Music for the masses

OCCC’s music professor Michael Boyle demonstrates a bass riff for his students. Boyle teaches Music Appreciation, Intro to World Music, Individual Bass, Ensemble and Music Literature II. For more information about the college’s music classes, visit www.occc.edu/AH/communications.

Enrollment continues climb

JOEY STIPEK
Editor
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OCCC continues signs of growth even in an improving economy when some people forego college to work.

Spring enrollment increased moderately from last spring — up 1.5 percent on a headcount basis and 1.2 percent on a credit hour basis, said Stu Harvey, Planning and Research executive director.

Over the last two years, enrollment at OCCC increased 23 percent. Currently, 12,952 students are enrolled for the spring 2011 semester.

Juliet Elemwo, 20, pre-pharmacy major, is not surprised by the increase. “Every semester OCCC gets bigger,” she said. “People have figured out that getting your basics here is easier than going to a major university.”

Harvey said the improvement in the economy probably moderated the growth in enrollment.

“People go back to work or … decide to [not] go to college based on the availability of jobs,” he said.

See ENROLLMENT page 9

OCC likely to see a 5.5% decrease in funding for FY 2011-’12

JOEY STIPEK
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For the third straight year, OCCC employees will not see a raise, and tuition will increase for the second straight year because of the state’s economy.

President Paul Sechrist predicts there will be a 5.5 percent reduction in the college’s budget for the fiscal year 2011-’12. He said the reduction will not take place until the new fiscal year begins in July 1.

“We have taken on a number of cost containment initiatives in the last two years …” Sechrist said.

He said that has included suspending merit raises for all employees, shifting to a partially self-funded health plan, and placing into a contingency account an additional $1.6 million OCCC has received through the tax district for the past two years.

Sechrist said OCCC was able to increase the college’s contingency account in anticipation of a continued shortfall in state funding to the college. OCCC has $7 to $8 million in contingency funds. Sechrist expects OCCC to spend a portion of those funds this year and next.

“The state is the largest source of funding to the college and any reduction from the state impacts the budget,” he said.

Sechrist addressed how the budget shortfall would impact the students and faculty at OCCC.

“Our goal throughout the budget shortfall has been to have a minimal impact on services to students,” he said. “OCCC has not cut back hours to labs, the library or services, and has added adjunct professors and courses as enrollment increased.”

However, Sechrist said, students will be minimally impacted in two areas.

One is there will be no money for a hoped-for increase in advising and financial aid staff. The other is a small tuition increase.

Sechrist said a modest increase in tuition has helped OCCC maintain services to students while adding classes to cope with an increase in enrollment.

“People are delaying … decide to [not] go to college based on the availability of jobs,” he said. “This year,
Healthcare reform needs more work

Despite the many useful reforms the recently passed healthcare bill includes, it is fundamentally flawed in that it forces individuals to buy and maintain insurance.

Of course, there are many arguments in favor of President Barack Obama’s healthcare reform.

Strong among them are the provisions to eliminate refusal of coverage for pre-existing conditions, and the provision allowing children to remain on their parents’ insurance up to age 26.

Another strong point is the closing of the Medicare “doughnut hole,” a gap that denies coverage to anyone whose drug expenses fall within a certain range.

These provisions make the bill strong, it’s true; however, nothing in the bill can make up for the penalties it would impose on anyone who does not have or obtain health insurance.

The government is allowed quite a bit of latitude by the Constitution.

It can raise and fund a standing army, enact and enforce taxes to support its operation, and make decisions relating to overall public welfare.

But nowhere is there a precedent, law, or constitutional amendment giving the government power over individual economic choices.

Under the new healthcare reforms, individuals who fail to obtain healthcare face tax penalties.

No matter how well constructed the reforms are, or how many useful provisions they hold, this boils down to the government having the power to penalize its citizens for choosing not to buy a product.

The argument for the penalties runs something like this: all individuals who don’t have health insurance create a burden on the system when they incur healthcare costs.

Tax penalties would cover those costs, while encouraging the individual to fix the issue by obtaining healthcare.

But that doesn’t make sense. Individuals and businesses incur many of those same debts and taxpayer burdens when they declare bankruptcy.

If the government created a mandatory insurance subsidy to prevent or control bankruptcies, it would be decried as government interference with an individual’s right to economic freedom.

The mortgage system has been shown in the past few years to be spectacularly flawed.

If the government stepped in and established a subsidy program to prevent defaults and crashes, that might be a good thing.

But if the program were mandatory for every mortgage holder, and came with tax penalties for non-enrollment, there would be screams of “nationalization,” and government interference in the free market.

The healthcare reforms are a good thing. Like any bill, there are advantages and problems.

But while everything else within this bill can be repaired or altered, the mandatory enrollment has to be dropped.

—Jeremy Cloud
Staff Writer
MOVIE REVIEW | Cult classic stands up after more than 20 years

‘Labyrinth’ a timeless movie

When the Jim Henson movie “Labyrinth” first hit the screens in 1986, it was nowhere near the success it is now. Grossing well under its budget, the film did not gain popularity until years later and is now considered a cult classic.

The film starts with Sarah (Jennifer Connelly), an imaginative and angsty teen caught up in the fantasy books she reads.

One night while tired of babysitting, Sarah wishes for goblins to come take her infant brother Toby away.

Sarah immediately regrets her mistake when the Goblin King Jareth (David Bowie) appears and takes Toby away to his castle. Sarah then has no choice but to work her way through the ever-changing labyrinth and solve the puzzle within 13 hours or her brother will become a goblin forever.

Throughout the movie, Sarah is faced with not only the challenges of the maze itself, but also with Jareth, who takes a liking to her and tries to distract her by throwing many curves her way.

Sarah does not go at this alone, however. Fortunately for her, she meets a few friends on the way including a bad-tempered midget, gentle beast, and feisty dog that may just get her one step closer to reaching the castle beyond the goblin city.

Although many effects used are slightly outdated, the film does not cease to please. Henson proves his creatures are unique and nothing short of amazing. The five original songs written and performed by Bowie also add a magic touch to the film.

While the film may seem dark at times, it is filled with many laughs and dancing that will keep you watching the entire 90 minutes.

Anyone with an imaginative and adventurous spirit will surely appreciate this magical film.

RATING: A
—Erin Peden
Staff Writer

BOOK REVIEW | Vampires, Oklahoma history make for entertaining read

‘Awakened’ good to borrow, not to buy

“Awakened” is the eighth installment of the popular “House of Night” series penned by Oklahoma mother-daughter authors P.C. and Kristin Cast.

The New York Times best-selling authors have created a new type of vampire. The series is based in Tulsa, but with one major difference: there is a vampire high school called the House of Night.

The story itself follows a young girl, Zoey Redbird, as she is marked as a fledgling vampire and experiences all the changes that go with it.

The series ultimately is a good vs. evil story, with Zoey as the ‘good guy’ and her mentor, Neferet, as the ‘bad guy.’

While the writing and flow occasionally leave something to be desired, it nevertheless retains the personality of the character whose viewpoint you are reading at the time.

The authors are able to weave a tale that includes all the typical high school drama along with some mystery and intrigue.

They also are able to include the rich history and culture of Oklahoma, Tulsa, and of the Cherokee Indians. The authors weave all this in with the fictional vampire history that relates to the story they want to tell.

The writing itself is far more mature than the previous books, which is not bad in and of itself. It’s bad because the period between books for the characters tends to be a matter of days, if that.

The events that take place in these books would easily trigger more maturity in teenagers as they save the world again and again.

However, the growing up should have been more gradual, not thrust in the readers’ faces. It changes the series drastically and much too quickly.

RATING: B+
—Holly Walker
Staff Writer

Transfer Center 411

Are you thinking about transferring to a four-year institution? Did you know that there is an office on campus to help you with your transition? The Transfer Center offers many services to get you headed in the right direction.

Campus Tours: The Transfer Center takes groups of students to college campuses to meet with staff, students and advisers. Students also get a tour of the campus. The dates for the spring semester are:

- University of Oklahoma – Wednesday, Feb. 10 and Thursday, April 8
- University of Central Oklahoma – Thursday, Feb. 18 and Wednesday, March 31
- Oklahoma State University – Thursday, Feb. 11

Transfer Fair: Every semester the Transfer Center brings in over 30 four-year institutions that are here to recruit you.

This semester, the Transfer Fair will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24 in the Main Building.

Transfer Guide: This resource has a lot of great information on transferring. It has questions to ask when considering where to transfer, scholarship information and university contact information. These books are available in the Office of Academic Advising.

Transfer Center Website: The website www.occ.edu/TransferCenter has many links that you will find useful in your research on transferring, including the Transfer Equivalency Guides and the Transfer Calendar.

Campus Visits: Most days you will find a four-year representative on our campus. They are here to answer your questions. The days and times of their visits are listed on the Transfer Center website and are posted outside of the Office of Academic Advising.

For questions or to sign up for Campus Tours, please contact Kim Lusk at klusk@occc.edu or 682-7566.

Contact me at smcelroy@occc.edu or 682-7567 with any questions.

-Sara McElroy
Academic Advising Coordinator
GROUP SERVES AS LIAISON WHEN STUDENTS ACT OUT

CARE team in place to help avert possible trouble

MORGAN BEARD
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

Following the Virginia Tech campus shooting in 2007 that left 32 dead, many colleges, including OCCC, looked at how a similar situation might be averted in the future on their own campuses.

As a result, OCCC formed CARE, the Campus Alert Response Evaluation team.

CARE is a team of both staff and faculty at the college whose aim is to monitor concerns regarding student behavior.

“The overall goal of CARE is to promote a safe environment for all students and staff …”

—ERIN LOGAN
Student Relations Director/CARE Team

The CARE team serves five major functions:

• Provide consultation to all employees in assisting students who display concerning or disruptive behaviors.
• Gather information to assess situations involving students.
• Recommend appropriate intervention strategies.
• Connect students with needed campus and community resources.
• Monitor ongoing behavior of students who have displayed disruptive or concerning behavior.

Mary Turner, Learning Support Specialist and also a member of the CARE team, said students who encounter someone who seems threatening can report that individual and the CARE team will follow up.

Students can file reports themselves or inform any faculty or staff member at the college of an issue with anyone on campus.

Students can contact the CARE team in person, by phone, or by e-mail.

“We want to make sure the people who need help get help and those who pose a threat are dealt with accordingly,” she said.

The CARE team meets on a weekly basis, but meetings are held as soon as possible with the onset of a new report, Turner said. Each incident is carefully reviewed and discussed by staff members before action is taken.

“We take each report seriously,” Turner said. “We try to look at all of the angles and all sides of the story before any decisions are made.”

Turner said OCCC and the CARE team are in the process of creating handbooks for students that include the CARE information as well as adding that information to the OCCC website.

For more information, contact Logan at elogan@occc.edu or Turner at mturner@occc.edu or call 405-682-7821 or 405-682-7544.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LOOKS GOOD ON RÉSUMÉ, EXPERT SAYS

HOLLY DAVIS WALKER
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

Students looking for opportunities to volunteer in the community can attend the Volunteer Fair from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 1, in the College Union, hosted by Student Life.

Twenty-eight agencies are expected to attend ranging from Habitat for Humanity to Big Brothers, Big Sisters, said Jill Lindblad, Service Learning and Student Life programs coordinator.

Participating agencies will host tables where they will share information with students about the opportunities available to them.

“Anyone who is in need of completing service hours for classes or if they’re interested in doing the civic honors program … can get resources at this fair,” Lindblad said.

“It’s also if you’re just generally interested in doing service. It’s for anybody who’s interested in participating.”

The service learning program is an opportunity to do community service, but with a learning component involved, Lindblad said.

“What we found is that, yes, doing community service is great, but if we can find a way to connect it with what you’re learning in class or what you’re learning on your internship, it’s that much more beneficial for students.”

For example, she said, many nursing students have to complete service learning activities for their classes, Lindblad said.

She said they can use that opportunity to practice their communication and leadership skills.

In addition, she said, it makes them more aware of the resources available to their clients when they do become nurses.

Lindblad said the Civic Honors Program is a program for students who are interested in spending some of their spare time helping within the community while they’re at OCCC. Students can sign up in Student Life, where they will have an interview with Lindblad.

Once enrolled in the program, participants are required to complete 50 hours within two years with the various service agencies OCCC has an agreement with, said Lindblad.

After they complete the hours, students are required to build a portfolio that includes vision and mission statements, as well as a letter of reflection that talks about what they have taken from their experience, she said.

The completed portfolio is reviewed by Lindblad and other Student Life members.

Students are then eligible for an honorable recognition at commencement.

There also is an awards ceremony in the spring where they will be recognized, Lindblad said. Both look great on résumés, she said.

If students are unable to stop and browse during the Volunteer Fair Tuesday, Feb. 1, there also is a website called Impact they can access.

Impact was launched at the beginning of the semester, Lindblad said, and can be found at impact.occc.edu.

The new site has a complete list of all 90 agencies that have an agreement with OCCC, she said. There is updated contact information for each agency, as well as a calendar where agencies can post different opportunities to volunteer at or training opportunities.

For more information about service learning or the Civic Honors Program, contact or visit the Student Life office on the first floor of the Main Building, or visit the Volunteer Fair Tuesday, Feb. 1.

www.twitter.com/OCCCpioneer
Additional parking part of college update

MORGAN BEARD
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

As students come to OCCC this spring semester, they may notice there are a few more places to park.

As many as 161 new spaces have been added to parking lot B, next to the school library, according to a safety and security report.

J.B. Messer, Facilities Management Director, said the additions were implemented as part of a renovation to the north side of the library, which also includes walkways leading from the library to the campus pond, and a parking area for the campus pond.

Messer said the changes came about as a result of observations and suggestions by school planners.

“They saw a few things that could be altered, so we decided to act on it and make some changes,” he said.

Adjunct professor Michael Reeves said the additions were needed.

“Sometimes when you come to OCCC later in the day, you’re forced to park in the back in some areas … or even another parking lot altogether,” Reeves said. "Any addition made to the parking area is a great idea for the school.”

OCCC parking lot improvements have provided students with an additional 161 parking spaces. J.B. Messer, Facilities Management Director, said the additions were implemented as part of a renovation to the north side of the library, which also includes walkways leading from the library and parking lot to the campus pond.

“Sometimes when you come to OCCC later in the day, you’re forced to park in the back in some areas … or even another parking lot altogether,” Reeves said. "Any addition made to the parking area is a great idea for the school.”

Messer said there are other areas around campus that could benefit from more parking but said he doesn’t know when that might happen.

Interior design major Casey Akard said she thinks it would be a good idea for the college to add still more parking spaces.

“We really could use more parking spots”, Akard said.

“I’m sick of having to park really far away every day. They need a lot more."

For more information and a parking map, visit the college’s website at www.occc.edu.

Costa Rica destination of upcoming study abroad program

JEREMY CLOUD
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

This semester, OCCC will partner with Oklahoma Study Abroad to give students the opportunity to study Spanish in the native environment of Costa Rica, in Central America, while also learning to travel on a budget, said Abra Figueroa, modern languages professor.

The trip will cost an estimated $1,450, and will be from May 23 through June 3, said Christian Alyea, trip coordinator.

“This will be a travel-enhanced course,” Figueroa said.

Students can enroll in a three-credit hour class called Spanish for Travelers, but it’s not necessary to enroll to go on the trip.

In addition to studying Spanish, students will participate in a wide variety of activities designed to showcase the native culture and beauty of Costa Rica, she said.

“We have all kinds of fun things planned for the students. We’ve got excursions to a wildlife preserve, beaches, and waterfalls. We’re going sea kayaking. And we’ll have tours of San José nightlife.”

The trip is open to anyone and students can bring guests, Figueroa said.

The other focus of the trip will be to teach students how to travel abroad inexpensively, said Alyea.

“The big problem with most study abroad programs is that they cost a lot of money and the students don’t really learn anything about how to travel,” Alyea said.

“For instance, on a typical study trip to Rome, students get off the plane and take a taxi to their hotel. But the subway is just a block away, and can be used for half the cost.”

Little things like these are what make it difficult for students to travel on their own, Alyea said.

“Students go on these expensive trips, stay in travelers hotels, and get whisked around from museum to museum on tour buses.”

But, Alyea said, if they try to come back on their own, they don’t know how to use public transportation or find a good hotel.

“So instead of taking the standard approach to college travel, we’ll be showing students how to use native public transportation, and staying in youth hostels.”

Kevin Randall, psychology major, said students should study abroad and not just for the opportunities it brings later in life.

“A lot of the problems with American culture today stem from how narrowly we view the world. Students need this opportunity to get another perspective,” Randall said.

“They need to learn about the bigger world around them. Study abroad gives them that opportunity.”

The deadline to apply for the Costa Rica trip is Feb. 15.

For more information, contact Figueroa at afigueroa@occc.edu or Alyea at christian@oklahomastudyabroad.com.
Students are eligible to be on the Vice President’s Honor Roll by achieving a GPA of 3.5 while carrying a minimum of 12 semester hours.
Students are eligible to be on 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.


Scott Batary, Randall Baum, Jennifer Beck, Megan Beddo, Devin Beier, Jesse Benson, Daniella Berrotaran, Susanan Berryman, Dan Bibb, David Bittle, Elizabeth Blackledge, Benn Blackmon, Blake Blake, David Blazevich, Paula Boitner, Courtney Bolt, Brandon Bolt, Brandon Booth, Christopher Boren, Ebenzer Borley, Tyler Boyd, Mika Braine, Kevin Brannan, Caitlin Brasel, Elizabeth Briceno-Fraire, Jeff Briggs, Alexandria Briones, Charlie Brou, Jackie Brooks, Meghan Brown, Harvey Brown, Griffin Brown, Michael Bruce.

Andrew Bruehl, Chad Bruner, Kevin Buck, Kenneth Burch, Ethan Burchett, Ashley Burchett, Shannon Burns, Kaillyn Burton, Dylan Butler, Mequail Caldwell.

Ronald Caldwell, Luis Caliente, Jeffrey Campbell, William Campbell, Kaydee Canfield, Benjamin Canzales, Nathan Cannon, Daniel Carney, Sherri Carr, Cody Carter.

Trent Cason, Farayl Chamani, Kinsey Charles, Nathan Charlton, Aaron Cheney, Samuel Chinchilla, Julie Chote, Anthony Christians.

Cyni Christopher, Van Cha, Julian Chung, Barbara Cieri, Sarah Clark, Amber Clark, Debra Clayton, Robert Cleveland, Lance Clouse.

Rebecca Clyma, Jesus Cockerham, Brett Colclasure, Christopher Conklin, Christopher Conley, Stephanie Cook, Krysten Cooper, Wesley Cossey, Joanna Couch, John Couture, Carolyn Crafts, James Crane, Daniel Cranford, lane Crawford, Mark Cruz, Laura Cullen, Joren Cummins.

Luis Damazo, Bastran Dang, Phong Dang, Anh Dang, Colby Daniels, Kacy Davis, Craig Davis, Christopher DeLaCruz, Sarah Devore, Weslyn Dean.

Cory Dean, Frances Deason, Kay Debrun, Ashley Deeds, Kendrick Demeter, Jullyia Devasachan, Megan Dinan, Nga Dinh, Vicente Don.

Susannah Donaldson, Laurel Douglas, Kilian Downey, Sean Doyle, David Drake, Antonia Draper, Daria Draszyck, Stacy Duftee, Caylon Dunn, Ngi Duong, Timi Duran.

Steven Erap, Emily Edge, Fred Edington, Lamar Edwards, Seth Elberts, Sarah El-Fouly, Shams El Din El-Fouly, Christopher Ellis, LaDionna Elliston, Nadia Enchasa, Christopher Engstrand, Kayla Epperon, Melanie Espinosa, AUDrey Estell, Josh Evans, Brian Evans, Clara Eversa.

Jeremiah Fichter, Elaine Fields, Pamela Fitz, Dawn Finlay, Tori Finley, Troy Fisbech, Jimmy Fisher, Garrett Fleming.

Ayodeji Folami, Chamos Fontancho, Annalace Franke, William Franks, Amanda Freeman, Katey Fry, Amber Fugazzi.


Brooke Gibson, Lanora Gist, Austin Glover, Latisha Gonzalez, Gabrielle Goodrich, Joshua Gordon, Garrett Green, Casey Green, Kady Groh.

Scott Haden, Sara Hamidi, Terry Hardaday, Sidney Hardy, Bree Harjo, Michelle Harper, Aaron Harper, Jo Harris, James Harris.

Ellia Harry, Sarah Hauser, Amber Hayes, Jenny Head, Amanda Head, Heather Healey, Carl Henerson, Shara Hendriks, Cotty Henny, Raj Herrin.

Nita Herring, Jing Herwig, Alice Hibbard, Sharilyn Higa, Brittainy Higgins, Summer Hildebrand, Derek Hileman, Hailey Hill, Fahad Hirani.

Benny Hlavaty, Patrick Ho, Calvin Hoang, Uyen Hoang, Misty Hollingsworth, Angela Holmes, Brad E Humber.

Velvete Hood, Dillon Hoops, Chelsea Hopkins, William Howe, Cinnamon Howell, Josh Howell, Cyblee Hsu, Samanatha Huereca.

Joshua Hughes, Chad Hughes, Richadn Pulitizer, Jessica Hutchinson, Savannah Hatton.

Jesse Igo, Timothy Jackson, Shawnda Jameson, Cristine Jelosek, Woochan Jeon.

Katherine Jimenez, Eilisee Jonang Dapeu, Natalie Johnson, Mary Johnson, Tannen Jones.


Andrea Kern, Lana Ketcher, Shehak Khadka, Joseph Kidwell, Anthony Kile, James King, Nicholas Kipigetich, Mariquee Kizer, Howell, Mingpan, Rhonda Knight.

Carrie Knightly, Daniel Kowher, Sheila Koob, Zachary Koppari, Kristin Krueger, Michael Kruta, Gloria Krysel, Yunwei Kuo, Shelly Kutte, Deborah Kwei.

Christopher LaPonsie, Sean Lafleur, Anh Lam, Ashley Langdale, Terence Lange, Barbara Lansche, Christopher Lansdale.

Jason Lauderdale, Heather Laughlin, William Layden, Jennifer Le, Hoang Le, Hyunseung Lee, Sa Ra Lee, Michelle Lee, Sue Lee, Leah Lefebvre, Cynthia Leonard, Sue Lewis, Shawn Lewis, Travis Lindsay.

Amanda Lindsay, Mickey Livingstone, Kristina Logan, Sara Long, Alina Lorant, Kari Lord.

Petra Lorenz, Lee Loswyner, Chris Love, Jacob Lovelace, Christopher Lovett, David Low, Chaz Lowell, Barbara Lowery, Brooke Lucas, Duuy Ly.


Daniel Martin, Joshua Martin, Juana Martin, Brian Matheson, Jacob Maxwell, Roy McCall, Shanion McCann, Crystal McCracken, Tonya McCracken.


Edward McMichael, Michael Mccmillan, Kenneth Meador, Jeniene Means, Denise Medina.

Miguel Mejia, Jeremy Mellegaard, Judith Merzay, Merlall Merrell.


Amanda Moore, Shanna Morley, Rachel Morrison, Alexandria Mount, Margaret Mueller-Reid, Daniel Murphy, Peter Mwango, Sally Myers.

roxanna Namjou-Khalessi, christopher Nance, Andrew Nance, Jerson Nauber, James Neeley, Tulendo Nekhaga, Milad Nematzadeh.


Thai Nguyen, Vivian Nguyen, Nhu Nguyen, Dat Trang, Nguyen, Liem Nguyen, Cuc Nguyen, Tyler Nikelt, Ateh Nkgoea, Jason Nokoce, Margaret Noble, christopher Nolte.

Joseph O'Brien, Olushina Ogunyudinde, Temitope Olanwun, Ryland Oliver, Robin Olson, Andre Omena, Casey, Oreai, Martin Orozo, Shari Ostroff, Jonathan Owens, Clifford Owens.

Johnson Pasinjaryeatba, Celina Palma, Andrea Pare, Nijja Pateh, Lisa Parish, Samantha Parker, Hannah Pastor, Ami Patel, Akash Patel, Posia Patel.

Erick Patterson, Ricky Paxton, Kyle Pynsne, Erin Peden, Gina Perry, Taylor Petersen, James Peterson, Andy Pham, Joshua Phil, Steven Phillips.

George Phillips, Allison Phisaw, Deborah Pick, Jessica Pickle, Nick Pinkerton, Benjamin Pittman, Caitlin Polizien, Trever Pool, Lyubov Popovych.

krysta Porter, Taylor Porter, Christine Poteet, Kelli Potts, Tracy Powell, Earl Premont, Kyle Prewitter, Brian Priddle.

lauren Ramos, Amal Radomhage, Rojinah Rangat, Gloria Rennels, Jacob Reynolds, Janet Reznick, Ja'mae Rhodes, Antnone Rhodes.

Megan Richardson, Cynthia Richardson, Trent Richey, Chasen Riefel, Brandee Riggs, Angela Riggs, Megan Riggs, Dwight Riley, Theresa Riley, Kristin Ring.

lacey Ritter, Kody Roach, Justin Rodgers, Mariza Rodriguez, Kirksten Rogers, Trevor Rolland, Robert Romashin, David Rose.

Lauren Rose, Christine Rosebery, Amber Rozelle, Juan Ruiz, Rene Rula, Jennifer Rupe, Jennifer Russell, Tyrell Rutledge.

Adebowale Salako, Mark Sanders, Elizabeth Savage, Steven Scalzo.

Adriane Scherer, Judy Scherer, Liana Schoonover, Lori Schorr, Kristin Schuler.

Jonathan Schumm, Emily Schwind, Jonique Scott, Hannah Sellers, Matthew Sellers, Mark Sengenevratine, Carolen Seraphin.

Candice Shaware, Jay Sheldon, Wesley Shepherd, Michael Shippey, Yasmini Shirali, Michelle Shockley, Heather Short, Steven Silver, Tari Simmons.

Eden Simon, Bryan Sims, Youth Sin, Frederick Smeltzer, Katie Smith.

Melissa Smith, Spencer Smith, Jill Smid, Peng Song, Nicole Sorick, Matthew Spack.

Adam Stafford, Lori Steen, John Stephens, Daniel Stephenson, Jason Stewart, Bradley Stewart, Joyce Steichler, Debra Stockman.

Virginia Strinski, Michael Strauss, Barry Timberlake, Amity Tivis.

Vu Tran, Thao Tran, Mai Tran, Thuy Tran, Ngon Tran, Hung Trang, Edward Travis, Linda Treadway, Stephen Tremaine, Stuart Trigueros, Bridget Troxel, Franklin Truong, Jessica Turner, Matthew Turner, James Tyler, Olivia Tyson.

Christina Padhiyada, Rosa Valdiviez, Danielle Van Dusen, Carolyn Vanaken, Todd Vanbeeb, Amy Varghese.

Danny Varghese, Trevor Varner, Jimmy Varughese, John Vincent, Grant Vinsen, Sjoerd Visser, Larry Vo, Ha Vu.


Dustin White, Danell Whitmore, Emily Whittington, Jesse Wilhelm, Jennifer Wiltham, Edward Wilkinson, Chelsea Williams, Guy Williams.

Paige Williams, Katie Williams, Trent Williams, Nicholas Wilson, Derek Winchester, Michael Winn, Abigail Wiseman.

Christina Wodarski, Robin Womack, Preston Wood, Stephanie Woodard, Darcie Woodson, Margaret Wooten, Dallas Wynne.

Margaret Wooten, Dallas Wynne, nie Woodard, Darcie Woodson, Wilf Wilkinson, Chelsea Williams, Guy Williams.

Paige Williams, Katie Williams, Trent Williams, Nicholas Wilson, Derek Winchester, Michael Winn, Abigail Wiseman.

Christina Wodarski, Robin Womack, Preston Wood, Stephanie Woodard, Darcie Woodson, Margaret Wooten, Dallas Wynne.

Li Yang, Inci Yangel, Julie Young, Roxanne Zardo, Jacob Zaworski, Jacob Zenkesi.

It is great to see so many students excelling academically. I commend all of our 4.0 students. —Paul Sechrest

OCCC PRESIDENT
UPCOMING INTRAMURAL EVENTS

- Jan. 26: 5-on-5 Men’s Basketball team meeting at noon in the OCCC gym located in the Wellness Center in the Main Building. The season starts Jan. 30. Games will be played at Oklahoma City University if six teams sign up by Thursday, Jan. 27. Otherwise the games will be held here at the OCCC gym. Sign up online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

- March 2: CoRec Badminton team meeting at noon in the OCCC Gym located in the Wellness Center of the Main Building. The season starts March 25. Games will be from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Fridays. Sign up online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

- March 23: CoRec Softball team meeting at noon in the OCCC Gym located in the Wellness Center of the Main Building. The season starts April 9 and all games will be held at Oklahoma City University. Sign up online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

- Feb. 1: Circuit Training Level 1 for men and women. Classes meet Feb 1 through 24 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Register online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

- March 1: Circuit Training Level 2 for men and women. Classes meet March 1 through 13 and March 21 through 31 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Register online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

- April 5: Circuit Training Level 3 for men and women. Classes meet April 5 through 28 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Register online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

Have sports news? E-mail Jacob Chambers sportswriter@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7676.

Intramural sports gets new website

JACOB CHAMBERS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

An exciting new chapter for Intramural Sports is about to come of age at OCCC.

“We are going to introduce a new intramural registration site, which is more of a membership management site,” said Eric Watson, recreation and fitness specialist.

The new website is called Imleagues and is everything wrapped up in one. It has game schedules and team information — basically all the descriptions and announcements involved with intramural sports, Watson said.

He said he believes the site will make intramural sports more efficient.

Students can now register for Intramural sports online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration.

After registering, students will be able to create a player card, and list personal attributes, such as stats, awards, photos, and whether they are right- or left-handed, Watson said.

He said the player card will act as a homepage with information about participants, and act like a Facebook page with the feature to invite other players to be able to access your page or join your team.

Students can join as a free agent, create a team, or join an already existing team, Watson said. Teams can also see free agents and pick them up.

Watson said there is a minimum and maximum number of players on a team, in order for a team to be created.

Teams are graded on sportsmanship, Watson said. In order to qualify for the playoffs, all teams must have good sportsmanship grades, or they will not be able to compete.

Watson said he wants all who participate to understand these activities are free. He said he wants to create a good atmosphere for everyone.

With Imleagues, a team’s sportsmanship grade is immediately posted and updated if necessary, he said.

In the past, Watson said, he would have to keep tabs on countless amounts of paperwork, and anytime schedules would need to be adjusted, he would have to print off copies and repost them all over campus in order to keep the public informed.

Now, participants will be immediately notified of any changes or updates, Watson said.

“We are heading in the direction of going green here at the college. Now we can exclude all the paper-related materials we would do with schedules, team schedules, brackets, and all the other headaches.

“Many of the major universities around the nation are changing over to intramural leagues, and it is completely free because the people behind it are sponsored by Gatorade and ESPN,” Watson said.

Intramural sports gets new website

Keeping watch

Film and Video Production major Anne Skidmore keeps watch atop the lifeguard stand beside the college swimming pool. Skidmore has been an Aquatic Center lifeguard for three years. The center is open to the public from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.
Woman connected with bookstore theft arrested

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College security officers recently arrested a woman they had been seeking in connection with three thefts on campus.

Sherry Logan, 22, was arrested Jan. 19 in connection with two separate book bag thefts, and one theft from the OCCC student bookstore.

Logan was seen entering the student store at 12:35 p.m. by Security Officer Brandon Wheeler, who recognized her as matching the description of the suspect. Security verified from cameras that Logan was the suspect and additional officers were dispatched to assist Wheeler, according to a report.

The report shows Logan was arrested and taken to the Safety and Security office, and Oklahoma City Police were contacted.

In the office, Logan identified herself but said she didn’t know why she had been arrested. Logan was informed there was video of her stealing four books and a student’s purse from the bookstore on Jan. 18, and a backpack from outside the store on Dec. 21, 2010.

At first she said she didn’t know anything about it, according to Wheeler’s report, “but later started crying and … making numerous statements of admission to the thefts.”

Both the backpack from the December incident and the purse from the theft last week were recovered from Logan’s vehicle.

Oklahoma City police officers arrested Logan for concealing stolen property.

Records show Logan has never been enrolled at OCCC.

In an unrelated incident, a student reported the loss of her mobile phone.

At 6:39 p.m. on Jan. 18, Stephanie Loftis, 27, reported her phone missing to the dispatcher at the Safety and Security office. Loftis returned later and filed a possible stolen property report.

Loftis’ service provider, Sprint, was able to track the phone to an off-campus location, and Oklahoma City Police were notified.

An officer came to the campus and took a report.

Surveillance camera footage was checked, but nothing relating to the possible theft was observed.

Budget: President Sechrist says ‘time will tell’ on budget cut measures

Continued from page 1

due to the reduction, OCCC increased tuition by 5 percent.

“The cost of attending OCCC is shifting more to students and less from the state,” Sechrist said.

With news of budget reductions comes concern as to what that means for OCCC employees.

Sechrist said 70 percent of OCCC’s budget goes to pay salaries.

“‘To have an impact on the budget, we have to look at how we can contain those costs,’” he said. “‘(One would be) by not increasing the amount we pay people.’

This is the second year in a row OCCC employees have gone without a pay raise and Sechrist said he doesn’t foresee raises next year.

Sechrist said only an increase in money from the state or a dramatic increase in tuition would make pay raises available, which is unlikely.

“The record would reflect every single year we had an increase in state funding, that money went to employees,” he said. “The only years we haven’t was when state funding is reduced.”

Sechrist said he’s proud OCCC has been able to “keep every person employed, replace every person who retired, not reduce salaries, not require furloughs, not reduce one benefit, or health care or retirement plan” in America’s worst economic time since the Great Depression.

“I’m proud of what we’ve been able to do in a very difficult situation,” he said.

Sechrist remains optimistic as OCCC attempts to navigate through a difficult period.

“We have tried to prepare the best we can [for] the next two years without very severe or draconian methods to students,” he said.

“Did we know this was coming? Yes. Did we try to prepare? Yes. Did we do enough? Time will tell.”

Enrollment: Numbers on the rise

Continued from page 1

While OCCC officials aren’t overly concerned with the decline in new student numbers, they are pleased with the increase in growth of returning students.

Returning students went up 2,757 students or 3 percent.

Harvey said the numbers mean more students are succeeding in their educational goals on campus.

“We’ve said repeatedly over the last few years, we define success not only by the number of people who come to OCCC, but by the number of students who succeed,” Harvey said.

Managing enrollment growth in a time of reduced state funding is challenging, Sechrist said.

However, he said he believes in the impact education can have upon student lives.

“I know the benefits of education and I am pleased more people are seeking to continue their education at OCCC,” Sechrist said.

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For more on how you can help, www.earth911.com

Does your club have an event coming up? If so, call Holly Walker at 405-682-1611, ext. 7675, or e-mail communitywriter@occc.edu.
All OCCC students planning to graduate in May are encouraged to turn in applications by Feb. 4, said Barbara Gowdy, Graduation Services director.

While this is not an official deadline, she said, the sooner applications are received, the more time students will have to make sure there are no mistakes and to ensure their names will be included in the commencement program.

“Do accept applications until the end of the semester but we encourage people to apply by the deadlines ...” —Barbara Gowdy

Graduation Services Director

As an added measure, Gowdy said, students should run a degree check online to make sure they have taken all the classes needed.

Gowdy said once everything is in order, a student will be ready to participate in commencement on Friday, May 13, at the Cox Convention Center.

For more information on records and graduation or to find the online graduation application, visit www.occc.edu/Records/index.html.

GOT NEWS?
If you have community news, contact Holly Davis Walker at communitywriter@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7675.

If you have community news, contact Holly Davis Walker at communitywriter@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7675.
CLASSIFIEDS

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

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $40. Call: 405-501-8777.

FOR SALE: TI 84 & TI nspire keyboards, operating systems. Used for one semester. Manual, software. $50. Call: 405-682-7804 or e-mail jatkinson@occc.edu.

FOR RENT

ROOMMATE WANTED: Nice room to share close to OCCC, two-bedroom, pets allowed, no smoking or alcohol inside the apartment. $250 per month. Call A.J. at 405-549-3398 or e-mail olalekanjl@yahoo.com.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Nice room to share close to OCCC, two-bedroom apartment, no pets, no smoking or alcohol, $400 per month. Call Jaime at 405-520-1262 or e-mail jaimecom@lycos.com.

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE: No down payment, 3 bed, 1.5 bath, 2 car, CH&A. Move in ready, spotless, close to OU and OCCC, 227 S Bristow, Moore, OK. $87,500. Call: 405-364-8555, 405-820-3630 or e-mail cshutt1@cox.net.

NEED A RIDE: Looking for a ride from Norman to OCCC for Spring 2011. Willing to pay if anybody is interested. Call: Fatoumata at 405-474-1332 or e-mail fatoumatacisse@email.occc.edu.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Nice room to share close to OCCC, two-bedroom apartment, no pets, no smoking or alcohol, $400 per month. Call Jaime at 405-520-1262 or e-mail jaimecom@lycos.com.

SERVICES

FOR SALE: 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $40. Call: 405-501-8777.

FOR SALE: 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $40. Call: 405-501-8777.

FOR SALE: Freshman books for Business & Management major. Used but in good shape and affordable price. Call: Ahmed at 405-996-0609 or e-mail anth19@gmail.com.

FOR SALE: Larousse student dictionary English-French for only $5. Useful for students. Few other books for Business major are also available. Call: Ahmed at 405-996-0609 or e-mail anth19@gmail.com.

TEXTBOOKS

FOR SALE: Gently used power wheelchair in good condition. Works well and has a zero turn radius. Only $500. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7544, or 405-364-6051.

CLASSIFIED ads are free to ALL OCCC students and employees. Call Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, for details.

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Man has stayed fit at OCCC for 29 years

Otto Kling is a familiar face at OCCC.

The 81-year-old has worked out in the Wellness Center for the past 29 years.

Kling said he spends five days each week on campus exercising.

He said he takes aerobics on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with Instructor Lisa Vaughan.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Kling said, he maintains his skeletal muscles — muscles that move and support the skeleton — by doing Body Sculpting with instructor Mark Whitaker.

"I have went through a lot of instructors," Kling said.

His goal is to stay healthy the natural way. That, he said, is what keeps him motivated.

"I don't want to end up in some hospital, so that is why I exercise regularly," Kling said.

Kling said he also makes sure to stay hydrated.

"While working out, I enjoy my own remedy of chlorophyll water. I buy the chlorophyll separately and pour just a little in a bottle of water," Kling said.

In the past, Kling said, he exercised at one of the local parks.

He said when the program there ended, he discovered OCCC's program.

"I've been here ever since," he said.

Kling, who admits to not being involved in many sports growing up, said he only needs to drive three miles from his house to get to the OCCC campus to exercise.

He was born in St. Louis in 1929, and moved to Lawton in 1939.

"It was a small town then," he said. "There was not a whole lot going on.

"I joined the Air Force, working in avionics in 1950, spent one year in the Korean War, and got out of the Air Force in 1954." Kling said he then joined the Air National Guard, and retired from there in 1990, though he continued to work in the aeronautics field until he turned 78.

Kling said he prefers the "good ol' days," instead of present times because he believes Mary people today have attitudes and treat each other poorly.

"When asked how the times have changed over time Kling replied, "oh lord, downhill."

He said the main difference between today and the past is convenience.

Kling said his family didn't have an air conditioner as he was growing up and he could care less about technology.

"What is this iPod, ipee, ipiss thing?" he said.

He said some of the younger people in class have a hard time keeping up with him.

"We had a couple of young gals from the guard or something and they showed up two times and that's all."

Kling has been married to his wife Velma for 52 years and has three children: Kevin, Steven, and Christy. He said he keeps his life simple.

He said he enjoys Lawrence Welk. "It's just good music. "I consider myself a run-of-the-mill kind of guy," Kling said. "I mind my own business and don't get into trouble."