Lights, camera, action

Film and Video Production major Mariah Abram monitors the RED video camera while Holly Basey directs rapper Chris Porter, aka “Icon Okie,” during a Cinematography II music video production earlier this month. Group project members Stephen Jones and Mike Pollard also assisted with the production.

Rachel Morrison/Pioneer

2010 PASS RATE 7% LOWER THAN 2009

PTA program looks to improve

STEPHANIE LUNA
News Writing Student

The Physical Therapist Assistant program faculty are looking at this year’s test results with an eye for improvement next time.

On their first try at the national licensure exam, 78 percent of OCCC’s graduates passed in 2010, compared to 85 percent the year before.

Program Director Jennifer Ball said she has been studying the results to figure out what needs to be done to raise the success rate.

One issue she identified was a graduate who waited a full year before taking the exam. That student didn’t pass on the first try.

She said the college’s goal is to have a pass rate higher than the national rate. The national pass rate in 2010 was 82 percent, which has been the same for the past two years.

Nevertheless, Ball said, she felt good about OCCC’s program compared to its state peers.

The PTA program at OCCC has the highest pass rate out of all six schools in Oklahoma that offer the program.

Ball said one adjustment she and the rest of the department are struggling with is the change in the test that occurred in 2007.

When the national test for PTAs changed, all the curriculums across the nation had to change with it, Ball said.

“Since then we have made significant changes with the new information that we have found,” she said. “We also have implemented a comprehensive exam (at the end of the program).”

She said they also offer aids to help students with things like test anxiety.

After seeing the benefit of the comprehensive exam, Ball said, beginning this year all PTA graduates will be required to take it.

During the last two years that they have offered the comprehensive test as an option, the students who did not pass it did not pass the licensure exam either. Ball said the exam is a pretty good predictor on showing how the students will do on the licensure exam.

It also shows students where they need to concentrate their studying.

The OCCC Board of Regents monitors

See PTA page 9

Quake safety on the mind

OCCC professor weighs in on Oklahoma’s earthquakes

MARY MCATEE
News Writing Student

Oklahomans are still shaken by the earthquakes that hit the state earlier this month and some wonder if the ground is going to shake again.

Geology Professor Gary Houlette said while earthquakes will likely happen again, it’s unlikely the state will experience anything significantly stronger in the near future.

“I’m not sure if we have enough actual movement in Oklahoma to really worry about sevens or eights,” said Houlette, referring to the strength of an earthquake as measured by the Richter scale.

Oklahoma has experienced several earthquakes this month, including the record-breaking 5.6 magnitude earthquake on Nov. 5, a 4.7 magnitude earthquake that preceded it early that morning, and a 4.7 magnitude earthquake that followed the evening of Nov. 7.

OCCC’s campus hardly suffered any damage.

Monica Carlisle, the lead library circulation assistant, said a plaque indicating the location of maps and atlases fell off the wall and broke. She said the damage was assumed to have been caused by one of the earthquakes.

Residents in other parts of the state weren’t so lucky. Sheila Mazkoori, a news writing student from Prague, OK, said her family’s home suffered significant damage from the earthquakes.

“I was at home for the first one,” she said, referring to the 4.7 magnitude quake that happened early Saturday morning, Nov. 5. “The first one did some damage, but the second one messed up our living room.”

Several photos of Mazkoori’s living room show long cracks spreading across the walls.

Mazkoori said her chimney fell during the 5.6 magnitude earthquake on Nov. 7, a 4.7 magnitude earthquake that preceded it early that morning, and a 4.7 magnitude earthquake that followed the evening of Nov. 7.

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According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the epicenter of the 5.6 earthquake was 5 miles northwest of Prague.

Locating the epicenter of an earthquake...
OPINION

EDITORIAL | University must take responsibility for its actions regardless of how it affects school sports

Penn State scandal bigger than college football

By now, I’m sure you’ve heard about the Penn State scandal. You know, the one where the football team had an accused serial child molester, Jerry Sandusky, as an assistant coach for about 30 years. The one where prominent university staff such as the president, athletic director, and vice president of finance all knew about what was going on.

The one where all of them turned a blind eye to the entire situation and never once told police young boys were possibly being molested in their very own facilities.

The very same one that has the entire country second-guessing society as a whole, wondering how it was possible for an entire program to enable this behavior for so long. Whose fault is it, exactly? Is it the graduate assistant, Mike McQueary, who states he in 2002 he witnessed Sandusky in the shower with a presumed 10-year-old boy and decided to wait a day to notify head coach Joe Paterno? Is it Paterno, who simply told his higher-ups and left it at that? Is it the AD, Tim Curley, and the Vice President of Finance and Business, Gary Schultz, who heard of multiple occurrences and never contacted police?

My answer? All of them. Every single person with even the slightest hint of knowledge regarding Sandusky’s alleged actions over the course of 20 some-odd years is to blame. And people knew. Sandusky was even told not to bring children to Penn State after the shower incident. In a way, that was the school saying, “Now, you can do this on your own time, just don’t do it here.” Now everyone knows the men at the top (Curley, Schultz) are liars who tried to cover up this mess as they’re currently facing perjury charges. However, some in Happy Valley seem to think Paterno “did what he should have done” and deserved to leave on his own terms given his status within the football program. Really?

This fiasco supersedes sports entirely. It’s safe to say this is one of the bigger disgraces in recent memory. A man who heard about “inappropriate” and “disturbing” behavior between a man and a young boy just turned it over to his bosses who did nothing? In fact, Sandusky was allowed to retire in good grace. Apparently it was just another day at the office over at Penn State.

The fact that Penn State students rioted in the streets because their beloved coach was dropped on the spot shows how unreasonable and blinded some truly can be. It doesn’t matter Paterno has won more football games than any other coach or how long he’s been with the university. Paterno, along with everyone else, failed what it mattered the most.

The board of trustees at Penn State absolutely did what they had to do. The only solution is to clean house and rid themselves of all those involved or even remotely close to the situation. Given the negative attention and various lawsuits the university will encounter over the coming months, it probably wouldn’t be a bad idea to shut down the football program entirely for a year or two.

If you happen to think that any of the outcry concerning Sandusky, Paterno or whoever else is over the top — do yourself a favor and read the 23-page grand jury report for Sandusky’s indictment. That’s all there needs to be said.

—Morgan Beard
Staff Writer

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR SUE OATES | Heartfelt remembrance of Judy Gailey and her work at the college

Students, faculty mourn loss of math professor

To the editor:

OCCC and the math department has lost a long time teacher, friend, and student advocate.

Dr. Judy Gailey passed away from a heart attack while visiting a friend in Maryland.

Over the past 17 years she helped thousands of students as a Math Lab assistant and adjunct professor of mathematics. Her doctoral studies were in learning styles. She had excellence in her work with all students, but she had a marvelous, compassionate ability in working with students who struggled with math and with life.

Her funeral services will be this Saturday, Nov. 19, at 2 p.m. at Havenbrook Funeral Home in Norman.

Her son James, also known as Ian, and some of her family will be at the funeral home Friday evening, Nov. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. for people who can’t come Saturday, or would just like to come and visit.

Judy made a difference in lots of our lives. Her son James has a notebook of her tributes and thank you letters from students and colleagues.

If you have information to share with her son and family, you may email them to Tamara Carter, head of the Math Department, at tcarter@occc.edu.

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

MUSIC REVIEW | ‘The Goat Rodeo Sessions’ is a collaboration that works

Crossover act is entertaining

Classical music crossover acts have a tough row to hoe. They can be greeted with widespread, awe-inspired rapture or they can cause the collective scratching of heads.

There is no guarantee for success when it comes to classical music crossovers and that is due, in large part, to the accessibility of the music and the subject matter.

While currently mired in the days of Justin Beiber’s attempts at free-styling about the hardships of never hitting puberty to Kesha (yes, I know she uses an “S” in there somewhere but she’ll get no tacit endorsement from me), you run the risk of not getting the same media coverage for works that are actually groundbreaking and (gasp!) entertaining to listen to.

If there were ever an impresa-rio of the “popular” cello for the 20th-21st century it would be the versatile Yo-Yo Ma—the guy can do damn near anything and do it with amazing precision at that.

“The Goat Rodeo Sessions” is a collaboration of Ma, fiddler Stuart Duncan, bassist (and the recipient of the MacArthur Genius Grant) Edgar Meyer and mandolin-player Chris Thile.

Ma described the album as “wholly American.” Ma explained that it combined elements of classical music with Celtic, Bluegrass, Jazz and Appalachian tones; Ma’s description is spot on.

The largely instrumental album (save two tracks featuring the enchanting and empyrean vocals of Aoife O’Donovan) is dead on and could serve multiple purposes from simple background music at home to the soundtrack for any major moment in your life that requires soaring, melodic tones or an amazing string ensemble.

The music is pastoral yet upbeat and modern and holds a delicate mix of rapid-paced progressions and shades of the soulful and melodic.

Is the album perfect? No, but its few shortcomings are hardly noticeable unless one is specifically searching out items to critique and the slightly muddled transitions in one or two songs actually add character to the works.

The high points of the album include the lead track “Attaboys” and the haunting and piano laden “Franz and the Eagle.”

This album is not for everyone—but it’s not as though it attempts to be It understands its niche and doesn’t lose itself in attempting to cater to unrealistic audiences.

The string ensemble comes through in spades and creates a welcome addition to the arena of popular music that has become largely cluttered with tripe and unoriginality.

Rating: A-

—SEAN TOLBERT
Staff Writer

RETAIL REVIEW | Cheaper, potentially healthier cigarettes available

Local smoke shop offers savings

Smoking is dangerous. No one should smoke. This has been the disclaimer for this article.

For those who choose to indulge, D.D.N.T.Tobacco, located on SW 59th and May Ave., may be an excellent solution to getting quality tobacco without paying through the nose. The shop offers a unique deal: any carton of cigarettes in the shop, for only $25. How is this deal possible?

Customers select the blend of tobacco they like, and are handed a tub of that blend, a carton of cigarette tubes, and shown to a rolling station.

If that sounds unpleasant, reassurances are in order: The rolling machines are electric-hopper types, capable of turning out a carton in 30 minutes or less, even in the hands of a novice.

Further, the proprietors will take the time to work through the various blends of tobacco and tubes to ensure that the cigarette is customized to taste as close to the customer’s brand of choice as possible.

As to the tobacco, it, too, is unusual. It’s obtained directly from the growers, with none of the additives or processing that make commercial cigarettes so much worse for a smoker’s health than plain tobacco would be. The lack of those additives has two primary effects.

First, the tobacco’s flavor is remarkable. Clean and untainted. The purity of the taste caught this author off guard with the first few puffs. However, one of the missing additives is the sweetener that takes the kick out of tobacco.

Which is the second effect: These smokes, while full flavored and enjoyable, kick like a mule on the back end. The smoke is rough towards the end of the cigarette, as the untreated tobacco puts out a dryer, harsher smoke. One other flaw in the offering is the “one-size-fits-all” model. The shop only sells king-sized tubes.

Again, though, this is not without merit. The rolling machines allow the consumer to choose how densely the cigarettes are filled. A cigarette packed at the highest density producible actually lasts longer than a 100 will, puff for puff.

So, to recap: on the upside, incredibly cheap, somewhat healthier, blended to custom request, and longer lasting than most commercially available cigarettes.

October and November have been busy months in the Office of Academic Advising. Fall classes are quickly coming to an end, and for those who have not yet enrolled for spring semester, it is important to get enrolled as soon as possible.

Enrolling early allows you to ask important questions and get informed responses. Students often want to know: What classes do I have left to take? Can I take an intersession course? What is online coursework like and is there online help if I have trouble? Can I enroll online? Do I need to test for course placement? When do I apply for graduation? These are all questions the Office of Academic Advising can help you get the answers to.

Reasons to visit the Office of Academic Advising include: confirm or change program or major; request to be assigned to a faculty adviser; get a degree check; write a diversified studies contract; obtain information on career exploration; get help with course selections; get test scores evaluated; establish a personalized education plan; get help with balancing school with life. As always, students can avoid long lines during the heavy enrollment period which is the first few weeks before classes start by choosing classes early.

When you enroll early, there is more class availability for you to choose from, the lines are shorter, and during the semester, faculty are available on campus to help you select your faculty approved electives.

Students who wait until the last minute to enroll may find that class availability at times that are convenient with their work and personal schedules are more difficult to find. Therefore, planning ahead and meeting with an academic adviser now may ensure optimal course placement and course availability.

To set up an appointment to meet with an academic adviser or a faculty adviser call 405-682-7535.

On the downside, not as sweet, one size only, and it takes longer than grabbing a carton on the fly. Still, for the money and time, this author highly recommends this shop to any smoker looking to keep on puffing without emptying wallet or purse to do it.

Rating: B+

—LINDA LITTLE
Transfer and Academic Advising Coordinator

Disclosure: D.D.N.T. Tobacco offers a free carton for every ten recommendations. Jeremy Cloud will not accept any free products generated by this article.
AMY WILSON’S COLLEGE WRITING CLASS TEACHES OTHERS TO ACHIEVE GOALS

Professor motivates students with words

PRISCILLA COLLEY
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

Motivating students in a myriad of ways is what Amy Wilson, Learning Skills Professor, enjoys doing.

Each semester in her College Writing II class, Wilson issues a challenge to her students, a wellness challenge.

“I want to motivate students to write,” she said.

“Their writing is more engaged and stronger when it’s something they’re engaged in or connected too,” Wilson said.

The students pick their own wellness habit they want to adopt, then log and keep track of their progress.

At the end of three weeks, the students write a persuasive paper about the habit they adopted.

Wilson leaves it up to the students if they want to continue with the goal.

“One girl last spring wanted to lose a half pound every week and from then until this semester she has lost 38 pounds. In addition to acquiring and improving writing skills, we’re actually improving ourselves and helping each other out,” Wilson said.

Wilson said she creates an encouraging environment where students help others reach their goals.

“We do it together and each week we have meetings where we discuss our goals and our progress for the week,” she said.

“One student wanted to stop smoking and was having a difficult time. His classmates were sending him websites and texting him daily encouraging him to not smoke.

“I appreciate the help too, I’m trying to be a vegetarian but I’m not being very successful, I keep backsliding. I do a better job when the class is doing the project with me!”

The effects of this exercise go far beyond writing skills, OCCC student Austin Payne said. Payne attempted to go vegan for a week.

“It’s very hard to be vegan in America, but after only three or four days my cognitive skills improved dramatically,” Payne said. “I had a clearer head and much better ability to focus, for longer amounts of time.

“The wellness challenge has changed my diet and me for the rest of my life,” Payne said. “I have so much respect for my teacher. She opened my eyes and helped me improve so many areas of my life from only one assignment.

“I’m very thankful,” Payne said.

Wilson said part of the fun of this assignment is seeing what her students will choose.

“One mother and her daughter attempted to skate around their apartment complex everyday and pick up trash while doing so.”

“The wellness challenge makes writing less boring for them,” she said.

“Students come in and don’t like to write.

“It’s my goal to change their mind by the end of the semester,” Wilson said.

“I keep doing this activity for their health but mainly because connecting to an activity makes them better writers.”

IVANA PAVIC STRESSES UNDERSTANDING OVER MEMORIZATION

OCCC hires physics professor from Serbia

CHRIS JAMES
News Writing Student

Physics Professor Ivana Pavic grew up in Serbia, the daughter of two mathematicians, but was most recently working in California before coming to OCCC, she said.

While growing up, she always had an affinity for math and science, she said.

At home, her father would give her challenging new problems to solve, and her mother was always helpful in explaining how to solve them.

Later, Pavic was able to attend a high school especially geared towards science that was named after the famous Serbian physicist and physical chemist Mihailo Pupin.

Pavic said the education system of Serbia is different from that of the U.S., because most children in Serbia are exposed to higher mathematics at a younger age.

An experienced instructor, Pavic had taught college courses in physics, physical science, and astronomy in California before moving to Oklahoma and joining the OCCC teaching faculty.

In addition to teaching Advanced Placement Physics at Edison High School in Fresno, she has taught courses at California State University in Fresno, Fresno City College, and West Hills College in Lemoore.

Despite other offers, Pavic said, the choice to work at OCCC was easy.

“I really like the people here,” she said.

Pavic received her master’s degree in physics in 2006 from California State University in Fresno, the same university where she obtained her bachelor’s degree with magna cum laude honors.

Before attending CSU, Pavic studied physics at the University of Belgrade in Belgrade, Serbia.

In the classroom, Pavic said, she believes that understanding is more important than memorization.

She said students are only in class for a short period of time and it is important to use that time making sure they have an understanding that can be built upon.

Time for Three inspires music

ASHLEY FUKSA
News Writing Student

An original tune about coal miners who built a city was the opening song for Time for Three when the trio performed on campus Nov. 3.

Rannan Meyer, who plays the double bass, wrote this moving song entitled "Wyoming 307." Violinists Zachary De Pue and Nicolas Kendall complete the trio.

As they played the song, the members of the group recited an inspirational story of the miners who accomplished this feat.

James Nantz, an audience member, said he liked how they put emotion into their work.

“I appreciated the depth Time for Three put into their music. It spoke to me,” Nantz said.

There was plenty of interaction between the audience and the performers, with audience members tapping their feet and bobbing their heads in time to the music.

Time for Three group members stopped occasionally throughout their performance to talk about their music. Their stories added a personal touch and showed their passion for their music.

When they talked about their schooling at Philadelphia’s Curtis Institute of Music, De Pue joked about how the school had a great football team. The group played a few familiar songs, but they added their own twist to the tunes. Some of the songs they included were “Encore: Hallelujah,” by Leonard Cohen and "Stronger," by Kanye West and Daft Punk.

Kendall said the trio had just launched its first music video a few weeks ago. The music video is entitled “Stronger,” which is a production that promotes anti-bullying.

The group closed by playing the "Orange Blossom Special," by Charlie Rouse. The song is a fast paced tune that tells the story of a luxury train line.

Audience member Pat Hicks said, “We have been coming to events on campus for several years and this would be one of the best events we have been to. It was fabulous.”

Time of Three concert was part of the Cultural Arts Series.
Ceremony honors veterans and families

FRANCESCA BANKS
News Writing Student

Johnny Surles, a representative from the Oklahoma Department of Veteran Affairs, spoke about the history of Veterans Day on campus Nov. 11.

Surles commended service members and their families for their contribution to America’s freedom.

"Forty-nine million individuals have served in the military," Surles said.

"Every veteran has earned the permanent gratitude of this country."

"The service all comes down to the character of those who fly the planes, man the ships, and carry the rifles," Surles said.

"The families of those who have served and who are currently serving have also sacrificed."

Surles said he is a native Oklahoman, born in Lawton, who served in the Vietnam War.

About 30 individuals, including OCCC staff, faculty and students, gathered in the College Union to remember those who have served and who are currently serving in the military.

Joyce Morgan-Dees, OCCC’s senior research analyst, welcomed everyone and introduced OCCC student John Adams, who spent 20 years in the military.

He is studying to be a registered nurse, while also serving in the Army Reserve at Tinker Air Force Base. Adams gave the student reflection during the ceremony.

Adams said he was born in Louisiana where he attended a community college before earning his bachelor’s degree in anthropology at the University of Texas. Adams said he has a strong interest in special operations.

"When I was a boy I remember watching the names of missing-in-action and dead soldiers on the evening news," Adams said. He said members of the different branches of service are all on the same team, even if they wear different uniforms.

Candice Parker, a sophomore vocal music major at OCCC, sang the "Star Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America."

Alley Cats to perform doo-wop music

HILARY GROATMAN
News Writing Student

The doo-wop group, the Alley Cats, will perform on campus at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1.

Bringing their own "contemporary style" to well known hits from the ’50s and ’60s, the Alley Cats will kick off the holiday season at the Bruce Owen Theater, said Lemuil Bardeguez, director of cultural programs.

"This particular show is entitled "Jingle Bell Rock: A Harmoniously Hysterical Holiday Hit!"

Their style of music is known for its male four-part harmony sung without instrumental accompaniment, Bardeguez said.

Although this show is holiday themed, the Alley Cats will incorporate their main hits, like "Rockin’ Robin" into the set.

Although this a cappella group appeals to the older demographic due to the time period in which the Cats get their style, Bardeguez said, the quartet also appeals to the entire family because of the interaction they have with the audience and the comedy they display while on stage.

"It’s a good time," Bardeguez said.

"The Alley Cats showcase the arts in an entertaining way."

Besides performing at theaters and other event locations, the Alley Cats have traveled to more than 2,000 schools throughout the U.S.

The Catsteam students about the elements of music and performance. More information about this program can be found on their website at http://www.thealleycats.com/arts-ed.iml.

Having multiple groups of Alley Cat performers allows them to travel to different cities and share their talent with many audiences on the same day.

"Oklahoma City Community College is proud to host a group of them for a night of wintertime classics in the a cappella," Bardeguez said.

Tickets are $10 for students, $17 for staff, and $22 for general admission. For more information, visit the Cultural Art Series website at www.occc.edu/cas, or call their office at 405-682-7576.

Absolute journal calls for campus submissions

AMBER GIORDANO
News Writing Student

Absolute, OCCC’s literary and art journal, is now accepting submissions for the 2012 publication. The deadline is Dec. 2. They are looking for works of short fiction, non-fiction essays, poetry, black- and-white photography, and art.

Its main goal is to provide a resource to the arts and the aesthetics of life, said Faculty Adviser Jon Inglett. It also gives artists something to add to their resume.

The journal has been published on campus since 1972. All students are encouraged to submit a piece of work.

"You never know what might happen," Inglett said.

"You could be pleasantly surprised." While the journal is an OCCC publication, anyone in the country can submit work. The submission form is on their website, which it reached by selecting Absolute under Publications.

The form is in PDF form and must be mailed to the Division of Arts and Humanities, or e-mailed to Faculty Adviser Marybeth McCauley.

A ceremony for the next edition of Absolute will be held in April. Students will present their art and read their stories. Those whose work is published will receive a free copy.

Interested students can contact one of the many student advisers, Jon Inglett or Marybeth McCauley, through the Division of Arts and Humanities or one of the many student advisers listed on the website.

Earlier copies of Absolute are on the website in PDF form from 2002 to present and physical copies from as early as 1972 can be found in the library.

"If you want to see what people were writing in the ’70s," Inglett said, "that's the place to look."
Movember: Get hairy for men’s health

SARAH HUSSAIN
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

Movember is the month for men to concentrate on their health and to grow a whopping moustache while spreading the message to others, searching for a cure to prostate cancer.

“Movember” is a worldwide annual celebration of the moustache, which takes place throughout the month of November and its purpose is to highlight men’s health issues, particularly awareness of prostate and testicular cancers, according to www.movember.com.

Neil Woodward, a colorectal doctor with the Advanced Colorectal Associates of Oklahoma City, said symptoms of these cancers are not experienced by all.

"The main ones are frequent and painful urination, blood in the urine or semen and pain or stiffness in the lower back, hips or upper thighs," Woodward said.

One of the main reasons for the rise of Movember is because men are particularly lax when it comes to looking after their health in comparison to women.

"On the whole men are much more reluctant to discuss health issues publically and also more likely to put off a trip to the doctor until absolutely necessary because of painful symptoms.

"Of course, by the time an illness has taken hold to the extent where there is constant pain or discomfort it may be too late to receive a cure. That’s doubly tragic when asked to take his photograph.

"Mo" is slang for moustache and replaces the “No” from the eleventh month of the year to produce Movember.

During November, men’s health issues are highlighted and the entire program is presented in a jovial way but delivering a serious and worthy message: to raise funds and find a cure for prostate cancer.

Consistent with the website, the Movember Foundation is a nonprofit charity that operates worldwide and is responsible for promoting the health initiative each year.

It started in 2003 in Melbourne, Australia by a group determined to bring back the moustache as a fashion item.

The following year the campaign became associated with raising funds for prostate cancer and managed to bank an impressive AU $55,000 on behalf of the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

Over the last five years the campaign has expanded throughout the western world raising more than $174 million for prostate cancer research.

Woodward said there are many preventative methods one can take.

"Like anyone will say, by eating healthy and exercising, you cut down on any type of possible sickness or disease. Eat fewer calories, cut back on fat intake, watch how much calcium you consume, eat more fish and vegetables," he said.

"The more you know about the normal development and function of the prostate, the better you can understand how the cancer develops and impacts a man’s life over time," Woodward said.

Prostate cancer facts

- It's the most common cancer in men.
- It’s the second most common cause of death from cancer among white, African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic men.
- Prostate cancer has been increasing steadily in the U.S. for several decades. Data from the National Cancer Institute’s Surveillance, Epidemiology and Results program (SEER) are adjusted to take into account the fact that the U.S. population is gradually growing older.
- There are many potential causes for prostate cancer, such as genetic factors, which account for as much as 5-10 percent.
- This leaves 90-95 percent unexplained. The greatest increase in prostate cancer during the second half of the 20th century is likely due to a change in the environment and/or lifestyle.

herbanlifestyle.wordpress.com

Local workshops offered

Men’s Health University by INTEGRIS is designed to educate men and their families on the importance of men taking charge of their own health. Here are some in the Oklahoma City area:

INTEGRIS Baptist Medical Center
3300 NW Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405-949-3011

INTEGRIS Canadian Valley Hospital
1201 Health Center Parkway
Yukon, OK 73099
405-717-6800

INTEGRIS Health Edmond
4801 INTEGRIS Parkway
Edmond, OK 73034
405-657-3000

INTEGRIS Heart Hospital
3300 NW Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405-949-3011

INTEGRIS Hospice House
13920 Quailbrook Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
405-848-8884

INTEGRIS Jim Thorpe Rehabilitation
4219 S. Western
Oklahoma City, OK 73109
405-644-5200

INTEGRIS Mental Health: Spencer
2601 Spencer Rd.
Spencer, OK 73084
405-427-2441

INTEGRIS Southwest Medical Center
4401 S. Western Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73109
405-636-7000
Thanksgiving isn’t even here yet, but that doesn’t stop some from getting into the Christmas spirit. The Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum will hold a Victorian Christmas Open House from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Dec. 9, in Norman.

Angela Gutierrez, museum curator, said the open house will be a good opportunity for those wanting to enthrall themselves in the Victorian era, roughly defined by the reign of Queen Victoria in the last half of the 19th century.

“The event will be great for everyone to travel through time and have fun while you’re at it,” Gutierrez said.

Guests will be given the opportunity to tour the house, built in 1899, showcasing true-to-life elements and aspects from the Victorian age with a holiday twist. The entire house will be decorated with Christmas décor and lighting, setting the holiday atmosphere for all in attendance. Gutierrez said Christmas carolers and music would be present as well.

The Victorian Christmas Open House will be in collaboration with the 2nd Fridays Art Circuit that is also on Dec. 9, located nearby in downtown Norman. For guests planning to attend both events, carriage rides will be offered back and forth.

In addition to the tour, carolers and carriage rides, guests will be offered many snacks and drinks.

“The event is free, the carriage rides are free, everything is free unless you would like to purchase things from our gift shop,” Gutierrez said. “This event acts as our winter fundraiser so donations are gratefully accepted and appreciated.”

In an effort to raise money for the winter fundraiser, Gutierrez said there would be a jewelry vendor present as well as various raffles and a wine tasting exhibit.

The Christmas Open House also marks the unveiling of renovations done to the second floor of the museum. With work dating back to 2003, the Moore-Lindsay house has done its best to stay true-to-form.

“The Moore-Lindsay Historical House has gone through thick and thin, years of weather and time, taking away from its beauty,” Gutierrez said. “The Christmas Open House will be a fantastic time to show off what work has been done.”

According to the museum’s website, the city of Norman bought the Moore-Lindsay house in 1973 and arranged funding to restore the house to its unique form. A form so unique that it simply can’t be replicated in other “normal” museums, said Assistant Curator Erin Smith.

“Unlike the cold, sterile environment of most modern day museums, house museums give people the opportunity to explore the history of life through objects displayed within their original spacial context,” Smith said.

Even with the unveiling of the second floor during the Christmas Open House, Gutierrez said, the first floor is set to undergo renovations of its own next fall. The home’s entire process of renovation will then be complete.

The Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum is located on 508 N. Peters in Norman. For more information regarding the Christmas Open House or the museum in general, visit their website at www.normanhistorichouse.org.
Too few players cancels tournament

BRANDON WILLIS
News Writing Student

Basketball players faced disappointment Nov. 11 when OCCC’s Intramural 5-on-5 tournament was cancelled due to an insufficient number of participants. Only nine players appeared for the tournament that was to be held on Veterans Day.

The excitement of the players as they walked into the gym quickly evaporated when they saw that not enough players showed up and the prospect of a cancelled tournament loomed before them. The tournament was scheduled to start at 1 p.m. but with so few players attending the tournament, Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson decided to move the tip-off time back to 1:30 p.m. in an attempt to give the late teams a chance to show up.

Unfortunately for the players, no one else came. Glumness and disappointment were immediately evident when the cancellation of the tournament was announced.

A potential participant in the tournament, Pierre Davis, was let down by what he perceived to be a lack of interest in college athletics. “I'm very disappointed,” Davis said. “It shows that no one cares about the events going on in the gym.”

Another participant, Drew Mitchell, was unhappy that his investment of time and gas money had come to nothing. “I drove from Shawnee expecting to play a lot of games,” Mitchell said. “It’s about a 40 minute drive.”

Several players felt that there was a lack of advertisement for the tournament and cited that in particular as a reason for the low turnout. “I don’t think you can just throw something out there for two weeks with no exact time or date and expect people to show up,” Davis said.

Mitchell said he also thought that not enough publicity was put into getting the tournament. “I think it’s easier to just sign off on a paper because no one wants to go through the trouble of finding a website.”

Watson said he was not surprised by the shortage of participants. “We had teams signed up but they didn’t take it seriously,” Watson said. When asked if he would reschedule the tournament, Watson said no. “We usually don’t have a tournament in the fall but we usually have a competitive intramural league in the spring so I expect a better turnout next semester.”

Information for intramural and athletic events being held can be found by visiting the Wellness Center’s website at www.occc.edu/RF/wellness or by calling 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.
Quake: Slim chance of stronger shakers in Oklahoma

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Involves triangulating the position between seismic stations. "To locate the epicenter, you have to locate between at least three [stations]," Houlette said.

The Richter scale is the most common method of measuring earthquakes. Each whole number on the Richter scale represents 10 times more amplitude in seismic waves, and corresponds to about 31 times more energy being released than the whole number just below it.

Another scale, the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale, measures an earthquake with observed damage.

Falling chimneys is one of the criteria on the Modified Mercalli scale, Houlette said.

"The fall of a chimney is classified as an eight (VIII).

The Oklahoma Geological Survey's website said the earthquake probably occurred on the Wilzetta fault line. The vast number of fault lines in that area makes it difficult to pinpoint exactly which fault was responsible for the quakes.

A map posted by the Oklahoma Geological Survey shows the Wilzetta fault east of Drumright, and extending southwest to near Shawnee.

While the recent earthquakes have been alarming, they may have reduced the risk for a larger quake in the same area.

"The longer we go without having a large earthquake, the more the stresses build up over time and the more potential we have for a larger earthquake," Houlette said. "It's like taking a two-liter bottle of pop and shaking it up. If you let the fizz out a little bit at a time, when you totally take the lid off it's not nearly as bad."

Houlette said before getting earthquake insurance, people should ask if their home will receive significant damage, and whether they can afford it.

The monthly cost of earthquake insurance depends on where you live. The deductible if your house receives damage is a percentage of your home's value.

"Not everyone can get earthquake insurance.

"We're not eligible for it right now," Mazkoori said. "She said because her house is so close to where the quakes occurred, they have to wait before the house can be insured for future seismic events.

Many people are concerned that hydraulic fracturing may be causing tremors. Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is the process of pumping water into the earth to break apart rocks and reach oil.

"There are some questions about what can do," Houlette said. "I don't think there's any direct evidence that links hydraulic fracturing with the earthquakes that we're having right now."

A report from the Oklahoma Geological Survey stated it could not determine if fracking was responsible for a series of quakes in Garvin County that happened in January. It has not been ruled out as a possibility though. Though earthquakes are novel and frightening to many, Houlette points out they’re part of the Earth’s geological cycle.

"Earthquakes are simply a release of energy within the interior of the Earth," he said. "Our planet is constantly moving."

For more information, contact Gary Houlette at ghoulette@occc.edu or visit the Oklahoma Geological Survey's website at www ogs.ou.edu.

PTA: High standard set for program

Continued from page 1

The pass rate for all of the college's health professions programs. They received the totals for the PTA program as part of the Monitoring Report on Achieving the College’s ENDS: Graduate Success” in October.

Heather Tapp, a current PTA student, is due to take the state licensure exam in May and said she is confident in what she is learning.

"The program here is a really good and solid program," she said.

Another PTA student, Stephanie Nees, said she too is satisfied with the instruction.

"This is a really good program with a lot of information," she said. "The faculty is really helpful and wants you to succeed."

Ball also said the PTA department sets the bar high for themselves and tries to surpass the national pass rate on the first try every time. Their goal is a 100 percent pass rate.

"We try to find the students that need more help and get them the help early on," Ball said.

Physical therapist assistants work with along with physical therapists in rehabilitating patients who have had surgeries, accidents or other medical issues that require care.

Ball said her program is proud of its 100 percent job placement for graduates. She said some employers work to recruit the PTA students even before they have finished the program.

The PTA program accepts 20 students per year from about 90 applications.

For more information about the PTA program, contact Ball at jball@occc.edu or 405-682-1611, ext. 7305.

I don’t think there’s any direct evidence that links hydraulic fracturing with the earthquakes that we’re having right now.”

—Gary Houlette
Geology Professor

Slim chance of stronger shakers in Oklahoma

Continued from page 1

The Pioneer doesn’t stop with the paper.
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Chat with Russia crosses seas

JAMES KRAMMEL
News Writing Student

A multicultural video conference on Oct. 25 between OCCC students and students from the Ulyanovsk State University located in Ulyanovsk, Russia, offered students at both schools a small window into the lives of their counterparts.

About 20 students and faculty from OCCC attended the conference, while about 10 Russian students made an appearance.

The video cameras for both classrooms were situated to show all of the students instead of focusing on one student individually.

It was clear to OCCC students that the Russian students were bashful about their ability to speak English. However, many of the Russian students answered with great clarity.

"How many of you guys work?" asked business student Kelly Stone.

After each Russian student giggled while handing off the microphone to another, one Russian student eventually responded to Stone's question. "None of us," the student said.

Russian students explained most of their parents pay for their college and the costs of school are much lower in Russia than the U.S.

Students participating in the video conference from each school were encouraged to ask questions regarding not only education but also everyday life.

OCCC student Seok Hwang asked, "Is Russia still a communist country?"

The professor from Ulyanovsk University replied said Russia is no longer a communist country and in his opinion communism ended in 1990s.

"Nevertheless, Russia does not have a capitalist structure like the United States," the Russian professor said.

When asked how they learn English, a Russian student said they study English for three years before college, then go on to learn it at a university.

Though the conference started at 6:14 p.m. in Russia, it was an early 9:14 a.m. for the students in Oklahoma.

Stone, an officer in both Students In Free Enterprise and the business honor society Kappa Beta Delta at OCCC, reported this was the second year she had attended the multicultural video conference.

The video conference between both universities lasted for 46 minutes. The conference was cut short due to Ulyanovsk University closing for the evening.

Department Chair of International Business

We hope we will have more students with us next year.

GERMAIN PICHOP

All Highlights are due Tuesday 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.
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.

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Book sale funds Engineering Club activities

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

MONEY TO PAY FOR FIELD TRIPS AND PREPARATIONS FOR CAREERS

The club deposited $256 as a result of the sale, and sold over 170 books. In years past, Camacho said, similar sales have raised as much as $600.

He said the money will go towards funding club activities like field trips and hands-on activities to help prepare engineering students for their careers.

Business major Kyle Ward, who spent $4 on two hefty physics textbooks, said the sale gave him an opportunity to learn about a new subject.

“I like to read, and I love physics, but it’s not my major,” Ward said.

With most hardback textbooks costing over $100 a pop, he said, purchasing the books from the sale allowed him to read up about a subject that interests him in his spare time — without breaking the bank.

Engineering club meetings are held at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday in room 1T1 in the Science, Engineering, and Math Center. Camacho said he encourages everyone to stop by — even if they aren’t engineering majors.

“Because there are no math or science clubs, we’ve kind of become an all-around club (for those subjects) by default,” he said.

For more information, visit www.occc.campusgroups.com/engineering.

HOLIDAY BUILDING HOURS

Below are the OCCC building, office and student Lab hours for the Thanksgiving Holiday break. The college will be closed Thursday, Nov. 24, through Sunday, Nov. 27. The college will resume normal business hours Monday, Nov. 28.

Main Building Hours:
- Monday, Nov. 21: 7 a.m. – 11 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 22: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 23: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 24-27: Closed

Communications Lab Hours:
- Monday: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Thursday - Sunday: Closed

Math Lab Hours:
- Monday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Tuesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Thursday - Sunday: Closed

Physical Science Lab hours:
- Monday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Tuesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Thursday - Sunday: Closed

Test Center Hours:
- Monday: 8 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
- Tuesday – Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Thursday – Sunday: Closed

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