

PIONEER

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EDITORIAL

SCHOOL COSTS FOR ILLEGALS UNFAIR

Some illegal immigrants can go to college for in-state tuition prices. Online Editor Whitney Knight describes her problems with that.

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CAMPUS LIFE

STUDENTS DISCUSS MOVEMENT

Occupy Wall Street has everyone talking, including your peers. Continue reading to see what students like you think about the movement and its supporters.

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SPORTS

ZUMBA TO TAKE OVER OCCC POOL

Zumba is taking a dive on campus — in a good way. Aqua Zumba classes are now available for students. Read on to find out all you need to know.

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CAMPUS LIFE

STORYTELLER ENTERTAINS, EDUCATES

Storyteller Al Bostick visited campus and used music to share his stories. Read more to see what students thought.

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The gift of music

Edmond man donates \$100,000 piano to OCCC

RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Music Professor Ron Staton plays a Steinway concert grand piano in the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

JOEY STIPEK

Contributing Writer
joseph.stipek@email.occc.edu

A \$100,000 9-foot Steinway concert grand piano was donated to OCCC this month. It will be used in the new theater currently being constructed.

The piano was shipped to Oklahoma from the Steinway piano factory located in Queens, N.Y., where it was prepped before being sent to OCCC. The piano is being used in the Visual and Performing Arts Center until the theater is completed.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist

said the high-caliber piece of musical equipment is a tremendous gift to the college and its students.

"I'm so glad to be able to offer this type of instrument to our students," Sechrist said. "To hear it, to see it, to play it or to practice on it, I think students

who are not only here now, but in the future will benefit from having this instrument."

Sechrist said OCCC needs the instrument which will project well in the college's new Performing Arts Theater when

See **PIANO** page 9

HIGH SCHOOL HAS 100 PERCENT GRADUATION RATE

Pathways high school housed on campus

AMBER GIORDANO

News Writing Student

Hidden on the third floor of OCCC's Main building is Pathways Middle College High School, an alternative school for serious students who are interested in entering college at an early age.

Principal Carol Brogan calls the school "the best kept secret in Oklahoma City Public Schools."

Pathways has a 100 percent graduation rate with between 90 and 100 percent of its graduates going on to college.

Most students are enrolled for college courses during their senior year, earning

college credit. Some even begin taking college courses as high school juniors, if their ACT score is high enough to allow it.

"I found out about the school while looking at colleges with my counselor," said Tricia Morgan, 15, who has been attending Pathways for two years. "I chose this school because you have to take concurrent (classes) to boost yourself up."

In the past eight years, Pathways has produced seven Clara Luper scholarship winners, Brogan said. This scholarship provides for tuition, room and board, and a \$200 per semester book allowance for students to attend Oklahoma City University.

Students can enroll in Pathways as early

as the eighth grade. The application process, which includes an interview, begins in February and students are admitted by May.

"The only thing I'm missing out on by not going to a normal high school is sports," Morgan said. "But we're allowed to join teams at other schools, so it's not too bad."

Each grade is limited to 20 students. The staff of five teachers is able to teach every subject. Students are required to complete 32 hours of community service for every year they are enrolled.

For 11 years now, Pathways students have been volunteering at the Oklahoma Arts Festival on campus, the food bank, and been a part of the Key Club.

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Those here illegally should pay out-of-state tuition

Tuition break for illegals unfair

What does Republican presidential hopeful Governor Rick Perry (R-Texas) have in common with Rhode Island, one of the bluest states in the U.S.? You could probably respond to that question with a million zingy one-liners, but the real answer is no joke: in-state tuition for illegal immigrants who came to the U.S. as children and graduated from high school.

On Sept. 27, Rhode Island education officials voted to allow high school graduates who are in the country illegally to pay in-state tuition at public colleges and universities.

That decision also has proved to be a hot button topic for Perry, who enacted a similar law in his home state of Texas in 2001.

On a recent campaign stop in Iowa, Perry defended his decision to support in-state tuition for illegal immigrants, saying paying less does not equal a “free ride” for illegals pursuing an education.

That may be true, but that doesn’t make it fair.

What about American-born citizens who wish to attend college out-of-state? Outstate tuition prices

are astronomical, oftentimes doubling or even tripling their in-state counterparts.

If an Oklahoman wanted to go to school at the University of Rhode Island, for instance, we would be shelling out about \$25,000 per semester as a full-time student.

Rhode Island residents and illegal immigrants, however, would have to pay less than half of that: about \$10,000 for the same schooling period.

It is ridiculous and sad to think that an illegal immigrant, may have only lived in this country for a few years could attend college for less than someone who has lived in the U.S. their entire life.

Going to college is nothing more than a distant dream for many Americans.

There are countless people who work more jobs than they should have to and apply for every scholarship that comes their way, but still they are unable to attend school.

To make it so easy for an illegal immigrant to obtain is a slap in the face to those people.

That is not to say that those here illegally should be denied schooling altogether. They should absolutely be allowed to attend college in the U.S. — for nonresidential fees.

After all, an American citizen going to college



Whitney Knight

APOPHENIAC

by Thor



Then I'll see you in hell.

GREG HOLKAN/GREGHOLKAN.COM

abroad wouldn't be able to go to school for the same cost as a native — and that is how it should be.

Many illegal immigrants come to this country in search of something better, and that is admirable.

But they should have to work for their success, not have it handed to them on a golden platter while the rest of us have to go panning.

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
ONLINE EDITOR

PRESS RELEASE | Oct. 26 luncheon will include awards ceremony

Mayor's committee to honor disabled citizens

To the editor:

The Oklahoma City Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns will honor outstanding Oklahoma City citizens with disabilities and their advocates at its 21st Annual Awards Luncheon.

The ceremony will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 26, at the Magnuson Hotel

(formerly Clarion) at 737 S. Meridian Avenue in Oklahoma City.

Award-winning KFOR-TV news anchor Kevin Ogle will serve as the master of ceremonies.

Mayor Mick Cornett declared October as Disabilities Awareness Month and Oct. 26 as Special Disabilities Awareness Day in Okla-

homa City.

Cornett is scheduled to speak and help present the awards.

Eleven awards will be presented. The winner of the 2011 high school poster/billboard Contest will also be announced.

“The Oklahoma City Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns Awards Luncheon hon-

ors extraordinary people with disabilities who overcome barriers, and we salute their advocates,” said Oklahoma City Mayor's Committee Chair Pam Henry.

To attend, mail a \$20 check and registration form by Oct. 21 to Michelle L. Jackson, United Cerebral Palsy of Oklahoma, 10400 Greenbriar

Place, Suite 101, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159.

For more information, please contact Jackson at 405-759-3562 or email mljackson@ucpok.org.

For a luncheon registration form and to learn more about the OKC Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns, visit the committee website at www.okc.gov/council/

disability_concerns.

—PAM HENRY

OKLAHOMA CITY
MAYOR'S COMMITTEE
ON DISABILITY
CONCERNS CHAIR

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PIONEER

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|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
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| Christy Johnson..... | Staff Writer | Casey Akard..... | Videographer |
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| Rachel Morrison..... | Photographer | Shawn Stawicki..... | Lab Assistant |
| Brady Bell..... | Photographer | Sue Hinton..... | Faculty Adviser |

7777 S. May
Oklahoma City, OK 73159

phone:
405-682-1611, ext. 7307

email:
editor@occc.edu

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher.

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

VIDEO GAME REVIEW | New soccer game by Electronic Arts is a thing of beauty

‘FIFA 12’ is the best of its kind

Condensing the world’s most popular sport into a small metallic disc is no easy feat — especially when you have an obligation to present the simulated magnificence of players like Wayne Rooney, Lionel Messi and Didier Drogba. (If you aren’t familiar with these names then stop reading, visit YouTube and come back later — I’ll wait.)

EA’s “FIFA” franchise has become the go-to game for many footballing fans (yes football, not “hand-egg” like that which is played in the U.S. Is it too late to issue a soccer snob alert?)

From the shoddy computer A.I. to its fury inducing, controller maiming, passing system — “FIFA” has not been without its major flaws in the past but this year’s edition looks to have answered many gamers’ year-to-year questions.

The year’s biggest innovations come in the form of the new precision-dribbling system, tactical defending and numerous augmentations to the games “Career Mode” feature; changes that may totally alter how gamers approach taking the pitch.

No longer are you allowed to simply rely on your computerized teammates to do the defending for you — now you must actively shut down opponents yourself while directing your backline on the fly.

The dribbling system is the smoothest it has been in years and the ability to take a player, such as Manchester United’s Nani, and perform true-to-life tricks on the ball to confuse opponents is one of the most rewarding experiences you’ll have — once you’ve trained yourself on how to do so, that is.

The “Career Mode” enhancements are the gem of the year as they now allow those who dream of being the next Sir Alex Ferguson, José Mourinho or Kenny Dalglish to build and form their favorite teams from the ground up.

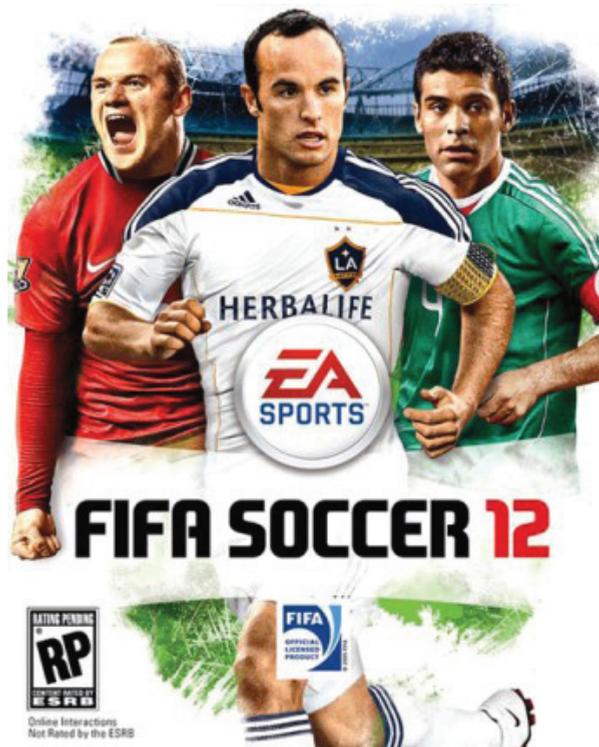
By reintroducing elements such as the “Youth Academy” and Scouting programs, the manager has a much bigger impact this year than in previous editions.

The most notable and highly stylized gem is the introduction of “Transfer Deadline Day,” a true-to-life representation of one of the most exciting days in world football.

You, as the manager, have the ability to wheel and deal hour by hour in an attempt to get that one player you may need to complete your squad. Will you be like Real Madrid and pay \$132 million for Cristiano Ronaldo? Or will you emulate Manchester United and steal a world-class player like Javier Hernandez for a “paltry” \$9 million?

That’s the beauty of the feature as it allows you to feel the pressure of a dwindling clock while attempting to move your team from a mid-table finish to a genuine contender.

The online modes in “FIFA 12” are also pol-



“

With ‘FIFA 12,’ EA has thoroughly put its foot on the neck of its closest rival, Konami’s ‘Pro Evolution Soccer,’ and may have finally delivered the blow necessary to ensure its dominance as the best footballing video game in the world.”

—SEAN M. TOLBERT
SPORTS WRITER

ished and broader, allowing gamers to participate in numerous online tournaments — some that reward you with a cash prize from EA Sports for your skill on the virtual pitch.

With “FIFA 12,” EA has thoroughly put its foot on the neck of its closest rival, Konami’s “Pro Evolution Soccer,” and may have finally delivered the blow necessary to ensure its dominance as the best footballing video game in the world.

The graphics are rendered beautifully, the game engine is the smoothest it has been, and the developer’s attention to realism have all improved this year — and it shows.

There are still some small, niggling issues with passing but if you’ve any experience with previous editions, you won’t be put-off any more than usual.

Overall this is the strongest edition to date and EA has truly outdone itself in making their simulation of “The Beautiful Game” truly beautiful.

Rating: A

—SEAN M. TOLBERT
SPORTS WRITER

ADVISER'S 411

Get a jump on Spring with early enrollment!

It has been a great semester in the Office of Academic Advising, and now it is time for spring enrollment.

We want students to plan in advance for next semester’s classes.

October is advisement month, and we are here to help students to get on the right track! This is a great time to come in and meet with an Academic Adviser or to call your Faculty Adviser and set an appointment.

Enrollment is going on right now.

Enrolling early allows you to choose times and days that are optimal for your schedule. If you really wanted to take a class with your favorite professor, you should enroll early in order to get in the class before the class closes.

Remember there is more than one way to enroll! If you are a current student and you already know what classes you need and you have met the pre-requisites, you can enroll online.

If you would feel more comfortable meeting with an Academic Adviser and running an evaluation of your progress, you can do that as well.

It may be to your advantage to call ahead and make an appointment.

You can reach the Office of Academic Advising at (405) 682-7535. Remember we do not do same day appointments; so plan ahead.

You are also welcome to just walk in and meet with an Academic Adviser.

Remember by enrolling early you can ensure that you have the classes that you need for the next semester, at times that work best with your schedule, and the opportunity to meet with an Academic Adviser who can assist you with any other questions that you might have about your Academic Career.

—MARY ANN BODINE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
ACADEMIC ADVISING

**Want to suggest
a movie, book, video
game or album
to be reviewed?
Let us know!
Email editor@occc.edu**

VIDEO GAME REVIEW | Predecessor to 'Armageddon' challenges players with several missions packed with explosions

'Red Faction: Guerrilla' drives the destruction

Recently, I did a review over "Red Faction: Armageddon," and one of my coworkers seemed disappointed that you couldn't drive everything you found. I recently found out why.

"Red Faction: Guerrilla" was made before "Armageddon," and I now know it as "Grand Theft Auto: Mars."

The graphics are all right, a bit grainy at times, but that's to be expected in massive sandbox style games, especially on a platform game. The controls are great, though you might have a bit of trouble driving, as some of the vehicles go very fast, and the ones that non-player characters drive don't. Isn't that special?

The story is engaging, too, though I suppose if you only did the main story stuff, and enough optional missions, you could go through the game very quickly.

I, on the other hand, spent five days playing the game before beating it. There are a lot of missions, after all.

In "Guerrilla," you play as Alec Mason, the grandfather of Darius Mason (from Armageddon), and are forced to join the red faction's revolution because of bastardry from the Earth Defense Force (EDF.)

The direct result of this is a long series of confrontations with the occupying military, as well as a Martian Redneck named Jenkins.

His apparent retardation is actually explained by him, too. "I've been training myself to breathe CO2." Wow.

Remember how I said you could blow up man-made



structures in Armageddon? That holds true in Guerrilla, though you can't rebuild them, which sucks.

You get to use your salvage to get weapon upgrades and new weapons though, which is amusing. My personal favorite was the thermobaric rocket launcher, which could level a building in two shots. This comes in handy when you are going on a raid and have to destroy the building.

And now, on to the missions. There are several types of missions (the game calls them Guerrilla Actions) you can take in Guerrilla. Here are the missions that you find on the map.

First, there's "House Arrest," which is simply going into a building defended by EDF forces, and rescuing hostages.

Next is heavy metal, which is where you use what amounts to a walking forklift to destroy EDF vehicles,

buildings, and EDF forces. That one is a blast.

Next, is EDF Assault, which is simply defending a building or group of people from the EDF. Those get challenging.

Next is Guerrilla Raid, which is to either kill all EDF forces inside, or if you are feeling kinky/destructive/lazy, blow up the building itself.

And then there's Collateral Damage. Remember Jenkins? You get to ride shotgun on his gigantic motorcycle. That is to say, he's mounted a rocket launcher on the back, and you get to blow things up.

You do have to listen to him though; however, listening to his nonsense is kind of funny at times.

My personal favorite mission is the Demolition challenges, which are puzzles with explosives. If only they had those for real.

There are several other missions that the people back at the safe house will inform you of as you play the game, but you can ignore them.

Most of them involve hijacking an EDF vehicle, which you don't want to destroy, or to stop a convoy for various reasons (which you do want to blow up)

In all, Guerrilla is stuffed to the gills with explosions and highly destructible environments, though you still can't blow up the terrain.

I find this somewhat disappointing, but everything else makes up for it.

Rating: A-

—ROBERT BOLTON
ONLINE WRITER

DEADLINE IS OCT. 28 FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN APPLYING

Scholarship application now available for spring

HALA ALJAZAZI
News Writing Student

A \$200 scholarship designed specifically for international students will be awarded for the spring semester, said Haifeng Ji, sponsor of the International Student Association. Ji is a professor of computer science.

Students must complete the application, which requires a 500-word essay, and return it along with a copy of their college transcript to the OCCC Foundation or the Office of Recruitment and Admission by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28.

Students can pick up the application forms from the OCCC foundation or the office of recruitment and admissions.

Applicants who are a member in good standing of the International Student Association or are involved in other student clubs or doing volunteer work outside of school will be given careful consideration, Ji said.

"Each applicant must be a full time student even if it's part time at OCCC and part time at a different college," Ji said.

Full-time students at OCCC are especially encour-

aged to apply. International students pay almost double the amount of money resident students pay.

"This is a great opportunity for us as international students because we are only eligible for a limited number of scholarships," said Sarah Salem, an international student at OCCC.

"I pay around \$800 for each class, so \$200 would help me buy a book, or I could use it as lunch money for the month," Salem said.

The International Student Association helps international students feel more welcomed on campus by participating in different activities such as the state fair, the medieval fair, and holiday parties.

"We bring different countries together by asking the international students to represent something from their country at the annual food and culture fair in

April," Ji said.

Money is raised for this scholarship by the proceeds from the fair, which has a \$5 admission fee.

Another way that the club raises money for this scholarship is by bake sales. The members of the International Student Association bake food and sell it to students.

For more questions contact Professor Haifeng Ji. His email is hji@occc.edu.

OCCC 

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES

OPTIMAL RESUME

www.occc.optimalresume.com

Students' access ID is their OCCC email address

example > john.t.doe@email.occc.edu

Resumes Cover Letters Interview Skills

Testing Center receives new lockers

An increase in lockers will allow more students to take tests in the center at one time

CHRISSY PICKETT
News Writing Student

By December the long line of students waiting to take tests in the Testing Center could be a thing of the past. The Testing Center is anticipating the arrival of 24 new lockers available to students using the center.

Most of the time, the reason for the long wait at the Testing Center is due to waiting for a locker, said Jim Ellis, Testing and Assessment Services director.

Students put all their personal belongings in lockers because they are not allowed to bring them into the Testing Center.

Ellis said many students take their tests before, after or between classes and have no other place to put their personal items while in the Testing Center, and the lockers provide a safe location for the students to store their things.

"It's the responsibility of the staff to keep the students safe and make sure there is no cheating while in the Testing Center," Ellis said.

"That's why it's mandatory for students to put all personal items in the lockers.

"Students feel safer having their personal items locked inside instead of keeping them in their car," Ellis said.

The center currently has a total of 64 lockers.

The addition of 24 lockers will give them 88 lockers total.

The projected date for the new lockers to be available is Dec. 1.

"The new lockers will be located next to the existing lockers along the wall entering the Testing Center," Ellis said.

The lockers will be free to use.

Ellis said students will still need to get coins from the staff in the Testing Center for the lockers.

He said the lockers are only for students to lock up their belongings while using the Testing Center.

Each morning the lockers are checked and any items left behind are removed.

The busiest times in the Testing Center are during mid-terms and finals weeks.

With the expansion of the number of lockers at the Testing Center this winter, Ellis said, he hopes students will find shorter lines when they come to take a testing during finals week.



ROBERT BOLTON/PIONEER

Sarah Swanson, business major, removes her back pack from one of the lockers located just outside the Testing Center in the Main building. The Testing Center will be receiving 24 new lockers allowing more students to take tests at one time, while storing their belongings securely.

“It's the responsibility of the staff to keep the students safe and make sure there is no cheating while in the Testing Center.”

—JIM ELLIS

DIRECTOR OF TESTING AND ASSESMENT SERVICES

Initiative helps keep students in college

MARY MCATEE
News Writing Student

Student success rates in community colleges are low, and OCCC is no exception.

The college wants to change that, said Stu Harvey, director of planning and research.

Harvey spoke with a group of journalism students about Achieving the Dream, a national initiative to keep students in college until they graduate.

Community colleges have made a five-year commitment to improve student success rates.

Schools designate certain groups of students they track to see if the students remain

in school, graduate, drop out, or transfer.

Harvey said OCCC focused on five key areas that research data has indicated are related to student success.

These focal points resulted in redesigning the developmental math courses, increasing the amount of financial aid awarded, making gateway courses more engaging, creating a new academic advisement system, and creating an online orientation course for online students.

Since Achieving the Dream was adopted, more students have succeeded in developmental and gateway courses, applied for financial aid, and visited their advisers, Harvey said.

According to the September 2011 data on the Achieving the Dream website, 63 percent of students applied for financial aid, up from 59 percent last year.

Harvey said research shows that students who receive financial aid are more likely to stay in college than those who did not.

The data also shows that students enrolled in the Success in College and Life course had a 65.5 percent retention rate, as opposed to 36.8 percent for students who were not enrolled in the course.

Although started before OCCC adopted Achieving the Dream, the Success in College and Life courses have

“Students tell me ‘I hate it, but it helped me.’”

—STU HARVEY

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH

also shown a positive trend in retention rates.

"Students tell me 'I hate it, but it helped me,'" Harvey said.

Harvey started working at OCCC seven years ago, and said working with OCCC and Achieving the Dream has opened his eyes to the value of community college.

"I would say I had been an educational snob," Harvey said about his view on education before working for the college. Harvey is a graduate of the

University of Tulsa.

At the end of the speech, students asked questions and weighed in on some of the changes OCCC has made since the Achieving the Dream initiative began.

Harvey said OCCC will continue working on these goals, even after the grant funding ends.

For more information on Achieving the Dream visit www.occc.edu/achievingthedream.

OCCC CARNIVAL JUST ONE OF MANY SAFE OPTIONS

Halloween is for kids

PRISCILLA COLLEY

Staff Writer

staffwriter1@occc.edu

Haunted houses, creepy conservatories, and trick-or-treating, oh my! According to the National Safety Council, parents preparing children for Oct. 31 are encouraged to instruct them on safety procedures. Those still worried about the risks of trick or treating do have options. One such option will be held on OCCC's campus.

The OCCC Halloween carnival is Friday, Oct. 28 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the general dining area of the Main Building. There are 18 different student organizations sponsoring this event and it is open to the public, said Amy Reynolds, program coordinator for Student Life.

The cost per person is one canned good. All cans will be donated to the Regional Food Bank, Reynolds said.

"This is a good opportunity for kids to be in a safe environment yet still have a lot of fun," she said.

Jillian Lindblad, Student Life programs coordinator, said there were plenty of activities for children and adults.

"There's face painting, bowling, a DJ and dance floor, all sorts of opportunities to win games and prizes, and tons of candy," she said.

"We encourage everyone to come in costume, as long as it's G-Rated."

Outside of campus many local churches and community centers offer other safe alternatives.

OCCC student Hannah Harris plans on visiting a haunted house.

"Not a set up one but an old house that has rumors of actually being haunted," she said.

The Orr Family Farm at 14400 S. Western is another popular destination.

They have family friendly activities ranging from hayrides and pumpkin patches, to a corn maze. To find detailed information on activities and attractions at Orr Family Farm visit www.orrfamilyfarm.com.

Ghoulish Halloween fun isn't only for children, there are plenty of events for the post-graduate school crowd.

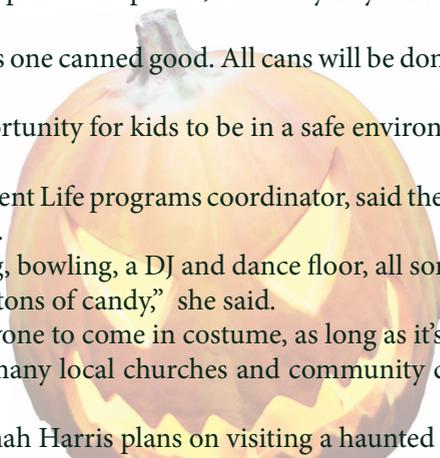
Bricktown hosts many Halloween festivities. The multiple haunted houses and various museum exhibits offer special Halloween attractions.

“

This is a good opportunity for kids to be in a safe environment yet still have a lot of fun.”

—AMY REYNOLDS

STUDENT LIFE PROGRAM COORDINATOR



SAFE HALLOWEEN TIPS



The best safety tips follow the acronym S-A-F-E H-A-L-L-O-W-E-E-N :

Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.

Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.

Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.

Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use crosswalks wherever possible.

Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

Only walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook well.

Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Otherwise, stay outside.

Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.

Citywide Haunts

- Halloween Costume Contest and Cult-Classic Movie, Remington Park Racing & Casino, Oct. 29
- Museum of Osteology's Halloween Bash, 10301 South Sunnyslane Rd., Oct. 31
- Bricktown Haunted Warehouse, Coca-Cola Bricktown Events Center, Oct. 10 – Oct. 31
- Ultimate Terrors Haunted House, Crossroads Mall, Oct. 10 – Oct. 31
- Gazette's Halloween Parade, Downtown Oklahoma City, Oct. 29
- Haunt the Zoo, Oklahoma City Zoo, Oct. 26 – Oct. 31
- Fall Season at the Orr Family Farm, 14400 S. Western, Oct. 10 – Oct. 31
- Frightfest – The Curse of Madame Divine, Frontier City Theme Park, Oct. 10 – Oct. 30
- Haunt the River, Oklahoma River Cruises, Oct. 14 – Oct. 29

www.cdc.gov

MOVEMENT SPREADS ACROSS THE NATION TO OKC

Occupy Wall Street movement close to home

MIKE WORMLEY
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

Student reactions to the Occupy Wall Street movement have been mixed. While many were unaware of the protests in New York and around the country, OCCC's students varied dramatically on their response.

Some students said they are upset with the perceived inconsistencies in actions taken.

"First of all, it seems like an anarchist movement," Caleb Strong, political science major, said.

"I know that the Occupy Oklahoma movement is in Kerr McGee Park, a park given to the city by a corporation, so its kind of ironic how a movement that's going against corporate greed is at a spot given to them by a corporation."

Some people, like Eddy Rackley, management information systems major, said they like the motives behind the movement, but not necessarily the methods.

"I wish there were better ways to solve things like that, but I think its necessary for us to make a stand and let people know how we feel about things," Rackley said.

Morgan Miller, political science major, represents a section of the student body that is generally supportive but still hesitant.

"I think it's a very interesting movement," Miller said.

"I'm glad to see that a large group of people are voicing their opinion publicly for something they are frustrated with.

"I think it lacks a little bit of direction, but it could turn into something very major and I'm very interested to see how it turns out."

Occupy Wall Street began when a number of protesters gathered Sept. 17 in New York City's Zuccotti Park, three blocks from Wall Street.

At the time, their goal was unclear but for just over a month there has been a constant presence by these people demonstrating that they "are the 99 percent."

Protestors define this 99 percent as everyone not part of the wealthiest one percent of Americans.

Because of the universality of that message; many protests bearing "Occupy" in their names, in support of Occupy Wall Street, have sprung up

“ I have been so worried about the new generation’s apathy toward everything that I’m glad that they are using their voices and freedom of speech.”

—MARY NEWCOME HATCH
PRE-LAW AND BUSINESS MAJOR

around the country.

Nakeesa Overby, political science major, said, in general, she supports the "Occupy" movement.

"I think it's a great thing," Overby said.

"We're exercising our right as a democracy and actually standing up for something for once."

There are some older OCCC students

that have experienced other great protests. Mary Newcome Hatch, pre-law and business major, is one such student.

"Occupy" is about the younger generation being involved finally," Hatch said.

"I have been so worried about the new generation's apathy toward everything that I'm glad that they are using their

voices and freedom of speech.

"I would compare it to the hippies from the 1960s. People only think of the hippies as being antiwar, but they fought for the three 'E's: economics, equality and employment.

"They fought, and, yes, we won. This is sort of an extension of that from the '60s, and they brought it to this newer form."

However mixed the reactions are, until the protests end Americans will have a new definition for the word "occupy."

For more information on the Occupy Wall Street movement and news, visit their website at www.occupywallstreet.org.

Your thoughts: Occupy Wall Street movement



“We’re exercising our right as a democracy and actually standing up for something for once.”

—Nakeesa Overby
Political Science



“I know that the Occupy Oklahoma movement is in Kerr McGee Park, a park given to the city by a corporation, so its kind of ironic how a movement that’s going against corporate greed is at a spot given to them by a corporation.”

—Caleb Strong
Political Science



“I wish there were better ways to solve things like that, but I think its necessary for us to make a stand and let people know how we feel about things.”

—Eddy Rackley
Management Information Systems



“I think it’s a very interesting movement,” Miller said. “I’m glad to see that a large group of people are voicing their opinion publicly for something they are frustrated with.”

—Morgan Miller
Political Science

PHOTOS BY MIKE WORMLEY/PIONEER

SPORTS

For the title



EMILY SCHORR/PIONEER

That Team Over There, pictured in pink, against the Smash Brothers (in red). Quarterback for the Smash Brothers, Victor Quezada (number 7), looks for an open teammate down the field. That Team Over There would go on to win the flag football title.

SPORTS | Aquatic aerobics program a change from the norm

Soak up the fun with Aqua Zumba

MATHEW WISSON
News Writing Student

Dancing in a swimming pool is just as much fun as rocking on the dance floor and the swim-dancers unknowingly get an intense workout, said James Hensley, aquatics and safety training specialist.

Offered in the campus aquatic center, Aqua Zumba is a type of aerobic exercise that stems from the original Latin-style dancing form of Zumba.

Aqua Zumba, however, takes those principles and throws the dancers in the water, giving them a type of cardio experience that many probably haven't encountered before.

"It is one of those classes that everyone comes out looking like they had a great time," Hensley said.

The average person can use anywhere from 400 to 900 calories in a 45-minute Aqua Zumba class, according to Zumba.com.

Considering the average on either a treadmill or bike is around 350

calories, the Aqua Zumba class gives a whole new meaning to feeling the burn.

A typical class is an intense aerobics course in the pool, where students will use dance moves to burn those calories.

The act of doing it in the water gives much better resistance to work against, said Sandy Price, Zumba instructor.

But exercising in water is easier on the muscles and joints. This is making Aqua Zumba popular because you get an even more intense workout than regular Zumba, while dancing to the regular salsa type music, Price said.

For those who want entertainment as a component of their exercise, Aqua Zumba is a good option.

Students are getting a complete workout while having an immensely good time, Price said.

Classes are every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 to 11:45 a.m. every week until the end of the semester.

To sign up, visit the Aquatic Center and receive an aerobics punch card and wrist band to participate in an Aqua Zumba class.

The price for a three-day pass is \$35 and a two-day workout pass is \$25.

Students can get additional information at the Aquatic Center or in the Recreation and Fitness Department, or by calling 405-682-1611, ext. 7442.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS

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.

Oct. 28 - 30: Chesapeake Swim Club Halloween Invitational Swim Meet. For more information, contact Jennifer Ball at 405-682-1611, ext. 7305.

Nov. 12: Westmoore High School Jaguar Invitational Swim Meet. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Nov. 18 - 20: Extreme Aquatic team EAT Turkey Swim Meet. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Dec. 2: Edmond/Altus Dual Swim Meet. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Dec. 3: Joe Stocker Invitational Swim Meet. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Dec. 9: Edmond/Norman Dual Swim Meet. 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.

OCCC 

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Piano: OCCC president hopes Steinway attracts music students

Continued from page 1

it opens.

“We want to have our piano students to be able to play it and have it for performances,” he said.

Sechrist said Oklahoma City businessman Edward Krei came into Edmond Music with an idea of helping students with music instruments. After discussion with Edmond Music owner Mike Gilliam, Gilliam referred Krei to Sechrist. In the meeting, Sechrist talked about OCCC students, dreams for the new Performing Arts Theater and the college’s mission statement.

“Community college students should have the same access to the same equipment as university students,” Sechrist said, “whether it’s science lab equipment or music equipment. That’s why we are building a theater. (Students) should have a theater.

“Just because you choose a community college doesn’t mean you get short changed at all. You should be playing the best instruments in the world.”

Krei said he believes in the power of Sechrist’s message. Krei went to college on a music scholarship at the University of Mississippi where he played in band and met his wife. Krei said he attributes the quality of his education to his success in life.

“I believe if kids, no matter what the age group, could be exposed to music it would greatly enhance their education,” he said.

Sechrist said, since OCCC had the opportunity to select the piano, Sechrist asked music Professor Ron Staton to travel to the Steinway Piano factory to select the piano.

Staton described the selection of the Steinway as an “awesome experience.”

“What you do is you go to the factory and you select which one you want, because pianos play differently. They are not all the same,” Staton said.

“You go into the selection room, and they have a room full of concert grand pianos and

“We have a world-class theater; we have the best piano in the world to play on.”

—PAUL SECHRIST
COLLEGE PRESIDENT

you sit down and play until you find the one you like the best.”

Staton said he played a variety of different kinds of music on the piano to see which one exhibited the qualities he was looking for.

“I played some things to show the power of the bass, some things to show the clarity of the treble,” he said. “[And] some things to be able to play a large range of dynamics so we would have something that would be very loud and powerful that would carry the entire room.”

Staton said the new Steinway is the top-of-the-line in terms of quality musical equipment.

“It’s as good as it gets,” he said.

Sechrist said he agrees with Staton about the quality of the piano. Sechrist, who plays and owns a piano, joked about being eager to have the opportunity to play the new Steinway.

“I can’t wait. I hope [Staton] will let me play it now and again,” Sechrist said.

C.C Simon, music major, said she is equally as excited for the new piano.

“The fact that someone donated to the music program just shows how far the music program is going,” Simon said. “With the piano, it means more learning and more experience for [students].”

Sechrist said he believes the new Steinway and the new Performing Arts Theater will attract future music majors to the college.

“We have a world-class theater; we have the best piano in the world to play on,” he said. “This will attract more music majors to our school and give them the opportunity to not feel like choosing to come here as a music major will diminish your experience.”



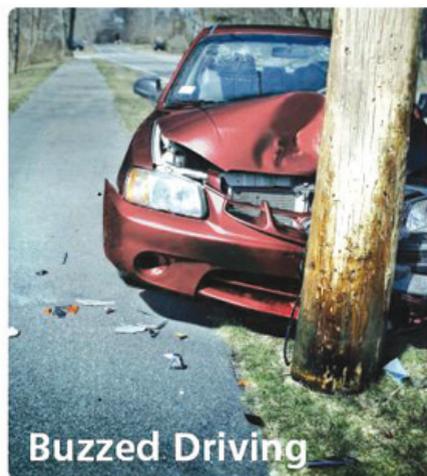
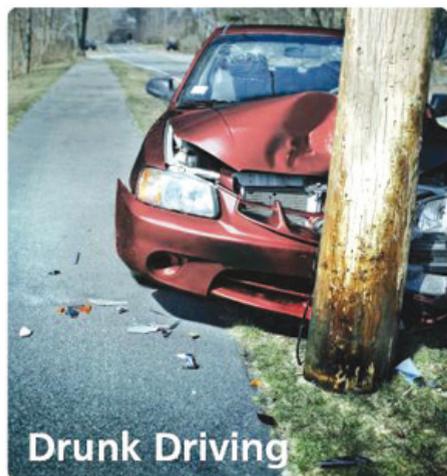
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CAMPUS COMMUNITY



MIKE WORMLEY/PIONEER

African storyteller Al Bostick entertains and teaches as he tells stories for Arts and Humanities Week. Bostick used a number of African instruments to musically illustrate his stories.

COMMUNITY | Al Bostick shared stories that contained life lessons

African storyteller visits OCCC

MIKE WORMLEY

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

The spotlights in OCCC's General Dining Area fell on Al Bostick, African storyteller Oct. 12 as part of the Arts and Humanities Week.

While much of the usual hustle and bustle of the lunch hour remained, students, faculty and staff members paused for the hour to be enthralled by Bostick's energetic show.

He brought to the stage with him a collection of West African instruments and stories from that region, but sprinkled into his presentation moments from his own life, and tying everything together with a theme of learning.

To illustrate the theme, he shared a story from Langston Hughes,

a fable about a mosquito, a song, and a series of anecdotes about his grandmother's lessons to him.

One such anecdote was about a time when his grandmother asked him to get some live crabs for gumbo.

She told him to put the crabs in a basket and watch them. He described how she said, "They all want out so they will all shift to one side," and they did. As he watched, one of the crabs was climbing on the backs of the others.

"He crawled up the side of each crab and, when he got to the edge of the basket, he got his pincher over and he got the other pincher over, and he started to pull himself out of the basket," Bostick said.

"(Grandmother) said, 'don't worry, watch what happens.' As soon as (the crab) got to the edge of

the basket, the three crabs ... pulled him right down into the basket. She said, 'that's like people. Never align yourself with crabs,'" he said.

These kinds of personal lessons saturated the stories he told and brought nostalgia to some members of the audience.

"I thought [the stories] were great," said Sheila Farley, biology major. "Actually, 25 years ago, my mom used to take me to the library, where he would tell stories, so it kind of made me feel like a kid again."

Marissa Steinhof, visual arts major, described how his stories could be applied to parenting.

"I loved the storytelling," Steinhof said. "It was very humorous and it brought good life lessons you could pass on to your kids and they could pass on to their kids."

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Brown Bag: Healthy Living

Student Life will be sponsoring a workshop addressing healthy choices in life at noon on Monday, Oct. 24 in CU 1. For more information contact Student Life at 405-682-1611, ext. 7523 or visit www.occc.edu/StudentLife.

Recognizing Rhetoric

The Communications Lab will be hosting a workshop over rhetoric and the rhetorical triangle at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24 in CU 2. For more information contact Nick Webb, Communications Lab Assistant, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7678, at nwebb@occc.edu, or visit www.occc.edu/comlab/Workshops.html.

Skype videoconference with Russia

OCCC Students will have the opportunity to speak with their counterparts from Ulyanovsk State University in Russia. The conversation will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 25 in CU3. All students are welcome to attend. For more information contact Germain Pichop, the Multicultural Students Business Club sponsor at 405-682-1611, ext. 7285.

Brown Bag: Identity Theft

Student Life will be hosting a workshop addressing the dangers of identity theft at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 25 in CU 1. For more information contact Student Life at 405-682-1611, ext. 7523 or visit www.occc.edu/StudentLife.

Kappa Beta Delta Induction

Kappa Beta Delta Honor Society will hold its Fall 2011 Induction Ceremony at 6:30 on Thursday, Oct. 27 in the general dining area. All KBD members and OCCC students are invited to attend. For more information contact Michael Southerland, publicity officer, at 405-626-1452.

Spring 2012 Tuition Waivers

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the Spring 2012 semester are now available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. on Nov. 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525.

Halloween Carnival

Officers from various OCCC student organizations with the direction of Student Life will be hosting a safe Halloween environment for children from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 in the GDA. For more information contact Student Life at 405-682-1611, ext. 7523.

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.

7 OUT OF 10 TOP-PAYING JOBS STRAIGHT OUT OF COLLEGE ARE IN ENGINEERING

Engineers earn top dollar

MARY MCATEE
News Writing Student

Even though people with engineering degrees earn high salaries right out of college, the number of students graduating from OCCC as pre-engineering majors makes up only 3 to 4 percent of the total graduating class.

Last year, 41 people graduated with pre-engineering associate degrees, said Greg Holland, head of the Engineering Department.

OCCC's total graduating class was more than 1200, according to the OCCC Board of Regents website.

A recent survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers revealed seven of the 10 top-paying jobs for bachelor's degree graduates are in engineering.

Chemical engineering was at the top of the list, followed by computer science, then mechanical engineering, and electrical engineering. The average starting salary for a chemical engineer with a bachelor's degree is almost \$67,000, according to the survey.

A couple of OCCC engineering students said the salary never really affected their decision to choose engineering.

Bobby Ray Williams, who plans to go into industrial engineering, said he chose his field for its versatility.

"With industrial engineering, you can go into different areas," he said.

Both of Williams' parents are engineers.

James Macdonald said he chose engineering because he was good at math, so it was either engineering or accounting. Macdonald pointed out how different students can see the same problem differently.

"I'm a mechanical engineer, so I see the cogs and gears," he said. "Electrical engineers see the electrons."

Holland said the most likely reason students don't pursue



COURTESY MARY MCATEE

Greg Holland poses with a Clear Banshee Robot. Holland plans on hosting robot-building contests for high school students to help recruit engineering students.

“With industrial engineering, you can go into different areas.”

—BOBBY RAY WILLIAMS
OCCC ENGINEERING STUDENT

engineering is because they are scared of taking the math classes.

"The math proves more challenging than most people are willing to undertake," he said.

Holland said he hopes to recruit more majors to OCCC's pre-engineering program by hosting robot-building contests for high school students.

"It's a team building exercise," he said.

Holland said the contest he has in mind would be cheaper than many of the more well known types of robot contests, such as BattleBots.

The department makes sure its students know what classes to take to prepare themselves

for a smooth transfer to a four-year university.

The degree sheets for the most common destination university are listed on the engineering website and available in the engineering lab to ensure students can prepare themselves for the next stage of their education.

Out of last year's class, about 70 percent of the pre-engineering graduates transferred to the University of Oklahoma, Holland said.

For more information about the college's pre-engineering program, contact Holland at gholland@occc.edu or by phone at 405-682-1611 ext. 7163.

Intern program



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