Summer, fall enrollment March 28
Returning students can enroll this month while new students can enroll April 4

CHRISTY JOHNSON
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

It's that time of year again — when students will flock to OCCC to enroll for school. Barbara Gowdy, Graduation Services Director, said in an e-mail, open enrollment for returning students begins on March 28 while new students may enroll beginning April 4.

Several offices can help a student with the enrollment process, Gowdy said. The Recruitment and Admissions office is the first stop a student needs to make in the process, she said.

"When the student is admitted, the Office of Recruitment and Admissions provides valuable information," Gowdy said.

The next step is Academic Advising. "Academic Advising is an excellent source for information for students with regards to prerequisites, testing, classes needed for individual degrees, etc," she said.

She said all students need to meet with an advisor. "The student's faculty [adviser] is another excellent resource," Gowdy said.

"Student will also find assistance and information about enrolling in the office of Records and Graduation services."

All of these offices are located on the first floor of the Main Building.

Those needing to file for financial assistance will want to note the deadlines for that as well. Gowdy said students applying for summer should fill out the 2010/2011 FASFA and those applying for Fall should fill out the 2011/2012 FASFA. All should apply now for both semesters, she said.

See ENROLL page 9

Nursing graduates score high

JILL SODOWSKY
News Writing Student

Almost 93 percent of OCCC nursing graduates passed their license exam on the first try last year. This surpassed the national and the state average pass rate for the 2010 National Council Licensure Exam, said Rosemary Klepper, nursing program director for OCCC.

OCCC students exceeded the national average by 5.15 percent and the state average by 5.8 percent.

"The NCLEX-RN is an exam that is required nationwide for nursing students to become registered nurses. This test is the same for all nursing graduates, whether they are from two-year colleges such as OCCC or from four-year programs such as Yale University, Klepper said.

Of the 202 OCCC graduates who took the exam last year, 187 passed the first time, Klepper said. The pass-rate is figured on first-time exam takers, even though most of the remaining students will pass the second time they take the test, she said.

Nursing students at OCCC say they are satisfied with the way they were prepared to take the exam and become certified registered nurses. Dolce Molina, a spring 2010 graduate, said she had professors with high expectations who encouraged students to come in and discuss test questions with them.

"They were always available," she said. "The instructors helped us raise our own standards."

Molina said she believes her professors truly wanted her to understand the information she was learning, rather than simply memorize it.

She said she also appreciated that the teachers would update their own tests to reflect the style of the NCLEX exam, to better prepare the students.

Since graduating from the OCCC nursing program, Molina has taken a position in the Emergency Department of the St. Anthony Hospital.

Tammy Jackson, also a spring 2010 graduate, said she believes the nursing program gave her "a lot of on-the-job training."

"The tests in class were very similar to the ones that were on the NCLEX exam," she said.

See NURSING page 9

Lunchtime tunes

Local singers Shane Henry and Maggie McClure perform songs from their new music CDs in the college Union as part of a nationwide campus tour March 8. Henry's album is entitled "Beauty in the Struggle," while McClure's album is called "Good Morning and Good Night." Both may be found on the singers' websites at www.shanehenry.com and www.maggiemcclure.com.

See MARCH 18, 2011
Facebook has no place in classrooms

Social networking is a common aspect of our academic, personal and professional lives.

Facebook is a very helpful tool for keeping in touch with friends, family, colleagues and more.

Facebook can be a valuable tool for reaching out and meeting new students, as well as for arranging study groups or exchanging information about class assignments.

The Pioneer has a Facebook page, as does OCCC, the Bur- sar’s office, most campus clubs, and other departments.

It can be an excellent tool and is sometimes more up-to-date than the college website.

But does it have a place in the classroom?

Facebook also can be a major distraction during class hours.

The application is easily accessible on cell phones and laptops, courtesy of the wireless network available to students anywhere on campus, not to mention the classroom and lab computers.

Students who spend time on the website during lectures and other class activities are distracting themselves and also are at risk of distracting other students around them.

In turn, these students might rely on fellow classmates far too often for missed information on class assignments and notes from lectures that they should be taking for themselves.

This is not fair to the students who do pay attention.

However, as college students, we are all adults and therefore capable of making our own decisions and facing the consequences for our actions.

If this means we get a bad grade in class because we couldn’t wait an hour to find out what happened to Susie at the bar last night or felt it necessary to broadcast to the world how bored we are right then, that’s our problem.

If this means we fail because the professor specifically and publicly bans the use of Facebook during his or her class, whose fault is that?

I’m an adult, I’m paying for my education and I want to pass.

Your Voice

Student says concealed weapons on college campus necessary

To the Editor:

Most Americans see a cell phone as a life line; we don’t go anywhere without it and some of us feel lost if we don’t have a cell phone within arm’s reach.

Having a concealed firearm on campus is like a phone to some of us.

I don’t go anywhere without at least one gun on my person, sometimes even two, depending on what side of town I am going to and what time of day it is.

I don’t go out looking for trouble and the majority of conceal carry holders don’t go out and play police officer.

If an incident were to happen on campus, there are too many students and school officials who are scared that police officers won’t be able to distinguish who is “friend” and who is “foe.”

If the lockdown system works like it should, then the “friends” should not be running around the campus trying to find the “shooter.”

That’s the job of the armed security guards the college pays good money for and who are in appropriate uniform.

Students with their conceal carry firearm should be locked in a classroom like the rest of the students on campus.

The only difference now is that, if a shooter did get to a classroom on campus, any student that has a conceal carry firearm in the classroom could at least fend off the shooter until help arrived.

Would that student start shooting at the suspect? No, because in a lockdown situation you are supposed to remain quiet so that no one knows that you are there.

The active shooter will just move on. Crisis diverted.

In this situation people are correct; it will be hard for law enforcement to tell who is “friend” or who is “foe.”

I would rather have local law enforcement subdue both parties, put them both in handcuffs, and take control of the situation.

The law enforcement officers will then have a chance to work out the details and release the students who were defending themselves.

I would rather have our local law enforcement officers work for their pay and have to do some detective work than to have a fellow student be killed because some deranged student is mad he got a B when he thought he deserved an A.

—Daniel Cox

Student
Biology course changes made

To the Editor:
The Biology Department would like to inform you of some changes for Fall 2011. See the course descriptions below for details.

BIO 1114, General Biology:
There is no reason to have a cafeteria to serve food if it’s not open to students to provide fresh hot food near the closing time.

BIO 1124, General Biology (majors):
- This course is geared towards students pursuing careers in the health professions and biological sciences.
- BIO 1124 will be required for Biology, Pre-Baccalaureate Nursing, and Pre-Baccalaureate Allied Health majors.
- The College says it is the place to go to eat or take the time to go off campus in between class and don’t have time to eat.
- The College says it costs too much to have Carson’s stay open any longer than they do every day, but if Carson’s would run like any other business and look at their labor cost, they wouldn’t have so many employees standing around not doing anything.
- Less labor will let Carson’s stay open longer to serve the evening students.

BIO 2215 General Zoology and BIO 2203 Cell Biology:
- Students who took BIO 1114 prior to Fall 2011 may use BIO 1114 as a pre-requisite requirement in place of BIO 1124.

BIO 2203 Cell Biology and BIO 2214 General Botany:
- Students who took BIO 1114 prior to Fall 2011 may use BIO 1114 as a pre-requisite requirement in place of BIO 1124.

BIO 2224 Invertebrate Zoology:
- BIO 2234 Human Physiology

BIO 2255 Human Anatomy:
- Students who took BIO 1114 prior to Fall 2011 may use BIO 1114 as a pre-requisite requirement in place of BIO 1124.

After Fall 2011, students must take BIO 1124 if they are in the above degree programs.

BIO 1134, General Biology II (majors):
- This course is a continuation of BIO 1124 and is for students interested in pursuing careers in the biological sciences.
- It will be required for biology majors.
- The pre-requisite for this class is BIO 1124 or BIO 1114 — if taken before Fall 2011.
- An OCCC Student

Options available at OCCC

Students! Are you interested in an Information Technology/Computer Science career field?
If so, you need to attend one of the upcoming recruitment opportunities.
Learn about their corporate mission; career avenues; job application processes; promotional possibilities and many other details for this field of professional employment.
Are you interested in an internship with Disney? Disney is a Fortune 100 corporation with thousands of employees worldwide.
From noon until 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, in the Oklahoma Room of the Student Union, Disney recruiters will be providing details for application to the Disney College Internship Program.
Students are paid a salary and have the option to also earn college credit while completing the internship in Florida at Disney World or in California at Disney Land.
Put this event on your calendar … “OCCC Career Day with Disney!”
Every wondered about the vast array of college educational options through U.S. Military service?
Please attend the “OCCC Military Career Day” from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, in the Greater Dining Area of the College Union.
All military branches will be represented.
For additional information about these upcoming career and employment events visit the OCCC Student Employment & Career Services Office in the Main Building Room 1G7 or phone 405-682-7519.

—George Risinger
OCCC Biology Professor

Writer questions food service hours

To the Editor:
What is the point to have a food service open on campus until 6 p.m. when you can’t order fresh hot food near the closing time.
You go to any fast food restaurant one minute from closings and they will fix whatever you order.
The students and faculty of OCCC that work evenings already have to get to the food service before 6 p.m. to eat or take the time to go off campus in between classes or during a break to get something to eat.
A person can only eat Taco Bell so many times before it becomes nasty to eat.
If Carson’s won’t serve fresh hot food until the moment they close, then there is no reason to be open all. Carson’s needs to be more customer friendly and less worried about the profits they hide from OCCC.

Carson’s seems to be catering everyone else whenever they want, but won’t bend over backwards for the people on campus who come straight from work to class and don’t have time to eat.
The College says it costs too much to have Carson’s stay open any longer than they do every day, but if Carson’s make the evening students feel the same as the day students.
Students at night feel like the College doesn’t care enough about the students to provide fresh hot food for evening students.
There is no reason to have a cafeteria to serve food if it’s not open to the College as a whole, no matter what time they attend class or work.

—Jeff Porter
OCCC Student

aro

Comments? Opinions?
Let us know!
e-mail Joey Stipek at editor@occc.edu, call
405-682-1611, ext. 7675
or drop by 1F2 AH
Let your voice be heard!
Campus no place for John Wayne mentality

To the Editor:

I saw a truck covered with right-wing stickers.

Next to the NRA sticker was one proclaiming, "GOD BLESS JOHN WAYNE!"

Although the sticker didn't elaborate, I suspect someone loves the Duke for "wading on in" with guns blazing, rescuing the innocent and dispatching the guilty.

Unfortunately, the gun play in films bears little relation to reality.

The armed citizen is, and always has been, more likely to shoot himself or a passerby than to prevent crime.

Yet, certain Oklahoma state legislators persist in pushing bills that would allow civilians to carry firearms on college campuses.

Presumably, campus shootings would be less likely if people on campuses had more guns.

This is absurd.

As someone who has faced a pistol, I can tell you that (1) a crazy man is rarely deterred by the possibility that you might have a gun and (2) by the time the crazy man shows his gun, it's too late to draw yours.

Here's a thought: why don't legislators encourage citizens to carry firearms into government buildings?

The truth is that campus gun bills represent nothing more than political pandering to right-wing constituents and gun lobbyists.

Safety is not a consideration and if one of the bills should pass, your safety on campus will be compromised.

Discourage this John Wayne nonsense by writing or calling your state legislators.

Tell them you don't want guns on campus. Don't forget to mention that you vote.  

—John Ehrhardt  
OCCC History Professor

Writer says proposed bill legislates 'incompetence'

To the Editor:

State Sen. Breechen wrote a defense of his SB 554 (the "teaching evolution controversy" bill) in which he defended the bill as constitutional.

Let us, for the moment, stipulate that the intent of the bill really is to give a voice to those criticisms of evolution that are both under-represented and scientific.

As an example, he offers "the fossil record lacking phylum-level transitional forms". This is an old creationist argument that has been refuted for years.

It is false.

It has been shown to be false to those making the argument, but they ignore the evidence and keep making the claim anyway. There are, in fact, many "transitional" fossils representing the early splits of modern phyla, as even a cursory internet search or a quick read of a biological history text would reveal.

Really, what bothers me most about Sen. Breechen's approach is that this is really a bill designed to legislate incompetence.

A biology instructor would be negligent in the extreme to simply bring up the question without answering it with known science.

In this example, the most interesting aspect is that during this Cambrian "explosion" the evolution of hard marine shells began, which greatly increased the chance that an individual organism would be fossilized in the first place.

So we would actually "expect" the fossil record to be rather poor for their common ancestors, though many examples have, in fact, been found.

To use this as a tool of innuendo to imply there's something wrong with the entire framework of evolution is to simply encourage ignorance.

One might not find that public-school biology teachers are well-versed in modern research enough to counter the false assertions of creationists, so it is all the more important that legislators who are themselves not scientists in the field do not fancy themselves to be content and curriculum experts.

—Tad Thurston  
OCCC Physics Professor

Differences should breed discussion, not hatred

To The Editor:

On March 8, the college hosted a lecture on "Communicating with the Opposite Sex."

The promotional posters depicted a heterosexual "couple" and addressed improving communications between the two individuals.

Someone apparently took exception to this depiction.

That opposition could have led to a healthy discussion about how we define relationships and why only heterosexual communications were being addressed.

Instead, someone chose to vandalize one of the posters in order to point out that there are many ways to define a "couple" and to suggest that he/she expected more from a college. Perhaps the perpetrator should also expect more from himself/herself.

People are complex, multi-dimensional beings. We are also somewhat egocentric in that we assume and expect everyone else is like us.

We often quickly slide down the ladder of reason and begin employing stereotypes in order to classify ourselves as a part of the correct in-group and others as a part of the flawed out-group.

We try to force people into neatly labeled boxes and put them on a shelf, but those labels typically say more about us than about the group whom we have labeled.

As I said, we're much too complex to be shoved into a tiny box. However, relying on stereotypes is faster and easier than taking the time to learn about someone.

Taking the low road is certainly easier and safer than taking a more mature approach to issues of diversity and acceptance, but that road never leads us out of the abyss.

—Mary Turner  
Learning Support Specialist/GSA Sponsor

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

‘Mercy’ works too hard, fails to satisfy

“Darkest Mercy” is the fifth and final book of the faery series written by Melissa Marr. It brings to a conclusion all the plots Marr wove throughout her books of faery intrigue.

Marr’s writing is eloquent and detailed. She offers many different viewpoints throughout the book to allow readers to experience all the action from all sides.

The characters are well developed, especially if the audience has read the previous books of the series.

If anything, there are too many characters for the brief series to do most of them justice. Readers are left yearning for more details of the history brought up between some of the characters.

Marr spends too much time during the first part of the book fixing her characters’ relationships. It gives the book a slow start, particularly when compared to the earlier, better books.

The action, when she gets to it, is well written. There’s just not enough of it.

Aislinn, the main character throughout most of the series and a major player in this book, has been forced to make some tough decisions during her tenure as Summer Queen.

Keenan, the Summer King, is left pining for his true love Donia, the Winter Queen, throughout much of the book.

Marr manages to close the book on a “happily ever after” note.

Unfortunately, the ending is not very believable. It seems too easy.

Marr spent too much time earlier in the series vilifying faeries in general, including Aislinn’s disdain toward the species despite her transformation into one.

Darkest Mercy closes all the plots left open, answers all questions. For someone who has followed the series, it’s worth reading.

For newcomers, it’s not worth the trip to the library unless they really like faery tales.

Rating: C

—HOLLY DAVIS WALKER
Staff Writer

‘Beastly’ tale becomes on-screen beauty

Take a fairy tale, place it in the modern world, add a touch of Gothic glamour, and the result is “Beastly,” the newest re-imagining of the classic tale “Beauty and the Beast.”

Released March 4, the movie is a sweeping critique of the modern view of beauty and popularity, wrapped in the trappings of fantasy and romance.

Kyle (Alex Pettyfer) is a popular, handsome young man who believes looks and looks alone are the most important quality to possess.

This point of view brings him into conflict with Kendra (Mary-Kate Olsen), a Goth student rumored to be a witch.

Claiming he wants to make it up to her, he invites her to a reception at the club.

At the reception, he meets Lindy (Vanessa Hudgens) a young scholarship student at his school who had declined to run for president of the environmental club after seeing Kyle’s popularity would overshadow her dedication to the post.

When Kendra arrives, Kyle leaves Lindy at the side of the dance floor, then publicly humiliates Kendra.

Kendra curses him, causing him to appear scarred, tattooed, and overall unpleasant. She tells him he has a year to find someone to love him for who he is, not what he looks like, or remain ugly forever.

Nearly four months later, Kyle runs into Lindy, realizes that he has feeling for her, and begins a race against time to get her to return his feelings.

The cast of “Beastly” works seamlessly to bring the script to life, and nowhere in the film is there a bad or weak performance to be found.

The special effects are understated and used only when necessary to the plot, though they do provide some moments of humor.

The pacing and story are stunningly well developed.

If there is any problem with this movie, it’s how closely the script follows the original fairy tale.

At times, the need to follow the original can feel forced, as the writers struggle to make a modern tale using the rationales of a very old one.

Still, “Beastly” is one of the better fairy tale remakes, and definitely worth seeing.

Rating: A-

—JEREMY CLOUD
Senior Writer

‘M.I.A.’ story a nuclear waste of readers’ time

“M.I.A” is the 9th volume of Brian Wood’s DMZ graphic novel series about photojournalist Matty Roth covering the America’s second Civil War being fought in New York City in the near future.

“M.I.A” could be referring to the suspension of belief after Wood had a nuclear explosion go off in Manhattan in Vol. 8. Anytime a nuclear explosion is dealt with in fiction, it causes the reader to ponder if the series has jumped the shark, or in this case, “nuke the fridge.”

The fallout from those events cause Roth to take a good hard look at himself and his involvement since he started covering the DMZ.

Wood’s story for “M.I.A” sort of plods along as it gears toward its climactic conclusion later this year.

Regular readers might wonder if Wood would have been best served exploring the political undercurrent of the DMZ a little more like he had in previous volumes.

Regular series artist Riccardo Burchielli’s art is fantastic and the 50th issue collected in the volume features guest art from creators Jim Lee (Batman, X-Men) and Dave Gibbons (Watchmen), and other frequent collaborators of Brian Wood.

Wood is one of the most talented creators working in comics currently, but one wonders if he didn’t misfire in the latest volume while covering the war in the DMZ.


Rating: C-

—JOEY STIPEK
Editor
Students learn valuable enrollment information

Robert Bolton
Staff Writer
onlinewriter@occc.edu

OCCC Academic Adviser Tennent Emmons showed students how to get enrolled for summer and fall classes during a Brown Bag luncheon March 9.

“This is enrollment 101, and it is to discuss how a person sets about enrolling in the (general) education classes for their beginning courses that they need for their degree,” Emmons said.

Emmons said students need to start scheduling summer and fall classes now. “The summer and fall schedules are not out on hard copy,” he said, “but they are on MineOnline so students can look at them to make up their schedule for this summer and fall schedule.”

Barbara Crowdy, Graduation Services director, said in an e-mail, open enrollment for returning students begins on March 28 while new students can enroll beginning April 4.

OCCC student Jarmila Jayden attended.

“It’s very educational to attend the Brown Bag with ‘Enrollment 101,’ because it gives you an inside view on the best times to enroll, how to go about enrolling, and how to look at the catalogue as to what classes you need to pick.”

For more information, visit MineOnline through www.occc.edu.

Listed are a few of the items waiting to be identified and claimed from Lost and Found in the Safety and Security office. The Pioneer will run a list each week.

- Silver charm received for a birthday. Charm has some engraving.
- 12.1 Mega Pixel Camera. Holiday pictures at many local churches including Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Temple. (January 22, 2011)
- 10 Mega Pixel digital movie camera with case and accessories. (April 2010)
- Large plastic watch with rubber wrist band (February 2011)
- Wireless Mouse (February 2011)
- (2) Computer Mouse cords (2010)

The lost and found closet in the Safety and Security office located just inside Entry 11 on the first floor of the Main Building, holds a number of items waiting to be identified and claimed.

Fitzpatrick said. “It would be wonderful to get these things back to people.”

For more information, come by the Safety and Security Department or call 405-682-1611, ext 7691.

Rachel Morrison/Pioneer

The Brown Bag luncheon teaches ‘Enrollment 101’

ElySabeth Casiano
News Writing Student

That favorite sweater of yours might not be gone after all or maybe that notebook you forgot in the cafeteria isn’t actually stolen.

Before giving up hope of finding missing items, students should check with Lost and Found, said campus Police Chief Jim Fitzpatrick.

Lost and Found is located in the Safety and Security Department located right behind the coffee shop on the first floor of the Main building. Many people are unaware that Lost and Found is located there.

Only four out of the 15 students interviewed were aware that OCCC had a Lost and Found. Two of the four students who did know had actually lost something.

One of those students was Tiffany McDonald, who remembers the circumstances of learning about Lost and Found. She said she had spent her lunch period looking for them, she had gotten her keys. When she returned to the table at a coffee shop tables early in the afternoon in December.

When she got to her car, she realized she had forgotten her keys. When she returned to the table at which she had just been sitting to look for them, she saw her keys were missing.

Coffee shop employees told her to check Lost and Found in the Safety and Security Department located right behind the coffee shop on the first floor of the Main building. Many people are unaware that Lost and Found is located there.

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Internationally-acclaimed trio to perform

TAILORED FOR CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE

LAURA HULS
News Writing Student

Few tickets remain for the performance of Trio Cavatina, a classical music group whose instruments include the violin, cello and piano, said Lemuel Bardeguez, director of Cultural Arts. They will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at the Bruce Owen Theater on campus.

“We have just a handful of tickets, but if students are interested, we’ll make tickets available,” Bardeguez said.

Trio Cavatina consists of three artists: Harami Rhodes, violin; Priscilla Lee, cello; and Ieva Jokubaviciute, piano. They originated in 2005 at the Marlboro Music Festival in Vermont and made their Carnegie Hall debut in 2010.

Trio Cavatina won the Naumburg Chamber Music competition in 2009. Bardeguez said this prestigious competition, held in New York City, recognizes young performers every year and gives awards in both solo and group performances, composer recordings, conducting and commissions.

The group’s Feb. 8 performance was cancelled due to snow storms. That show was sold out, Bardeguez said.

Admission for students is $12.50 and general admission is $24.50. To purchase tickets, please visit occc.edu/CAS/tickets.

For more information, contact the Cultural Arts Program office at 405-682-7576 or e-mail at culturalprograms@occc.edu.

KERAYA HASSAN
Staff Writer
pioneerwriter@occc.edu

One OCCC professor is being honored in recognition of her groundbreaking work in computer gaming and computer animation.

The DaVinci Institute has named Akram Taghavi-Burris, Computer-Aided Technology professor, a 2011 DaVinci Fellow.

A new fellow is named each year, and each fellowship runs for two years.

“I was nominated by the President of Academic Affairs (Dr. Felix Aquino),” Taghavi-Burris said.

“I was very excited and kind of shocked,” she said.

“I’m still like really? I won.”

Taghavi-Burris will graduate from the University of Central Oklahoma with a master’s degree this spring but has been a part of OCCC faculty for 10 years.

“I started working as a lab tutor in 2001, she said. “I became a professor in 2007.”

She teaches video game and multimedia design, along with computer animation.

“I developed the computer animation program,” she said.

“OCCC didn’t offer that before.

“We’ve totally revamped both curriculums.”

Taghavi-Burris said she mixes classic and new elements in the classroom.

“In the animation program we start students with traditional hand-drawn animation and then we move into computer animation,” she said.

She said she also has been able to obtain grants for the department.

“We got a couple of Success grants for actual animator desks and Wacom tablets for the 2D animation,” Taghavi-Burris said.

She said she has high hopes for the future of the Computer-Aided Technology department.

“My plan is to just build on this program.

Overall, I’d like to see it progress to our students producing animations to send off to the festivals and competitions,” Taghavi-Burris said.

For more information on the classes Taghavi-Burris teaches, go online to www.occc.edu and look at the course catalogue or e-mail ataghaviburris@occc.edu.
SPOTLIGHT ON EVENTS:

- **March 7-27:** Lane markers in the OCCC Aquatic Center will be replaced, and the facility will be closed. For more information contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

- **March 21:** Intermediate Guitar lessons on Mondays 7 to 8 p.m. in the OCCC Family and Community Education Center. The six-week course is $40. For more information contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

- **March 23:** Softball CoRec team meeting at noon in the OCCC Gym. Games will be held at the Oklahoma City University starting April 9. Register online at www.imleagues.com/Schools/OCCC/Registration. For more information contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

- **March 26:** World Instructor Training School. Six-week course starting on March 26 and running through May 7 in the OCCC Wellness Center room 002. Course fee $499 and a $79.97 text book fee. For more information contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

- **March 30:** Circuit Training Level 3 meeting at noon in the OCCC Gym. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays starting April 5 through April 28. For more information contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

- **April 7:** American Red Cross Lifeguard Training in the OCCC Aquatic Center room. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

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**OCCC night at the Thunder game**

OCCC night at the Thunder game was a success with the Thunder defeat the Indiana Pacers by 24 points. From left to right, Rocky Lee, Garrett Bennett, and Sean Tolbert, get loud during the second quarter of the March 2 Thunder game. The Thunder rumbled past the Indiana Pacers 113 to 89. OCCC Purchased sections 315 and 316, then sold the tickets to students at half the purchase price.

**OCCC students cheer on Thunder**

JACOB CHAMBERS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Student Life recently made it possible for OCCC students to attend the March 2 Oklahoma City Thunder basketball game for $5.

Several students took advantage of the affordable price and watched the OKC Thunder play against the Indiana Pacers.

Sean Tolbert said he was just walking across campus when he happened to pass a sign that read, “OKC Thunder basketball game tickets for $5.”

He said he couldn’t pass up the offer.

Tolbert, who had never attended a Thunder game, said he figured, what better time than the present?

“You’re missing out if you don’t come,” Tolbert said.

“You should make it a hobby as well as a yearly routine.”

Seth Crowder said he bought three tickets for him and family.

“If OCCC does this again I will definitely come back,” Crowder said. “I love the Thunder.”

Jordan Barltln said she had a blast with her girl friends. They bought tickets for a girl’s night out.

“I think it is absolutely wonderful that OCCC does this for students,” Barltln said.

The Thunder pleased the home town crowd with a romping over the Pacers, winning 113 to 89.

The Thunder are smack dab in the middle of the western conference playoff race.

Since the Thunder arrived in Oklahoma City, Student Life has been doing philanthropic promotions such as this one, Katie Treadwell, Student Life program coordinator said.

The Student Life office is considering having the same opportunity for students during playoff games, if the Thunder can keep on truckin’ through-out the remainder of the season.

For more information about Student Life and their planned activities, visit www.occc.edu/studentlife.

Have sports news? Contact Jacob at sportswriter@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7676.
Trespassing, pornography viewing top crime

JEREMY CLOUD
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Trespassers and a library user viewing pornography were the major problems OCCC Security had to deal with over the last few weeks.

The trespassers, Jesse Hearon, 46, and Jackie Hearon, 47, were seen digging through a dumpster on campus by Officer Austin Plackemeier as he was driving in to work on March 2.

Plackemeier checked with officers on duty, who said they were unaware of the men, then went to confront them as they prepared to leave the campus in a flatbed truck, which was loaded with trash and scrap metal.

Both men stated that they were hunting for scrap metal, and produced state IDs. Plackemeier requested a warrant check on both men from the dispatcher.

Jesse Hearon had an outstanding warrant in Cleveland County for failing to appear in court. Jackie Hearon had a warrant in Oklahoma City for failing to show proof of insurance when pulled over.

Both men were detained and the Oklahoma City Police Department was contacted. While waiting for the police to arrive, Jesse Hearon “stated that he had a syringe and some other drug paraphernalia in a ‘Crown Royal’ bag located in the driver’s side door, and that there might be a pipe somewhere in the truck.”

OCPD Sgt. R. Kirby arrived on the scene, was briefed on the situation and the drug paraphernalia, and took both suspects into custody.

On Feb. 14, Officer William Meyer and Officer Brandon Wheeler responded to a report of an individual viewing pornography in the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library.

Wheeler detained the suspect, aged 17, and determined that he had been viewing pornographic material and contacted the teen’s mother.

The suspect’s mother signed a trespass warning, and escorted the suspect off the campus.

Enroll: Students should enroll early

Continued from page 1

“Both forms are available online.

“If you need further information, please contact that office,” she said.

Gowdy said it pays to enroll early to ensure the classes and times you want are available.

Erin Yeo, political science major, said she plans to enroll as soon as possible for the summer and fall semesters.

“It is beneficial to enroll early because you have a better chance of getting into the classes you want and it increases your chances of getting a good schedule to fit your life,” Yeo said.

Ashley Bernal, art major, enrolled late for the spring and applied late for financial aid.

“I enrolled at the last minute for spring semester, so I am receiving my funds late,” she said. However, she said, she made it work in her favor.

“Some students get their financial aid money earlier in the semester and they are broke by the middle of the term.

“I am kind of lucky to have them come when they are.” For more information on enrollment, visit www.occc.edu or call Recruitment and Admissions at 405-682-7580.

Nursing: OCCC’s pass rate high

Continued from page 1

Jackson believes this is one way the OCCC nursing program helped prepare her for the NCLEX.

Jackson said she did a lot of her own personal studying for the exam, completing more than 5,000 practice questions.

As in years past, the OCCC nursing program has had more students pass the NCLEX-RN exam than any other program in the state.

In 2009 OCCC had 206 students pass the exam, which surpassed even the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center which had only 202 students pass the exam.

Most other nursing schools in Oklahoma had less than half of the number of students attempting the test, ranging from three students at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Woodward, to 129 students at Oklahoma State University in Oklahoma City. These numbers reflect the growing size of OCCC’s already large nursing program, Klepper said.

The OCCC nursing program has grown significantly in the past few years, thanks to the greater demand for nurses, she said.

“We take the need for qualified nurses in our metro area very seriously.”

The program’s size may fool some into thinking it would be easy to get into, but that is certainly not true, Klepper said.

Last year, the traditional program, which has the largest numbers, had a total of 530 qualified applicants, but only 216 were accepted.

Having acceptance into the program that can be so competitive helps ensure students are willing to put in the work to do well when they take the NCLEX exam and then enter the workforce, Klepper said.

Klepper said professors in the nursing program are very satisfied with the standards of acceptance, given that the program produces a high pass rate on the licensure exam.

In addition, she said, employers report being satisfied with graduates from the program.

For more information about OCCC’s nursing program, contact Klepper at rklepper@occc.edu.

OCCC Career Day with DISNEY

Learn how to apply for Disney College Student Internships at Disney World & Disney Land

Tuesday
March 29th
Noon-1:00 PM
Student Union
Oklahoma Room

For More Information Contact:
Student Employment & Career Services
405-682-7519

CORRECTION

In the March 4 story “Students to vote on eco-friendly resolution” the Pioneer incorrectly reported Lawrence Cagle as being with Phi Beta Kappa. That should have read Phi Theta Kappa. We apologize for the mistake.

Do you have news to share? Maybe you know of an OCCC student worthy of a mention. If so, contact Joey at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.
Get ahead of the transfer game

Transfer Days is an early enrollment opportunity for incoming transfer students.”

—Michael Hoggatt
University of Oklahoma
Prospective Student Services Associate Director

That message was echoed by OCCC physical science Professor Gary Houlette.

“There are many scholarships that people just do not apply for.”

Often the people who receive the scholarships are the people who simply fill out the forms, Houlette said.

“If more people would apply, more scholarships would be gained because there would be a need for them.”

Scholarships are accessible to everyone and all it takes is a little bit of research to find them, Hoggatt said.

Representatives from OU Student Life provide campus tours for prospective students and help them meet with an adviser to plan their college education, Hoggatt said.

Aside from tours, OU Student Life is a vital connection between the students and the events happening around campus.

For more information about transferring, scholarships, and OU Student Life contact Hoggatt at mhoggatt@ou.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:** 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $35 Call: 405-501-8777.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**PART TIME CLERICAL WORK:** Insurance office needs bilingual person, fluent in Spanish, to do clerical work. Send resume to: larazains@yahoo.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.

**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

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**GOLF CLUBS FOR SALE:** Complete set of men’s Ram golf clubs with bag. Good condition. $65. Call: 405-470-3446.

**DIVING SUIT FOR SALE:** Red on black, O’Neill brand; wet/dry #291; XXL; height 6’3”; 3mil thick; style 9073. Also have one pair of XXL “Slippery When Wet” ski trunks. Neither used. $600 for both. Contact: masmith405@gmail.com or call 405-532-6991.

**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.
The Gay Straight Alliance hosted a bake sale over several days before spring break. Chris Hanna, GSA member, said the sale was held to raise club funds.

“We’ve deposited $250 so far.

“We’re raising money so we can try to build a float for the gay pride festival in June. It’s after we get out of school but we are trying to represent OCCC,” Hanna said.

“We have one group that is providing the truck and the trailer, and we are going to build the float. That’s the goal, anyway, if we get the money,” he said.

Hanna said he is unsure about how much more money the GSA needs to meet their needs. “We just know that we are going to need quite a bit of seed money. We’re in the process of gathering information for float ideas.”

The GSA also helped support the College Democrats club on their petition for the anti-conceal carry on campus petition.

For more information about the GSA, visit http://occc.campusgroups.com/gsa.

Gay straight club raising funds for gay pride festival