Snowstorm costs college in number of ways

From students missing days to cleanup efforts, OCCC feels bite of Mother Nature

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

Winter snow storms that dumped several feet of snow across Oklahoma City shut down campus for an “unprecedented” number of days this week and last. In addition to closing an hour early Monday, Jan. 31, the main OCCC campus and off-campus buildings like the John Massey Center and Family and Community Education Center were closed for the rest of the week before opening again on Saturday.

And that wasn’t the end of winter’s effects on OCCC. The college shut down early again Feb. 8, all of Feb. 9, and part of Feb. 10 before reopening for evening classes.

That number is unprecedented, said OCCC President Paul Sechrist in an e-mail.

“I would prefer that we could be open, but conditions on campus were too hazardous to open,” Sechrist said. “The decision to close and when to open is decided primarily on one factor — safety.

“Even though our roads, sidewalks, and building entrances (were) free of snow, it (took) additional time before all of the parking lots (were) cleared,” he said.

Sechrist said efforts to clear the campus of snow and ice were put into motion Thursday afternoon. An estimation on the money spent to clear campus of snow and ice was not available at press time.

Costs to clean up after last year’s February snowstorm, which closed campus for three days straight, totaled $20,512.50, said Gary Phillips, Building and Grounds Manager. An estimation on the money spent to clear campus of snow and ice was not available at press time.

Costs to clean up after last year’s February snowstorm, which closed campus for three days straight, totaled $20,512.50, said Gary Phillips, Building and Grounds Manager. An estimation on the money spent to clear campus of snow and ice was not available at press time.

An estimation on the money spent to clear campus of snow and ice was not available at press time.

The decision to remain closed also factored in area road conditions, as well as public school closings.

“I know that it will take some effort and adjustments to make up for these days,” Sechrist said.

“The ideal semester would not include any unexpected closed days. This is not a situation I desire, but one that we must deal with, both as administrators, faculty, staff, and students. I know that faculty either [has been] or will be communicating with their students on any adjustments in the semester.

Students should protest the hike.”

STUDENTS NOT HAPPY WITH NEW PRICES

Vending increases by quarter

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

For many students, vending machines are a college necessity. They provide a quick, easy, and cheap way to grab a snack or drink between classes.

However, some vending machine products have recently seen a 25-cent increase — and students aren’t happy with the change.

“It sounds high to me,” said OCCC student cinnamon Walker. “It’s not always convenient, but I buy my soda at the store and bring it from home. It’s a lot cheaper.”

Bottled PepsiCo products like Pepsi and Mountain Dew, juice and bottled water, could previously be purchased in vending machines across campus for just $1. Now, these products cost $1.25. In addition, single cans of Dr Pepper used to be sold in the vending machines for 75 cents, but now cost $1.

Jeremy Walker, local PepsiCo accounting manager, said the increase is possible due to rising costs while maintaining a steady $1.

“The product cost is simply going up,” he said. “If you go into any convenience store right now, the price for a small bottle of Pepsi is probably $1.59.

“We are able to maintain rising costs while still giving students a discount.

“Absurd” is how student Ethan Burchett sees the increase.

“They would have made more money if they
OPINION

EDITORIAL | Second Amendment not threatened if bill is defeated

SB 858 a bad idea all around

Oklahoma Senate Bill 858 is a bill intended to allow citizens to conceal weapons on college campuses.

Although advocates say the bill will allow concealed carry on college campuses but not inside classrooms, SB 858 raises more questions than it answers.

A study compiled by John Wood of Rose State College found in the U.S., from May 2007 to the present, concealed permit holders in the U.S. have killed at least 282 individuals, nine of which were law officers.

The study found that weapon-trained officers hit their targets less than 20 percent of the time.

What is the possibility of this happening on OCCC’s campus in the case of another event like the February 2010 shooting incident on campus or the campus classroom attack last September which allegedly occurred after a student felt he was being constantly teased?

What if a student or professor felt the need to fire in self-defense or anger? What if one of these lone-wolf Jared Loughnower types felt the need to take out their frustrations on a classroom, professor or employees with a firearm?

What if an officer from Safety and Security fired when arriving on the scene at a student with a firearm?

Another point to consider is member of the U.S. military officers are not allowed to bring firearms into their own homes while living in base quarters. Military has to check and submit all weapons into a cabinet for keeping. Members of the military must check all their weapons into a cabinet for safekeeping.

If this practice is good enough for our own military, why shouldn't it be for colleges? Are we going to put a gun cabinet on each floor of every department with security to staff it? The cost of additional security in the time of a budget shortfall due to lack of state appropriations is simply impractical.

Do not mistake this editorial as a rant against the Second Amendment.

There will always be weapons in American society, for better or for worse. There will always be a Second Amendment in the United States so long as there are lobbyists who are there to protect it.

However, we live in a society where citizens have other means to protect themselves such as pepper spray and martial arts self-defense classes.

What does this bill say about the safety and security of modern society where one feels they must resort to conceal a firearm on their hip reminiscent of the days of the 1800s in the Wild Wild West. What does it say about where we are as a society where one feels the need to carry a firearm to feel safe on college campuses?

—JOEY STIPEK
Editor

YOUR VOICE | Watch your mouths, people

Even decent language is a learned art at college

To the Editor:

I knew that coming to a community college would be an eye opening experience, but I am sometimes overwhelmed by the amount of cursing done by young people in and out of class.

I am not a prude, and it’s not like I have never heard these words before, I just didn’t expect to hear them so loud and so often. I am sure I am not the only person offended by the use of filthy language in my presence.

The other day I was sitting at the coffee shop trying to study when a group of students at the next table were talking about their weekend exploits. I lost count after 17 uses of the f-bomb. Come on people. It’s a word that doesn’t have to be used to describe everything from your car to the weather conditions.

This is a learning environment. One of the important things we have to learn is how to function in the world after graduation. Not many businesses welcome filthy language in the workplace.

It is not cool. It is not attractive and, in most cases, it is inappropriate. Think about your future. This is our time to begin planning for our lives, jobs, families and vocations. It is our chance to clean up our acts and grow up.

We need to use this time wisely and leave our bad habits, and bad words, behind.

—NAME WITHHELD
By Request

The PIONEER welcomes letters. Send to editor@occc.edu
Gamers face prehistoric peril

"Dino Strike" is an arcade-style shooter which pits you against a volcanic island where dinosaurs thrive. In this game there are unfriendly dinosaurs, including raptors and one very angry T-Rex.

Everything is out to eat you, so gamers need to watch their ammo and keep a sharp eye out for anything cold-blooded.

The game play is all right as far as a rail shooter goes. Sometimes you don’t get enough time to collect all of the power-ups you would like, but that is more reliant on the skill of the player.

This game is one to four players, but the most fun comes from playing with one or two people, as you and your friend can dual-wield Wiimotes, using different weapons in each hand. Both hands have separate ammo pools, which makes for a very interesting experience for a first-person shooter game.

Unfortunately, the time it takes to beat the game is very short, being that there are only five or six stages, but the game gets much more challenging toward the end.

The controls are superb, requiring only that you change weapons, reload, and shoot. Unfortunately, it gets a bit confusing when you are using a Wiimote in each hand.

The graphics are very detailed. I was very impressed with how nice the dinosaurs trying to eat my face looked. "Dino Strike" is rated T for animated violence. At $19.99, "Dino Strike" might be worth your money if you like the genre, however, I suggest renting it.

The experience is short, but the game is pretty good.

Rating: C

— Robert Bolton
Staff Writer

Shyamalan delights in devilish film

Writer M. Night Shyamalan is known for his dark, horrific twisting tales. "Devil," released on DVD Dec. 21, is yet another movie sure to fit in with his already growing list of accomplishments.

Shyamalan, creator of movies like "The Sixth Sense" (1999), "The Village" (2004), and "The Last Airbender" (2010), continues his evil ways in "Devil," part one of "The Night Chronicles," a series of movies based on Shyamalan’s many stories.

On a rainy night in Philadelphia, a recovering alcoholic who is struggling with his faith, Detective Bowden (Chris Messina) is investigating a suicide jumper when five strangers become trapped in an elevator 20 some-odd floors above the lobby of the building.

Passengers in the elevator include an old lady (Jenny O’Hara), a security guard (Bokeem Woodbine), a creepy mattress salesman (Geoffrey Arend), an ex-marine mechanic (Logan Marshall-Green), and a ruthless gold-digger (Bojana Novakovic.)

All five are almost instantly turned against each other. Every time the lights go out, the passengers are exposed to yet another deadly moment, as each begins to suspect the other as a murderer leaving the viewer questioning who will die next.

With direction from John Erick Dowdle who directed "Quarantine," the premise that the Devil sometimes walks among men is well kept, never allowing the viewer to know the whole truth as Bowden races to save any passengers he can.

After recent teen box office flog "The Last Airbender," it is a relief to see Shyamalan return to his true ability of conveying terror and confusion to the masses.

Dowdle does a great job packing the 60-minute scenario into an 80-minute fast-paced film portraying both the righteous and the wicked in a race against time, leaving the characters and the viewer to question if there really is a higher power.

Despite bad reviews from various critics, B-list actors and an overall lack of interest from consumers, "Devil" is well worth the rental fee. "Devil" is rated PG-13 for violence and disturbing images, thematic material and some language including sexual references.

Rating: B

— Shawn Stawicki
Lab Assistant

Q: Can I get a partial refund if I paid for a month of yoga and one of the classes was canceled due to the snow storm?

A: Fitness classes can be prorated for the next month.

— Eric Watson
Sports and Recreation Specialist

Q: Why don’t we get half of our money back when we sell our books back to the bookstore?

A: The books in our bookstore are different by their price, condition and quality. All the science books have additional access codes, which last only a year, and when you sell your book back to us, we are giving you money which only includes for your book. Access code always costs and we always add it to the book price. We determine the amount of the refund by the books condition.

— Brenda Reinke
OCCC Bookstore Director

Q: What is the variety of fitness classes offered?

A: A variety of fitness classes are offered such as dance, swimming, cardio, yoga, etc. Students can find a complete list of classes offered on the recreational fitness site and a book is also available.

— Jennifer Kellbach
Recreation and Fitness Secretary

Q: What kind of services does the library offer to students?

A: The library provides services such as article databases, a collection of e-books, tutorial videos, research help pages which help create ideas for writing a paper, and ask a librarian which assists students with research and helping find what they need. A link to all resources can be found on the library tab on the school’s main page.

— Amanda Lemon
Reference Librarian
MUSIC REVIEWS | Decade-old album already considered a classic

**Album still rocks after a decade**

Only certain albums can stand the test of time, and although Incubus’ “Morning View” was released a decade ago, it is a record that will always be fresh no matter the date.

Following the success of their previous album, entitled “Make Yourself,” Incubus dropped their fourth studio release in October 2001. This album also marked the end of former bassist Alex Katunich’s tenure with the band, which turned out to be quite the swan song.

Top to bottom, “Morning View” is a true work of art, with each and every song worthy of an article all to themselves.

While the album features popular Incubus hits such as “Wish You Were Here,” “Nice to Know You,” “Warning,” and “Are You In?,” the unheralded songs are what makes this album one to remember.

“Just a Phase” is perhaps one of the most unique pieces on the entire album. With a smooth crescendo into a teased buildup that ends powerfully, the song structure is one to admire, epitomizing the feel of the entire album.

Along with excellent pacing and flow, there is never a boring moment throughout the album, as no two tracks sound alike on “Morning View.”

The album’s lone true love song, “Echo,” is simply beautiful. One would be hard pressed to find a more graceful-sounding tune from any type of album, band, or genre of music.

From “Blood on the Ground,” an intense expression of the power of restraint, to “11am,” a melancholy retrospection of regret and indecision, a common theme throughout the album is the band’s ability to showcase their diversity both lyrically and musically. All in all, over the course of 13 masterfully-created pieces, the voice of frontman Brandon Boyd resonates over the skillful and unforgettable music provided by drummer Jose Pasillas, guitarist Mike Einziger, and DJ Kilmore.

Incubus would go on to release two other highly successful albums in recent years. However, “Morning View,” which is considered a classic among Incubus faithful, is arguably the band’s magnum opus to date.

**Rating:** A+

—Morgan Beard

**Staff Writer**

BOOK REVIEW | Dying professor leaves behind words on life

‘The Last Lecture’ teaches about living

“We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand.”

That’s what Randy Pausch teaches us in his non-fiction book “The Last Lecture.”

Pausch, a computer science professor at Carnegie Mellon University, was given the opportunity to speak to his students in a series called “The Last Lecture.”

Randy had learned just months before that he was dying from pancreatic cancer.

As people watched Randy give his last speech, they did not see a dying man but rather a man who knew how to live life.

His whole presentation focused on really achieving your childhood dreams, enabling the dreams of others, and how to make the most of what you have.

It also was about overcoming the challenges life throws at you and remembering that “the brick walls are there to show how badly you want something.”

Pausch’s stories will force you to examine your own life and think about what is truly important because “time is all you have and one day you may find you have less of it than you think.”

Now a best seller, “The Last Lecture” has been an influence and encouragement to adults and children everywhere.

Pausch may no longer be alive, but his words will remain forever.

This tear-jerking book is sure to touch your heart and is definitely worth the read.

Randy Pausch wrote a book about living while dying. If that’s not inspiration, I don’t know what it is.

**Rating:** A+

—Erin Peden

**Staff Writer**

TOP 20 MOVIES

weekend of Feb. 4 through 6

1. The Roommate
2. Sanctum
3. No Strings Attached
4. The King’s Speech
5. The Green Hornet
6. The Rite
7. The Mechanic
8. True Grit
9. Black Swan
10. The Dilemma
11. The Fighter
12. Yogi Bear
13. Tangled
14. TRON: Legacy
15. 127 Hours
16. Little Fockers
17. Blue Valentine
18. From Prada to Nada
19. Breathe
20. Country Strong

TOP 20 CDs

week of Feb. 12

1. Mission Bell
2. Kiss Each Other Clean
3. Pink Friday
4. 2011 Grammy Nominees
5. Doo-Wops & Hooligans
6. Sigh No More
7. Speak Now
8. Los Vaqueros: El Regreso
9. Kidz Bop 19
10. The King is Dead
11. Greatest Hits... So Far!!!
12. My Kinda Party
13. Loud
14. Teenage Dream
15. Low Country Blues
16. Recovery
17. Need You Now
18. Love Letter
19. My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fa...
20. Brothers
BIODEGRADABLE CONTAINERS WOULD COST MORE

Food packaging would offer greener choice

YVONNE ALEX
News Writing Student

The Leadership Council student leaders have decided to be proactive in a society that’s becoming increasingly conscious of carbon footprints.

TLC’s first meeting of this semester addressed an environmental issue: Should OCCC make the transition to biodegradable products are possibly more affordable?

A resolution on the issue was scheduled to be presented for discussion at the Feb. 10 meeting. The group would then bring the resolution to a vote on Feb. 24.

TLC is comprised of one student representative from each campus club and at-large members chosen through application. Guests Corrine Aguilar, Carson’s Catering manager, and Chris Snow, Facilities Management assistant director, brought cost samples of environmentally-friendly paper products that could be used to replace Styrofoam containers now in use.

They also brought charts to illustrate the difference in cost. They also brought charts to illustrate the difference in cost. Aguilar said she doesn’t foresee that cost improving any time soon.

“Green products probably won’t go down,” she said. “It’s actually going up.”

Snow said balancing the cost against the benefit is difficult.

“Bottom line: there would be an increased cost of 10 percent across the board for all food items that require a to go container. Prepackaged items such as chips and soft drinks would not be affected.”

Aguilar said they would consider that option but found it wouldn’t work because it wouldn’t add enough revenue.

“Most students could absorb the extra expense,” she said. “The cafeteria is still within budget. We’re here to make that decision for the students.”

“I don’t think many students would notice, honestly. I’m not going to remember what prices were before.”

Jorge Krzyzaniak with the Advocates of Peace club, concurred.

“It is the responsible thing to do,” he said. “We need to change the culture now. Eventually the prices will go down.”

Kenneth Meador, from the College Democrats, asked why the cafeteriadisposes of a lot of waste, Aguilar said. “Cur- rently we are replacing trash bags at a rate of 20 over per hour,” she said.

In the biodegradable containers would be taken to the same landfill as the Styrofoam, so the change would not address the amount of trash being thrown away.

The difference, Gill said, is that Styrofoam lasts 500 years in a landfill, while green containers degrade in seven months.

“We’re here to make that decision now. Even- tually the prices will go down.”

For more information or to express your views on this issue, contact the TLC Executive Board at occc.campusgroups.com/tlc.

Definitions of biodegradable on the Web:

• Capable of being decomposed by e.g. bacteria; “a biodegradable detergent”
  wordnetweb.princeton.edu/perl/webwn

• Biodegradation is the chemical breakdown of materials by a physiological environment. The term is often used in relation to ecology, waste management and environmental remediation (bioremediation). Organic material can be degraded aerobically with oxygen, or anaerobically, without oxygen. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodegradable

• Biodegradability: The capacity of a material to decompose over time as a result of biological activity, especially to be broken down by microorganisms. en.wiktionary.org/wiki/biodegradability

• Organic matter that can be broken down by bacteria to more stable forms which will not create a nuisance or give off foul odors. www.alken-murray.com/glossary

• After disposal, can decompose into substances that can safely be reabsorbed into the soil. Some manufacturers use the term more loosely (and less meaningfully). Biodiversity. www.sustainablefurnishings.org/glossary

• Material that, if left to itself will be decomposed by natural processes. www.carbondescent.org.uk/glossary.php

• A substance or material that can be chemically degraded and typically absorbed via natural body processes. www.gmdagency.org

• Capable of decomposing naturally within a relatively short period of time. www.ahla.com/green.aspx

—it’s the responsible thing to do.
We need to change the culture now.”
—Jorge Krzyzaniak
Advocates of Peace Club

“Go out and see what your friends have to say about it.”
MOCKINGBIRD IN THE MIDDLE OF NEW ALBUM ‘SIRENS’ SONG

OCCC employees make music together

KERAYA HASSAN
Staff Writer
onlinewriter@occc.edu

Two OCCC employees are in the middle of producing their second album, “Sirens’ Song.”

Mockingbird, a local rising band, is comprised of Communications Lab Assistant Brandon Isaak (songwriter, vocals and guitar), Financial Aid employee Anthony Edwards (drums), Brian Gabbert (lead guitarist and back up vocals) and Kendra Boeckman (bass).

Isaak said he has always been interested in music.

“I’ve been writing songs for 10 years,” Isaak said. “I got really serious in 2007 (when) both grandparents died within a month of each other.

“I was sad but it really inspired me to live life more and pursue my dreams.”

The groups’ album “Garage Apartment” was recorded in six months, Isaak said.

When the band expanded to include more members, the name Mockingbird was chosen.

“Everyone is native to Oklahoma,” Isaak said.

“We’re all originally from different cities in the state but we all are living in OKC.”

Isaak said Mockingbird comfortably fits into the indie rock genre.

“Sometimes our songs sound kind of folk or sometimes straight up rock,” he said. “I think it’s one of the things that’s great about our music — it’s highly dynamic.”

Isaak said his influences are Jeff Buckley, Nirvana and Elliot Smith.

Mockingbird also incorporates synthesizers and a mini keyboard to add to the variety of sound, he said.

Isaak said he could envision expanding the band even more to include more instruments.

“I have a friend who plays the mandolin. We will probably try to have her add stuff in and we add some piano every now and then.”

Isaak said he and lead guitarist Gabbert make their own guitars.

“Brian has a Telecaster, and I have a Fender and a Jagmaster,” he said.

“We take the skeleton, gut out the electronics and replace them with high-quality gear bought from e-Bay and we wire it ourselves.

“You can get crazy tones and a wider range of sound,” Isaak said.

Mockingbird will be playing with The Nghiems at The Deli, 309 White Street, on Campus Corner in Norman Wednesday, Feb. 23.


Sechrist to teach fall President’s Leadership class

MISTY COWLEY
News Writing Student

College President Paul Sechrist will teach a leadership class on campus beginning fall 2011.

Called the President’s Leadership Class, the new two-credit-hour course will be offered from 3 to 4:45 p.m. on Tuesdays as an elective.

Students must apply for one of the 24 openings and will receive scholarships to attend if they are chosen, Sechrist told members of the Faculty Association on Jan. 25.

The class is designed to keep academically-strong students engaged at OCCC right through the completion of a degree, Sechrist said.

In this class students will gain leadership experience, be exposed to positive and successful role models, and enhance their writing and speaking skills.

“The broader your experiences, the better your leadership potential,” Sechrist said.

He will be the in-class instructor.

“I am very excited about teaching,” he said.

Sechrist said he will use a variety of sources and tools for his lectures, including his own life experiences.

After the semester is over, students in the President’s Leadership Class will be asked to serve as ambassadors for the college at various events the following semester, he said.

“For example, the students may be asked to volunteer for Opening Day activities and serve as tour guides to new students to help them find their classrooms and answer questions about going to OCCC,” Sechrist said.

“Students may also be asked to serve as greeters for events on campus hosted by the president, such as ground breaking ceremonies and alumni banquets.”

Each student who is selected and enrolls in the class will be provided with a scholarship to cover 12 hours of tuition and fees for the fall semester, he said.

“I recognize that many students who would be excellent candidates for the class cannot take a full load of classes because they need to work to pay for tuition and fees,” Sechrist said.

“Therefore, as an incentive to take the class and go to OCCC full-time for at least this semester, this generous scholarship will be awarded.”

Sechrist said he is excited about this project.

“This gives me the opportunity to teach a class, be directly involved with students at the core of our mission — teaching and learning — and expose students to campus, civic and business leaders.”

If a student is interested in enrolling in the class, there are a few participation requirements that must be met prior to be admitted. Students must:

• fill out an application which can be obtained from the office of the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services located in the Main Building on first floor, south of the Welcome Desk.

• complete 12 college credit hours at OCCC at 1000 level or higher with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 prior to fall semester 2011.

• complete ENGL 1113, English Composition I (or equivalent), and Math 0403, College Prep Math IV (or equivalent) prior to fall semester 2011.

• be enrolled full time during the fall 2011 semester.

Completed applications and all required attachments, including a recommendation from a faculty or staff member, must be turned in by 5 p.m. Friday, March 11, to the Office of the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services.

For more information about the leadership class, students should contact Student Relations Director Erin Logan at 405-682-7821 or elogan@occc.edu.
Valentine Day gift ideas for $20 or less

- A pretty and warm scarf to keep her neck cozy when apart. www.oldnavy.com. $10.
- Mr. Bar-B-Q 7-Piece Stainless Steel BBQ Tool Set for the man who likes to grill outdoors. www.walmart.com. $18.
- Homemade coupon book filled with redeemable coupons for massages, get-out-of-chores, etc. Cost of supplies.
- A photo collage of some of your favorite moments. Cost of supplies.
- Candle-lit indoors picnic followed by a movie. Cost of food and movie rental.
- A carefully-thought-out mix CD. Cost of music downloads and blank CD.

Pioneer staff shares romantic favorites

Joey Stipek
Editor
Song: “Sexual Healing” by Hot Chip
Movie: “Pirate Radio”

Jeremy Cloud
Senior Writer
Song: “Mama I’m Coming Home” by Ozzy Osbourne
Movie: “P.S. I Love You”

Morgan Beard
Staff Writer
Song: “I’m in the Mood For Love” by Kenny G
Movie: “You’ve Got Mail”

Yasmin Shirali
Photographer
Song: “Falling Slowly” by The Swell Season
Movie: “Amélie”

Azizakhon Mansuri
Graphic Designer
Song: “Sheikh El Shabab” by Nancy Ajram
Movie: “Vivah”

Bonnie Campo
Podcaster
Song: “Fistful of Love” by Antony and the Johnsons
Movie: “The Apartment”

Holly Walker
Community Writer
Song: “Elephant Love Medley” by Moulin Rouge
Movie: “Hitch”

Cynthia Praefke
Ad Manager
Song: “Hello My Friend, Hello” by Neil Diamond
Movie: “Somewhere In Time”

Jacob Chambers
Sports Writer
Song: “I’m Still In Love With You” by Al Green
Movie: “When In Rome”

Ronna Austin
Lab Director
Song: “I Met Your Mercy” by Remy Shand
Movie: “Rock Star”

Rachel Morrison
Photographer
Song: “Every Breath You Take” by The Police
Movie: “Pretty Women”

Shawn Stawicki
Lab Assistant
Song: “Time After Time” by Cindy Lauper
Movie: “Brigadoon”

Robert Bolton
Video Blogger
Song: “More Than A Feeling” by Boston
Movie: “Princess Bride”

Caleb Barrette
Videographer
Movie: “Postcards from Italy” by Beirut
Movie: “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind”

Erin Peden
Staff Writer
Song: “Happy Together” by The Turtles
Movie: “While You Were Sleeping”

Christy Johnson
Staff Writer
Song: “I Will Always Love You” by Troop
Movie: “Love and Basketball”

Valentine Day Specials

Valentine Day Dinner at the Skirvin
Park Avenue Grill, the restaurant inside the downtown Skirvin Hotel will celebrate Valentine Day with a special dinner available Feb. 12 through 14 as well as a Sunday brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cost of Brunch: $29.95 adults and $15.95 children 12 and under. This includes champagne and breakfast favorites.

Cost of Dinner: $45 per person which includes a four-course dinner menu features entree choices Braised Venison Tenderloin or Pan Seared John Dory. The dessert is a special creation from Chef Andrew Black.

Contact: For reservations, call 405-272-3040.

Romantic River Cruises
The Oklahoma River Cruises are offering a Valentine Day special 90-minute romantic cruise from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Valentine Day.

Cost: $35 per person for live music, hors d’oeuvres, beverages and a limited cash bar with Champagne.

Contact: Call 405-702-7755 for reservations.

Museum Dinner and Dance
The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum holds a Valentine’s Dinner and Dance from 6 to 10 p.m. on Feb. 12. Held in the Sam Noble Special Events Center, the meal is presented by Dining on Persimmon Hill, and there is dancing with DJ Ronnie Kaye.

Cost: $39.95 per person which includes salad; choice of entree such as Beef Wellington, Tender Marinate Roast Beef and Roasted Chicken Breast with Cherries; sides such as Fresh Steamed Green Beans or Roasted Vegetables; a dessert and a beverage of iced tea and coffee.

Contact: Reservations are required. Call 405-478-2250, ext. 281.

The Prohibition Room
Located on NW 23rd, The Prohibition Room will be having a Valentine Day Dinner special. It’s a four-course meal for two that features an entree choice of Orange & Fennel Marinated Duck, Sautéed Swordfish, Braised Lamb Shank or Bone in Ribeye. There will be live music as well.

Cost: $48 each includes entree with Amuse Bouche, Savory Parsnip Bisque, Field Greens w/ cranberries & goat cheese mixed with vinaigrette and Cheese Cake w/ Chocolate Strawberry & Amarula Sauce.

Contact: Call 405-601-0363 for reservations.
Serve it up

Pre-pharmacy major Amir Mouri serves a volleyball in the Wellness Center gym before going to class.

The gym is open to OCCC students with a valid ID 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and is closed on Sundays.

For more information on all of the services offered, visit www.occc.edu/rcs.

AQUATIC CENTER | MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE TO HOLD SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS AT OCCC

Public invited to swim conference

JACOB CHAMBERS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC will host the Mountain West Conference swimming Championships Feb. 23 through Feb. 27 in the OCCC Aquatic Center.

James Hensley, Aquatic Specialist, said OCCC has hosted the Mountain West Conference since 2000.

Hensley said Mountain West Conference officials chose OCCC to host the event because it is a neutral site and is centrally located.

“We were also previously the host for the WAC Conference Championships prior to the conference splitting up,” he said.

Also, he said, the depth of the OCCC pool, the size and shape of the gutters, and the size of the swimming lanes, make the pool a “fast” pool for competitions, Hensley said.

Both men and women will compete. The meet will start off with a men’s one-meter springboard preliminary round at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23. The Conference Championship starts off with men’s one-meter springboard at 10 a.m. on Feb 23, Wednesday morning, and the day finishes with women’s three-meter springboard.

The meet will finish with a trophy presentation for coaches of the year, men’s and women’s divers of the year, and men’s and women’s Team championship trophies, said Hensley.

Hensley said the Mountain West Conference will show highlights on their website at www.themwc.com/, and the conference television station The Mountain.

He said the event is open to the public. Adult admission is $35 for the entire meet, $6 for the preliminary rounds, and $8 for the finals, Hensley said.

Children and students are $15 for the entire meet, $4 for preliminary rounds, and $5 for the finals. Program packages start at $20 and $3 for the preliminary and final rounds, Hensley said.

Jennifer Kellbach, Recreation and Fitness Secretary, said they need volunteers to sign up for timing some events.

For more information, visit the Mountain West Swimming and Diving page at www.themwc.com/sports/c-swim/mwc-c-swim-body.
Snow: College used many mediums to communicate

Continued from page 1

... since my class is tightly scheduled and my students must be on campus to use the video equipment and lab, much of my plan to make up for lost time requires that they calendar to fulfill the objectives of the course.”

Professor Rick Allen Lippert, who teaches Video Production, said faculty and students must work together to make up for lost days.

Lippert’s students have missed two Wednesday classes because of the weather.

“… since my class is tightly scheduled and my students must be on campus to use the video equipment and lab, much of my plan to make up for lost time requires that they...

Continued from page 1

had made the intelligent investment of installing debit and credit card readers, instead of making the money-grubbing decision to hike prices by 25 cents,” Burchett said. "Students should protest the hike."

Recently, OCCC added two vending machines with credit and debit card reading capabilities.

The first is located on the first floor of the Main Building, in the bricked area across from the Welcome Desk.

A similar machine has been placed on the second floor of the Main Building across from the elevators.

However, the addition of these new machines was not related to the price hike.

Vending: New prices not well received

Continued from page 1

capabilities.

two vending machines with credit card readers, instead of making the intelligent investment of installing debit and credit card readers, instead of making the money-grubbing decision to hike prices by 25 cents,” Burchett said. "Students should protest the hike."

Recently, OCCC added two vending machines with credit and debit card reading capabilities.

The first is located on the first floor of the Main Building, in the bricked area across from the Welcome Desk.

A similar machine has been placed on the second floor of the Main Building across from the elevators.

However, the addition of these new machines was not related to the price hike.

Continued from page 1

had made the intelligent investment of installing debit and credit card readers, instead of making the money-grubbing decision to hike prices by 25 cents,” Burchett said. "Students should protest the hike."

Recently, OCCC added two vending machines with credit and debit card reading capabilities.

The first is located on the first floor of the Main Building, in the bricked area across from the Welcome Desk.

A similar machine has been placed on the second floor of the Main Building across from the elevators.

However, the addition of these new machines was not related to the price hike.

It’s a connected world. Do your share.

For Earth Share, write Earth Share, 3400 International Drive, NW, Suite 2K (AU4), Washington, DC 20008.
The Oklahoma Blood Institute will be on campus from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 16, and Thursday, Feb. 17, in the College Union. Leslie Gamble, Oklahoma Blood Institute Community Relations director, said donations are desperately needed at this time.

"The storm we had last week has caused us to issue a blood emergency," Gamble said.

She said the snowstorm in early February caused many blood drives to be canceled and kept donors away from donation centers. Jill Lindblad, Service Learning and Student Life Programs coordinator, said while it's not necessary to schedule an appointment to donate at the upcoming drive, donors are able to sign up for specific times to suit their own schedules.

She said the goal for the February blood drive is at least 80 donors between the two days. Students, staff and faculty are all encouraged to participate.

Gamble said the entire donation process usually takes about an hour from start to finish. This includes paperwork, screening and the donation. "Typically, the time the needle is in your arm is about 20 minutes or less," Gamble said.

She said donors' bodies replace the single pint that is taken in roughly 24 hours and can donate every 56 days. "We want people to have eaten well before they donate," Gamble said.

Light snacks provided at the blood drive. Participants are also rewarded for their time and donation. "This winter, we have fleece gloves that go with the weather," Gamble said.

To schedule an appointment in advance, stop by the Student Life office in the Main Building.

More information about the Oklahoma Blood Institute and other opportunities to donate can be found online at www.obi.org.
FOR SALE: 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $40. Call: 405-501-8777.

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.

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: Wooden highchair. Good condition. $10. OCCC ext 7674 or 405-501-8777.

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.

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: Fatumata at 405-474-1332 or e-mail fatumatacissie@email.occc.edu.

TUTORING OFFERED: Are you struggling in Chemistry or Math? Take a tutoring class with Nguyen. Call: Nguyen at 918-850-5625 or e-mail nguyen.h.truong@email.occc.edu.

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

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.

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.

FOR SALE: Wooden highchair. Good condition. $10. OCCC ext 7674 or 405-501-8777.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Wooden highchair. Good condition. $10. OCCC ext 7674 or 405-501-8777.

MISCELLANEOUS

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.

Follow us online at www.occc.edu/pioneer

CLASSIFIED ads are free to ALL OCCC students and employees. Call Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, for details.
Early childhood expert to lead workshop Feb. 15

KERAYA HASSAN
Staff Writer
pioneerwriter@occc.edu

OCCC Child Development Center will be offering a free workshop, open to all members of the community, said Lee Ann Townsend, Child Development Center Lab Supervisor.

Townsend said the workshop will explore the differences in Early Care and Public Schools and ways to make the transition between schools successful for children.

Joetta Gatlif, OCCC adjunct professor and Mustang schools pre-K teacher, will speak at the workshop, Townsend said.

She said Gatlif also is a National Board Certified Teacher and a Child Development, and Early Childhood Trainer and Consultant.

“Gatliff will address tips and ideas to make the transition an easier one for families, as well as, any questions that parents have about this very important transition in their child’s life,” she said.

Townsend said parents should bring their concerns and a note pad to collect great ideas.

“A lot of useful knowledge will be presented,” she said.

“There are things that work in making it a smooth and stress free transition.”

Past workshops have proven to benefit the community, she said.

“We have such positive feedback from our families in the past.”

This event will be held at 7 p.m. Tue, Feb. 15 in Room 17 of the OCCC FACE building, located at 6500 S. Land Ave. in south Oklahoma City.

Sponsors of the event say they expect 20 to 50 people in the audience this year.

“We hope that the audience will take away ideas to use with their child,” Townsend said.

“We also hope that they will take away important knowledge about contacting their schools early in order to find out enrollment date and details they need to be aware of.”

For more information, e-mail ltownsend@occc.edu.

Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?

enter our fourth annual
BUCK THE NORM
video scholarship contest
at Buck the norm .com

Tell us about it:
“The 10 Dollar Day”

Hey big spender, does a $10 day sound like a pain? Would you be broke after that first latte? Maybe you’re already thrifty and that $10 sounds like a luxury. Either way, let’s see how you get by with ten bucks on an average day. Take the ‘10 Dollar Day’ challenge in a 60 second or under video for your chance to win. The first 50 entrants will receive $10.

grand prize: $2,000 scholarship and a MacBook!

Visit BucktheNorm.com for complete contest rules. Deadline to enter is March 16! Financial empowerment for all

Powered by Tinker Federal Credit Union

Federally insured by NCUA