Interlibrary loan available to all OCCC students

Books, magazines and DVDs can be borrowed from any library in the system

ASPEN SHIELD
News Writing Student

What can students do when the college library doesn't have the materials they need to write a research paper or complete a project?

Use the Interlibrary Loan system to get the information from another library that has it, said Reference Librarian Rachel Butler.

Interlibrary Loan is a system where OCCC agrees to loan books, magazine articles, and DVDs to other libraries, and other libraries return the favor, Butler said.

Students and staff are able to use the Interlibrary Loan database for class or personal interest. "We don't care," she said. "We can get all sorts of things for students and staff."

The school processes about 2,000 to 3,000 loans a year. This may seem like a lot, but not when compared to some of the bigger colleges, like the University of Oklahoma, that make about 40,000 loans a year.

"We lend out more than we borrow even though we are a smaller school," Butler said.

Interlibrary Loan is a useful tool for students but many are unaware of this program.

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM DAVE LOPEZ TO SPEAK AT 2011 COMMENCEMENT

Former regent to deliver keynote speech to grads

MORGAN BEARD
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

Oklahoma state Secretary of Commerce and Tourism Dave Lopez will provide words of wisdom for departing OCCC students in his role as keynote speaker for the 2011 commencement. Until just recently, Lopez served as an OCCC regent.

Students will cross the stage May 13 at the Cox Convention Center, located at 1 Myriad Gardens, after hearing Lopez speak.

"It's an honor to be able to share such an important moment with the graduates and their families," Lopez said.

President Paul Sechrist acknowledges what the commencement ceremony will mean to everyone involved.

"The annual commencement ceremony is the single most important celebration of the college," Sechrist said.

Lopez said he doesn't yet know what he'll say to the graduates during his speech.

"I usually wait until the weekend before a speech to get it ready," he said.

However, Lopez said, he does know the students' future is a key point to emphasize in the speech.

"I anticipate the focus will be on the opportunities and obligations ahead for the graduates."

Lopez said Lopez is a perfect choice for
OPINION

EDITORIAL | Presidential hopeful questions the validity of Obama’s birth certificate

Donald Trump barking up wrong tree

Gary Busey isn’t the only one on the television show “Apprentice” who has completely lost his mind. In his continual quest to extend his 15 minutes of fame by a few seconds, Donald Trump — who is pushing for the Republican nomination for president in 2012 — has questioned the authenticity of President Barack Obama’s birth certificate.

This is not the first time a president has had the authenticity of his birth certificate questioned. New York attorney Arthur P. Himan questioned the validity of Republican President Chester A. Arthur’s birthplace in 1880, claiming Arthur was born in Ireland. When the story failed to take root, Himan then tried to claim Arthur was from Canada.

History has a funny way of repeating itself.

New York mogul Trump, buoyed by a quest to cover the White House with cheap gold plating and exposed brick, is leading the unwashed, tin-foil hat-wearing shut-ins of society who believe our current commander-in-chief wasn’t born here.

Then again, it’s easy to convince a group that would trip over itself if it could find a way to nominate the most visible Republican, Austrian-born Arnold Schwarzenegger, aka the Terminator, to the highest office in the land.

There is an old saying that you should not throw stones at glass houses.

Let’s look at the facts.

Trump hasn’t voted in any election since 1989 according to NY1.com, and has a history of failures that can be uncovered in numerous places online.

Media reports show Trump has neglected to meet loan payments, at one point had a $900 million debt, filed for bankruptcy and, in the ‘80s, helped send the United States Football League circling down the drain due to his rampant mismanagement.

I could go on and on. However, there is not enough space in this 12-page newspaper to list or mention all the ways Donald Trump has screwed up in life.

While I applaud President Obama for finally putting to rest all the inane controversy by showing the world his birth certificate, he should not have given in to all the racists, anti-Semites, and hatemongers, and certainly not to a failure like Donald Trump.

—JOEY STIPEK
EDITOR

YOUR VOICE | Reader says money buys life for those with CF

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation needs continued support

To the Editor:

The annual Cystic Fibrosis walk will be held on May 14 at the Harn Homestead at 1721 N Lincoln Blvd in Oklahoma City.

With each passing year, your love and support has humbled me and given me every reason to believe we can fight this disease.

Because you so graciously support my son Ryne each year, I just wanted to remind you of Ryne’s story. Ryne is 15 years old. He juggles his disease, school, and sports with what appears to be extraordinary ease.

Most people, who know Ryne, know that he must take enzymes before meals and snacks. We have all seen him puff on his inhaler at sporting events, but there is a whole other side.

What most people don’t know is that Ryne starts his day at 5:30 a.m. The very first thing he does is around of three breathing treatments, all intended to aid his pulmonary functions. Afterwards he takes his first round of “meds.” Before the sun is up, Ryne has ingested eight different medications.

Then, at night, after his long day is done, he repeats another round of breathing treatments, medications, and wears an airway-clearing devise.

Ryne has to do all of that just to get through a normal day like you and me.

The part we tend to forget is that without the breathing treatments, meds, inhalers, and clearing devices, Ryne would not have a normal days like other kids.

It takes great discipline on his part to stay healthy, but it’s the incredible science that has provided him the tools to do so.

Great people, like you, have afforded that science to kids with Cystic Fibrosis.

Money buys science and science buys life.

Thank you for your support.

Please continue your support the foundation by donating at www.cff.org/great_strides.

—MALISSA BECK
RYNE’S MOTHER AND CFF SUPPORTER
**COMMENTS AND REVIEWS**

**REVIEWS | Mindless Behavior anything but mindless**

**Tweeny band delivers on adult level**

With almost every tween kid wanting to be a superstar, four 13-year-old boys wearing flashy clothes, and dancing and bucking around on stage, hoping to be the next big thing is not an uncommon sight to see these days.

Comprised of four talented little dudes Ray Ray, Prodigy, Princeton, and Roc Royal, Mindless Behavior is bringing back a lost art to the world of music and entertainment.

Mindless Behavior effortlessly blends superb dancing abilities with serious musical talent and are sure to be the next big thing.

With already a large and growing fan base, MB believes in giving more-than-eager fans a hot show.

The video to their now famous hit song “My Girl” is mind blowing and is more than overly hyper kids dancing around, attempting to sing to synthesizers and flashing lights. They even team up with R&B sexy sensation Ciara for the remix to “My Girl.” “Ms. Right” is a beautiful song which can be played in the club or at a major chill session.

With so many of the songs today being put out by people who are only interested in booty calls, it is refreshing to hear about real love — even if it is sung by young pups. The song “Number One Girl” is a club song but lyrically a love ballad and is what young people need to hear.

The group teamed up with famed hip-hop Producer Polow Da Don for their song “I Love You.” Unfortunately, Mindless Behavior’s complete album has not been released yet, but there are a few of the tracks available on iTunes and CD Universe that would be a good investment.

Or, for the cheapskates, just log on to YouTube to get your Mindless Behavior on!

Mindless Behavior has several live performances from different venues posted online and these young tenders actually put on a damn good show.

I’m sure this CD will be a hit.

*Rating: A+*

—Christy Johnson

**REVIEWS | Writer describes food as a ‘cacophony of awesome’**

**International food fair taste bud treat**

I went to the International Food Fair April 28 and the only way I can explain what I encountered was an explosion of exotic food, colors, and music. It was a cacophony of awesome.

The tuna stuffed jalapeños were sweet and delicious, with only a hint of spice. One of the vendors even admitted to crying because one of the dishes reminded them of their mother’s cooking.

The Moroccan couscous was great. The process of making couscous is very group oriented. You cannot eat it alone, according to them. It has to be eaten with friends or family. There’s even a special dish that is used to make it, which is very large.

The Chinese green beans were tender and very good, and I don’t even eat my mother’s green beans without being made to. That says a lot.

There was a Chinese dish called shi zi tou, which was essentially a pork meatball soup with cabbage and a heavy broth that reminded me of ragout, a French-Canadian meatball stew. The meat was tender and juicy, and the vegetables went very nicely with it. They had two containers full of lumpia, which is like a spring roll with more meat in it. The pork was incredible, which is strange, because I don’t like pork. The turkey was great as well.

The Vietnamese spring rolls were a lot like Asian tamales, but a little gummy. Kind of like a meaty gummy bear. It was an interesting experience, but it was really hard to unwrap.

There were several desserts as well. The pastel tres leches, or three milk, cake was moist and sweet, though it soaked my napkin through.

Enough about the food though. It’s making my mouth water, and I’m full.

There were traditional ethnic dances, various people wearing outfits from their native countries, and cheerful music.

The Mexican dances were a whirlwind of black cloth and flying legs. It was beautiful, and I enjoyed it immensely. Overall, I had a lot of fun, ate good food, and got to talk with people about their home countries.

It was a valuable learning experience, and it makes me want to go visit other countries to experience what they grew up with. Especially the food.

*Rating: A+*

—Robert Bolton

**STAFF WRITER**
Consequences of drunk driving last long time

HOLLY DAVIS WALKER
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

Drunk driving awareness month which just wrapped up in April, serves as a reminder that it’s never a good idea to drink and drive.

Those who do could face serious consequences, said Oklahoma City police officer Cody Koelsch.

Being arrested is one of those consequences.

More than 1.4 million arrests were made in 2009 of people driving under the influence of alcohol, according to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention website.

Nearly 11,000 people died in alcohol-related crashes. This accounts for nearly 32 percent of all traffic accidents in 2009, according to the CDC.

According to www.potsdam.edu, a website written by David J. Hanson of State University of New York, drunk driving is dangerous, not only to the drivers themselves, but also to their passengers, pedestrians and drivers of other cars sharing the road.

Hanson said the risk of death for a highly intoxicated driver increases by 385 percent when compared to a driver with zero blood-alcohol content.

In Oklahoma, there were 4,972 alcohol related accidents in 2009, according to Oklahoma Highway Safety Office statistics. Of these, 190 were fatal.

On a first offense, a person’s license is usually suspended for 90 days, dependent on how high the blood alcohol content is, Koelsch said.

If an offender tests above .15, he or she is also required to attend mandated Victim Impact classes, where they speak with victims of drunk driving and their families.

Second and third offenses are considered felonies and can lead to up to 10 years of prison time.

Licenses also are suspended for longer periods, up to three years for a third offense, he said.

Repeat offenders also are required to pay for the installation of an ignition interlock device, Koelsch said. This device tests a driver’s alcohol level before the vehicle will start.

Koelsch said even a trace detection of alcohol will disable the vehicle for six hours. The device costs about $500 to install.

If a driver refuses to take a test to determine blood alcohol level or tests above .08, which is the legal standard at which impairment occurs, the license is automatically revoked and the driver is taken to jail.

A BAC between .05 and .07 is considered driving while impaired (DWI) and carries similar consequences, Koelsch said.

For drivers under 21, anyone with a BAC over .02 is charged with a DUI.

The Oklahoma City Police Department has the Alcohol Safety and Prevention program to help prevent drunk driving, Koelsch said.

"Thursday through Saturday night, off-duty police officers are brought in for aggressive DUI enforcement," he said.

The program is funded by a federal grant and typically runs during the hours of 9 p.m. to 4 a.m.

"On-duty officers call the off-duty officers to complete the arrests. A DUI arrest typically takes about four hours," Koelsch said.

The risk of death for a highly intoxicated driver increases by 385 percent when compared to a driver with zero blood-alcohol content.

—David J. Hanson
New York State University Professor

TIPS FOR DRINKING RESPONSIBLY

Volunteer to be a designated driver.

Remember to always use a safety belt.

Never let friends drive drunk.

Know your limit.

Eat food while drinking.

Beware of unfamiliar drinks. Fruity flavors may mask alcohol in taste.

Be aware of public transportation options.

Ask a bartender if you need help calling a cab.

Drink within walking distance of your final destination for the evening.
Playwright professor takes musical on tour

MARGARITA DAVIS
News Writing Student

Playwright Tyrone Stanley said his musical “Soul on Fire” is based on his encounters with a woman who dealt with the effects of sexual and domestic abuse. He said her struggles touched his heart and led him to keep a journal about it.

That journal turned into a song, which then led to 32 songs that comprise the musical which was performed in Lawton in mid-April.

Stanley teaches English Composition as an adjunct professor at OCCC.

Recently, Stanley learned, “Soul on Fire” has been chosen for production on the main stage at the National Black Theatre Festival in North Carolina that runs Aug. 6 through 11.

Stanley said the most valuable message of his play is: Pain can only be detrimental if you hold it inside.

“You’ve got to break the silence because it’s the only way you can heal,” he said. “You must speak out, forgive and choose love over hate.”

The musical was performed in Oklahoma City before going to Lawton. Stanley said the problem of family violence is universal.

His story is about a woman and her community. He said he didn’t want to write about black people or white people but, rather, a story about people that crosses color lines.

Although African-Americans are playing these roles, Stanley said, he does not want people to associate it as a “black play.”

“That is exactly what it’s not,” Stanley said. “We don’t call ‘Oklahoma’ or ‘Hairspray’ white plays. It’s a musical. It’s not about the color of the skin. The color of the skin does not make the product; the artist makes the product.”

Stanley said he didn’t always want to write — he was performing in musicals and plays in New York before going to graduate school. At some point, he said, he began to feel a lack of reality and passion — he wanted something that would affect the audience.

He wanted them to come into the theater one way and leave differently.

He moved to Oklahoma from New York temporarily to complete his degree in playwriting from the University of Central Oklahoma. He wanted to hone his talent for playwriting as well as learn the correct format.

He said he would eventually like to go back to his passion of acting, hopefully doing his own work.

“In New York,” Stanley said, “there is a melting pot of people who are really colorblind. To go from there to Oklahoma was a bit of a shock.”

Stanley said he loves Oklahoma for its quiet — aside from the tornadoes. He believes that Oklahoma provided him some of the serenity he needed to finish his work.

“Soul on Fire” will be performed again at 7:30 p.m. June 4 at the McMahon Auditorium, 801 NW Ferris Ave in Lawton.

For more information about the musical, go to the website www.soulonfirethemusical.com.

MANY BOOKSTORES PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAM

Students have options for book buy-back

MORGAN BEARD
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

As classes come to a close and students gear up for the summer, the college bookstore is anticipating a crowd of students looking to get rid of their used textbooks.

Beginning May 9 until May 16, students can sell their textbooks for cash at the OCCC bookstore located in the Main Building.

Brenda Reinke, bookstore director, said students can earn up to 50 percent of the OCCC Bookstore shelf price by using the OCCC bookstore — regardless of where the book was purchased.

She also assures students that 100 percent of the revenue is used solely for OCCC.

“The more used books that the campus bookstore has to sell, the more money fellow students can save,” Reinke said.

Some students will choose other options during the book buy-back season.

Across the street from the campus is Textbook Brokers, a secondary option for students looking to make a little cash.

Logan Taylor, assistant for Textbook Brokers, said she wants students to know their store is a legitimate source for book buy-backs.

“Generally you get more money over here,” Taylor said. “Compared to OCCC, we take more books at the same or even better price.”

There has even been a slight competition between the school and Textbook Brokers.

“We know the OCCC bookstore has posted fliers around campus telling students ‘not to buy from strangers,’” Taylor said.

“Students should know that we’re not an illegitimate source for book buy-backs.”

If students aren’t happy with either Textbook Brokers or the OCCC bookstore, other options are available.

Lindi Bihm, advertising major, said she doesn’t go to either store.

Bihm said she has turned to online websites to sell her books to fellow students.

“I always sell on Craigslist,” Bihm said.

“Not only does it benefit me, but other students as well because we both make more money in the end.”
On behalf of our faculty and staff, congratulations to our graduates. We wish you great success in the future.

—Paul Sechrist
OCCC President
Students need to prepare for commencement

JOEY STIPEK
Editor
editor@occc.edu

OCCC’s 2011 commencement ceremony will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 13, in the Cox Convention Center, located near Reno and Robinson in downtown Oklahoma City.

According to a letter sent by the Records and Graduation office, graduates are asked to arrive no later than 6:30 p.m. in the west hallway, Exhibit Room E, of the arena area for the forming of the commencement processional.

Convention Center parking and surrounding area parking is available at a cost of approximately $6 and up.

Caps and gowns are required at commencement and are available in the student bookstore for $30 through 5 p.m. May 13, said Assistant Bookstore Director Kim White.

White said the bookstore also is selling tassels, frames for diplomas, and commemorative key chains.

The letter, sent to all graduates, gives instructions for appropriate dress that suggests men wear dark slacks, a dress shirt and dress shoes while women are asked to wear a dress with dark shoes.

Graduation Services Director Barbara Gowdy said students have up until the day of graduation to apply for graduation but she would prefer they apply sooner.

Name cards will be on tables set up outside the robing room. Name cards are vital as it is the card students will hand to the reader before they walk across the stage to receive their diploma.

Candid Color Photography will be the official photographer for the 2011 Commencement ceremony.

Those wanting to view and order graduation photos can go online to www.okcpartypictures.com.

There is no obligation to purchase a photograph.

Students who have graduation-related questions or who need accommodations due to a disability, including sign language interpretation, can contact Christopher Shelley at 682-1611, ext. 7470, in the Graduation Services office. For more information, contact Gowdy at 405-682-7512, or bgowdy@occc.edu or visit the college’s website at www.occc.edu.
Men’s basketball league competitive

JOSH RAY
News Writing Student

The most serious basketball on campus could be the Thursday night men’s league from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the OCCC gym.

Six teams fight for bragging rights at the end of the season which lasts eight weeks in the spring. The league is open to anyone.

This semester’s league play ends May 12. The tournament ends May 19.

Lauren Kollmorgen, Wellness Center attendant, said the members of the league are fierce competitors when it comes to the game of basketball.

“Anyone is welcome to sign up with a team. Students who play are usually the more competitive serious players.”
—Lauren Kollmorgen
Wellness Center Attendant

Collin Gentry, a student who has been a member of the league for three years, said the OCCC league is a good competitive league.

Gentry said for the past three years, he has worked to make his team better.

“This year we changed up our roster, but we think it’s a good change,” he said. “Any one of us can take over at any time.”

Gentry said he has been impressed throughout the season with how well his team has been able to play as a group.

“We play well together and don’t care who scores as long as we win,” he said. Gentry’s team finished the night with a big victory over their rival.

Jeremy Bonsall, a student who works in the Wellness Center as a referee, said the games can get rough at times.

“It gets really intense toward the end,” Bonsall said.

“Any one of us can take over at any time.”

Gentry’s team finished the night with a big victory over their rival.

Jeremy Bonsall, a student who works in the Wellness Center as a referee, said the games can get rough at times.

“It gets really intense toward the end,” Bonsall said.

Have sports news?
e-mail Jake at
sportswriter@occc.edu
Journalist shares experiences with feature writing class

JOHN ABSTON
News Writing

The work of editing and publishing a feature magazine demands special talents to stay in business, Magazine Feature Writing students learned recently.

Bud Elder, the managing editor of Distinctly Oklahoma, spoke to the class about his involvement in the Oklahoma-based publication.

Elder explained the structure of the magazine. The cover of each issue features an individual in Oklahoma or with Oklahoma ties.

“Did you know the lady who started Victoria’s Secret is from Norman and a University of Oklahoma graduate? She was on our cover.”

Elder outlined the format of the magazine, which includes sections on health, travel and business.

“We also have a law section dealing with legal issues that pertain to the season,” Elder said. “Seriously, is a home owner liable if they open the front door for a trick-or-treater and busts their nose?”

Elder said he couldn’t remember the answer from the October issue, but thought it was a legitimate question.

“We pay our writers $200 to $300 plus their expenses per article,” Elder said.

He wants stories that will entertain his freelance writers to read the magazine.

Elder is a University of Oklahoma graduate from Purcell who offered specific advice to the journalism students.

“Read all the time,” he said. “I read three books a week.”

“And never start a paragraph with ‘the.’”

Furthermore, he said, writers must always write something someone will be interested in.

“Pinpointing and knowing your audience is vital to being successful,” Elder said. “Don’t write about religion or politics, because you might make an advertiser mad.

“Advertising is key,” Elder said. “It’s all about advertising.”

Loan: Students can borrow from other libraries in state, nation

Continued from page 1

Out of 14 students interviewed, only three had heard of Interlibrary Loan.

Of those who had heard of Interlibrary Loan only one had used it.

“It is easy to use, and it saves money and time,” said OCCC student Chhatra Gurung.

Students and staff can ask for something specific and the college will cover the cost of the shipping.

“It is free to everyone as long as they are a student or an employee at OCCC,” Butler said. It takes about a week to receive a book or DVD because they come by the mail.

“I try to ask the schools that send books at a faster rate first and leave the slower-sending schools for a last resort,” Butler said.

“Most articles come faster, in about a day or two, because they are sent electronically,” Butler said. They are sent to the students or staff members by e-mail and come in a PDF file through Interlibrary Loan.

The program has been at the college since the school first opened. All colleges have the lending system. Butler explained.

“Everyone can’t afford to buy everything out there.”

To access Interlibrary Loan, people can go on the Library section of the OCCC home page and click on the library request form and then can click on the Interlibrary Loan link from there.

She mentioned EbscoHost, a mega collection of articles and databases, as a very good way to search for magazine and journal articles. If OCCC doesn’t have the article, Ebsco makes it very easy to ask for it through the Interlibrary Loan system, Butler said.

The books, DVDs or journal articles are sent to the OCCCLibrary where they are processed. Students pick up the items at the circulation desk and return them to the same place.

People can keep newspaper or magazine articles because they are sent by PDF or a Xerox copy, Butler said.

There is a companion service for students that have waited too long to ask for Interlibrary Loan.

Students can get an OK-Share card from the circulation desk, which allows the student to go to other college libraries in Oklahoma and check out books, Butler said.

“There is an agreement that all of the colleges in the state signed several years ago to make this program possible,” Butler said.

For more information, contact Rachel Butler at 405-682-1611, ext. 7643, or rbutler@occc.edu

Lopez: Keynote speaker for OCCC grads

Continued from page 1

the commencement speech.

“Lopez is highly regarded in the state and in the nation as a leader in education ... as a former regent of OCCC, he is also deeply connected to OCCC and our students,” he said.

While students move on to the next chapter, Lopez warns that time definitely flies.

“It seems like just a few years ago I was in the audience (for graduation),” he said.

Lopez said he wants to offer brief and lively remarks to the students at this year’s graduation as he reflected on his own commencement.

“I was among those hoping the speech wouldn’t be too boring or too long,” Lopez said.

Broadcast journalism major Demerey Paulin, a graduate who plans to attend the University of Oklahoma, said he appreciates the opportunities OCCC provided him during his tenure at the college.

“Because of this school, I’m more prepared for the next steps in life.”

For more information about OCCC’s commencement, turn to pages 6 and 7, or go to the Pioneer Online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Follow the Pioneer for instant news and updates!

www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer
www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer

Do you have news to share? If so, contact the editor at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.
Comm lab has student job openings

KERAYA HASSAN
Staff Writer
pioneerwriter@occc.edu

OCCC’s Communications Lab is offering an opportunity for employment. Students can apply as lab tutors to work with students on writing projects. “Tutors will be trained to help students with writing assignments,” said Rachel Olsen, lab supervisor.

“Tutors also assist students with minor computer issues.”

“Tutors are enthusiastic to work with because Comm Lab staff is great and relaxing work environment, and the Comm Lab is a lively place to be employed.”

Communications lab assistant and sociology major Marijah Champ-Adams makes English composition suggestions to pre-engineering major Enroll Shkodrani April 29. Champ-Adams said she enjoys assisting students in her position as lab assistant. Lab Supervisor Rachel Olsen said the lab is currently looking to hire two to three students who can “demonstrate excellence in writing skills and knowledge of grammar, accurate filing skills, positive human relation skills, and excellent written communication skills.”

“Pay ranges between $8 to $8.50 an hour. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7142, or rolsen@occc.edu.

COMMUNITY | Working at OCCC has many advantages

It’s a great opportunity because tutors build academic writing skills and organizational skills, all skills employers like to see on a résumé.”

— RACHEL OLSEN
COMMUNICATIONS LAB SUPERVISOR

English Comp I and II with a B or higher. “Students should be able to demonstrate excellence in writing skills and knowledge of grammar, accurate filing skills, positive human relation skills, and excellent written communication skills,” Olsen said.

“Tutoring in the Comm Lab can help build basic know-how, she said.

“It’s a great opportunity because tutors build academic writing skills, interpersonal communication skills, and organizational skills, all skills that employers like to see on a résumé.”

Olsen said the Comm Lab is a lively place to be employed.

“It offers a fun, friendly and relaxing work environment, and the Comm Lab staff is great to work with because they are enthusiastic and creative.”

To apply for a job in the Comm Lab, visit occcjobs.com, call Olsen at 405-682-1611, ext. 7142 or e-mail her at rolsen@occc.edu.

FINALS BREAKFAST ON MAY 9

Student Life will bring in a catered pancake breakfast with coffee and orange juice from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 9, for students to enjoy at the beginning of finals week.

CHRISTIANS ON CAMPUSS MEETING

Christians on Campus will meet at noon on Monday, May 9, in room 2P7 of the Main Building for a Bible study. Members will discuss 1 Corinthians. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact James at 405-314-7739.

LEARN TIPS ON SUMMER JOBS

Students can receive tips on applying for summer jobs, both on and off campus, during the next workshop at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, in room 1G7 of the Main Building. Contact Student Employment & Career Services for more information at 405-682-7519 or employmentservices@occc.edu.

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Three sessions will be held during May to introduce new students to the OCCC campus. Sessions will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11; 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17; and 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24. All sessions will take place in rooms CU2 and CU3 in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or stop by their office in the Main Building.

GRADUATION CEREMONY 2011

Graduates for the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 semesters will walk the stage at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 13, at the Cox Convention Center.

COLLEGE CLOSED

OCCC will be closed on Monday, May 30, for Memorial Day. For more information on OCCC closings, visit www.occc.edu.

OCCC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

There are two scholarships available for the Fall semester. The Gamel scholarship is for $500 to $1,000, with applications due June 1. The Chesapeake scholarship is for $500/semester, with applications due June 30. Applications are available from the OCCC Foundation office in 1A4 in the Arts & Humanities building. For more information, contact Jennifer Harrison at jharrison@occc.edu or 405-682-7519.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED.

Learn tips on summer jobs. Students can receive tips on applying for summer jobs, both on and off campus, during the next workshop at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, in room 1G7 of the Main Building. Contact Student Employment & Career Services for more information at 405-682-7519 or employmentservices@occc.edu.

All Highlights are due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Highlight forms can be picked up in the Pioneer office, located in 1F2 of the Arts and Humanities building, just inside Entry 2.
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.

FOR SALE: 19” Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. $35 Call: 405-501-8777.

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Duo establishing cred in the production world

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“I can’t wait for you to get famous,” said Dexter Tortoriello of the Chicago-based band Houses. The recipient of such praise is LAMAR+NIK, a duo of directors who are already establishing a respected reputation in the video production business.

LAMAR+NIK, which consists of OCCC students Nik Harper and Lamar High, released a music video for the band’s song “Reds.” In just five days after its release, the video amassed 5,000 views on the media-sharing site Vimeo. Fortunately for Harper and High, the positive fallout does not end there.

The video, which has been featured on numerous blog spotlights, both nationally and internationally, has recently fallen into the hands of record label Mad Decent. The label is owned and operated by Wesley Pentz (better known as Diplo), who has been associated with prominent artists such as Kid Cudi, M.I.A., and Snoop Dogg.

“Long story short, our video was sent over to (Pentz),” High said. “We’re pretty excited about the opportunity. We’ve already started talking to management about the possibility of doing another music video.”

The music video features an intricate ice city that the duo created and filmed themselves over the course of three months, dating back to January when shooting began. The ice city coincides with the meaning of the lyrics throughout the song, High said. From constructing the city out of paper to making molds out of clay in order to visualize the design, the city went through many stages to achieve the final look seen in the video.

Aside from the hard work, contributing to the longevity of the process was the fact that unforeseen obstacles appeared along the way.

“Throughout the course of the video, many problems arose,” Harper said. “We realized the problem with doing ideas like this is that there isn’t a Google search that will solve your questions. It’s not like you can just type ‘how-to ice city’ and get some results.”

As a result, Harper and High took it upon themselves to overcome these complications by using both their ingenuity and the help of fellow student Nicholas Owen.

“We invented tools and equipment on the fly that would help the process go more smoothly,” Harper said.

The group’s resourcefulness came through again by use of household tools such as soldering irons, heat guns, and Christmas lights.

“Everything you see in the video is completely us from start to finish,” High said. “It was all filmed practically, no CGI, in a normal two-car garage for a little over $200.”

Although the “Reds” video was just released, LAMAR+NIK entered their first production, a music video for the band Crocodile, in the Norman Music Festival Video Pro Picks contest, where they won first place on April 30.

High said they’re just trying to get the word out about their work.

Over the past week, OCCC students and Norman residents may have seen the advertisement campaign for their videos. White mystery boxes with various prizes inside were planted around campus and in numerous spots around Norman.

“The purpose for us putting out the boxes was to promote our new video for Houses as well as bump up votes for the Norman Music Festival,” High said.

For more information and to see what the duo of LAMAR+NIK is doing next, visit their website at www.lamarplusnik.com.