EDITORIAL

CAMPUS SMOKING BAN ANGERS STUDENTS

Online Writer Bonnie Campo says OCCC should not have banned smoking on campus. Find out why she feels this way.

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AROUND CAMPUS

COLLEGE WEBSITE TO BE UPDATED

A group has been hired to determine what changes need to be made to www.occc.edu. See inside for details.

CAMPUS, p. 4

RECREATION

FLAG FOOTBALL HEATS UP

OCCC’s flag football games continue with The Crew making a comeback last week. See the sports page for standings.

SPORTS, p. 8

CAMPUS LIFE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TO BE EXPLORED BY EXPERTS

Relationship violence is the topic Oct. 12 through 15 in the student union. See inside for a listing of events.

COMMUNITY p. 10

Cultural harmony

OCCC international student alumnus Bishal Malla performs a traditional Napali dance with his partner Sabeena Maharjan, public relations major, during the International Conference held Sept. 30 at the Skirvin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City.

SMOKERS CAN LIGHT UP ON CAMPUS UNTIL AUG. 1, 2011

Campus smoking ban to begin next fall

For smokers, Aug. 1 will mark the end of an era. On that day OCCC will become a smoke-free campus with smoking banned throughout the institution — including outdoors.

The Board of Regents voted unanimously June 21 to outlaw smoking and the use of other tobacco products on campus, President Paul Sechrist said.

The goal is to encourage people to give up the habit, he said.

Oklahoma scores low on many charts that measure healthy living, Sechrist said. The state ranks 48th in the nation in obesity and 49th in being most unhealthy. One in four Oklahoma adults are smokers according to Forbes Magazine.

Sechrist has appointed a Tobacco Free Campus Advisory Committee working with Jerry Steward, executive vice president, to develop an enforcement policy.

The goal is to have this policy finalized and approved in the next couple of months so it can be published and brought to everyone’s attention around the school, Sechrist said.

Sechrist, who is not a user of any tobacco product, said he favors the ban on smoking, believing it will take OCCC in the right direction.

First-semester student Baily Sneed, a smoker of

See SMOKE page 4

Safety and security director returns home

“I grew up in Tennessee,” Sloas said. “My family and my wife’s family still live there, within an hour of downtown. “When we visited them on weekends before, it was seven hours of driving, one exhausted day with them, and seven hours of more driving.”

Now, Sloas said, he looks forward to spend-
OPINION

EDITORIAL | Smokers not thrilled with new college policy

Don’t tell smokers new smoking ban policy is for their own good

The University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University and Oklahoma City University all have smoke-free campuses. On Aug. 1, 2011 OCCC will join the movement.

Once the policy goes into effect, cigarettes may not be lit on campus unless the smoker is in a car with the windows rolled up.

An individual who chooses not to comply will be fined.

For those of us who smoke, this will be an unwelcome change.

OCCC President Paul Scarr-christ said he announced the decision early in order for smokers on campus to adapt to the changes.

The smoking ban has its supporters.

The Leadership Council, the college’s equivalent to a student council, supported the issue.

“We believe such a policy will contribute to a healthier campus environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors,” said Acting Chairperson Tino Ceballo, at the time the vote was taken, about a year and a half ago.

The argument is that smoking is dangerous not only to its user, but also to those who may come into contact with secondhand smoke.

English Professor Michael Punches said, for his own selfish reasons, he advocates the ban.

“I have been trying to quit smoking for 20-plus years, and the campus decision could help me accomplish that,” Punches said.

Punches said he can remember the days when a space on the second floor of the Arts and Humanities building was used for the smoking section.

“We once smoked in the classroom, then were asked to move down the hall, then outside, and now not at all,” Punches said.

He promotes the ban, he said, because of the danger it causes others around the smoke.

Yet student Todd Lakin said he is very unhappy with the decision.

“It’s not fair. I didn’t even know till you just told me. I would feel like I was in high school if someone told me I couldn’t smoke here,” Lakin said.

He said he would not stop smoking on campus until he is caught in the act, and faced punishment.

It is common to see smokers outside whenever a student comes to campus, because OCCC has many students and staff who smoke.

It seems unfair to disregard their preferences.

As long as those who puff on the “cancer sticks” stand beyond the 25 feet mark, what is the issue?

That being said, I realize it is a health issue for some. But so is eating fried food from the cafeteria. All school and no nicotine makes Jack a dull boy.

YOUR VOICE | Racism goes both ways but is never appropriate

Racial generalizations equally as offensive as racial slurs

To the editor:

As I began reading the article “Racial Slurs Never Appropriate in College Hallways,” I was appalled by the statement made by the African-American students.

As I read on, I was even more furious towards some of the things said by the unidentified victim.

First off, I will start by saying that I am in no way defending the African-American students who made that comment.

I am an African-American student and that was by far stupidity. However, is it fair to say that all African-Americans should be labeled the same?

The victim said, “My concern is when the group language is directed to an individual not in their group and there is no concern for how their words are being spoken.”

“That is racism at its worst.”

The victim then goes on to describe his actions, after the comment was made.

“I stopped dead in my tracks and quickly looked around for another African-American walking where we were.”

Really? Seriously? Am I the only one who thinks this also racist? I would think and hope not.

No, my dear, in my opinion that is racism at its worst.

But the fact is none is justifiable.

From my understanding the “N” word means ‘idiot.’ When the victim heard this word, he or she turned and looked for another African-American.

It is NOT right to sweep someone else’s doorstep when your own is just as dirty.

It is not right for anyone, whether black, white or any other color or race to be considered an ‘N’ and whatever other racist names are out there.

Basically, we need to stop all the racism from every angle, because just like the victim stated, “Each and every student shares a common goal to receive an education.”

So don’t leave the comments and slurs only out of the hallways, take them out of any and everywhere too.

—GARICE Mc Donald

OCCC Student
Flick reveals Facebook’s dark side

“The Social Network” is a good movie that could have been a lot better.

Going into the movie I expected something earth-shattering because of the way it has been received by critics. Instead I was given something slightly above average.

This story of pretentious jerks that are in love with their own genius is worth watching, but just barely.

“The Social Network” is about Mark Zuckerberg, the Facebook founder who nefariously stole the idea from his business partners.

The movie is strikingly one-sided. It depicts Zuckerberg as a narcissistic maladroit. He is unable to form lasting relationships and thus the movie’s theme is set: The founder of Facebook doesn’t have any real friends.

The dialogue in the film is strikingly clever. The characters never say anything that is not witty and the dialogue has subtle charm.

The acting in the movie is very good with Justin Timberlake and Jesse Eisenberg stealing the show. Timberlake plays Napster founder Shawn Fanning, who convinces Zuckerberg to sell out his college roommate.

Much of the film is told through flashbacks during a mediation between Zuckerberg and founding Chief Financial Officer Eduardo Saverin.

In the beginning of the movie, Zuckerberg is dumped by his girlfriend and starts blogging while drunk about how he hates her. He starts a website that night that compares the attractiveness of two randomly chosen girls.

He later steals the actual idea for Facebook from two colleagues who hire him to design the site.

The film shows how Facebook started as a way of connecting by League students and evolved into one of the most popular websites in the world.

Today, over 500 million Facebook pages exist and Zuckerberg is the world’s youngest billionaire. The film is good but leaves viewers with a sour taste in their mouth.

Rating: B-

—CHRISTIAN KOSTED
Senior Writer

‘Owls’ big on heart, high on action

Who would have guessed that the creator of gratuitously bloody movies like “300” and “Watchmen” could create an animated masterpiece about warrior owls?

That’s exactly what director Zack Snyder did in “Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga’Hoole,” a flick that rivals “Avatar” in quality and “The Lion King” in heart.

Released into theaters Sept. 24, “Owls” is adapted from a series of novels by Kathryn Lasky.

The hero is Soren (voiced by Jim Sturgess), an adventurous young barn owl who is only just learning how to fly. He is enraptured by tales of the Guardians of Ga’Hoole, a band of winged warriors who are sworn to protect the innocent.

After Soren and his brother Kludd (Ryan Kwanten) tumble from their hollow during an unsupervised flying lesson, they are kidnapped and promptly brought before Nyra (voiced by Helen Mirren), an evil queen who is hypnotizing young owlets to be used as slaves.

While Kludd finds honor serving in the wicked “Pure Ones” army, Soren escapes with young pal Gylfie (voiced by Emily Barclay), and together with some eccentric friends, the group embarks on an epic journey to find the legendary Guardians.

“Owls” is the classic story of good versus evil, but it soars above others of its kind with stunning visual effects, gorgeous scenery, and engaging characters you can’t help but root for.

Although “Owls” is far from Snyder’s usual smorgasbord of blood and guts, it is not without some dark undertones that parents may want to check out before taking very young children to the flick.

The many action scenes are bloodless but fairly violent, with armor-clad owls wielding metal talons and knives, clawing and slashing at each other in midair.

Combine these battle sequences with occasional moments of smart humor and tearful tenderness and you have a movie with something for everyone, whether you are a kid at heart or an adrenaline junkie.

“Owls” is a gorgeous, exciting movie that demands more than the typical “let’s all just get along” premise of most family-friendly films.

Through all its epic battles and grand visuals, it never loses its heart. And that is what makes “Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga’Hoole” truly legendary.

Rating: A+

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor

www.occc.edu/pioneer
**Student Input to Be Considered in Redesign**

**College hires firm to update website**

**J. Stipek**
News Writing Student

An outside consulting firm will spend the next two years rebuilding the college’s website with an eye to making it easier for prospective students to navigate.

Stephanie Geyer, of the Noel-Levitz Higher Education consulting firm, discussed plans for an overhaul of the website at the Faculty Association meeting Sept. 28.

Key bits of information that students want to know can be hard to find on the current website, Geyer said.

The five questions prospective students want answers to are: Do you have the major I am looking for? Can I get in? Can I afford it? Will I fit in? Is it close to my community?

Noel-Levitz has a 23-month contract with OCCC to help with the massive undertaking of the new website, said Paula Gower, Marketing and Public Relations director at OCCC.

The cost of the website will be about $150,000 with $100,000 being paid this year and about $50,000 next year.

The money will be paid out of the school’s contingency funds, Gower said.

Gower said students can rest assured there will be no rise in student technology fees to cover the costs nor will additional staff be hired to help maintain the new website.

“This is more than a website redesign,” Gower said. “It’s a completely new website.

“We are redesigning the framework of the website for functional criteria. This requires particular attention to web content, usability, interaction design, and information architecture.

“It is our hope that the new website spins out the information for students in an easier way.

The current plan is for OCCC to relaunch the website during the summer of 2011.

During the Faculty Association meeting, Geyer said, she believes the process “will be seamless and painless.”

Gower said OCCC is working in partnership with Noel Levitz to survey current students, former students, community members and faculty regarding the new website.

The goal is for the redesigned website to attract new students while helping retain existing students, Gower said.

Geyer is currently holding focus group meetings on campus to get student feedback about problems that plague the current website.

During the meeting, Geyer also alleviated faculty concerns about their personal web pages hosted on the OCCC servers.

Geyer said she also will consult with faculty about their personal web pages.

She said the new site “will not detract from personal websites nor make faculty take them down.”

John Richardson, OCCC online marketing coordinator, said he hopes everyone on campus will offer suggestions to Geyer and her group.

“We want to do additional focus groups to get people’s feedback,” he said.

“Whether it be through e-mail, the Pioneer, Facebook, Twitter or an alternative website, we want people to feel involved with the process.”

For more information about the redesign or to make website suggestions, e-mail pr@occc.edu.

**Smoke: OCCC has evolved from smoking on campus to ban**

*Continued from page 1*

Marlboro Menthol Smooths, she opposes the smoking ban.

Sneed said she thinks people should focus more on larger issues like drug abuse and the high cost of textbooks.

Student Kreta Chambers, who is a senior at the University of Oklahoma studying Macroeconomics at OCCC, said she is 100 percent behind this new policy.

She said she hates smoking and second-hand smoke.

Chambers said she has recently quit smoking so she hates walking through smoke when trying to enter and exit the building.

Being an ex-smoker, she prefers not to be around it, she said.

Physics Professor Steven Kamm is a smoker who said he’s sorry to see smoking kicked off campus altogether.

The professor, who received his master’s degree at the University of London, said he was fortunate enough be teaching at OCCC when it was established 1972.

He said during his career he has seen attitudes toward smokers evolve from very tolerant to completely intolerant.

“When the doors opened in 1972, there were no restrictions on smoking except the fire department said you could not smoke in enclosed places like the bathrooms and the elevators,” Kamm said.

One factor, he said, was the absence of permanent walls around classrooms and offices, just temporary partitions. He said the movable partitions allowed the smoke to drift away.

“In those days it would not be uncommon to see a teacher with a piece of chalk in one hand and a cigarette in the other,” Kamm said.

Then one by one, he said, regulations were enacted, limiting where smoking was allowed.

First, professors would split up the classroom into one side for smokers and the other side for non-smokers, Kamm said, simply because smoking was a distraction for those who did not smoke.

Then, after a number of years, he said, college administrators decided to prohibit smoking in the classrooms altogether.

The campus provided smoking rooms around campus and those were the only places cigarette smoking was allowed inside the buildings.

Finally, smoking was completely prohibited inside the buildings in the late 1980s, Kamm said.

Later, when Oklahoma passed the law restricting smoking within 25 feet of any public entrance or doorway, designated containers were placed at state-regulation distances all over the campus to provide for easy disposal of cigarette butts, Kamm said.

Kamm said he believes smokers should be respectful of others. He does not smoke in front of his grandchild, for instance.

On the other hand, he said, he has been cursed by more than one smoker when he has asked them not to smoke so close to entry doors.

Follow updates on this story at the Pioneer Online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.
College choirs combine to perform Oct. 14

ERIN PEDEN
News Writing Student

There will be music in the air when the OCCC choirs take the stage at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14, at Mid-America Christian University, located at 3500 SW 119 St. The concert is free and open to the public, said music Professor Ron Staton.

The concert has been forced to relocate off campus for several years because there is simply not enough room to seat all the guests in the Bruce Owen Theater, Staton said. This will change once the new theater on campus is completed in 2012.

The choirs are comprised of three different groups: concert choir which has 39 members, chamber choir with 29 members, and symphonic community choir with 74 members. Any student can be a member of these groups, Staton said; however, an audition is mandatory to be accepted into the chamber choir.

Leasle Crawford, a member of the chamber choir, said the singers have put all their effort into rehearsals since the beginning of school.

“We put a lot of work into our program. From day one of the semester we start practicing and our instructor works with us to make us sound like what we are,” Crawford said.

“Our work is paid off by seeing people enjoy themselves and returning to our programs. When we see that, we know that we have done well and shall keep giving our best for the new and old viewers.”

Each choir will have its own separate performance at the concert and the program will last between an hour to and hour and a half. Some of the songs that will be sung include English folk song “The Water is Wide,” “Georgia on My Mind” by Ray Charles, “You Raise Me Up” by Josh Groban, and a medley from “The Music Man” written by Meredith Wilson.

“I’m most excited to sing ‘You Raise Me Up’” Crawford said. “I love that song and you can really feel the emotion behind it.”

The choirs also will perform a Christmas concert in mid-December, Staton said.

The concert and chamber choirs currently hold rehearsal Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: concert from 11 to 11:50 a.m. and chamber from noon to 12:50 p.m., while the community choir holds rehearsal Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m.

CHOIR CONCERT

Time: 7 p.m.
Date: Oct. 14
Where: Mid-America Christian University
3500 SW 119 St.
Oklahoma City

Sloas: Security director takes credit for decrease in campus crime

Continued from page 1

Sloas said crime at OCCC has continued to decline over the years, including a record low for 2008.

John Boyd, vice president of business and finance, said as a result of Sloas’s leadership, the statistics in terms of automobile thefts, car break-ins, and assaults show few incidents.

Boyd said surveillance camera security is something that was very minimal and I think it is in large part attributable to the fact that we have a security camera just about everywhere,” Boyd said.

“During this year’s arts festival, we had a tent collapse,” Sloas said.

“I was in Memphis at the time, but when I received word of the accident, I didn’t panic because I knew my staff was trained and capable of managing anything.”

After the accident, which hospitalized three festival patrons and injured several more, Sloas said he received e-mails from Oklahoma City police and fire departments commending the quick actions of OCCC security officers.

“I am very satisfied with our emergency response,” Sloas said.

“The atmosphere here (at OCCC) has never been better. I know I’m leaving the department and college safer.”

Besides OCCC and Rhodes College, Sloas said, he has worked on several other college campuses over the years, including Arkansas State University and Albany State University in Georgia.

Sloas began his policing career in 1991 as a sheriff’s deputy in Arkansas.

“I like the atmosphere,” he said. “With college police work, you can really see the impact.

“You get close to the students and staff and you can see firsthand what your efforts have done.”
Broadcasting grad talks about career

J. STIPEK
News Writing Student

A New York television news producer talked about the challenges of declining advertising revenues and evolving media platforms in a speech on campus Sept. 30.

Jason Goodwin, who graduated from OCCC in 1999, is currently the producer of the nightly newscast for WPIX 11 (www.wpix.com), a CW affiliate in New York City.

For 45 minutes, Goodwin spoke of trends in the media, giving examples of some his workplace is moving toward.

Goodwin said WPIX 11 is switching to a "no anchor" format starting Oct. 11, meaning there will mainly be a voice overdub on most new segments with more of a news emphasis during the telecast.

He also spoke of how his station is eliminating most of its news trucks and sending the videotape shot at the scene to the station via the Internet.

In an interview after the speech, Goodwin talked about the convergence of social media — with Facebook, Twitter and the Internet becoming the news transmission platforms of the future.

"We have a saying in the newsroom: 'oh by the way and we do TV as well,'" Goodwin said of having everyone on his staff using different social media platforms.

During his time at OCCC, Goodwin said, he received his best hands-on training and learning experience.

He said colleagues who attended New York University and Columbia University were impressed with the experience and knowledge Goodwin had obtained from OCCC.

Although Goodwin resides in New York City now, he said his journey to New York has twisted and turned, much like the tornados in Oklahoma he covered early in his career.

He said he started as a theater major at OCCC with a passion for acting. Around that time a fellow student suggested that Goodwin take Professor Gwin Faulconer-Lippert’s Audio Production class.

That class led to Goodwin changing his major to journalism and broadcasting.

Goodwin was awarded the broadcasting student-of-the-year award in 1999 while at OCCC.

"Jason Goodwin became a success because he loves journalism and loves to work," said Howard.

He said colleagues who at other media outlets didn’t know if I could handle that."

Goodwin had words of advice for students.

"It is really easy to succeed in broadcast journalism if you show up on time, act professional and be kind."

Student leaders briefed on relationship violence

THADDAEUS AYERS
News Writing Student

During The Leadership Council meeting Sept. 30, TLC members acted out scenarios which showed verbal abuse, domestic abuse and other dangerous relationships in order to provide a preview of what will be covered during special activities on campus Oct. 11 through 15.

The intent was to give the student leaders a preview of the events planned for Relationship Violence Awareness Week, said Jenna Howard, OCCC counselor.

Activities will include self defense training, relationship violence awareness training, guest speakers and a silent memorial for those who have died from domestic violence.

"It takes about seven attempts [attempts] for someone to leave a domestic violence relationship," Howard said in the meeting.

She said, with the bad state of the economy, domestic violence has risen.

"If we can help people get help, that would be great," Howard said.

Student Relations Director and TLC sponsor Erin Logan said Howard is great at counseling students.

Logan said the college’s Crisis Response and Intervention Team, Student Support Services, and Student Life offer free services on campus to assist students in abusive relationships or who have witnessed abusive behavior.

"If I think it’s good for students to know, we’re here to help them," Logan said. "We’re not just here for class."

TLC is made up of officers of campus clubs and other interested students who want to volunteer. The group usually meets twice a month on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m.

Kenneth Meador, College Democrats president and a TLC member, said he’s just now aware of the free counseling at OCCC.

"I’ve been here for a semester and a half and I had no idea those services were available," Meador said.

During Relationship Violence Awareness Week, boxes will be available on campus for donations to the YWCA women’s shelter in Oklahoma City.

Some items needed are arts and craft supplies for children, diapers, baby wipes, learning-based toys, telephone calling cards for women, pots, pans, baking dishes, umbrellas, toiletries and hand sanitizer.

More information can be found online at www.occc.edu/violence.

The Leadership Council, contact Logan at 405-682-1611, ext. 7821 or by e-mail at elogan@occc.edu.

Red flags of abuse

- Do you feel nervous around your partner?
- Do you have to be careful to control your behavior to avoid your partner’s anger?
- Do you feel pressured by your partner when it comes to sex?
- Are you scared of disagreeing with your partner?
- Is your partner always checking up on you or questioning you about what you do without your partner?
- Does your partner tell you that if you changed they wouldn’t abuse you?
- Does your partner’s jealousy stop you from seeing friends or family?
- Does your partner make you feel like you are wrong, stupid, crazy, or inadequate?
- Has your partner ever scared you with violence or threatening behavior?
- Does your partner prevent you from going out or doing things you want to do?
- Are you expected to do things to please your partner, rather than yourself?
- Do you feel that, with your partner, nothing you ever do is good enough?
- Does your partner say, “I will kill myself if you break up with me” or “I will hurt you if you break up with me”?
- Does your partner make excuses for the abusive behavior? For example: “It’s because of alcohol or drugs,” or “I can’t control my temper,” or “I was just joking”?
- You do not deserve to be abused. Create a safety plan or call someone to talk about your relationship. You may also want to contact the police or a local domestic violence center or call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-SAFE.
STUDENTS CAN BORROW TEXTBOOKS

Library offers alternate way to get books

HOLLY DAVIS WALKER
News Writing Student

There’s more than one place to read a textbook. Students who don’t have a textbook at home can use the library’s reserve collection, said Emily Lewis, library circulation assistant.

One hundred thirty professors participate in the textbook reserve program maintained by the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library, Lewis said.

Some of those instructors request books for more than one course, depending on what they teach.

Students can borrow a textbook for up to two hours at a time. All they need is their student or photo ID. It helps to have as much information as possible available to give the librarian to ensure the right textbook is received, Lewis said.

Textbooks can be checked out any time the library is open, and must be returned by 10 minutes before closing time, she said.

There are often multiple copies of textbooks for the most popular subjects like history, psychology, sociology and political science.

Two copies are available for most other subjects. Some of the more degree-specific courses may have only one copy, Lewis said.

She said the most common reason students use the textbook reserve program is they are waiting for their financial aid to be credited to their accounts.

Lewis said although use of the books is heaviest during the first month of classes, there are plenty of regular users, too.

Once they can afford to do so, she said, many students seem to prefer to purchase their own books so they have more flexibility in their study habits.

Rosetta Henderson is a first-semester student at OCCC who said she uses the library textbooks for her two classes on an almost daily basis.

Without the program, she said, she would be behind in her studies.

Student David Timothy said he has used the program in the past. He said it’s a great program.

Cara Seikel buys her books from the college bookstore, but said she knows about the library’s copies, as many instructors mention their availability at the beginning of the semester.

“It would save a lot of money to go look at the books during study time,” she said.

In the future, Seikel said, she might consider using the library’s copies rather than buying textbooks.

If a student is interested in using a textbook the library doesn’t have, the student can ask the professor to request it and the library will order it from the bookstore, Lewis said.

The library typically sends letters out in July and August asking instructors who have previously participated to update their book list.

This can include both required and optional textbooks, as the instructor requests.

Lewis’s one request is that if students do use the textbooks, to please remember to turn them back in before leaving so they’re available for other students to use also.

About 3,000 attend campus employment fair

BONNIE CAMPO
Online Writer
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Judi McGee, OCCC Employment Services coordinator, said 110 employers participated in this year’s Job Fair, held on campus Oct. 6.

And, Student Employment and Career Services Director Debra Vaughn said approximately 3,000 people attended, looking for employment with companies that included large corporations such as Halliburton and Norman Regional Hospital.

“We also had many media centers coming to offer employment like news channels 4, 5, and Fox,” Vaughn said.

She said not all who attended the fair were from the metro area.

“One student I spoke with traveled from Ardmore because of a TV commercial he saw,” Vaughn said.

She said that same student told her he received an interview with Halliburton for the following week.

The next job fair will be during the spring semester on March 2, Vaughn said. The fair is held twice a year, the first Wednesday in March and the first Wednesday in October.

In an earlier story, McGee said campus job fairs offer a chance for people to meet potential employers and to collect important information about several companies — all in one area.

She said job seekers should dress professionally and bring résumés to give to potential employers.

Job seeker Zach Brookman, right, talks with Association of General Contractors staff member Sheila Brown and TTK Construction representative Jeff Cover during the Job Fair on campus Oct. 6.
Crew come from behind for first win

RYAN PULS
News Writing Student

Replacement quarterback Josh Vanover proved to be the deciding factor in leading a come-from-behind 36-31 victory for The Crew over the Thunder during the Oct. 1 intramural flag football game on campus.

Vanover regularly plays for You Know. He came in late during the first half to play quarterback for The Crew after the team fell behind 24-0 in week three of the flag football season.

He led The Crew to their first win of the year.

The Thunder appeared to be running away with the game after scoring 24 unanswered points with under five minutes to play in the first half. They seemed all but certain to clinch their third win in their first three games.

Adjustments were needed in order for The Crew to get back in the game, and that adjustment came in the form of Vanover.

Sports assistant Charlie Tarver said borrowing a quarterback from another team is allowed for a single game. If a player participates in more than one game on another team, he is not eligible to play for any others.

A lot of credit is due to Vanover, who quickly put The Crew on the board with a touchdown pass to Austin Hiltergrand, whom Vanover replaced at quarterback.

Nevertheless, it may have been Michael Ware’s interception just before the end of the half, which was returned for a touchdown, that changed the momentum of the game for both teams.

In the second half, Vanover scrambled from a potential quarterback sack all the way into the end zone to bring The Crew within two points.

Hiltergrand intercepted a Ben Roberts long pass, returning it for a touchdown to give The Crew their first lead of the game, and which allowed Vanover to complete a two point conversion to give The Crew a 30-24 lead.

Roberts refused to let the interception mess with his head as he came back onto the field, connecting with Jeremy Carolina on a deep pass for a touchdown.

He then connected with Donald Worth for a one point conversion to give the Thunder a 31-30 lead.

Vanover would take The Crew down the field pass by pass to set up the game-winning touchdown pass to Gregory Anderson to put The Crew ahead 36-31.

Roberts would make one more valiant effort, but led his receiver too far out of bounds as time expired to end the game.

When asked about how the Thunder let their giant lead slip away, Roberts was matter-of-fact.

“We had a lack of effort and showed a lack of defense,” he said. “There was a lack of pulling flags.”

On the other end of the scoreboard, Vanover and The Crew were all smiles.

Vanover summed it up.

“Receivers started making great catches, and our defense then stepped up,” he said.

“I just tried to help play quarterback.”

The OCCC Dream Team’s Nick Pinkerton (left) avoids Spartans defenders Josh Vanover (middle) and Donald Worth (right) as he scrambles on the play. The Dream Team won 43-37 over the Spartans on Oct. 1. The intramural flag football season is heading into its 4th week on Oct. 8.
Christian Kosted
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Adjunct English Professor Blake Hamilton’s short story of friendship and betrayal has been chosen for publication by National Public Radio. “The Exchange” has been included in the “Three Minute Fiction” series on NPR.org.

To enter the competition, Hamilton’s story had to have the opening line: “Some swore that the house was haunted” and the closing line of: “Nothing was ever the same again after that.”

“The Exchange” was one of 10 stories selected from more than 5,000 entries, Hamilton said. “It’s a little overwhelming, but it is exciting to be part of such a unique process,” he said.

Hamilton said he wrote the story in his car in only an hour.

“It was the most distraction-free environment,” he said.

He said he kept the story for about a day before editing it, then submitting it to NPR.

“My initial reaction was that a haunting could be perceived many different ways,” Hamilton said.

“I took the angle that it was not a haunting by a ghost, but being haunted by rumors because something bad had taken place.”

Hamilton said it was not hard to fit his story into the format of the contest.

“I’ve published in literary journals before but nothing of this caliber,” he said. “Publishing is such a long and painful process.”

Hamilton said he has been writing professionally and creatively for years.

Some of Hamilton’s favorite authors include Margaret Atwood, Stephen King, Dan Chaon, and Cormac McCarthy.


WANTED: STUDENT VOICES

Do you have news to share? Maybe you know of an OCCC student worthy of a mention or have an opinion about something you’ve read.

If so, contact Jennifer Massey at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

USA TODAY, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, the Coca-Cola Foundation, the American Association of community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa will award approximately $350,000 to students.

Eligibility requirements:

- Enrolled at OCCC through December 2010.
- Have a cumulative college-level GPA of 3.50 for all coursework completed in the last five years, regardless of institution attended.
- A minimum of 36 semester (or 48 quarter) college-level credits completed at or transferred to a community college by December 31, 2010 and 48 semester (or 72 quarter) college-level credits by August 30, 2011. Students must have a minimum of 30 semester (or 45 quarter), college-level credit hours completed at a community college in the past five years.
- No record of suspension, probation or other serious disciplinary action.

Information and applications are available online at www.ptk.org/schol/aaat/announce.htm. You will need to use enrollment key MJD4Nj04933 to access the application on the website. Please contact the Office of the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services at (405) 682-7595 if you need any additional information.

All applications must be completed by Monday, Nov. 1.
Hugs and kisses

Student Stephanie Bloom gets a candy kiss from Black Student Association member, Natasha Hill. The Advocates for Peace and the BSA collaborated to give out free hugs and free chocolate Hershey Kisses to promote their cause.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES || WORKSHOPS PLANNED

Relationship violence explored

CHRISTY JOHNSON
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, said Jenna Howard, licensed counselor and social worker in Student Support Services.

Student Support Services and Student Life will be hosting Relationship Violence Awareness Week Oct. 11 through 15, she said.

The week of workshops is dedicated to helping those who are experiencing domestic violence and to those who want to help, she said.

Howard said the first of these seminars is a Brown Bag luncheon on warning signs. The presentation will be at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, in College Union 1. Students are invited to bring their lunch. “We will be covering various issues such as sexual assault, violence, hazing, and bullying,” she said.

Howard said from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 13, in the Union Foyer, will be recognition for the Silent Witness. Students wishing to attend this event need to pre-register by Oct. 14 at occc.edu/studentlife website. Volunteers need to meet in Student Life by 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 15.

Most domestic violence situations begin with verbal abuse and isolation of the victim, Howard said. Research indicates it takes at least seven times for a victim to leave the abusive relationship and actually stay gone.

“There is also a Brown Bag lunch speaker on “Relationship Violence” the same day at noon in college union 1, Howard said.

“This gives information on how to know the signs, and on how to help a friend,” Howard said. This Brown Bag topic will be presented by Erin Walker, YWCA director of Outreach and Volunteer Services.

At 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 14, in College Union 3, will be the Self Defense Seminar. Lt. Kevin Johnson, with the Oklahoma County Sheriff’s office, will be giving vital information on how people can protect themselves and their family from an abuser, Howard said.

The last day of the series will be an OKC-GO seminar. Volunteers from the OKC-GO scholarship program will work at the YWCA from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15.

Students wishing to attend this event need to pre-register by Oct. 14 on occc.edu/studentlife website. Volunteers need to meet in Student Life by 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 15.

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Most domestic violence situations begin with verbal abuse and isolation of the victim, Howard said. Research indicates it takes at least seven times for a victim to leave the abusive relationship and actually stay gone.

“This seminar could be a steppingstone into getting that type of helpful information to the right people,” Howard said.

For more information on these events, contact Student Support Services at 405-682-7520.
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: 2007 Volkswagen Bug, two door, light green color, sunroof, heated leather seat. Excellent condition. $13,700. OBO. Contact: Karen or Don Campo at 405-399-5780.

FOR SALE: 1994 Pontiac Grand Prix, two door, power locks, tinted windows, new tires, new battery. Good condition. $1,500. OBO. Call: Tiffany at 405-429-7561 or e-mail tekingfisher@yahoo.com

**EMPLOYMENT**

Job Offer: Looking for part-time employee to work with a special need child. Interested person will be trained for CPR and first aid. Hours are flexible. E-mail tekingfisher@yahoo.com. Put “Cree” in the subject line.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

FOR SALE: Two general admission tickets for Nickelback Concert which is going to be held from 6 p.m. Oct. 16, at Ford Center, Downtown, Oklahoma City. Prices are negotiable. Call: Whitney at 405-213-5690 or e-mail whitney.k.knight@email.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: 20 GB used, Xbox 360 for $175. Comes with two controllers, network adaptors for Xbox live. Call: Evan Adkins at 405-229-2451 or e-mail evan.w.adkins@email.occc.edu.

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FOR SALE: 2007 Chrysler Sebring, convertible, red, leather seats, sunroof. Excellent condition. $2,500. OBO.

FOR SALE: 2000 BMW X3, 3 door, light green, sunroof, heated leather seat. Excellent condition. $7,500. OBO.

FOR SALE: 1995 Ford Explorer, four door, light green, sunroof, heated leather seat. Excellent condition. $3,800. OBO.

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Correctly answer four Treasure Hunt Questions and be entered in our final drawing of the semester:

1: How many parking spaces does OCCC currently have, not including faculty and staff parking?
2: Who wrote the play “Waiting for Godot,” which has been recently performed at the Bruce Owen Theater?
3: What is the name of the artist performing Oct. 12 at the Bruce Owen Theater as part of the OCCC Cultural Arts Series?
4: What was the name of the student who was featured in “It’s a Small World” in the Oct. 1 issue and where was he from?

Correct Answer for last week:
1: $50K 2: $16 million 3: Oct. 6, College Union 4: 7 - 9 p.m. Oct. 5.

Read the Oct. 1 Pioneer issue for the answers. Send your answers to: adman@occc.edu.
IT’S ALL NEW & JUST FOR YOU!

Providing the help you need just in time for the spring semester... ANGEL ORIENTATION.

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