

PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

FAST FOOD WANTS PIECE OF THE PIE

Food stamps are used every day. Now fast food is looking to get theirs. Is that a problem? Writer Sarah Hussain thinks so. More inside.

OPINION, p. 2

CAMPUS LIFE

STUDENTS SHOW OFF FASHIONS

The start of the fall semester means fall fashion trends are seen all over campus. Keep reading to learn what's fashionable this year on campus.

NEWS, p. 7

SPORTS

ZUMBA GETS STUDENTS MOVING

Zumba instructor Lisa Dunsmore calls Zumba "a workout in disguise." Continue reading to learn how the musical exercise encourages fitness awareness.

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CAMPUS LIFE

BAPTIST GROUP FEELS SOME FELLOWSHIP

OCCC's Baptist Collegiate Ministry attended a fellowship event recently. Read on to see what they learned.

COMMUNITY, p. 10

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

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COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Sign language



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Chris Robbins (left) and Kris Lowe of R and R General Contracting fill in some holes for new a sign they are installing outside entry SEM3. Robbins said they will install around 20 new signs on campus. The signs will have arrows that guide students and visitors to buildings on campus.

FACULTY, STAFF HAVE WAYS OF CALMING FRUSTRATIONS

Student rudeness examined

SARAH HUSSAIN
Staff Writer
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With 14,000 students enrolled this semester at OCCC, there are nearly 14,000 behaviors and personalities all around campus.

Unfortunately, sometimes students do not think before they speak and can come off as downright rude.

Anything — from problems in the bookstore to problems with financial aid — can easily spark frustration in any individual.

Advertising major Jake Blocker said he has seen some students that fit this description.

Blocker said one year, a student became angry with a lab assistant for something that wasn't the assistant's fault.

“

Everyone snaps here and there. I think people should just set aside all other problems going on in their lives before stepping into the classroom.”

—JAKE BLOCKER
ADVERTISING MAJOR

“Advertising can be challenging with the graphic designing and computer drawing,” he said. “One semester, a student raised her voice at the lab assistant for something not working correctly on her computer.”

Blocker said he understands people get frustrated, but people should also be mindful of others.

“Everyone snaps here and there. I think people should just set aside all other problems going on in their lives before stepping into the classroom,” he said.

Meghan Morgan, Financial Aid assistant director, said the Financial Aid office staff sees students become irate for various reasons — usually because the student doesn't fully understand the financial aid process.

“Normally, if we have a student who is getting agitated, we choose to bring them back to an office and out of the lobby,” Morgan said.

Harold Case, Student Support Services dean, said miscommunication,

See **ATTITUDE** page 9

2 new regents form board

First-ever reception will welcome new members, introduce to students

PRISCILLA COLLEY

Staff Writer
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The college Board of Regents will have its first-ever reception to welcome two new members. The reception will immediately follow the Sept. 19 Board of Regents meeting.

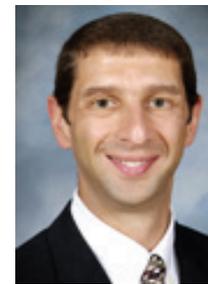
Tony Tyler and Devery Youngblood were appointed by Gov. Mary Fallin and have already assumed their duties as regents. They are replacing Bob Jenkins and Dave Lopez. Jenkins fulfilled his term and Lopez resigned to become Secretary of Commerce under Fallin.

Marion Paden, Student Enrollment and Student Services vice president, said the regents' reception has a purpose that benefits regents and students alike.

“[The board is] starting a new tradition ... for the new board members to be introduced to the students,” Paden said. “We believe the board makes their decisions in the best interest of the students. The Leadership Council represents the students, so we think it's appropriate that we set aside a time where they can actually meet and interact.”

The OCCC Board of Regents meets monthly to make pivotal decisions regarding the college. They're in charge of things like hiring the college president, approving the budget and deciding final designs for facility construction.

“Most decisions fall to [the president], but [the regents] are there to offer guidance and



Tony Tyler



Devery Youngblood

See **REGENTS** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | State governments have final say in allowing food stamps to be used on fast food

Beef with food stamps for drive-thrus

Fast food restaurants have recently expressed their desire to have a part in the federal food stamps program.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) created the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in May 1939 because low-income people needed a way to buy food.



Sarah Hussain

Food stamps are paid for by the federal funds, but states and even local governments have the last say in how they are used.

Until recently, food stamps were used only for groceries at food stores, at gas stations, dollar stores and pharmacies.

Arizona, California, Florida and Michigan have seized state governing options by the reins and are allowing citizens to use food stamps at fast food restaurants such as Taco Bell, Long John Silver's, Pizza Hut and KFC.

According to the USDA website, in the 1970s provisions were made that allowed restaurants to serve the elderly, homeless and disabled with food stamps. That should have been the line the government doesn't cross.

It is understandable the government might not expect those people to go grocery shopping for themselves and cook meals every day.

Whoever decided the citizens of those four aforementioned states that aren't disabled, elderly or homeless couldn't go grocery shopping and instead sit in a

drive-thru lane were out of their minds.

What is the requirement to be disabled, elderly or homeless? Because clearly someone has stretched those guidelines.

When will the government put its foot down against obesity as opposed to allowing more income for their selfish selves? The government pays for food stamps for fast food restaurants then supports doctors who preach about healthy eating and exercising. A little confusing. Maybe they should pick a side.

What else will this terrible new venture affect, and which states are idiotic enough to allow this to occur?

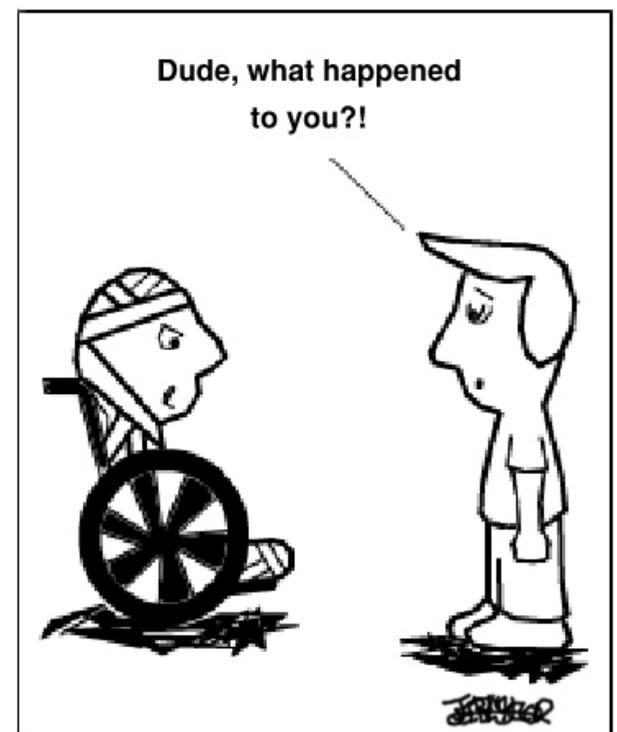
Why are citizens OK with this? It is a proven fact that, as the years go on, children are lacking in parent-child interaction. Take them grocery shopping with you, show them what is healthy, and teach them how to cook. Interaction and a new life lesson, check!

How are people who have no other options than relying on food stamps supposed to stay healthy by eating fast food?

A burger and fries once a week is not going to clog arteries, but if that is what citizens who use food stamps turn to on a daily basis, there are going to be much bigger problems the government is going to have to deal with.

Knowing this provision has spread to four states now, this may very well expand to all 50. Let's remember that individual states have the last say: Do not let this occur in Oklahoma because it's the last thing we need.

—**SARAH HUSSAIN**
STAFF WRITER



**I just remember one sentence:
"Does this dress make me look fat?"**

JEREMY CLOUD/PIONEER

**Have an editorial idea
you want to share with
the Pioneer staff? Send
an email to Editor Jeremy
Cloud at editor@occc.edu.**

YOUR VIEW | OCCC should do more to combat unruly students in class

Student finds lack of instructor respect disturbing

To the editor:

I am a student at OCCC working to obtain an associate degree in nursing. I have had courses at OCCC before, and I favor the one-on-one interaction the instructors have with the student population.

Currently I am taking

four courses, including College Prep Math II with Professor Coffman.

After three class periods, I have yet to be satisfied with the respect the students show to the instructor.

Students talk loudly to one another and are disruptive during class

lecture and computer class.

As this is the second time I have taken this class with the same issues, I don't think this is solely the instructor's fault or responsibility to correct.

I am a student with learning disabilities, and I do not appreciate that

I pay for classes and because the majority are unwilling to learn, I don't get access to the class.

Why should I be punished with having to come to tutoring more often or getting a lower overall grade due to the disruption of unruly classmates?

I don't want to waste my time or money at school nor do I want anyone else to.

Besides, OCCC is doing a major injustice to students by allowing this to continue.

College is an institution of learning intended to produce professional,

productive citizens.

We all know that the real world is not going to allow this kind of activity in the workforce.

—**CHASE KRUGER**
OCCC STUDENT

Editor's note: For the full version of this letter, visit the Pioneer Online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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The **PIONEER** welcomes **letters** to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The **PIONEER** will withhold the author's

name if the request is made in writing.

The **PIONEER** has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be fewer than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the **PIONEER** office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The **PIONEER ONLINE** also can be accessed at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Bar includes cereal, yogurt and milk

Carson's breakfast bar a rousing success

You've probably never heard the words "healthy eating" and "school cafeteria" uttered in the same sentence — until now.

Last month, Carson's Catering debuted a cereal and yogurt bar, the first of its kind in a lunchroom otherwise plagued by greasy goods and fried feasts.

The new fare is pretty hard to miss. Where the rotating pretzel machine once stood, a large oval sign hangs chained from the ceiling, bearing the words "Cereal & Yogurt," backed by a picture of scrumptious-looking berries and granola bits.

Beneath this sign, customers are presented

with a literal cereal bar — dispensers of six different kinds of cereal lined up in a row — and a mini fridge.

Unlike single-serving cereal cups that are generally full of sugary standbys like Cinnamon Toast Crunch and Cocoa Puffs, these dispensers give six mostly healthy options to choose from: Kashi oats, gluten-free Chex Mix, both original and honey-nut Cheerios, Nature Valley granola and Lucky Charms.

The dispensers work much like a pop machine. For \$1.79, you can pick up a 12-ounce plastic cup, and then use the levers to pour as much

cereal as you would like.

Included in that price is a topping of your choice, and there is a small selection of options to choose from. Healthier choices include raisins, cranberries, mandarin oranges and coconut flakes.

For those with an aching sweet tooth, you can also grab mini marshmallows or chocolate chips in a serving size that is perfect for quelling your inner chomeric without downing an entire Hershey bar.

And if one topping isn't enough, never fear — you can tack on additional cups for 35 cents a pop. That number seems

a little pricey for such a small serving, but a cup of cereal with an extra topping still comes out cheaper — and healthier — than breakfast burritos, and biscuits and gravy.

To the right of the cereal line, the mini fridge offers 60-cent pints of fat-free and two percent milk, as well as cups of Dannon Light & Fit yogurt for 95 cents apiece.

The real heroes of this story, however, are the yogurt parfaits. Well worth the \$2.50 price tag, the parfaits are comprised of layers of vanilla yogurt, fresh strawberries and blueberries, and topped with a veil of



granola.

The result is a delicious, healthy, filling breakfast — or even a great midday pick-me-up between classes.

As little as two months ago, it seemed the only semi-healthy options for students were the pricey salad bar and a few of the equally expensive sandwiches.

Now, however, we can walk into the cafeteria with the knowledge that we can treat our bodies to something healthy and yummy without breaking the bank. Kudos to Carson's for giving us that feeling.

Rating: A+

—WHITNEY

KNIGHT

ONLINE EDITOR

BOOK REVIEW | 'In My Time' is just like Fox News

Dick Cheney's 'In My Time' memoir is a waste of time

"In My Time: A Personal and Political Memoir" is former Vice President Dick Cheney's foray into a congested and largely talentless void that belongs almost exclusively to the political autobiography.

For Cheney, the events detailing his rise, his eight years in the White House and his numerous confrontations with other members of George W. Bush's cabinet are chronicled with an admitted note of vitriol.

His accounts are nothing if not a codicillary rumination attempting to exonerate him of any "presupposed" wrong doing all while attempting to refashion his identity from that of the "unfeeling, robotic overseer" to that of an actual thinking, feeling human — a mission he fails to accomplish.

"In My Time" is largely devoid of any humanity in that Cheney, at no point, (save for a slight *mia culpa* regarding his misconception that the

prolonged violence in Iraq was waning in 2005) ever addresses indiscretions (e.g. The Iraq War, Scooter Libby, Syria, etc.) with any sort of meditation on the negative legacy the Bush administration has left.

Cheney attempts to construct a dramatic recollection of events that draws the reader into his life, but when it's all over, he only succeeds in authoring a 576-page treatise that could be more easily condensed down to a single statement: "I was right and everybody else was wrong."

More specifically, Cheney's heated encounters with Gen. Colin Powell, the administration's first Secretary of State, over the War on Terror and the nation's post-9/11 foreign policy are often tinged with a smattering of passive-aggressive enmity that culminates in his almost rapturous admission that Powell's eventual resignation was "for the best."

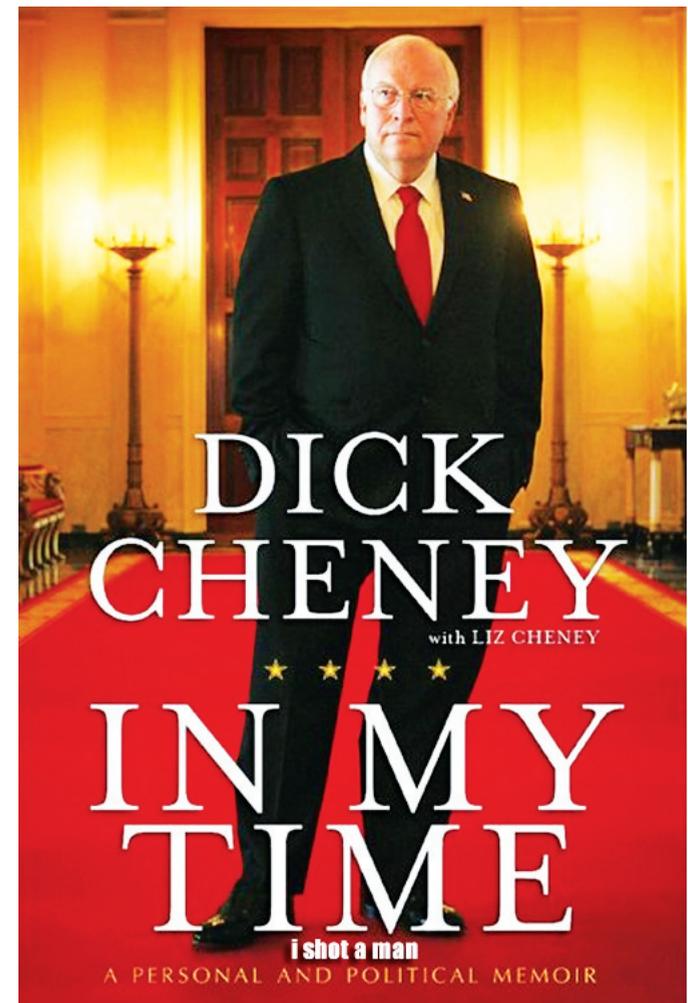
Overall, the memoir is load-

ed with mind-numbingly unapologetic admissions that Cheney pushed for war in Iraq before any solid evidence could be discovered, that his time at Halliburton yielded him millions in profit at the expense of political objectivity, and that individual liberties can be justifiably suspended or destroyed in favor of a paper-thin semblance of "national security."

If you are a supporter of Cheney's then the work will do nothing more than rehash the same topics that most FOX news programs have already done for years now and will only repeat the same talking points we are accustomed to hearing from Cheney. If you disagree with Cheney's politics then the book makes an excellent projectile for those random spiders that invade your room.

Rating: D-

—SEAN M. TOLBERT
SPORTS WRITER



WEBSITE REVIEW | Google+ pales in comparison to its rival Facebook

Social site lacks originality

With the emergence of Facebook's evil twin, Google+, I'm reminded of an old saying "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Google+ launched its own version of a social networking site a mere three months ago. But after spending some time with this much-anticipated social networking platform, it may be more politically correct to say they created a knockoff of Facebook.

The interface is eerily similar to Facebook, which nonetheless makes it easy to navigate. Where Facebook has implemented a "News Feed," Google+ has copied this feature into "Streams."

Imitation is not flattery, in this case. It should be down right humiliating. They are attempting to assault the unconventional prototype of their creation.

Google's original "Circles" feature seems promising, allowing users to selectively share information with specific groups.

Though the privacy customization offers more than what Facebook currently does, this will not be enough to sustain itself.

Google claims this is a "project," not a "product." But it looks as if the Google empire is trying to rival other

social networking entities.

Integrated into this Google+ experience are different services that Google has already launched such as Gmail, Google Maps, Google Calendar, and Picasa.

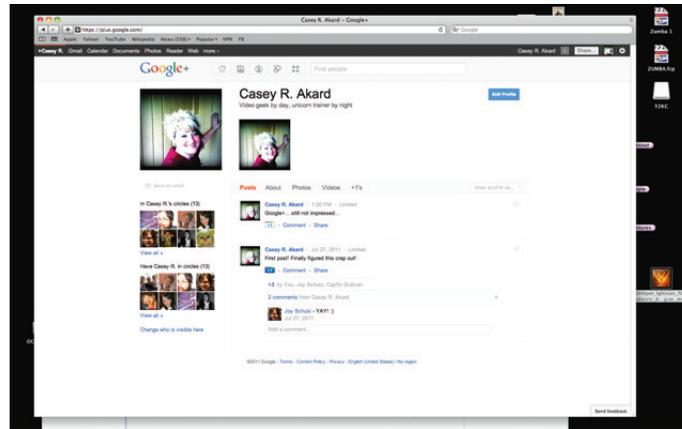
These features will differentiate it from the already successful Facebook, but that may not be good enough.

No fear, Facebook users. Though Google+ appears to be solid in form, not many will be compelled to make the main switch.

Facebook has more than 750 million active users that currently use their network, and is one of the most trafficked sites in the world.

Imagine trying to reteach your grandmother one more social networking site. Probable? I think not.

And what good is Google+ if your friends aren't playing on the same playground?



I'm reminded of the days when MySpace was weaned out of popularity and Facebook took its place as the new cyber hangout.

But at least Facebook didn't try to create a carbon copy of MySpace. As if. If Google+ wants to steal Facebook users, they are going to have to offer something that distinguishes them from the rest of the sites in cyber space.

The plus side to Google+: it gives the social networking addict just one more meaningless platform for them to indulge in.

Rating: D+

—CASEY R. AKARD
VIDEOGRAPHER

TOP 20 MOVIES

weekend of Sept. 9 through 11
www.yahoo.com

1. *Contagion*
2. *The Help*
3. *Warrior*
4. *The Debt*
5. *Colombiana*
6. *Rise of the Planet of the Apes*
7. *Shark Night 3D*
8. *Apollo 18*
9. *Our Idiot Brother*
10. *Spy Kids: All the Time in the World*
11. *Crazy, Stupid, Love.*
12. *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*
13. *Laugh at My Pain*
14. *The Smurfs*
15. *Bucky Larson: Born to Be a Star*
16. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2*
17. *Captain America: The First Avenger*
18. *Cowboys & Aliens*
19. *Horrible Bosses*
20. *Final Destination 5*

FILM REVIEW | Thriller 'Contagion' follows three groups affected by a virus setting it apart from other films

Film's multiple plotlines emphasize infection

Get a facemask and break out the hand sanitizer. This first offering for fall features will make you pause before grabbing a doorknob or shaking someone's hand.

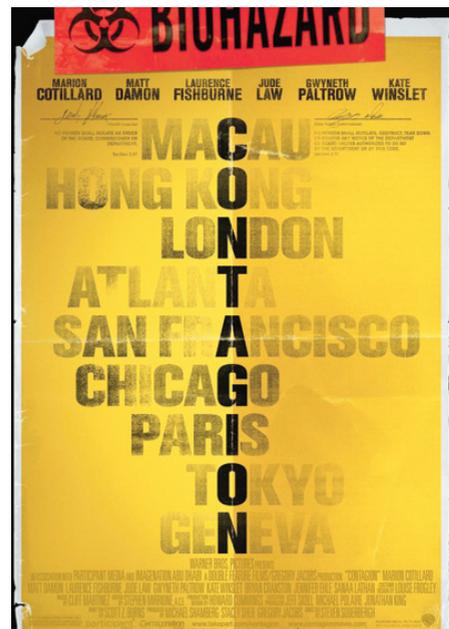
"Contagion" is the latest global-scale thriller from Warner Bros. and not their first entry into films that follow the events and characters affected by a worldwide pandemic.

A major thing that sets this film apart from movies like "Pandemic" (2009), "Outbreak" (1995), or the Stephen King miniseries "The Stand" (1994) is the structure of the plot.

This plot spreads and grows more complex with every moment in the film. It is as if the plot itself is its own virus.

The major strains of the plot follow three central groups who are affected by the virus in different ways.

The first is the family of Beth Emhoff (Gwyneth Paltrow), an international businesswoman whose death throws up red flags to officials that perhaps other deaths occurring may be related.



The struggles her husband, Mitch (Matt Damon) and daughter, Jory (Anna Jacoby-Heron), have with her death and with the world the disease is creating provide the kind of emotional anchor that keeps this film from being a clock-driven body count machine.

The second plot strain follows the experts of the Center for Disease Control and the World Health Organization as they work toward discovering the cause and then perhaps a cure for the disease.

With this thread, Laurence Fishburne takes the skills honed on "CSI" and applies them to the character of Dr. Ellis Cheever, which allows him to make the medical jargon not only believable but also understandable.

The third perhaps lesser strain of the plot follows Alan Krumwiede (Jude Law), a journalist that first breaks the story of the illness and his continuing coverage as the disease spreads. Through him we get to see another thing spread — information.

For reasons that will be left for you to discover, I think this portrayal of the media is a bit unfair, but I don't hold it against the film makers as there are people very much like Krumwiede in the world.

Technically, this film is a breath of fresh air. Unlike many disaster thrillers,

the special effects budget wasn't spent on things like 400-foot waves, but on making this disease and these people as believable as possible.

Steven Soderbergh, a director who has handled a variety of films like "Ocean's Eleven" (2001) and "Traffic" (2000), brings to this film a unique eye that makes many of the shots in the film unnerving.

Much of the camera work around the sick is so rigidly focused that every pore of those portraying the infected becomes an extra in the shot.

The color palette of the film also places a metallic taste in the mouth by reserving saturation for pre-virus flashbacks and tinting much of the film in sickly hues.

I would recommend seeing it in theaters, if you don't mind noticing every cough as you sit in a room filled with about 300 strangers.

Rating: A

—MIKE WORMLEY
COMMUNITY WRITER

JOB SEEKERS URGED TO COME PREPARED

Job fair to feature more than 60 employers

PRISCILLA COLLEY
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There are only two days a year when OCCC students have a chance to visit with as many as 60 possible employers all in one place: once in the fall and once in the spring.

The next OCCC Job Fair is quickly approaching on Wednesday, Oct. 5.

Director of Student Employment and Career Services Debra Vaughn said the purpose of the job fair is to help students, community members and alumni who are seeking employment.

The employers attending range from local to national entities, and reach the entire spectrum of careers. Such companies include Dell, Integris and the Pioneer Library

System.

"We have close to 60 employers right now, and our goal is 100," Vaughn said.

"For the past three years, our events have attracted over 4,000 job seekers, which is very alluring to employers."

All general employers gather 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in OCCC's greater dining area. The health profession employers set up from noon to 6 p.m. in College Union rooms 2 and 3.

The job fair is free and open to students and the public.

Vaughn said those attending the job fair should dress appropriately.

"Get your professional dress outfit, your resume and your 15-second 'Who I Am' speech ready," she said.

Vaughn said she encourages students to come by Student Employment and Career Ser-

vices to prepare for the fair.

"Let us help you create a resume, or review your current resume. Also, we have resume paper and students can come in and print up to 10 pages a day in our offices.

"Stepping up to a table and possibly a new job can be daunting, but stepping up with all these things makes a good presentation for the recruiters," she said.

Vaughn also said students have had success at job fairs in the past.

"We have many employers that request time to interview that day, so theoretically a student could walk in without a job and walk out with a job."

OCCC psychology major Caroline Rutherford said she considers it lucky that the college offers a job fair.

"I think it's a great opportu-



nity," Rutherford said.

Vaughn said, ultimately, the college's goal is to help students get their feet planted in the professional world.

"If you can find employment that's related to your ultimate college and career goals, you're a step ahead," she said.

"Working with these companies now could lead to full-time

employment in your career after college.

"This is [the college's] goal: Seeing students succeed. That's what keeps us going every morning."

For more information, call 405-682-7519, or visit the Employment Services office in room 1G7 of the Main Building.

Speech professor discovered love for debate

KIANA BILLUPS
News Writing Student

Nakia Welch: His name conceals more than it reveals about his unusual ethnic heritage. He describes himself as half Cajun French from Louisiana and half Japanese and Korean.

This award-winning adjunct speech professor earned his doctorate in communication from the University of Oklahoma in May.

He was recognized as his department's outstanding adjunct professor at OCCC that same month.

In the sophomore year of his business administration program at Louisiana State University, Welch said, he took his first public speaking course and found out he was really good at it. His professor told him he was a natural speaker.

During his junior year, Welch said, he took more communications courses and joined the debate team.

His debate eligibility had a limit of four years, which Welch used, letting him stay longer at LSU.

"I loved the debate team that much," Welch said.

The added time allowed him to complete the coursework for a triple major in business management, marketing, and communication.

The debate team only increased his passion for public speaking, so he decided to continue with communication as his major in graduate school.

While getting his master's at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas, Welch was offered a position to help debaters.

"So let me get this straight, not only do I get to teach how to debate well ... But you're also paying me?" Welch said he asked the person offering him the job.

"That was a great opportunity because I was earning my master's and getting paid at the same time."

At OU, Welch was a graduate teaching assistant and later on, director of the public speaking program over all the graduate assistants.

He began teaching part-time at OCCC in 2005.

When Welch is not teaching public speaking, he's enjoying family time.

Family time for the Welches includes cooking and entertaining friends, playing games with his wife, and being a full-time dad to his

2-year-old daughter and 1-year-old son.

"My wife and I can turn anything into a competition. We just love to compete with each other," he said.

"We really love our sports teams. My favorite NFL team has to be the New Orleans Saints."

"I mean, come on, it's where I was born. For collegiate teams, I have to go with OU first and then LSU second."

Welch used the Japanese word "kaizen"

“

I believe you should do anything and everything to improve yourself, situations, and others.”

—NAKIA WELCH
SPEECH PROFESSOR

to describe his personal philosophy.

"It means 'continuous improvement,'" he said.

"I strive to achieve continuous improvement.

"In other words, I believe you should do anything and everything to improve yourself, situations, and others."

OCCC 

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

JOB BOARD

www.collegecentral.com/occc

Students register with their 7-digit student ID number
Alumni enter AL+last 5 digits of Social Security number

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FALL WEATHER BRINGS NEW CLOTHING STYLES

Fashion trends are plentiful on campus

EMILY SCHORR
Senior Writer
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As we all know the winter weather in Oklahoma can become quite dreary.

Fall fashion sometimes can add to that, with the dark colors and bulky coats.

This fall is all about bright colors and taking a risk with different patterns.

Seventies fashion is high on the list of trends, with the likes of flares and wide-leg pants; while on the tough side, biker and punk follow to the new season.

Polka-dots are one

of “the Trend” patterns this fall, try a polka-dot blouse or scarf to put a light and trendy spin on an everyday outfit.

Another trend this fall is bright colored pants. The bright colors will pair well with darker layers and give it a fresher look.

Bright blue is one of the “it” colors for this fall. The color adds energy to everyday outfits and will help spice up work attire.

Dresses are leaning more to the conservative side with an edginess.

Dresses are longer and not as tight fitting as the past, but the trend of this fall has an up-to-there

slit, adding just the right amount of sexy.

Along with the other fashion trends for this fall, men are particularly looking at a relaxed tailored fit. Looser fitting pants and jackets.

The skinny look isn't completely out, just a little looser.

Another trend for men is high top sneakers and suits. Pair them together with a pattern shirt for casual day wear.

Dress it up at night with a button down shirt, vest and dress shoes.

Vests and turtleneck sweaters are a big fashion trend for both sexes this fall.



BRADY BELL/PIONEER

Joshua Montoya (left), pre-dental major, is wearing his “favorite fall combination,” he said. Long sleeve shirt with dark jeans and dress shoes. Dulce Garcia (right), business major, is wearing a pair of high-waisted shorts with a skinny belt and a tucked in blouse. “I am interested in fashion and being comfortable, especially for class,” Garcia said.



BRADY BELL/PIONEER

Kathryn Misiaszek, graphic communication major, is embracing the '70s style that is returning this fall, with hot pants and platform boots. The 1970s fashion is all about flares and wide legged pants. Misiaszek said her favorite wardrobe is “sweaters and boots.”

Right: Zaib Ittiq, pre-med major is wearing a bright blue patterned shirt with 1970s inspired earrings. The color Ittiq is wearing pairs well with anything or just by itself. “Scarves, gloves and boots are my favorite fall fashions,” Ittiq said.



CYBELE HSU/PIONEER



CYBELE HSU/PIONEER

Left: Matthew Bediako, psychology major is wearing high top sneakers paired with a bright red shirt and relaxed tailored jeans. The sneakers are a big fashion trend for men this fall and so are bright colors. “I was feeling the red,” Bediako said. “My whole outfit was based around the shoes.” Relaxed tailoring is an up and coming trend for the fall 2011.

Controversial play coming to campus

OCCC theater professor chooses to direct "American Buffalo"

JEREMY CLOUD
Editor
editor@occc.edu

A theater professor at OCCC has chosen to direct the controversial play "American Buffalo," by playwright David Mamet.

Brent Noel, theater professor and director, said the play is controversial due to extensive use of vulgar language.

"Almost every vulgar term you can think of is used at some point," Noel said. "Curse words, racial slurs, sexual slurs, the works. Unless your kids have the magical ability to not repeat what they hear, this is not the play to bring them to."

But the play is not a showcase for vulgarity, and choosing to present this play is not a way of advocating for vulgarity, Noel said.

"Mamet uses this language because it's common. People talk like this, and he wanted people to understand his characters," he said.

Gabriel Pranter, theater major, who plays the character Teach, says the crude language shouldn't be the focus.

"The way David Mamet writes, it's almost poetic. You need the language to understand these characters, to get a feel for who they are," Pranter said.

"I would almost compare it to Shakespeare. If the language wasn't in it, it wouldn't be the same."

McFarland said the vulgarity isn't presenting too many difficulties for him.

"We, the cast, are all younger individuals and most of these are words we use when we're angry," McFarland said. "But we're all very anxious to see how an audience is going to deal with some of this language."

The three-man play revolves around a junkyard proprietor named Don, his assistant Bob, and a friend of Don's named Teach, who together plan a theft, said Noel.

"The play takes place in a junkyard. And I think that's emblematic of the characters. They've been tossed aside by the world."

The characters don't seem



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Drama students (left to right) Mitch McFarland as "Bob," Gabe Pranter as "Teach," and Roderick Wright as "Don," rehearse their roles in the upcoming play "American Buffalo" on stage in the Bruce Owen Theater. The play will debut Sept. 29 in the Bruce Owen Theater.

likable at first glance, Noel said.

"But because their humanity comes through in the play, you start to empathize with them, and realize, 'Boy, these guys are just struggling to get by.'"

Pranter describes Teach as "a loose cannon, and kind of a snake, a real sleazy guy."

"It's a lot of fun to play this kind of character. It's definitely challenging, because it's differ-

ent than anything I've done before, but I'm looking forward to it," Pranter said.

McFarland, on the other hand, says his character is "a bit of a moron."

"He's a little forgetful, screws stuff up every once in a while."

Noel said that he hopes people will give "American Buffalo" a chance.

"It's definitely an abusive

play, in the way it uses language, and in the choice of language," he said. "But if people can get past that, if they can accept it as a part of the characters, I think they're in for a treat."

"American Buffalo" will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 29 through Oct. 1 in the Bruce Owen theater. For more information, email bnoel@occc.edu.

SUPERVISOR CHRISTINE PECK GOES ABOVE AND BEYOND

Math lab helps students succeed in class

CHRIS JAMES
News Writing Student

Meeting the needs of OCCC math students and helping them succeed in their courses is the driving purpose behind the work that Christine Peck does as Math Lab supervisor. Peck has been the supervisor of the Math Lab since the spring of 2010 and is this year's recipient of the Non-Teaching Professional of the Year Award, presented on campus in August.

Much loved by the math faculty, Peck engages in a wide range of support roles above and beyond her prescribed responsibilities. Leading by

example, Peck takes on a lot of extra duties, but is very approachable and happy to help, her supporters say.

"You can't list all of the things she does or all of the people she helps," said math Professor Paul Buckelew.

Math Professor Janet Mitchell said that Peck was instrumental in the implementation of the new College Prep Math courses by doing things like getting the rooms and equipment organized. In addition, Peck works with the Testing Center to ensure the math placement tests are accurately placing students in the classes they need.

"Christine keeps the Math Lab running like a well oiled machine," said math Professor Ken Harrelson.

Harrelson said Peck is good at organizing staff and equipment and is proactive about solving problems.

When Peck was asked how she felt about receiving the award, she said it is a great honor. She said she is very touched, because there are so many good employees at the school.

"We will continue to do our best to meet the needs of OCCC math students and try to find new ways to help them succeed."



CHRIS JAMES/NEWS WRITING

Math Lab Supervisor Christine Peck and Math Lab Assistant Jeff Wolford help student Lisa Carr whose back is to the camera. Peck was recently awarded the Non-Teaching Professional of the Year Award.

SPORTS



SEAN M. TOLBERT/PIONEER

Sandi K. Price, OCCC student and Zumba instructor, leads a group of Zumba enthusiasts in a demonstration before a crowd of students in the College Union. Zumba classes are currently being offered five days a week through the Wellness Center.

SPORTS | Latin-dance based aerobics program helps students stay fit

Zumba classes affordable and fun

SEAN M. TOLBERT
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

The hungry and studious students of OCCC were treated to an energetic display of the Latin-based dance craze Zumba in the College Union on September 8.

Zumba instructor Sandi Price said OCCC students and staff wanted to show off their moves to raise fitness awareness as well as demonstrate the fun students can have while blowing off some steam.

"The whole point of Zumba is to feel the music," Price said.

"No two instructors are ever going to be the same. If you go out to a club no two people are going to be dancing the same, so every experience is unique and that is what makes [Zumba] fun."

Zumba instructor Lisa Dunsmore said incorporating programs like Zumba and other aerobics alongside a student's academic pursuits can definitely be a winning combination.

"We like to say that [Zumba] is a workout in disguise," Dunsmore

said.

"Each session through the Wellness Center is \$4 but a much better and affordable option is to get the group fitness pass so that you can take part as many times as you would like."

Physical Therapist Assistant Program Director Jennifer Ball agrees with Price regarding the fun one can have taking the classes.

"I've been doing Zumba for two years and I have to say it's definitely like a party atmosphere," Ball said.

"It brightens your mood and it creates a definite sense of longevity that spreads to other areas of your life."

Price also said that increasing awareness about fitness for students in Oklahoma is important because of the rising problem of obesity in the state.

"[In terms of efficacy] Zumba is ranked third behind cardio aerobics and kick-boxing. You can burn anywhere between 500 to 1,000 calories in an hour," Price said.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma is

Visit Pioneer.OCCC.edu for video of the demonstration.

rated the 8th-most obese state in the country and the numbers illustrate the potential for that ranking to increase if proper health steps are not taken to curb the trend.

Price said that students are largely unaware of the facilities that the college offers and are also unaware of the benefits they have simply by being a student.

"A lot of students don't know about the Wellness Center," she said.

"They don't know that these classes are available, they don't know that there is a gym and they don't even know that they can take classes at a discount."

Zumba classes are offered Monday through Friday and dates, times and fees can be found in the Fall Fitness Program directory release by the Wellness Center, or online at <http://www.occc.edu/RF/pdf/Schedule.pdf>.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

Aug. 23 - Oct. 19: Registration for O-Trip 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament takes place Oct. 28. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Sept. 17: Pepsi: Punt, Pass, and Kick Competition — girls and boys age groups from 8 to 15. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Sept. 17: OCCC Youth Soccer. Ages 6 to 8 and 9 to 10. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Oct. 15: OCCC will be sponsoring a Zumbathon. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Oct. 18: OCCC will be sponsoring the Senior State Games. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Email sportswriter@occc.edu.

Have sports news you want to share? e-mail Sean at: sportswriter@occc.edu, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7676, or drop by 1F2 in the Arts and Humanities building.

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WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

Theft, vandalism top campus crime reports

EMILY SCHORR
Senior Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

An OCCC student's iPhone was returned to her Aug. 18 after it was stolen earlier that day.

Student Sara Alami reported to campus security that she misplaced her iPhone and couldn't find it when she went to retrieve it from the couches near Academic Advising.

OCCC Officer Brandon

Wheeler reviewed security camera footage and saw three men circling around the couches where the iPhone was last seen. One of the men is seen on camera sliding something into his pocket.

While Wheeler was reviewing the footage, two of the three men were walking by the security office, and were stopped and questioned.

Larry French, who is in OCCC's records but not currently enrolled, told Wheeler

he attempted to steal the iPhone, according to the police report.

OCCC officers then took French into custody, and the Oklahoma City Police Department was contacted.

According to the report, Alami said she wouldn't press charges as long as her phone was returned. After it was, the call to OCPD was canceled and French was released.

Shortly after receiving her phone back, Alami reported

that she noticed the SIM card was missing, and she told OCCC police she now wanted to press charges, but they responded that their hands were tied because French had already left campus.

Vandalism reported

On Aug. 14 at the Family and Community Education Center, several areas were vandalized with graffiti, according to a report by Don Rowe, security officer. The

colors used were silver and black, and the vandalism was on many different sides of the building and doors.

On the same day Officer Jeffrey Porter reported he noticed graffiti on the south wall of the Christmas Connection. It is unknown when the vandalism occurred.

Rowe stated he reviewed the security cameras and discovered an unknown individual between 2 and 5 a.m. committed the vandalism.

Regents: New appointees bring something unique to board

Continued from page 1

are ultimately accountable to the students and community, making sure the decisions made are in their best interest," Paden said.

OCCC has a total of seven regents, who are appointed for seven-year terms. Regents receive no financial compensation for being members.

Tyler is the vice president of Tyler Media, a family-owned business that includes five

radio stations, three television stations and an advertising company.

Tyler has been involved in many public service associations. He has served on the Norman Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and as president elect for the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

Devery has served as the Community Affairs Manager

for the Chickasaw Nation since 2007. His service on community boards includes OU Advisors for the OU College of Public Health, the Oklahoma City and Norman Chambers of Commerce, as well as many other leadership programs.

The reception and monthly Board of Regents meetings are open to the public. The meetings are held at 11:30 a.m. the third Monday of each month.

Paden said she encourages students who want to see changes, or are interested in how the organization is run, to attend the meetings, since the Board of Regents' influence over OCCC has a direct impact on the students.

"We are truly fortunate we have a very committed and concerned Board of Regents that meets regularly to make important decisions that affect the current institution, and the future of the college," Paden said in an email.

Attitude: Campus counselor suggests students think before they speak, act

Continued from page 1

misunderstanding and timeliness are the three contributing factors to a student's frustration at the Financial Aid Office.

"Timeliness is very important," Case said. "If (students decide) to go to school in July, that is usually not enough time for them to receive financial aid."

Humanities and literature major Tasha Bird said she feels it is disrespectful when students chatter in class and interfere in the learning process.

"I hate it when you get those students who don't take a class

seriously," Bird said. "They talk the whole time as you're trying to listen to the lecture," Bird said.

Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner said OCCC counselors use various communication methods when speaking with angry students.

Turner said OCCC counselors realize students get angry, and said her office never takes anything to heart.

"We don't take it personally because the person comes in and they had the last straw for the day and it overwhelms

them," Turner said.

"Most of the time if we do have a someone who is blatantly rude, once the moment is over, they come back and apologize."

Turner said she believes that, in a classroom environment and all throughout OCCC campus, the behavior of students has a lot to do with the culture they live in.

"Learning some sensitivity, learning how to take a deep breath and think before you say something," is how Turner suggests coping with emotions.



CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Being critical

Chris Nye, diversified studies major, and Matthew Young, political science major, work together on critical thinking skills in order to improve study habits. There are many couches, lounges and chairs around campus which students can study on between classes.



BRADY BELL/PIONEER

COMMUNITY | Conference held in Moore hosted chapters from across state

Baptist group gains momentum

KATELYN HARDCASTLE
News Writing Student

About two dozen OCCC students joined another 1,200 of their fellow Baptists at Momentum, a conference for Baptist Collegiate Ministry chapters from across the state. The Momentum conference was held Sept. 9 at First Baptist Church in Moore.

For the past six years, the Baptist Collegiate Ministry of Oklahoma has been hosting the conference and OCCC's chapter has been attending since the beginning, said BCM Director Brandon Laib.

Students said they enjoyed Momentum because of the fellowship they get, not only with their own chapter, but also with others across the state, Laib said.

Collegiate Ministry Specialist John Strappazon, who oversees all BCM chapters across the state, agrees.

"It's great for students to see people who are like-hearted like themselves," he said.

But Momentum's purpose was more than just fellowship. Students were "challenged to go out and love their world in Jesus' name," Strappazon said.

This year's speaker, Afshin Ziafat, spoke about what students can do to impact their world for the

better by loving and serving others, and by sharing their stories of faith.

"If you want your life to live beyond your life," he said, "you have to understand the Gospel.

"If you understand the Gospel, it will send you."

Students were given an opportunity to serve others that very night when an offering was taken for the Dayspring Villa, a shelter in Tulsa.

In addition to offering housing to victims of domestic violence, Dayspring Villa offers housing and spiritual and emotional healing for the victims of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is defined as the unethical, selfish use of people for the satisfaction of personal desires and/or profitable advantage. This includes underpaid or unpaid workers and victims of the sex trade.

According to a presentation given by Kelly King, women's specialist for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City is one of the worst cities for human trafficking, because of the interstate highways and trucking indus-

try.

In the U.S., those who are most at risk for the sex trade are 12- to 14-year-old girls, often runaways, immigrants, or girls who are brought to the U.S. under false pretenses, King said.

"It's something that's so incredibly heartbreaking," Laib said. But Laib was encouraged by King's presentation.

"It's good to know what actions we can take to help stop this and to know how we can help these girls."

The students' offering for Dayspring Villa totaled \$4,285.61.

Baptist Collegiate Ministries meets on campus at noon Mondays in the theater foyer in the Arts and Humanities building and at 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays in room 3NO in the Main building.

For more information, contact Brandon Laib at brandonlaib@yahoo.com.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Third Annual Life Saver 5K Fun Run

The Nursing Student Association will be hosting a fundraising 5K run to raise proceeds benefiting the Nursing Student and Physical Therapy Assistant scholarship programs. Registration will close at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17, in parking lot E near the Health Professions Division. The event will be from 7:55 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on the Circle Drive. For more information, or to register for the race, visit www.occc.edu/lifesaver/Info.html, or call Deborah Myers at 405-682-7138.

TRiO Open Orientations

The TRiO Student Support Services will host orientations for members and non-members alike at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19; at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21; at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, all in CU1. The last session will be 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, in 1X5. For more information, contact the TRiO office at 405-682-7865.

Free Hugs Day

Advocates of Peace will be spreading positivity and good will through the exchange of hugs from 12:20 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 22, near the coffee shop. For more information, visit www.occc.campusgroups.com/advocatesofpeace or send an email to cammy.h.eschler@email.occc.edu.

'Romeo and Juliet' auditions to be held

Auditions for roles in OCCC's production of William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" will be held at 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, and 8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in room 1C5.

Garage sale for scholarships

The Faculty Association Scholarship Committee will hold its annual garage sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, and Friday, Oct. 7, in CU 1, 2 and 3. All proceeds will go toward student scholarships. Those who would like to make a donation should contact Librarian Linda Boatright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468.

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 AH building, just inside Entry 2.

For more highlights go to www.occc.edu/pioneer

GOT NEWS?

If you have
community news,
contact Mike Wormley
at communitywriter@occc.edu
or call
405-682-1611, ext. 7675

OCCC 

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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 email adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1994 Mazda Protege', over 200,000 miles, but very well maintained, good a/c. Standard. Priced to sell. Call: 405-840-5334.

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For more information contact:
Dr. Barb Carter at the OCCC CDCLS.
405-682-7561

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Entertainment center/bookshelf/TV stand has multiple uses for books, photos, etc. Maple color engineered lumber. \$50. Email: 4allmypets@gmail.com for photo.

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RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Researchers at OU Health Science Center need healthy volunteers ages 18 to 30, who have a parent with, or without a history of an alcohol or drug problem. Qualified participants will be compensated for their time.
Call (405) 456-4303 to learn more about the study and to see if you qualify.



FOR SALE: Pecan, Baldwin, upright electric piano. Great sound. Call: 405-840-5334.

MISCELLANEOUS

INTERESTED IN VIDEO GAMES, pen and paper games, trading card games, board games or just gaming in general? Check out the OCCC Gaming Guild. Contact: Mathew.J.Caldwell@email.occc.edu

FOR SALE: Limited edition wakeboard, still packaged: \$200; new, limited edition Jim Beam bean bag/cornhole toss game, \$150. 405-818-0083.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Nice bedroom in a house with other students. \$380 per month with all bills paid, including internet. Located in good neighborhood near 104th and Western, \$100 deposit. No pets or indoor smoking. Call: 405-794-9999.

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Applications are available on the table outside the Arts and Humanities Division office.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Learn by —: memorize
- 5 Omelet needs
- 9 Sword handle
- 13 Gumbo veggie
- 14 River nymph
- 16 Part of HOMES
- 17 Cry of woe
- 18 "The Sweetheart of — Chi"
- 19 Tibetan monk
- 20 Enthralled
- 21 Be —: hippie happenings
- 22 Church book
- 24 Units of energy
- 26 — gin
- 27 Synthetic fiber
- 30 Picasso and Van Gogh
- 34 O. Henry's forte
- 35 Type of blocker
- 36 Distort
- 37 Wrongdoing
- 38 Al and Tipper
- 39 "— had it!"
- 40 Beer barrels
- 42 Strikes
- 43 — and dined
- 45 Hasty and careless
- 47 Geese group
- 48 Misplace
- 49 Farm sight
- 50 Short race
- 53 Toast topper
- 54 Not working
- 58 Baldwin or Guinness
- 59 Cad
- 61 Row
- 62 The — Ranger
- 63 Alpine song
- 64 Level
- 65 Viewed
- 66 Bouquet unit
- 67 Challenge

DOWN

- 1 Bellow
- 2 Tex. neighbor
- 3 Snare
- 4 From Asia
- 5 Naval officer
- 6 Profits
- 7 Musicians' jobs
- 8 Spade of whodunits
- 9 Firefighters' headgear
- 10 OPEC member
- 11 Type of bean
- 12 Shade of blue
- 15 Shaggy flowers
- 23 Over there
- 25 Cowboy Rogers
- 26 Cloys
- 27 Computer-users' needs
- 28 "The Tempest" spirit

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED



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SKIN TONE STILL AN ISSUE WITHIN AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Shades of black: A legacy of discrimination

CHRISTY JOHNSON
Staff Writer 2
staffwriter2@occc.edu

Every day, hundreds of African-Americans are told that the color of their skin is something to be ashamed of.

Shockingly, it's being said by some of our African-American peers, said Rochelle Mosby, Arts and Humanities Division assistant.

The discrimination stems from differences in the shades in skin tone, said Mosby, with lighter skin being preferred.

"This practice is sending the wrong message to our children," she said.

Mosby said that, at one point, one of her nephew's friends was rushing to get inside, afraid of getting darker in the sun.

"I told him, 'Well everyone gets a little darker in the summer time,'" she said.

"He replied, 'I know, but I don't want to get Kunta Kinte black.'"

Mosby said although the boy was young, she found it offensive.

"I thought, 'Who did he get that from? Who is telling this child that something is wrong with someone whose skin tone is darker than his?'" she said.

"When did we get to the point where we stopped telling our kids that your skin tone doesn't matter?"

Jordan Bramblet, math and economics major, said he has not been deeply affected by racism within the black community, but has had a few negative experiences.

"I have had women say that they felt like I was too dark to date them but it only happened a few times," he said.

Bramblet said he doesn't look at skin tone as a factor in choosing whom he does and doesn't date.

"I feel like we're all the same on the inside, so why use skin color to decide that sort of thing?"

Mosby also said the media

is reinforcing the stereotype.

"Most of the gangsters in entertainment media are darker skinned with shorter hair; the light-skinned people are lawyers and doctors."

DeAngela Alexander, medical assistant major, said she feels slavery played a part in creating this issue.

"I grew up reading about Willie Lynch and how he tried to pit slaves against each other by his favoritism towards the lighter skinned slaves, as a way to create animosity on the plantation," Alexander said.

"Unfortunately that type of mentality was passed down through the generations of some black families."

Mosby concurs, and said she sees most of the discrimination in the older generations.

She gave as an example a conversation she had with her aunt a few months ago, talking about her cousins.

Mosby said her aunt referred to one cousin as "pretty," men-

“ I feel most of the bigotry within the African American community in regards to the light-skin, dark-skin thing began with slavery. It is a shame that it is still going on today.”

—DEANGELA ALEXANDER
STUDENT

tioning her softer hair and lighter skin tone as the reason.

"I feel she was saying this only because this cousin has lighter skin and softer, wavier hair.

"My aunt felt this made my cousin prettier than her sister, who is darker," Mosby said.

Alexander said the African-American community has to stop this practice.

"I do feel most of the bigotry within the African American community in regards to the light-skin, dark-skin thing began with slavery.

"It's a shame that it is still going on today," she said.

"Everyone, no matter the



CHRISTY JOHNSON/PIONEER

Students pose by the staircase in Main Building to demonstrate some of the many different varieties of skin tones of people of color. (Front-left to right) Destiny Foster, Niven Quaye, and Victoria Jones. (Back-left to right) Eli Viney, Chris Acoff, and Josh Carpenter.



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