nature by climbing mountains and kayaking through the wilderness of the Rockies.

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