

PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

WILL A NEW WAR BREAK OUT IN IRAN?

Online Writer Mike Wormley predicts the trade embargo recently placed on Iran will be the start of a new war. Read his thoughts inside.

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CAMPUS LIFE

SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AVAILABLE

Students are turning to many other sources for college scholarship money. Look inside to find out where to look for more funding options.

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OCCC LAUDED FOR BEING FIT

OCCC has been named a Certified Healthy Campus by the Oklahoma State Department of Health. Turn inside for more information on the award.

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CAMPUS LIFE

FUNDING NEEDED FOR CLUB EVENT

The Black Student Association is raising funds to attend a student government conference. Read more inside.

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PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 27, 2012

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Noontime music



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Texas-based musician Zane Williams performs his own style of Texas honkeytonk in the College Union Jan. 18. He played songs like "People Like Me" and a hit song he wrote called "Hurry Home" before leaving for his next stop in Dallas.

FEB. 29 DATE SET BY ONLINE MARKETING COORDINATOR TO LAUNCH SITE

OCCC's new website almost ready

SARAH HUSSAIN

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The date for the release of OCCC's newly renovated website has been moved up to Feb. 29, said Online Marketing Coordinator John Richardson.

Richardson said the initial goal of having the site up and ready by Nov. 15 was not met because of internal, technical and external issues.

"We were probably overly optimistic about how some of the things would go in the project," he said. "It's an extremely large and complicated project."

Marketing and Public Relations Director Paula Gower said this is more than just a redesign.

"It's not like repainting a house," she said. "We've done that in the past. This is adding a lot more functionality to the website."

Richardson said the changes are very noticeable.

"A lot of what is on the website is new stuff," he said. "We've done a lot of writing. The things that are ... important to

“It's not like repainting a house. We've done that in the past. This is adding more functionality to the website.”

—PAULA GOWER
MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

students and perspective students are a lot more visible.”

One of those is academic programs. "Academic programs is something that ... makes the new website really friendly, especially for perspective students," Richardson said.

He said that feature allows students who are deciding whether to attend OCCC to scroll through a list on the main Web page to see if what they want to study is offered at the college. It gives information on the different majors offered — from what courses to take to which faculty are a part of that program.

Richardson said he believes the website

Enrollment dips slightly for spring

Research director says improving economy a factor

JEREMY CLOUD

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Preliminary enrollment numbers are down slightly compared to this time last year, said Stu Harvey, planning and research executive director.

But lower numbers aren't necessarily bad, Harvey said.

"There's a link between the economy and college enrollment, especially at community colleges," he said. "When the economy trends downwards, enrollment goes up, and vice-versa."

And the difference is very slight. According to the preliminary report, there are 12,915 individual students taking classes at OCCC, only 241 fewer than spring of 2011.

But the drop is not unexpected, Harvey said.

"This is happening at community colleges all over," he said. "Not only that, but on average, in a 10-year period, three of those years will show enrollment declines."

Harvey said the slight drop might actually help ease the pressure on the college's capacity to serve students.

"When we talk about capacity, it's not just a fixed number," Harvey said. "Capacity takes into account things like seating, distribution of class times, finding qualified adjuncts and online versus on campus."

Online classes are among the fastest-growing services the college offers, Harvey said, with an estimated 30 percent of all students taking an online course.

Twelve percent of those taking online courses are enrolled in online only.

Harvey said while teaching online alleviates one problem, others still exist.

For instance, he said, OCCC still has to find qualified teachers and times slots

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See ENROLLMENT page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Iran threatening to fight back against sanctions

Will trade embargo lead to war?

On Monday, Jan. 23, the Associated Press reported that the European Union and Iran are escalating tensions over Iran's nuclear program and the trade embargo placed on Iran. Iran retaliated by threatening to block the Strait of Hormuz. According to the report, "analysts doubt that Iran would maintain a blockade for long, but any supply shortages would cause world oil supplies to tighten temporarily."



MIKE WORMLEY

This does not look good. Once again we have countries on the world theater behaving like children on the playground. And while the European Union is not a single country, it behaves as one unit in cases of trade.

I fear that this escalation may lead to unintended consequences. Greece, an EU member, needs to be

considered during these exchanges because of how desperately it depends on the low-priced Iranian oil. Such an embargo may hurt the already fragile economy for Greece.

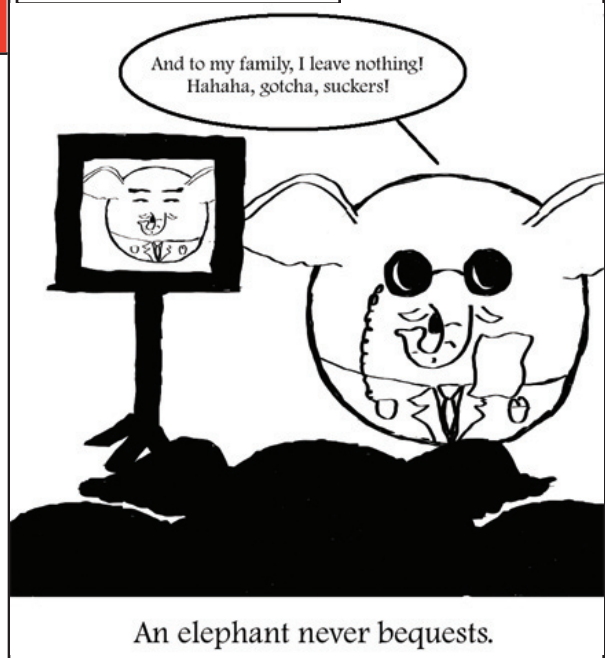
The strait, according to the AP article, is just 34 miles wide and is the only way to get from the Persian Gulf to the open ocean. This means it would be easily defensible by Iran if its threat is carried out. There also is the likelihood of U.S. military involvement if these issues progress too far.

The origin of the EU embargo and similar U.S. sanctions enacted last month is to apply pressure on Iran to discontinue its nuclear enrichment program — a program "in violation of six U.N. Security Council resolutions and 11 resolutions by the International Atomic Energy Agency," according to a statement by EU foreign ministers on Monday.

Iran rejected the sanctions but does seem to be willing to work diplomatically, as does the EU.

I think the only way we can prevent something Iran is already calling a "psychological war" would

BALLIARD BILL



JEREMY CLOUD

be for President Barack Obama to step in and get an open discussion going. If these conditions do not improve, however, it is likely the U.S. will side with our ally the EU, which could lead to another war in the region. Let us hope not.

—MIKE WORMLEY
ONLINE WRITER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | Letter writer disagrees that smoking is comparable to overeating

Reader says smoking editorial has good and bad points

To the Editor:

I just wanted to write in and respond to Mr. Cloud's portion of [last week's editorial]. He makes a good point and a couple of faulty ones.

His good point is that people should not be discriminated against for things they do on their own time that [don't] affect others. That is absolutely true.

However, he has two flaws in his argument.

First, smoking is often done on the company dime, and affects non-smokers in the way that they are left to pick up the slack while the smokers fix themselves up.

"I do think that smoking on the job at all should be illegal except on specific breaks that everyone gets ..."

—DEVAN OZMENT
PIONEER READER

Second, all his examples (weight, sexual morals, prospect of death), are vastly different from smoking.

There is no such thing as secondhand obesity.

Just [be]cause I eat my heart out doesn't mean others get fat.

Smokers on the other hand, force those around them to smoke. There

is only so much a non-smoker can do when the smoke comes.

In some cases, moving to another location isn't an option.

Smoking limits the options of people around it, not just the options of people doing it, like his examples do.

I don't think nicotine testing is right. I do think that smoking on the job at all should be illegal, except on the specific breaks that everyone gets, and then the smokers should be required to relocate.

And that is discrimination that can't be argued against.

Fat people can't sit in weak chairs. No one can have public sex, except within certain confines.

Depending on the illness, some

terminally ill people would be banned from certain areas.

If you have rabies, plague, or a number of other really bad illnesses, I doubt you can work where you want.

That's my view. Thanks.
—DEVAN OZMENT
PIONEER READER

**Comments?
Opinions? Let us
know! e-mail
editor@occc.edu, call
405-682-1611, ext.
7675 or drop by 1F2
AH**

PIONEER

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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

BUSINESS REVIEW | Pet store needs to stick to what it knows — fish

Tanks A Lot neglectful of pets

Perhaps one should know better than to stop by a fish-focused pet store called Tanks A Lot and expect to find reptiles and birds well cared for.

That is absolutely no excuse, however, for the conditions in which these animals are being kept.

Located at 12142 W. Reno Ave. in Yukon, Tanks A Lot started out as an aquatic store selling both freshwater and tropical fish, as well as supplies such as fish tanks and accessories.

Recently, Tanks A Lot added reptiles and birds to its medley of animals up for sale. The results couldn't be more disastrous.

On a recent visit to the store — my first since

the new animals arrived — I was disgusted and saddened by the sorry excuses for habitats the critters are living in. Not a one of them fully satisfied the animals' most basic needs.

For example, two bearded dragons were up for sale. Each was housed in what appeared to be 15-gallon aquariums, not nearly large enough to allow the lizards proper growth.

Worse, they had no food source or proper ultraviolet lighting, which is essential to a bearded dragon's survival. One of the dragons looked near death, as its scales were discolored and it barely moved.

Next to them, the single

bird in-store sat in a filthy cage with just one perch to stand on. The bird had no water and the crumbs of food in his bowl looked moldy.

Equally disturbing were the conditions in which Tanks A Lot kept its selection of corn snakes. They were housed in containers that would not have fit your average lunch sandwich. They had no room to explore.

As if the animals' conditions were not deplorable enough, the store itself was unkempt and filthy.

There was what appeared to be an old car seat — not a baby's, but a tan seat literally ripped out of an automobile — sitting near the front

door.

Whoever was on cleaning duty had apparently got a bit lazy, too, as several unattended, dirty water buckets and mops simply sat on the floor.

A foul stench radiated throughout the store, likely courtesy of the animals' poorly cleaned habitats. But that rank odor isn't the only thing that stinks about the place.

If you are looking for a new pet, go as far away from Tanks A Lot as you can get.

The owner and employees should be ashamed of the animal abuse they are creating — and enabling.

Rating: F

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
ONLINE EDITOR

ADVISER'S 411

Advising sessions scheduled for next few months

This has been a busy enrollment period for the Office of Academic Advising. During the last three weeks of peak enrollment, our office has received more than 4,100 student visits.

As always, students can avoid long lines during the peak enrollment period, which is the first few weeks before classes begin, by choosing classes at the beginning of the enrollment period.

We encourage students to start meeting with an adviser in late March for summer and fall enrollment. Visiting with an adviser early in the semester is good planning. Students who set their goals early and have an action plan are often times more successful in their academic careers.

Early planning includes planning for graduation and transfer to a four-year institution. To help students seeking to transfer, we will host the Transfer and Graduation Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 29. More than 20 colleges and universities will be in attendance. They are here to help OCCC students learn more about their programs and the transfer process.

This is a great opportunity for students to connect to their next institution, learn about the many majors available for their next step in academics, and to plan for their future careers.

Students can learn about scholarships, the application process, multiple majors and how financial aid works in the transfer process.

Students also will have multiple opportunities to visit another institution over the next few months. OCCC will be taking groups of students to visit the University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma.

Visits will include lunch, tours and a chance to get your questions answered by visiting with an adviser or transfer specialist. OCCC will visit the University of Central Oklahoma on Jan. 31, Feb. 8, and March 6, and the University of Oklahoma on Feb. 17, March 2, and March 9.

Students who are interested in visiting OU or UCO should contact the Transfer Center by emailing linda.k.little@occc or calling 405-682-7567 for more information

If you are interested in getting ahead on that next step in your educational career, make sure that you visit the Transfer and Graduation Fair and take a tour to OU and UCO.

—LINDA KAY LITTLE
TRANSFER AND ACADEMIC ADVISING
COORDINATOR

RESTAURANT REVIEW | On Saturdays, patrons can dance to a live band

Ingrid's Kitchen tasty German cuisine

Walking into Ingrid's Kitchen, on N.W. 36th and Youngs Blvd. is like taking a step back in time.

A fixture in Oklahoma City for the past 30 years, Ingrid's is all about old German style, family dining.

The first clue of this is the long wooden tables, seating from 10 to 30 people that fill the main dining area. This type of seating encourages diners to be part of the Ingrid's family and get to know each other.

The smell of fresh baked goods, and a wall of assorted bread, cookies and Danish pastries are reminiscent of a grandmother's kitchen.

There is a menu, but many patrons have been customers for so many years, few of them use it.

A large cold case filled with offerings of deli meats and cheeses, fresh pies and cakes, as well as

the bread display, allows you to make quick lunch choices.

Other fare includes meat loaf, wiener-schnitzel (breaded pork cutlet), sauerbraten

(marinated beef roast), and bratwurst, all served with sauerkraut, red cabbage, warm German potato salad, and fresh bread.

Ingrid's has a variety of salads as well, including a delicious chef salad.

They also serve wine and beer.

Prices are affordable, ranging from \$5 for lunch to \$8.50 for dinner.

The restaurant is family friendly, although most of the clientele on the Saturday I visited was 50 and over.

The reason for that



could be that on Saturday at noon, the staff moves some of the tables back, sprinkles sand on the floor, and invites the guests to dance to the music of

their "house" band, the Houston Group.

This group of semi-retired musicians has been playing together for many years. They do music of the '50s and '60s running the gamut from "At Last," a slow jazz tune made famous by Etta James, to "Johnny B. Goode."

Music was the great equalizer as couples in their 60s and 70s (and older), danced as if they were teens at the prom.

Ingrid's is open 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from

7 a.m. until 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday and for brunch from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Sunday. The band plays from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

The atmosphere is friendly and the food is authentic German cuisine — good and plentiful.

Rating: A

—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
CONTRIBUTING
WRITER



**TO SEE
VIDEOGRAPHER
CASEY AKARD'S VIDEO
REVIEW OF THIS
RESTAURANT, SCAN
THIS CODE WITH
YOUR SMARTPHONE**

MOVIE REVIEW | Despite familiar storyline, movie holds viewers' attention

'Contraband' delivers action, eye candy

If action-packed movies and a slew of gorgeous actors are key to your movie going experience, "Contraband" is the movie to see.

Chris Farraday (Mark Wahlberg) is a legendary smuggler who got out of the life — the life of crime, that is. He has moved away with his family to raise his kids in a better environment but it seems he hasn't moved far enough.

Farraday quickly finds himself back in the middle of all he walked away from thanks to his brother-in-law, Andy (Caleb Landry Jones).

Andy tangles himself in a predicament when he dumps the drugs he is running to avoid the coastal border patrol. Tim Briggs (Giovanni Ribisi), Andy's ruthless boss, is unhappy with the way he handles the situation.

Farraday is forced back into doing what he does best — running contraband — to settle Andy's debt. A crew is assembled quickly with the help of his best friend, Sebastian (Ben Foster) for one final run to Panama and back.

Things begin falling apart quickly and Farraday is put to the test. He must use all of his skills and connections in Panama to get out alive. Time is of the essence as his wife, Kate (Kate Beckinsale), and sons become Briggs' targets.

Contraband is a gripping action-packed movie that keeps moviegoers guessing. There are many unexpected twists and turns but somehow the characters make it through.

Moviegoers leave wondering, "Have I seen this before?"

If anyone has seen a Mark Wahlberg film then, yes, it is strangely familiar. Even though this movie may be another variation of some other drug smuggling films out there, it is good.

The actors display their talents well in this film. Beckinsale, who does not normally play this type of role, gives a glimpse into the depth of her acting. Ribisi and Foster by far are the favored actors. Ribisi always takes the character he is portraying to the next level, as displayed in this film.

Foster, who is known for his roles in smaller budget movies like "Pandorum" and "Alpha Dog," is not a big time actor, but the few he has been in are up to par. In "Contraband," Foster displays refreshing acting skills. He doesn't allow himself to be typecast in a dead-end role.

Overall, the movie is really good. I enjoyed the twists and turns as it made the movie unpredictable.

Rating A-

—EMILY SCHORR
STAFF WRITER



GAME REVIEW | 25 years later, Zelda still rules

'Skyward Sword' a brilliant game for all 'Zelda' fans

Twenty-five years ago, Nintendo set out on an epic journey in Hyrule. That trip wound up high above the clouds with "The Legend of Zelda: Skyward Sword."

It is extremely rare that a game will get my attention in such a way that I have to play it through, day in and day out. "Skyward Sword" grabbed me by the rupees and wouldn't let me go until I had beaten it.

It took an entire pack of AA batteries to go through the entire game, and I don't regret it at all.

I'm a "Zelda" fan through and through. I've played them all, save

for the CDI ones, which don't count anyway.

That being said, the latest installment of the "Zelda" franchise has me freaking out over how brilliant it is.

"Skyward Sword" may well be the best "Zelda" game of all time. This game is even better than "Ocarina of Time," which was nigh impossible.

The graphics aren't even close to how pretty "Twilight Princess" is, but on the other hand, there is much more to the game this time around.

The backgrounds and environment look like they have been lovingly

painted by a master painter, and the music sounds like it was written by the greatest composers of all time. Graphically and musically, this game is pure art.

The gameplay is extremely challenging due to the Wii Motion Plus attachment that is required, but that makes the game so much more beautiful. Every swing of the sword is in the direction you send it.

Blocking with the shield is easy but if you do it too many times, your shield will break.

Speaking of which, your days of carrying around all of your non-

essential gear is over.

You only have four slots in your adventurer's pouch to start with, to a maximum of eight, one of which will always be taken by your shield.

Your bottles, bomb expansions and quiver expansions go in there as well, though you always have a minimum of 10 bombs and 20 arrows.

Don't worry though. There's a bank in game to hold all of your stuff that you don't have room for.

There is something else for those who are interested in collecting, as well. A new upgrading system has been added to the game, which

means you have to collect treasures dropped by enemies to make some of your gear better, such as your shield, your bow, and some of the new weapons that were added.

In all, it took me five days to go through the game, playing constantly. Any other "Zelda" game took two at most.

I don't regret losing those days at all, though. I plan on going through it again soon in hero mode, which is a new addition to "Zelda."

Any damage taken is doubled, and you don't get hearts to drop at all unless you are carrying

a specific item.

Overall, I give this game a hearty recommendation for anyone who loves "Zelda," used to like "Zelda" games, and anybody who thinks they might like "Zelda."

Rating: A+

—ROBERT BOLTON
STAFF WRITER

IS THERE A REVIEW YOU'D LIKE TO READ? SEND YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO PIONEER EDITOR JEREMY CLOUD AT EDITOR@OCCC.EDU

EMS conference registration open

While geared toward health profession students, the two-day meeting is for all

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The Student Emergency Medical Sciences Association, a college-sanctioned organization run by the students of the EMS Program, is hosting the 2nd annual EMS ICONference.

Emergency Medical Sciences Program Director Leageay Barnes said the conference will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 6 through 8 at the Health Professions Center.

SEMSA, in partnership with the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center in Choctaw, and the Great Plains Technology Center in Lawton, has enlisted national-level presenters for the conference, Barnes said.

She said the main speakers will be Bob Page, an internationally known speaker, instructor, author and paramedic, and Steve Berry, a former teacher and interpreter for the hearing impaired.

“Other presenters include The Oklahoma State Department of Health EMS Division who will be conducting an EMS Instructor Update, the Oklahoma Poison Control Center and Emergency Medical Services for Children,” Barnes said in an email.

She said the conference is primarily for, but not limited to, health profession students.

“Last time, we only had one speaker a day for two days and it was very successful,” Barnes said.

So successful, she said, that some of the previous sponsors have been calling to ensure they could be a part of it again.

“It’s even bigger this year,” Barnes said.

Clinical Affiliation Compliance Administrator Shelly Tevis, said students who can attend, should.

“It’s a fantastic opportunity for the students to develop critical thinking, organizational, and leadership skills, and bring it all together to bridge the different fields of study in health care.

“In the end, they all have the same goal,” Tevis said.

Barnes agrees.

“We’re teaching the students to give back to their profession, and it’s pretty exciting,” Barnes said.

“It’s a good time.”

The cost to attend is \$100 for all three days if paid in advance.

Pre-registration is now available online at www.signmeup.com/79578. Pricing will increase at the door.

For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7573 or email lbarnes@occc.edu.

STOLEN ITEMS TAKEN FROM INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF OCCC

Thefts reported early part of month

SARAH HUSSAIN
Senior Writer
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Theft-dominated incidents were reported recently to OCCC’s campus police.

According to a report on Jan. 8, two construction vehicles parked in the north parking lot

were tampered with.

Mark Coleman, the Family and Community Education Center site manager, reported battery cables missing from his construction truck. In addition, the truck had a crack in the windshield.

Reporting security officer Tanya Wheeler said she suggested the

site manager have his employees park the company vehicles closer to the FACE Center at the end of each day to ensure they are more visible.

On Jan. 11, a South Moore Swim Team member reported a duffel bag missing from the men’s locker room in the Wellness Center, according to

a report by police officer Kevin Hammond.

Three hours later, the man reportedly found his bag in the locker room with all its contents except for his coat.

To report a campus incident, use any blue phone located around campus or use an outdoor call box.

COMMUNICATIONS LAB SITE OF WORKSHOP

‘Writing Basics’ to be offered Feb. 6

YVONNE ALEX
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Students needing help with a writing project can find that at the Communications Lab, located on the first floor of the Main Building. There, students can find many services to help students with writing projects, including special topic workshops, said Lydia Rucker, Communications Lab Assistant.

“Writing Basics” will take place at 11 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 6, in CU2. Each lasts about an hour, Rucker said.

It is one of the many workshops being offered this spring to help students get a better understanding of the writing process, she said.

“We’ll have handouts at the workshop as well as PowerPoint presentations to address thesis statements and thesis statement equations.

“This workshop is designed to create a foundation of writing,” Rucker said.

“We don’t have it available online yet, but it is something we’re working on.

“However, anyone can come in and request the information from any of our workshops and we will give it to them.”

Rucker said the Communications Lab also will present any of the workshops in class if professors request it.

“No matter what class you’re taking —

whether it’s composition, biology or political science — you have to write essays,” she said.

“There’s a basic structure on how an essay is to be written. We help build this foundation and once you’ve got it, no matter what the class, you can build on it.


“There’s a lot of cooperative learning ... hands-on work. No matter what the subject matter, you will have to write an introduction, a thesis and you’ll have to support that.

“That’s what we’re here for,” Rucker said.

“The most important point is that if students get this down, then they’ll be able to write any kind of essay out there.”

The Communications Lab is located on the first floor of the Main Building just outside of the Student Union.

Students can find more information at www.occc.edu/comlab/workshops.html or by calling 682-1611, ext. 7678.

 **OCCC**

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It’s YOUR paper! Tell us

what you want to see

NOW IS THE TIME TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

From scholarships to waivers, OCCC students have financial aid options

MARY McATEE

Staff Writer

staffwriter2@occc.edu

For students who are struggling to pay for school, scholarships may be the answer they seek and now is the time to begin applying for fall scholarships.

While a simple web search can bring up hundreds of available scholarships, students can also access applications for scholarships and other financial assistance right here on campus.

General Scholarships:

Recruitment Student Services Assistant Linda Sapp said scholarship applications and information are available on the wall in front of the Admissions office.

A list of available scholarships shows ones awarded nationally, locally, and on a school level.

Sapp said new scholarship information can be released at any time, and students need to check back often.

"I encourage people to come by at least once a month," Sapp said.

To be considered for most scholarships, students need to apply far in advance for the semester they want to meet the deadline.

"You need to apply about 6 months before the actual semester," Sapp said.

She suggested students should start applying in March for next year's scholarships to meet the deadline.

Moving Online:

Currently, OCCC scholarship applications are available in paper format, but will transition online in February.

"We are moving the scholarship process online because there's too much paper to keep track of," said Jennifer Harrison, Institutional Advancement development Director.

The move online is beneficial not only to administrators, but to students as well.

"It's just going to be more user friendly," said Harrison.

"Students will be able to put in some basic information about themselves.

"They'll be able to find out what they're qualified for more easily."

Putting the applications online also speeds up the process of awarding students.

Currently it takes 5 to 6 weeks for a student to find out if they've been awarded a scholarship.

“

Just because you have a 2.0 doesn't mean you won't qualify for some scholarships.”

—JENNIFER HARRISON

DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Harrison says the new process should cut that time down to 2 or 3 weeks.

Students will find out online if they have been awarded a scholarship.

Although many scholarships require a certain GPA for qualification, Harrison encouraged all students to look into scholarships.

"I advise all students to apply," she said.

"Just because you have a 2.0 doesn't mean you won't qualify for some scholarships."

Tuition Waivers:

Students can also apply for tuition waivers to help pay for classes, said Harold Case, Dean of Student Financial Support Services.

Unlike a scholarship, a tuition waiver can only be applied to tuition, and not used for books or fees.

The Financial Aid Office generally offers two types of waivers.

One is the departmental waiver, which can only be applied for certain times of the year.

"Each department has their own criteria, but basically [students] have to be enrolled in at least 6 hours during spring and fall, and 3 hours during the summer," said Mia Rojo, Assistant to the Dean of Financial Aid.

Departmental tuition waivers are merit-based, and each department determines whom to award the waivers to.

To begin with a student has to prove he or she is in good academic standing.

"They have to have a transcript attached to it,"

said Rojo about the application.

Students will have the opportunity to apply for summer and fall tuition waivers later this year.

The other waiver is a Financial Need Tuition Waiver. Unlike the departmental waiver, the Financial Need waiver is determined by your FAFSA.

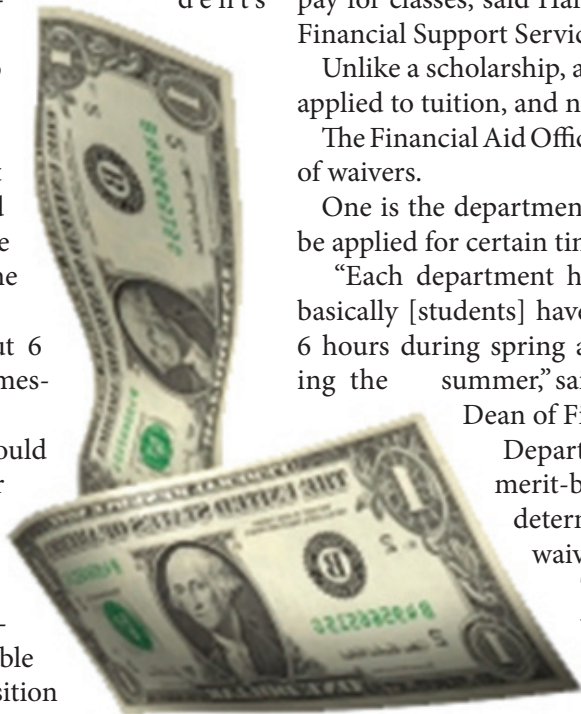
The Financial Need Tuition Waiver is treated like federal aid.

"It's based totally on need," said Case.

"It will go on the award with your Pell Grant or other aid you are offered."

For more information on available scholarships, contact Linda Sapp at 405-682-1611, ext. 7654, or e-mail at lsapp@occc.edu.

For more information about Tuition Waivers, contact the Financial Aid Office at 405-682-7525.



Locating grants, scholarships, and other financial aid

On Campus:

- *The Admissions Office*

The Admissions Office has a list of all scholarships available to OCCC students. Several different types of scholarships are available.

- *Financial Aid*

The Financial Aid Office has applications for departmental tuition waivers, and also processes FAFSA applications, OHLAP, and OTAG grants. Starting Feb. 1, scholarship applications will be available online.

Online:

- *FAFSA*

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov

This process allows you to apply for federal grants and loans. A FAFSA application is also an application for an Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant (OTAG).

- *Fastweb*

www.fastweb.com

Fastweb is a search engine that gives access to hundreds of scholarships set up by schools, corporations, institutions, and private donors. Scholarships can be found on the national and local level.

- *Cappex*

www.cappex.com

Cappex offers searches for scholarships, and gives an overview of colleges for students trying to find the right fit.

For more information on other types of available scholarships and financial aid options, contact Linda Sapp, Recruitment Student Services assistant, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7654, or e-mail lsapp@occc.edu.

STUDENTS USE FACILITIES TO STAY IN SHAPE

Recreation department offers choices



PHOTOS BY CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Computer science major, Chase Nichols, 27, lifts four 45-pound plates on the leg press machine in the OCCC weight room on Jan. 18.

CHRIS JAMES

Photographer

pioneerphotog@occc.edu

OCCC's gymnasium and Aquatic Center provide many fitness and recreational activities throughout the semester for students and non-students alike.

Students can use the facilities for free during open recreation times, but must pay for any classes. According to Recreation and Fitness Center staff, the cost of membership is included in tuition fees at OCCC.

In addition to fitness classes, OCCC has a weight room equipped with free weights, machines and dumbbells. They also have bicycle and treadmill machines.

The OCCC gymnasium has a total of five basketball goals and can accommodate other indoor sports like volleyball.

OCCC's Aquatic Center has one of the best pools in the region. The Olympic-sized pool is used to host many state and regional swim meets like the Special Olympics Oklahoma State Championship Swim Meet and the NAIA Championships. The catalog has a full listing of upcoming events.

The Recreation and Fitness Center will be hosting an open house from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 30, complete with tours of the facility.

Non-students must pay a one-time \$50 joining fee, and can get daily memberships or punch cards that are good for 20 admissions.

The Recreation and Fitness Center offers classes Monday through Friday in the morning, afternoon, and evening, and class schedules are listed in the OCCC Fitness and Enrichment Programs catalog for Spring 2012.

The catalog can be picked up at the center's desk or other places throughout the campus. It is also available online.

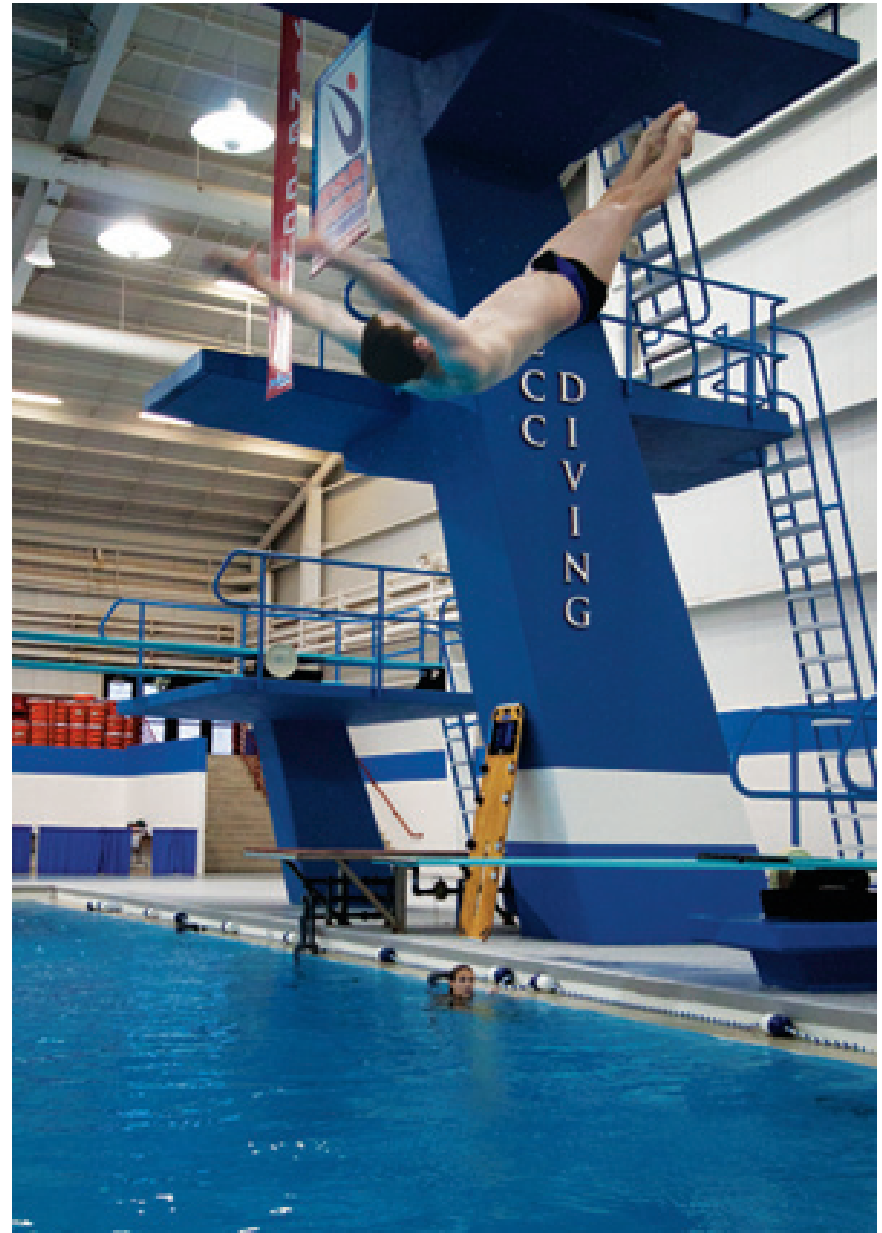
Some of the classes listed in the catalog are cardio kickboxing, Pilates, Zumba, Aqua Zumba, water exercise and deep water exercise. Different classes are offered for different age groups.

Classes can be paid for individually, or students and members can purchase a Group Fitness Pass for \$50. This pass allows access to all spring semester fitness classes. Class admission is done on a first-come, first-served basis.

Center staff said the \$50 joining fee on new memberships purchased on open house day will be waived, and there will be free recreational swim from 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The open house is free to everyone, and a good opportunity to sign up for sports, CPR classes, or even swimming lessons.

For a complete list of hours and dates of operation, or for more information on the wellness center, visit www.occc.edu/RF/wellness.html.



Kyle Callens, 22, dives into OCCC's Olympic-sized diving well on Jan. 20. Callens is part of Sooner Dive, one of many organizations that make use of the aquatic facility.



OCCC students make use of gymnasium between classes. Angel Olivo, business major, sinks a three-point shot seconds before physical therapy major Jose Martinez sinks a two-pointer.

SPORTS

Dancing queen



ROBERT BOLTON/PIONEER

Psychology professor Elizabeth Peters, and dance instructor Elizabeth Hobi practice during the new Theatrical Dance class offered from 3 to 4:20 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday in the Wellness Center.

UPCOMING
INTRAMURALS
EVENTS

Jan. 27: Last day to register for Basketball Club or Soccer Club. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Jan. 30: 3rd Annual Wellness Center Open House from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Feb 1: OCCC Basketball Club season begins. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Feb. 3: Intramural 5-on-5 Basketball season begins. Also the last day to register. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Feb. 10: Last day to register for the OCCC Hot Shoots Contest: 3 point contest. 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.**

SPORTS | College receives recognition for interest in health

OCCC earns Healthy Campus award

BRANDON WILLIS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

OCCC has been selected as a Certified Healthy Campus by the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

OCCC will be recognized at a luncheon on March 1 at the Cox Convention Center Ballroom.

According to okturningpoint.org, this is the inaugural year for this Certified Healthy Campus award.

“The Oklahoma Certified Healthy Campus status recognizes post-secondary public and private institutions of higher learning and career technology centers for their outstanding efforts and achievements in actively creating a safe and healthy environment for faculty, staff, students and community members.” Okturningpoint.org stated.

“We have such great facilities and we try to promote a healthy environment,”

—MARLENE SHUGART
HEALTH AND FITNESS SPECIALIST

The website states there are three different levels for this certification; basic, merit and excellence.

OCCC has earned the excellence certification, said Health and Fitness specialist Marlene Shugart.

There are many different criteria for this particular award, Shugart said.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, to be named a Certified Healthy Campus, a campus must help create a healthier Oklahoma.

It must show students, faculty and staff that the campus takes an active interest in their health and well-being.

Finally, the institution must link

health promotion efforts to the learning mission of higher education.

All Oklahoma public and private colleges and universities are encouraged to apply to be a Certified Healthy Campus.

OCCC Recreation and Fitness Department takes a lot of pride in receiving this award, Shugart said.

“We have such great facilities and we try to promote a healthy environment,” she said.

OCCC provides many different avenues for students, faculty, or community members to reach their fitness goals.

There are a three full-length basketball courts and a weight room. OCCC’s Aquatic Center is well regarded around the state for hosting local high school and even NAIA swim meets.

A letter received by OCCC from the Oklahoma State Department of Health reads, “Your contribution to



**THE PIONEER
SPORTS PODCAST**
WITH
MORGAN BEARD
LISTEN TUESDAYS AT
**WWW.OCCC.EDU/
PIONEER**

creating a healthier place for learning is important to the future of Oklahoma.”

For more information about OCCC’s Wellness Center programs, visit their website at www.occ.edu/RF/wellness, or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Enrollment: Decrease does not concern administrator

Continued from page 1

that work for those teachers, Harvey said.

He said many adjunct professors have full-time jobs outside of teaching, either at another

college or in their field.

“So while students may prefer morning and daytime classes, there are only so many classes we can fit there, and only so many adjuncts who can fill that time slot.”

While the enrollment numbers are currently consistent with the economy, Harvey said, he is also waiting to see if new financial aid regulations will have any impact on those numbers.

“It could change it, but we won’t know for sure what impact, if any, it will have on retention,” he said. “We’re still analyzing the numbers and we’ll know more after the first drop date passes.”

Harvey said his department should have a more in-depth breakdown of enrollment numbers sometime in February.

For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7577.

Website: Official site set to launch soon

Continued from page 1

will be well received by the students.

“... And that’s really whom it is for,” he said. “That’s the thought that goes behind it all.”

Richardson said about 90 to 95 percent of the website is ready to go.

“If someone asks me, ‘when will this project be done?’ that is an entirely different question because it will never be done,” he said.

“Once we go live with this, some-

one is going to make an absolutely inspired suggestion and we’re going to try incorporating that.”

Richardson said he has given presentations to faculty on how to navigate the website and felt it was well received.

“We have a limited number of eyes in our department,” he said. “We want people in other departments to take a look at it and tell us where the issues are.”

“We didn’t just move the (3,200) web

pages from our existing site. We added a lot of new content to the website that wasn’t there before.”

Although it isn’t yet completed, Richardson said, anyone can visit the new site at www3.occc.edu.

“We want people to understand it’s not finished,” he said.

“Almost every day we have something new that wasn’t there the day before. There are new things all the time.”

Gower agreed.

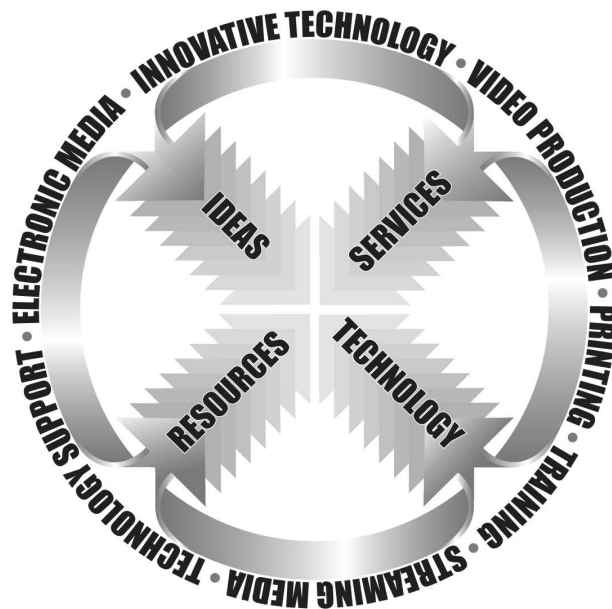
“What we don’t want to do is cause confusion,” she said. “There are some areas of the site that have not been published yet because they’re still working on the code and cleaning things up.”

Richardson said this is just a sneak peak at what will be coming soon to OCCC’s online world.

The visual design of the website itself was done by Noel-Levitz, the consulting company OCCC is working with on the redesign, he said.

When it all comes together...

Convergence



Come and explore how you can benefit from the various resources, technologies and services available on campus.

January 30 & 31

College Union Rooms 1, 2 & 3

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Seeking employment opportunities



CHRIS JAMES/PIONEER

Myriam DeMolina is speaking to Ivan Castillo about employment opportunities. Castillo represented the grocery store chain Buy for Less at an OCCC job fair on Jan. 18. The OCCC job fair was held in the college union.

COMMUNITY | All students are welcome to attend, but will have to pay their own fees

Club dreams of the BigXII

ROBERT BOLTON
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

The Black Student Association hosted a chili and bake sale on Jan. 20 and 21 in front of the Communications Lab to raise funds for the 35th Annual Conference on Black Student Government.

Members of the BSA set up a booth and prepared three tables of food for purchase, ranging from chili to cupcakes to collect money for a conference being held on Feb. 23 through 25, at the University of Oklahoma.

The Big XII, known for its football and basketball ties, is hosting the conference, but will allow students from any college to attend.

The theme for this year's conference is "Renaissance: Reawakening Black Excellence."

"We have to work very hard because, unlike four-year colleges, we have to raise all of our own money; whereas, the [the clubs of] 4-year universities are funded by their schools," said former BSA president Dayshawn Burns.

Burns said 22 club members are interested in attending the event, but if the BSA fails to raise enough money, it may have to limit the number who attend.

“ We have to work very hard because, unlike four-year colleges, we have to raise all of our own money; whereas, the [the clubs of] 4-year universities are funded by their schools.”

—DAYSHAWN BURNS
MEMBER AND FORMER BSA PRESIDENT

Due to the cost of the application fees, people who want to go may not have the opportunity because of amount of money required.

The \$260 registration to the event covers workshops, motivational speakers, three meals a day, as well as entertainment throughout the weekend.

All students are welcome to attend the conference, though non-club members would need to pay for their own registration fees, lodging, and transportation which would cost around \$350.

"You don't have to be black to go, but the event is geared towards black students," Burns said.

Club members raised money for the \$260 registration fee, travel costs, and lodging for the duration of the event.

Burns said that they wanted to stay at the hotel the conference picked, but the club was unable to afford

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

OACC Scholarship deadline

The deadline for OACC scholarships is Feb. 3. OACC scholarships give one student per college \$500 per semester for one academic year. Applications may be found at <http://www.oacc.onenet.net/pdf/OACC-Scholarship.pdf>

Brown Bag: Online Learning

Student Life is hosting a workshop at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday Feb. 7 in CU1. The discussion is "Online Learning." Bring your own lunch. For more information, call Student Life at 682-7523.

Musical Auditions

OCCC's Theater Department and Musical Department are holding auditions for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" at 7 p.m. on Feb. 6 and 7 in the Bruce Owen Theater. Auditions are open to all, but applicants need to prepare a 16-bar score to sing and a 2-to-3 minute long comedic monologue. For more information call Brent Noel at 682-1611, ext. 7246.

Brown Bag: Eating Disorders

Student life is hosting a workshop at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday Feb. 7 in CU1. The discussion is "Eating Disorders." Bring your own lunch. For more information, call Student Life at 682-7523.

Musician Maurice Johnson

Jazz musician Maurice Johnson will be playing for students at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the General Dining area. For more information, call Student Life at 682-7523.

Service Day: Regional Food Bank

Student Life is holding a service day from 12:30 through 4:30 p.m. on Friday Feb. 10. For more information, call Student Life at 682-7523.

Brown Bag: Cake Decorating

Student life is hosting a workshop at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday Feb. 15 in CU1. The discussion is "Cake Decorating." Bring your lunch. For more information, call Student Life at 682-7523.

OBI Blood Drive

The Oklahoma Blood Institute is hosting a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Feb. 15 and 16, in the greater dining area of the college union.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue.

**Email your event to
communitywriter@occc.edu.**

the price, and have had to settle for less expensive lodging.

The BSA will accept donations for this and future conference trips at any time.

For more information, contact Extended Services Coordinator Carlos Robinson at 682-1611, ext. 7553.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Mondays prior to the publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 1993 GMC Conversion Van. Explorer Phantom Hightop. V8, television, DVD, new tires. Clean. \$2995. Call: 405-818-5827 or e-mail lori.a.colbart@occc.edu.

FOR SALE: 2008 Dodge Avenger. Black. Fully-automatic. \$8000. Call: 405-512-3540 for more information.

ELECTRONICS

LAPTOP FOR SALE: Dell Inspiron B120. 1.5gb of ram. New battery. Xp operating system and Internet Explorer loaded. Recently cleaned up and in good condition. \$110. Call: 405-602-6499.

FOR RENT

SMALL AND QUIET: Nice apartment for computer tech or student. \$385 per month. \$100 deposit. N.W. 21st and Villa area. Call 405-609-9806 or 405-512-9440.

SEVERAL STUDENTS SOLD AUTOS AND OTHER ITEMS THIS SEMESTER BY POSTING IN THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS. ADS ARE FREE TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF OCCC. CONTACT CYNTHIA AT: adman@occc.edu. Or call: 405-682-1611, ext. 7674

EMPLOYMENT

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
Small OKC apartment complex seeks student for part time assistance with management duties. Leasing (marketing, showings, and qualifying tenants) and accounts receivable/payable are among the duties. Requires organization and ability to multi-task. Knowledge of/or interest in accounting, real estate, contracts, marketing and law are helpful and desired, but not required. Must have reliable transportation. Flexible hours. Will work around school schedule. Hourly pay as well as reimbursement for cell phone and gas. **Call: 405-692-5584.**

SERVICES

SKYY SCREEN PRINTING
Printing on T-shirts, hats, hoodies, jogging pants, uniforms, lawn chairs, etc.
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or
get information at: www.skyy.com

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Ad Council A Public Service of This Publication EPA ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND EDF

THIS WEEK'S PIONEER PUZZLE

Human Skeleton & Organs

Find and circle all of the skeletal parts and body organs that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message.


Note: TARSALS and METATARSALS are hidden separately and do not overlap. The same goes for CARPALS and METACARPALS, and BLADDER and GALLBLADDER.

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S E R A G A L E P S A E F E M U R
A T E H T A G M L U U N V M A N A
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| Skeleton: | - CARPALS | - PATELLA | Organs: | - LIVER |
| - CLAVICLE | - PHALANGES | - BLADDER | - LUNGS | - PANCREAS |
| - COCCYX | - RADIUS | - BRAIN | - SKIN | - SPLEEN |
| - CRANIUM | - RIBS | - GALLBLADDER | - STOMACH | - VOICE BOX |
| - FEMUR | - SACRUM | - GENITALS | | |
| - FIBULA | - SCAPULA | - HEART | | |
| - HUMERUS | - STERNUM | - INTESTINES | | |
| - INNOMINATE | - TARSALS | - KIDNEYS | | |
| - MANDIBLE | - TIBIA | | | |
| - METACARPALS | - ULNA | | | |
| - METATARSALS | - VERTEBRA | | | |

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Available at Planned Parenthood.
www.ppfa.org/ppfa

Planned Parenthood
1-800-230-PLAN

Don't be left in the dark. Follow us for instant news and updates!
www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer



Beginning January 2012, OCCC will begin offering a limited number of online and on-campus classes in Moodle. The number of courses in Moodle will continue to increase with the beginning of each new term.

Is my course in Moodle? Go to online.occc.edu to see a course listing.

How will I learn to use Moodle? An orientation course is in Moodle to help.

Will I have tech support? Yes. You will be able to turn in any issues 24/7/365.

Questions? Additional information can be found at online.occc.edu.