

## PIONEER ONLINE

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## EDITORIAL

## VIDEO GAMES CONSIDERED AN ART FORM

Staff Writer Grant VanWinkle says the public should take an artful look at the games being played these days. Read his thoughts inside.

OPINION, p. 2

## NEWS

## CHRISTMAS FUN IS ONLY 19 DAYS AWAY

Looking for that affordable gift? A great place to see lights? Want to know what Christmas music Pioneer staffers listen to? Turn inside.

NEWS, p. 7

## SPORTS

## OCCC TO HOST PRO AM SWIM MEET DEC. 19

Spectators are encouraged to attend the Chesapeake swim meet at the Aquatic Center Thursday, Dec. 19. More inside.

SPORTS, p. 8

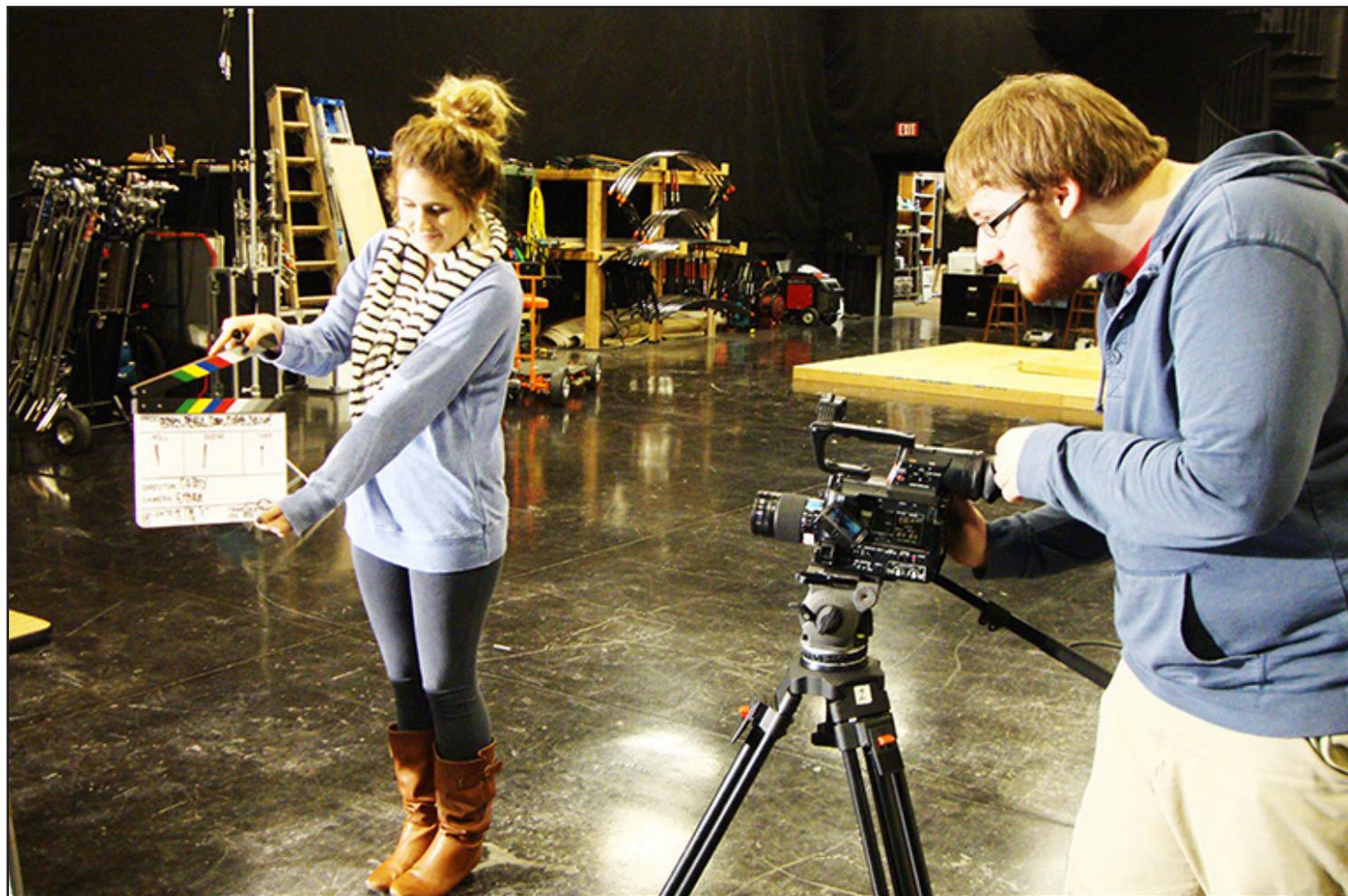
## COMMUNITY

## BALLROOM DANCING CLUB SEEKS MEMBERS

One of OCCC's newest clubs is hoping to give students a way to meet others and have fun. For more information, turn inside.

COMMUNITY, p. 10

## Action!



LORI VALENTINE/PIONEER

Film and video production majors Sam Pender and Alyssa Cawthon work on their third lab in Cinematography I. The sound stage and video equipment provide everything they need to turn their vision into a movie with one-on-one instruction and the latest technology.

## College office taking toy donations

### Veterans Affairs office collecting for Toys for Tots

**KATIE THURMAN**  
Editor  
[editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu)

OCCC Veterans Services office personnel will help make several children happy this holiday season.

Veterans Services has begun collecting toys for distribution to Oklahoma children for this holiday season as a part of their annual Toys for Tots toy drive.

Chris Fulcher, a Veterans Affairs work study aid and former U.S. Navy corpsman, has

participated in the program. He said the Toys for Tots foundation is run by the U.S. Marine Corps as a way of collecting and disbursing toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them Christmas gifts. The program was founded in 1947 by the Marine Reserve.

Janis Armstrong, Veterans Services coordinator, said OCCC Veterans Services participates in hosting a toy drive for Toys for Tots every year.

Armstrong said last year's drive was "very successful" and that donations have already begun for this year's drive.

All donations gathered at OCCC will be picked up

on Dec. 13 to be prepared for delivery to Oklahoma children.

Veterans Services requests that toys for all ages of children be donated, be new and in the original unopened package.

There are a number of donation bins around the Main Building of OCCC. One bin is across from the Veterans

See **TOYS** page 9

## Dec. 9 marks start of textbook buyback

**LAUREN DANIEL**  
Senior Writer  
[seniorwriter@occc.edu](mailto:seniorwriter@occc.edu)

Textbook buyback and rental return will be held at the college bookstore on the last week of fall classes Dec. 9 through

16. Students are encouraged to participate, said Sheila LaFerney, textbooks and general manager.

LaFerney said buyback will be from 8 a.m. through 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 9; from 8 a.m.

See **BUYBACK** page 9

# OPINION

EDITORIAL | Non-gamers need to expand their minds

## Video games deserve recognition as art

It is time to put to rest the age-old debate: are video games a form of art? My answer is a resounding yes.

I firmly and strongly believe all video games are a form of art.



**GRANT VANWINKLE**

Some may not agree. To those people, I propose this: All the elements that go into making a video game are forms of art — the drawings, the writing and the music — so how can the overall game not be art?

According to debate.org, 86 percent of people agree video games are a form of art while 14 percent say they are not.

This is what the 14 percent had to say: “There needs to be a word for the overly serious and reverent praise of digital games by individuals or institutions who are almost certainly too old, too intellectual and too dignified to really be

playing at this stuff.”

They are commenting on the main reason I love video games. They are adaptable and can carry with you your entire life because they are stimulating and a great escape from reality.

Players get to use the video game art to live another’s life and see a story through alternate eyes.

With that said, it was even stated on CNN.com that the Supreme Court considers video games to be a form of art, and therefore, deserve all the rights given to art under the First Amendment.

The games that best prove this point are: “World Of Warcraft” — just the detail put into this game goes above and beyond any other video game. The next game is one of my favorites of all times; “Halo Reach” — one of the games that first opened my mind to the thought of video games being art. Its campaign level has something beautiful in the sky that resembles the Aurora Borealis; and Minecraft. This game gives the player full creative control of how



the game is played. Users get to create whatever kind of world they want. I have seen many people go into the game and create wondrous masterpieces.

So, the next time you play a video game or watch another person play one, try to look at it from a new perspective — as art.

You might just expand your mind.

—GRANT VANWINKLE  
SPORTS WRITER

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | 2013 Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey released

## Electronic cigarettes unsafe to those who are exposed

To the Editor:

New data on tobacco use among Oklahoma youth indicate a significant number of youth are trying electronic cigarettes. Research shows that youth who are exposed to tobacco use are more likely to become regular tobacco users, and public health officials are concerned the same will be true of e-cigarettes and vapor products. Oklahoma has no state law prohibiting the sale of e-cigarettes and vapor products to youth, unlike laws that restrict youth access to other tobacco products.

The 2013 Oklahoma Youth Tobacco Survey shows 7.8 percent of Oklahoma high school students and 2.7 percent of Oklahoma middle school students who responded to the survey had used an e-cigarette in the past 30 days.

Of those who responded, 17.9 percent of high school students and 6.6 percent of middle school students reported ever using an e-cigarette. The 2013 survey is the first year that the OYTS has included a question about e-cigarette use.

Nationally, e-cigarette use among middle and high school students nearly doubled from 2011 to 2012. Data from the 2012 National Youth Tobacco Survey show that electronic cigarette use increased among middle school students from 0.6 percent in 2011 to 1.1 percent in 2012 and among high school students from 1.5 percent to 2.8 percent.

“The use of vapor products among youth is concerning, as nicotine is a highly addictive substance that may negatively affect the developing brain,” said State Health Commissioner Terry Cline. “It’s important that we protect youth from exposure to these products, just as we work to protect youth from exposure to all tobacco products.”

Vapor products also are available in a variety of flavors, whereas flavored cigarettes were banned by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2009 due to their potential appeal to youth.

The lack of restrictions related to sales to minors, advertising, and availability of flavors may impact current and future use of e-cigarettes and vapor

products by youth in Oklahoma.

In addition to concerns about youth exposure to and use of vapor products, health officials are concerned about the potential negative health impact for anyone exposed to vapor products.

“We still need more research on vapor products and their long-term effects on health, but we know from existing research that they emit more than just water vapor,” said Cline.

“Research shows that users and bystanders are exposed to nicotine, chemicals and other tobacco contaminants in the vapor.”

The OYTS is a representative survey of all middle school and high school students in Oklahoma. The OYTS was conducted in the spring of 2013 by the Oklahoma State Department of Health, in cooperation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Oklahoma State Department of Education, and numerous partners from local health agencies and local school districts.

—OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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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

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Meers Store and Restaurant an amazing place to eat

## Lawton eatery dishes great burgers

Last weekend my family and I decided to go out of town to have a treat. The Meers Store and Restaurant, located in Lawton, seemed like the perfect place.

While driving to Meers Store and Restaurant, it feels like you are driving in the middle of nowhere. It only takes about an hour and 20 minutes to drive there from Oklahoma City. We were pretty close to the restaurant at sunset, so the view was absolutely breathtaking with the sun setting behind the Wichita Mountains.

Once we arrived, we were able to seat ourselves. They are usually packed with people waiting out the door but because it was a Friday night, not many people were there.

The atmosphere is relaxed and old-fashioned in a sense. There are antiques and vintage advertisements hanging on the walls. Drinks are even served in Mason jars.

Their burgers are made with 97 percent lean grass-fed Longhorn from the family's own herd. I got two mini cheeseburgers that were served on homemade rolls. The rolls melted in my mouth, and the patty was fresh, juicy and cooked for just the right amount



of time. My family purchased one order of fries and one order of onion rings which we all shared. The fries and onion rings were OK, nothing special.

Their famous "Meers Burger" is seven inches in diameter and it is served on a pie plate for \$6.85. Two people can easily share the burger. A "Meers Cheeseburger" is \$7.35.

All of their burgers come with green leaf lettuce, tomatoes, mustard, dill pickles and red onion. "Cow-boy Burgers" can be made any way you like. The Meers Store and Restaurant also serves hot dogs, steak, chicken fried steak, and barbecue dinners. They also have many different appetizers and sides including: fried okra, fried corn on the cob and fried green tomatoes.

Homemade ice cream and various cobblers also are on the menu.

I recommend taking the longer-than-average drive to Meers. I assure you their burgers are amazing.

Your taste buds will thank you.

**Rating:** A-

—LAUREN DANIEL  
SENIOR WRITER

MUSIC REVIEW | 'Catching Fire' continues excitement of first film

## Latest 'Hunger Games' movie edgy

Are the odds in your favor? For "Hunger Games" main character, Katniss Everdeen, they were not as she is faced with more twists and turns in "Hunger Games: Catching Fire," the second rendition of the book-turned-movie series, directed by Francis Lawrence.

The first scene reveals Katniss (Jennifer Lawrence) hunting in the woods with her friend, Gale, (Liam Hemsworth) trying to resume a normal life following her participation and victory in the previous year's Hunger Games, an annual event that forces individuals between the ages of 12 and 18 to battle to the death.

When Katniss attempts to shoot a turkey with her bow, she suffers from a flashback of killing someone in the arena last year. It is here that we first see the effects that the games had on her.

She goes back home to find President Snow (Donald Sutherland) waiting for her. He tells her the "stunt" she pulled during last year's games was viewed as an act of rebellion toward the Capitol instead of an act of love for her district partner Peeta (Josh Hutcherson.)

The event he references is one where Katniss offered to commit partner suicide with Peeta rather than be faced with the task of killing him.

Snow is suspicious of her true feelings for Peeta. He tells her while she is on the victory tour going



across the districts to celebrate last year's victory, she must calm the nation and convince Snow of her love for Peeta or Snow will have her and everyone she loves killed.

Snow appears unimpressed by her efforts to prove her love for Peeta after the tour. He makes an announcement that for this year's "quarter quell," which is a special addition to the games added every 25 years, this year's selected warriors for the games would be chosen from an existing pool of past victors.

Katniss, being the only victor from her district, is inevitably chosen to compete in the games for a second time.

The movie used a generous amount of scenes from the book but skipped a few decent parts, including one of my favorite scenes where it depicts how Haymitch Abernathy, the mentor of Katniss and Peeta from district 12, won the games during the second quarter quell 25 years ago.

In the book it tells that the second quarter quell had double the amount of tributes and Haymitch used the Capitol's force field in the arena against his opponents to win the games.

The movie was everything I hoped it would be. There is more action than the last movie and the traps in the arena were captured perfectly.

The final minutes of the movie had me on the edge



## Spring semester will bring about many changes

The recent chill in the air is a reminder that the fall semester is rapidly coming to conclusion — which of course means another Christmas and a new year will closely follow.

I recognize there is much to be done to complete the work of this semester but I would like to take this opportunity to wish you the very best during this upcoming holiday season.

The holiday break between semesters is a time of celebration, reflection, and renewal — a time to enjoy family and friends — a time of giving and receiving — and a time to prepare for a new year and a new semester.

Like many of you, I will spend time during the break with my family. Plans are already under way for several holiday gatherings — from a Christmas Eve dinner through a New Year's Eve party. We will retell the stories of the past, some happy and some sad, remember those who are no longer with us, welcome those who are new, and share our hopes for the future.

To our faculty and staff, let me once again thank you for your tireless work on behalf of OCCC and our students. I know you share with me a deep sense of pride and honor to be a part of Oklahoma City Community College. To our students, I wish you the best as you complete your work for the semester.

When we return in January, the new Visual and Performing Arts Center Theater will be completed. The loop road around the campus will be open and the barriers around Parking Lot C will be removed. One of the first events of the new year will be the dedication ceremony of this incredible new theater.

I hope you will join me in the lobby of the theater for the ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14. Backstage tours of the entire facility will follow the ceremony.

In the meantime, enjoy the upcoming break and I will see everyone back on campus in 2014.

Happy holidays!

—PAUL SECHRIST  
OCCC PRESIDENT

of my seat, although I knew what was going to happen.

Lawrence did a fantastic job of taking the book and turning it into a masterpiece of a sequel movie.

Definitely go see this movie if you haven't — it doesn't disappoint.

**Rating:** A+

—GRANT VANWINKLE  
SPORTS WRITER

# COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

**BUSINESS REVIEW** | Deb clothes are fashionable and long-lasting

## Deb great for affordable, trendy clothing

Every young woman looking for fashionable clothing should check out Deb.

For the last five years or so, Deb has been my go-to place for most of my clothing.

I'm not a huge clothes buyer, but Deb definitely has me addicted.

Selling both junior and plus size clothing, Deb makes sure no woman gets left out.

Since there are no locations near me, I choose to buy most of my stuff from debshops.com.

While I have bought a couple things from the actual store, I can honestly say the online store has much more to choose from.

The clothing is true to size and I never have to worry that something I order may not fit me.

While some of the clothes may seem a little pricey for a broke college student, Deb almost always has sales up to 20 and 30 percent off.

Not once have I ordered from their site without having a coupon or when they weren't having a sale.

The only bad thing about ordering online is the shipping prices.

Because shipping is so expensive, I always spend at

least \$50, which isn't hard to do, so I can receive free shipping.

The hard part is waiting seven to nine days for my clothes to arrive.

Overall, my experience with Deb shops has been positive.

I often get compliments on my clothes and have people ask me where I get them.

Perhaps my favorite things I have purchased from Deb are dresses.

Nowhere else have I been able to find cute dresses with such a perfect fit and at a reasonable price.

I have bought several pairs of shoes, all of which have not let me down.

The only disappointment I've had has been with jewelry, which seems to be made a little cheaply.

With half my closet full of clothes from Deb, I have no intention to stop buying anytime soon.

I highly recommend Deb to any girl who is looking for comfortable, cute and fun clothing.

The only downfall will be the lack of money you have when you are done shopping.



Rating: A

—ERIN PEDEN  
ONLINE EDITOR

**ALBUM REVIEW** | Benefit's mascara offers impressive quality

## 'They're Real!' gives good look

If there's a perk of holiday shopping season that gets me more excited than anything else, it's definitely special deals available in stores like Sephora and Ulta.

I decided to start early this year with, scoping out new deals and products offered by luxury makeup brands and this led me to Sephora.

I noticed a trial-size sample of Benefit's "They're Real!" mascara and knew right away I had to take advantage of the buy.

Benefit's sample mascaras are typically about half the size of the real product and for \$10, I didn't feel like it was a bad deal at all.

So I went home with high hopes for the mascara, and I was amazed and just how much it didn't disappoint.

I've found that a good drugstore brand mascara can be purchased full size for about \$10.

While Cover Girl does make a mean volume boosting formula, I was looking for something more and that's what Benefit delivered.

"They're Real!" is currently lauded as the best mascara on the market and with good reason.

The formula is thin but not watery, and allows for an even coat of product on lashes that won't clump or cause nasty flaking after a few hours of wear.

The brush, even in trial size, is plenty big enough and serves to really make sure that the formula will

give you the most bang for your buck.

In the year and a half that I've been exploring makeup, there's no doubt that "They're Real!" is the best mascara that I've purchased.

The formula isn't waterproof and that might be a deal breaker for some people; but the trade-off for a non-waterproof mascara that looks great on the lashes seems like a fair swap for a dry waterproof formula that will leave lashes looking messy and crusty.

The formula for "They're Real!" isn't hypo allergenic, so those with known cosmetic allergies might want to be cautious if they decide to give the product a try.

When it comes to removing the product, a special eye makeup-removing wash is needed because it tends to be hard to clean from lashes.

"They're Real!" is the first mascara I've owned that manages to lift and separate lashes, making them appear elongated, while still coating them with enough formula that they look thicker and fuller.

"They're Real!" is a must-have for beauty gurus and enthusiasts who love

a good, dramatic eye look.

Rating: A

—KATIE THURMAN  
EDITOR



## TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Nov. 29 through Dec. 1  
[www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com)

1. *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*
2. *Frozen*
3. *Thor: The Dark World*
4. *The Best Man Holiday*
5. *Homefront*
6. *Delivery Man*
7. *The Book Thief*
8. *Black Nativity*
9. *Philomena*
10. *Last Vegas*
11. *Gravity*
12. *Dallas Buyers Club*
13. *12 Years a Slave*
14. *Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa*
15. *Free Birds*
16. *Captain Phillips*
17. *Oldboy*
18. *Nebraska*
19. *About Time*
20. *The Christmas Candle*

# May ceremony awaits December graduates

*The following students have applied for December graduation. Diplomas will be granted after credentials are completed and degree requirements are met. Students who fulfill degree requirements may participate in the May commencement ceremony.*

Samuel Abasilikwu, Ellah Abuta, Deanna Adams, John Adams, Esther Adedayo, Bolaji Adegoke, Gilley Aguilar, Kimberly Aguirre, Katherine Ahyou, Iliana Alarcon, Natalie Aldieri, Nirmal Ale, Truman Alford, Souleiman Al-Khoury, Amber Allen, Chad Allen, Scott Allen, Guadalupe Alvarez, Maria Angulo, Charnetta Animashaun, Theresa Annang Adamah, Rosie Annang-Johnson.

John Arambula, Omar Arguellez, Maritza Armendariz, Christopher Armstrong, Daniel Armstrong, Christabel Aryeequaye, Lonnie Ary, Stayce Atieno, Cuong Au, Ciria Avalos, Hulya Ayan, Hailey Baker, Rhiannon Baker, Jennifer Bales-Nussbaum, Aryn Balfour, Alyssa Ballard, Tucker Ballinger, Rachel Ball, Delores Barajas, James Barnes, Justin Barron, Alanna Barton, Kelly Barton.

Amanda Bass, Dylan Bateman, Megan Baxter, Matthew Baysinger, Kevin Beach, Taylor Beardshear, Raul Becerra, Dawn Beck, Kristina Beck, La Dawn Beckman, Latonya Been, Jenny Bell, Ricardo Benitez, Heather Bennett, Jenifer Bergman, Daniela Berroteran, Conor Billeg, Amanda Billings, Lashonda Bishop, Trevor Boerner, William Bohanan, Chris Bookout, Brooke Booth, Phillip Borghee, Cameron Bost, Lisa Boswell.

Samuel Botello, Marc Boulanger, Alice Bowers, Blake Braden, Kevin Branch, Katrina Brickman, Tanner Bridges, Jessica Brittain, Courtney Brown, Lea Ann Brown, Logan Brown, Afefa Bruner, James Bryant, Lilian Bueno, Matthew Bui, Ethan Bullock, Connor Burks, Kevin Burks, Leslie Burleson, Greg Burnett, Brayden Burton, Tamica Butler.

Jamine Cabrera, Andrew Cadaret, Jerri Cadogan, Kyle Callard, Shump Calloway, Mariah Camargo, Stacy Campbell, Angelica Carbajal, Jaquelyn Carter, Markeisha Carter, McKenzie Case, Tina Cassil, Vaneza Ceballos, Cole Chapman, Shandis Chappell, Marissa Charness, Amelia Che, Patrick Chevis, Carolina Child Lyons, Amanda Choate, Cyndi Christopher.

Samuel Chunn, Ray Chu, William Clayton, LouAnn Clifton, Effie Clispo, Sara Coil, Emily Coker, Tanzy Colasanti, William Colcord, Casey Coley, Jessica Collier, Ryan Conyac, Sheila Cook, Melissa Cordero, John Corley, Elisabeth Crawford, Emma Crow, Kelli

Cuadra, Christa Cunningtubby, Margarita Curry, Haylee Daniels, Tyler Daniel, Alecia Davis, Ronnie Davis, Talisa Davis, Zachary Davis, Shannon Decker, Rachel Deer, Jennifer Demoe, Linda Devine, Madan Dhakal, Albert DiEnna.

Sarah Dombrowski, Morgan Drews, Jackson Drum, Dominic Dungca, Danny Dunn, Kaitlyn Duong, Allen Durbin, Glenna Durrett, Matt Eagan, Kaitlyn Eager, Alana Edwards, Stephanie Elkins, Alexandra Elliott, Destavie Ellis, Staci Emery, Jonathan Engle, Eric Ensz, Jamie Erickson, Francisco Esqueda, George Evans, Theresa Farrington, Tyler Farris, Cora Feehan, Caley Ferguson.

Ryan Fields, Daniel Fife, Renzo Filomeno, Jason Fisher, Colleen Fitzgerald, Kelly Fitzgerald, Kelsea Flewellen, Jacob Flores, Steven Flores, Renee Folmar, Carolina Fonseca, Chase Foster, Chamoh Fotanchop, Tonya Franklin, Brittany Frazier, Jarod Freeman, Daniel Fuentes, Kirstie Fugate, Justin Fulks, Nicole Gaitner, Michacia Galloway, Cristina Garcia, Stephen Garner, Cole Garrett.

Heather Garrison, Cori Garrod, William Gempel, Cristina Genzer, Jennifer Ghigliotti, Courtney Gillaspi, Liliana Giron, Teresa Glenn, Shannon Gogel, Rene Golden, Rafael Gonzales, Michaela Gordy, Ty Gorham, Jacqueline Gray, Alicia Gregory, Milanda Grisham, Tamara Grogg, Lindsay Grummer, Antonio Guardado, Judy Ann Guerra, Valerie Gulikers, Rebecca Gunnoe.

Andre Hafner, Daniel Hair, Bryan Hale, Cameron Hale, Alesha Hall, Dominique Hall, Lauren Hall, Juliana Hambricht, Rachel Hamidi, Nicholas Hamilton, Rami Hanoon, Alexander Harms, John Harold, Danny Harper, Emily Harris, Amanda Harrison, Amelia Harrison, Daniel Harry, Chris Hawk, Kyle Hayes, Rebecca Heaton, Heitt, Morgan Morgan Heitt, Hannah Hellstern, Benjamin Helms, Aubrey Hendrix, Jack Henry, Jon Herd, Melannie Hernandez Chavez.

Raymond Herre, Amy Herrington, Teal Hightower, Delvante Hill, Ty Hill, Jonathan Hilovsky, Shanice Hills, David Hinds, Kenda Hixson, Loc Hoang, Jennifer Hoban, Paige Hobby, Ladye Hobson, Kristyn Hodge, Cody Holley, Natausha Holman, Alexandria Holt, Terry Holt, Sydney Honeysuckle, Grant Horoho, Vy Ho, Julie Howard, Roy Huerta, Eric Huyen, Pedro Ibanez, Megan Ingram, Karin Isom, Emmanuel Jackson, Lyric Jackson, Matthew Jackson, Timothy Jackson, Kristopher Jacobs, Laci James, Michael Jann, Jenny Jansing, Alicia Jarvis, Elizabeth Jeanes, Tiffany Jenkins, Lizanne Jennings, Jorian Jewell, Bobbi Johnson, Denise Johnson.

Nadia Johnson, Christopher

Jones, Ivan Jones, Nina Jones, Cynthia Joslin, Charles Justice, Madison Kampert, Andrew Karaffa, Jane Karanja, Philip Karanja, Loise Kariuki, Ashmita K C, Andrea Kee, Kelly Keel, Devin Kellerman, Lauren Kelley, Shannon Kelley, Naima Kerroumy, Marcey Khalil, Yasser Khalil, Edna Kidd, Tusuna Kimball, Jiwoong Kim, Justin Knight, Pearl Kositchaiwat, Jordan Kraft, David Krawczyk, Elizabeth Krusemark, Niki Lackey, Kristy Laffoon, Austin LaGrange, Chelsey Lamphere, Joseph Lane, Tia Lasiter, Meyett Lavalais, Corban Lawrence, Jason Lawson, Thomas Lawson, Jungwoo Lee, Elizabeth Lefler, Jeannie Lentz, Cynthia Leonard, Trang Dai Le, Elizabeth Lockhart, Shaun Loeffler, Crystal Long, Jessica Long, Sarah Long, Denisse Lopez, Maria Lopez.

Nallely Lopez, Jaime Lorette Ogletree, Stefany Losada, Marissa Lott, Adam Loughmiller, Jay Lowe, Kathryn Lowe, Jeffery Luker, Geneva Luma, Sean Lumry, Juan Luna, Jessica Lund, Thu Luong, Lauren Lupton, Sean Ly, Everett Mack, Maurice Mack, Cheryl Macneill, Chelsea Madden, Brett Magni, Pierce Magruder, Elizabeth Majors, Heather Makes Cry, Erica Maldonado, Joshua Maness, Lyndi Mann, Cinthya Manzano, Douglas Marcom, Amanda Martinez.

Treyson Martin, Summer Marty, Sherry Mason, Tiffany Massey, William Massie, Sarah Mastin, Brian Matheson, Frances Matthews, Joseph May, Thomas Mba, Christine McCarron, Anthony McClanahan, Heather McConnell, Rebecca McConnell, Johnathon McCormick, Nathan McCullough, Cara McCutchen, Grant McDanel, Gretchen McFarland, Meryl McFarlane, Crystal McGaha, Matthew McGuire, Patricia McHargue.

Caycee McKee, Jessica McKeeown, James McManus, Jonah McPhaul, Sampson McSidney, Dalton McWhirter, Amber Mee, Shelby Menser, Hugo Mier, Andrea Migdalski, Megan Miles, Garold Miller, Samantha Miller, Shamika Miller, Ashley Milligan, Bryce Mills, Natascha Milson, Tiffany Milspaugh, Nasar Min Allah, Aaron Minnis, Neo Mmkeke, Orphelie Moadjambo, Andrea Monterroso.

Dustan Montgomery, Dwain Moody, Chris Moore, Gabriel Moore, Maria Moreno, Anna Morgan, Joyce Morgan, Heather Morrison, Shenandoah Morris, Jennifer Moss, Trista Moss, Ashlie Mowdy, Antonio Muhs, Brandy Muldoon, Mary Mungiria, Jorge Munoz, Matthew Murdaugh, Dennis Murphy, Dylan Murray, Camber Musgrave, Harish Kumar Musirigari, Ariane Nzameyo, Violet Ndagoh, Ross Nealis, Casey Neely.

Cory Nelms, Collin Nelson, Matthew Nelson, Natisha Nelson, Marcus Nesmeyer, Carrie Newcomer,



**My congratulations to each of the graduates. Earning a degree or certificate is a significant accomplishment.”**

—PAUL SECHRIST  
OCCC PRESIDENT

Kathy Newland, Jamilah Newton, Minh Ngo, Cynthia Nguyen, Dat Nguyen, Duy Nguyen, Hung Nguyen, Lan Nguyen, Ngan Nguyen, Thomas Nguyen, Tracey Nguyen, Vuong Nguyen, Nancy Nicolas, Nelly Njaramba, Bosungmeh Nkende, Avida Nola, Bailey Nolan, Jordan Nolte, Ronni Novotny, Lisa Nugent, Windy Nunnery, David Oakes, Elida Ochoa, Keith Ogletree, Wesley Okeke, Emmanuel Okwan, Joseph Oliver, Andrew Olson, Suzan Omalley, Joel Ornelas, Alyssa Orton, Reyna Otero.

Daniel Othon, David Otzoy, Edwin Otzoy Rito, Steven Ouandji, Lawrence Palin, Jennifer Pando, Ashley Pankhurst, Sean Parker, Sungmin Park, Michael Parnell, Chandini Patel, Pooja Patel, Micah Patrick, Jamerye Paulin, Nolan Payne, Kathleen Pendley, Sarah Penrod, Veronica Peoples, Aileen Perez, Candelario Perez, David Perez, Luis Perez, Stephanie Petti John, Jordan Pettitt, Jonathan Petty, Desirae Peyton, Dung Pham.

Peter Pham, Thanh Pham, Brandon Pharr, Kaitlyn Phelps, Mariana Piedra, Monica Piro, Eric Plumlee, Ivan Ponce de Leon, Mathew Porter, Eric Powers, Ananta Pradhan, Jessica Prefume, Patricia Presley, Jacob Price, Samantha Privett, Suraj Pudasaini, Ivone Pulido, Queenlinda Quartey, Abraham Quezada, Ericka Quick, David Rackley, Jessica Rader, Diamond Ramirez, Zachary Ramkissoon, Sebna Ramos Garcia, Courtney Ray.

Rachael Rayburn, Alex Recher, Misty Red Elk, Charles Redmon, Dawn Reed, Stephanie Reid, Tiffany Renfro, Brandon Renshaw, Alexy Retter, Jessica Reynolds, Kaileigh Rhodes, Jermaine Rice, Letha Richardson, Robert Richardson, Dana Rico, Robin Ridner, Enrique Rivera, Heather Roberts, Jessica Robertson, Terrence Robertson, Eric Robles, Jaime Rodriguez, Leidy Rodriguez, Luis Rodriguez, Sixto Rodriguez, Yolanda Rodriguez, Autum Roe, Jennifer Rogers, Stephanie Romero, Lauryn Romines, Eric Rose, Kayla Rose, Taylor Rose, Laboni Rozario.

Jordan Rudd, Juan Ruiz, Amy Rupe, Kylie Russell, Awet Russon, Joshua Ryans, Vanessa Salas, Laura Sanchez, Amanda Sanders, Aron Sanders, Jeffery Sanderson, Samantha Scheid, Katherine Schinnerer, Belinda Schmidt, Christina Schmidt, Ashlee Schones, Richard Schoonover, Emily Schorr, Stefani Schubach, Jacob Scott, Kristi Seigrist, Cheyanne Sell, Kofi Sema-

kor, Shonda Sewell, Deena Sewihy, Colton Shackelford, Jonathan Sharp, Leigh Shear, Jessica Shina-bery, Carolyn Shingleton, Michelle Shockley, Jason Short, Megan Sills.

Brynn Simons, Stevie Simpson, Maiko Singleton, Andrea Slinger, Thomas Sloan, Amber Smith, Behren Smith, Brittany Smith, Cynthia Smith, Erica Smith, Jamie Smith, Jared Smith, Kara Smith, Karen Smith, Lori Smith, Megan Smith, Shelby Smith, Terrence Smith, Tyler Smith, Monica Smothers, Alfredo Soria, Kelly Sorrells, Paige Southern, Joshua Sparks, Mindy Sprecker, Matthew Starega, Victoria Starling, Marcus Stephens, Connor Stephenson, Marsha Stevens, Kelsey Stone, Cathy Strategier, Caitlyn Strider, Teeia Strout, Michael Stutzman.

Toby Sullivan, Cory Summers, Colton Sumpter, Victoria Svetgoff, John Swatzell, Jonathan Sweet, Charice Swope, Dustin Sykes, Nabil Tahfi, Chiew Ping Tan, Abdelaziz Taylakh, James Taylor, Melissa Teague, Kayla Terrel, Emilee Thagard, Lisa Thanscheidt, Asha Thomas, Candice Thomas, Robin Thomas, Daniel Thompson, Tyler Totten, Ashtyn Towery, Ethannah Towles, Cassandra Tramel, Anh Tran-Pham.

Vu Thuy Hoan Tran, Sheryl Truelove, Danielle Tucker, Jack Turner, Elyar Tursun, Jade Vafadar, Courtney Van Ethen, Grant Vanwinkle, Aaron Vardasebi, Ginsy Varughese, Shena Vasquez, Danielle Vaughn, Nathan Velasquez, Gabriela Velazquez, Crystal Vidal, Guyet Vu, Kyle Waas, Ronnie Wagoner, Jonathan Waits, Derrick Ward, Justin Warnock, Melissa Warren, Conrad Waters, Vanessa Watkins, Megan Weaver, Nakala West, Jana Whatley, Elizabeth Wheat, MaRanda Whitaker, Amanda White, Kellie Whitefield, Kiersten White, Mila Wiecezorek-Pemberton, Shannon Wilkinson, James Williams, Tara Williams, Heather Willingham, Tyler Wilmoth, Paul Wilshire, Ashley Winick, Veronica Wisniewski, Ashley Womack, Teresa Woods, Joseph Woodward, Richard Woodward, Jeremy Wright, Stormy Wyatt, Hyeyong Yang, Peter Yeager, Fang Ye, April Young, Brittny Young, Marie Zadelhoff, Sandra Zambrana, Paul Zapletal.

*Don't see your name and think it should be on the list? Bring confirmation to the Pioneer office located in 1F2 AH and we'll add your name to the list at Pioneer Online.*

# Christmas a time for giving, music and good cheer



## Pioneer staff shares favorite holiday tunes

**Paris Burris, Lab Assistant**

Album: "Songs for Christmas" by Sufjan Stevens  
Song: "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" by Tchaikovsky

**Lauren Daniel, Senior Writer**

Album: "We Have a Savior" by Hillsong  
Song: "Christmas Love" by Justin Bieber

**Katie Thurman, Editor**

Album: "Oh, Blue Christmas" by A Fine Frenzy  
Song: "Silent Night" by Priscilla Ahn

**Henry Nguyen, Advertising Manager**

Album: "In the Garden of Venus" by Modern Talking  
Song: "It's Christmas" by Modern Talking

**Nancy Martinez, Staff Writer**

Album: "Christmas Album" by Nat King Cole  
Song: "The Christmas Song" by Nat King Cole

**Diamond Middleton, Circulation Manager**

Song: "Baby, It's Cold Outside" by Louis Armstrong and Velma Middleton

**Erin Peden, Online Editor**

Album: "Merry Christmas, Baby" by Rod Stewart  
Song: "Do They Know It's Christmas?" by Bandid

**Ronna Austin, News Writing Instructional Assistant**

Album: "Banjo or Freakout 'XA2010'" by Alessio Natalizia  
Song: "Fairytale Of New York" by The Pogues & Kirsty MacColl

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!**

## LIGHTSLIGHTSLIGHTS

**Branches Christmas:** The Branch family has been decorating their home at 6708 NW 115th St. with a synchronized musical display for a couple of years. Tune your radio to 106.1 for the show.

**Downtown in December:** What better way to see the magical holiday lights than aboard a water taxi on the Bricktown canal? Bring a coat and stare in awe as the lights twinkle off the water. When you're finished, enjoy more lights on the streets of Automobile Alley or at the Myriad Gardens.

**Yukon's Christmas in the Park:** Since 1995, Drive more than three miles through 100 acres along Jim Watson Drive and see more than 300 incredible light displays from your car. Admission is free, but donations are accepted at the end of the drive-through. Event runs from 6 to 11 p.m. through Dec. 31 in Yukon City Park.

**Chickasha's Festival of Lights:** First started in 1992, the Chickasha Festival of Lights attracts visitors from all over the nation and includes an animated, musically-choreographed show. Be ready for some long lines, though, because this is one of the best around. This free event runs to Dec. 31. Bus tours, carriage rides and photos with Santa are available for a charge.

For more information on area light displays, Google "OKC Christmas Lights."

## 'Merry Christmas' resonates happiness in any language

**African/ Eritrean/ Tigrinja:**

Rehus-Beal-Ledeats

**Albanian:** Gezur Krislinjden

**Arabic:** Milad Majid

**Argentine:** Feliz Navidad

**Armenian:** Shenoraavor Nor

Dari yev Pari Gaghand

**Bengali:** Shuvo Naba Barsha

**Bohemian:** Vesele Vanoce

**Bosnian:** (BOSANSKI) Cestit

Bozic i Sretna Nova godina

**Brazilian:** Feliz Natal

**Bulgarian:** Tchestita Koleda;

Tchestito Rojdestvo Hristovo

**Chinese:** (Cantonese) Gun

Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun

(Mandarin) Sheng Dan Kuai Le

**Choctaw:** Yukpa, Nitak Hollo

Chito

**Columbia:** Feliz Navidad y

Próspero Año Nuevo

**Croatian:** Sretan Bozic

**Czech:** Prejeme Vam Vesele

Vanoce a stastny Novy Rok

**Danish:** Glædelig Jul

**Dutch:** Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een

Gelukkig Nieuwjaar! or Zalig

Kerstfeest

**English:** Merry Christmas

**Eskimo:** (inupik) Jutdlime

pivdluarit ukiortame

pivdluaritlo!

**Ethiopian:** (Amharic) Melkin

Yelidet Beal

**Finnish:** Hyvaa joulua

**French:** Joyeux Noel

**German:** Fröhliche

Weihnachten

**Greek:** Kala Christouyenna!

**Haiti:** (Creole) Jwaye Nowel

or to Jesus Edo Bri'cho o Rish

D'Shato Brichto

**Hawaiian:** Mele Kalikimaka

**Hebrew:** Mo'adam Lesimkha.

Chena tova

**Hindi:** Shub Naya Baras (good

New Year not Merry Christmas)

**Hungarian:** Boldog Karácsonyt

**Icelandic:** Gledileg Jol

**Indonesian:** Selamat Hari Natal

**Iraqi:** Idah Saidan Wa Sanah

Jadidah

**Irish:** Nollaig Shona Dhuit

**Iroquois:** Ojenyunyat

Sungwiyadeson honungradon

nagwutut. Ojenyunyat osrasay.

**Italian:** Buone Feste Natalizie

**Japanese:** Shinnen omedeto.

Kurisumasu Omedeto

**Korean:** Sung Tan Chuk Ha

**Kurdish:** Serî sallî nwê pîroz

**Lao:** souksan van Christmas

**Latin:** Natale hilare et Annum

Faustum!

**Lithuanian:** Linksmu Kaledu

**Macedonian:** Sreken Bozhik

**Navajo:** Merry Keshmish

**Norwegian:** God Jul, or

Gledelig Jul

**Papua New Guinea:** Bikpela

hamamas blong dispela Krismas

na Nupela yia i go long yu

**Philippines:** Maligayang Pasko!

**Polish:** Wesolych Swiat Bozego

Narodzenia or Boze Narodzenie

**Portuguese:** Feliz Natal

**Rumanian:** Sarbatori vesele or

Craciun fericit

**Russian:** Pozdrevlyayu s

prazdnikom Rozhdestva is

Novim Godom

**Samoan:** La Maunia Le

Kilisimasi Ma Le Tausaga Fou

**Serbian:** Hristos se rodi.

**Slovak:** Vesele Vianoce. A

stastlivy Novy Rok

**Slovene:** Vesele Bozicne

Praznike Srecno Novo Leto or

Vesel Bozic in srecno Novo leto

**Spanish:** Feliz Navidad

**Swedish:** God Jul and (Och) Ett

Gott Nytt År

**Switzerland (Swiss-German):**

Schöni Wienachte

**Thai:** Sawadee Pee Mai or

souksan wan Christmas

**Turkish:** Noeliniz Ve Yeni

Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun

**Ukrainian:** Z Rizdvom

Khrystovym or S rozhdestvom

Kristovym

**Vietnamese:** Chuc Mung Giang

Sinh

**Welsh:** Nadolig Llawen

—www.santas.net

# Rugby player helps team bring home bronze medal

**NATHAN SHADID**  
News Writing Student

OCCC student Roman Wilson and his rugby teammates brought home the bronze medal after defeating Great Britain in the Maccabiah Games in Israel this past summer.

Wilson said he and his teammates beat some of the toughest opponents to earn this award.

The U.S. rugby team played Israel, South Africa, Chile, Canada and others.

His memory of the experience remains fresh.

"Playing in the Jewish Olympics was nothing short of spectacular," Wilson said.

"Getting the bronze put around my neck was really cool, and singing my country's national anthem with my teammates under my arms before we went to battle was also cool.

"Just walking around the stadium with the U.S. delegation in the opening ceremonies was cool."

The players were pleased that they got to represent the U.S. in the games.

"There is no higher honor for an athlete than to represent his or her country while competing in sport," Wilson said.

The Maccabiah Games featured a record number of nearly 9,000 athletes.

The games are known as the "Jewish Olympics" and held in Israel once every four years,

according to The Global Jewish News Source.

Even though Wilson attends OCCC, he plays for the University of Oklahoma rugby team.

Wilson said he spent much of his time last year training for the Maccabiah Games.

Wilson was one of the players hand picked to be on the team. Athletes from all over the country were chosen to take part in this, Wilson said.

Even though he has played other sports like football and wrestling, Wilson considers rugby to be his favorite.

"I was getting to play the sport I love," Wilson said.

Rugby is considered to be another version of football, only they wear no pads and the athletes are a lot rougher, Wilson said.

He explained how the rules of rugby differ from football. In American football, throwing a forward pass by the quarterback could result in a big play or a touchdown.

In the rules of rugby, it is illegal.

In American football the ball may be passed forward only once as long as the quarterback or whoever is the passer is behind the line of scrimmage.

As for rugby, the ball cannot be passed forward, only kicked forward.

In both sports, the object of the game is to carry the ball over the opponent's goal line. In both sports, the ball may be passed backwards an unlimited number of times.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ROMAN WILSON

OCCC student Roman Wilson and his rugby teammates brought home the bronze medal after defeating Great Britain in the Maccabiah Games in Israel this past summer.

Wilson said this was not his first visit to Israel. He was there when he turned 13 and celebrated his bar mitzvah, the ceremony that marks a young man's passage into the adult world.

Wilson said he would like to try out for the Maccabiah Games again in 2017.

Wilson said his father Tim "Tarzan" Wilson started the Oklahoma Sooners Rugby team in 1974.

The OU field, called Tarzan Pitch, is named after him.

Tim "Tarzan" Wilson was inducted into the Oklahoma Rugby Hall of Fame where his son Roman hopes to follow in his footsteps.

# Nursing grads to take part in pinning ceremony

**LAUREN DANIEL**  
Senior Writer  
seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC nursing graduates will be honored in a pinning ceremony at 7 p.m. Dec. 12 in OCCC's general dining area, said Deborah Myers, nursing program director.

"It basically is just signifying their completion of the program and their entry into practice and into the profession," Myers said.

"It's a time honored tradition in nursing that ... we've done since the days of Florence Nightingale."

About 65 graduates will be honored

in the pinning.

Myers said the exact number of graduates will not be known until the semester is over and it is determined which students have officially passed the program.

"By the time to they get to the last process, we don't have as many failures, she said.

"They're pretty used to the program, pretty used to the rigor and the goal is close, so they put forth the effort they need to finish up, usually."

The ceremony will last about an hour, Myers said.

"It just has to do just with the degree, just the nursing degree, just those

graduates," she said.

"They don't have to wait through hours of watching other people that they don't know ... it's just more personable."

Myers said, sometimes, families get more excited about the graduation than the students.

"I think it means a lot more to ... parents and grandparents, especially the older crowd ...," she said.

She said the pinning ceremonies have been held off campus numerous times due to the number of graduates, staff, faculty, family members and friends.

"This will be the last pinning ceremony that we have either off campus

or in the general dining area, because in the spring ... we'll start using the new theater."

Myers said the theater will provide more than enough space for the ceremony.

"I'll be glad we're going to be changing venues in the spring," she said.

"We've needed that for a long time. It will be nice to be in a new facility, and have all the space that we need to conduct that event."

For more information about the ceremony contact Myers at 405-682-1611, ext. 7138, or email dkmyers@occc.edu. For directions, visit www.occc.edu/maps.

## SPORTS

## Weight!



GRANT VANWINKLE/PIONEER

Pre-dentistry major Brandon Gonzalez Pre benches 105 pounds on the incline bench in the Wellness Center, located on the first floor of the Main Building. The Wellness Center is free to all students with a valid student ID and will be open through the holiday break. For more information call 405-682-7860.

SPORTS | Swim fans can get more information at [www.chesapeakeclub.org](http://www.chesapeakeclub.org)

## Chesapeake Pro Am meet set for Dec. 19

**GRANT VANWINKLE**  
Sports Writer  
[sportswriter@occc.edu](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu)

On Dec. 19 OCCC will play host to the Chesapeake Swim Club Pro Am meet, said meet director Paul Thompson.

Thompson said the college has hosted the meet every year for the past 22 years.

"The Pro Am meet is originally the only USA-Swimming meet where both the professional and amateur athlete competed side-by-side," he said.

This meet will have amateur competitors as young as 11-years-old to 50 and older, Thompson said. The pro athletes range from as young as 14

to the mid-20s.

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each section, Thompson said.

"The pros ... receive a cash prize," he said. "First place will win \$600, second will win \$300, and third will win \$100.

"The Am side ... will win prize credits for merchandise to spend on vendors at the meet."

Thompson said spectators are encouraged but are asked to follow a few rules.

"Spectators are asked to take photos from the seating areas upstairs," he said. "Anyone asking for clearance to be on deck for photographic purposes must check in with the meet director ahead

of attendance at the meet."

Thompson said there is no cost to attend. However, there will be items for sale.

"Prelims heat sheets are priced between \$5 and \$6 with finals heat sheets priced between \$1 and \$3 depending on what pricing packages you purchase," he said.

Thompson said Speedo will be on hand as well as D&J Sports with a wide array of aquatic sports apparel and sport items.

He said all profits from the Pro Am meet will go toward continuing to bring in national level talent to the Oklahoma City metro area and to "sustain the commitment of the

## UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

- Dec. 7  
Joe Stocker Invitational. Pool closed to the public.
- Dec. 19 through 22  
Chesapeake Pro-Am. Pool closed to the public.
- Fall semester:  
Visit the Recreation and Fitness website at [www.occc.edu/rf/swimming-diving](http://www.occc.edu/rf/swimming-diving) to enroll in a number of events held in the college's Aquatic Center or call 405-682-7860 to find out about Aquatic Center events.



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to be directed to a list of OCCC Intramural events, complete with the most current updates.

(Free QR code reader apps can be found online or in app stores on smart phones. Follow the directions for the app you download.)

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Email your news to [sportswriter@occc.edu](mailto:sportswriter@occc.edu).

Chesapeake Swim Club in its mission to develop champions both in and out of the water."

For more information contact the Chesapeake Swim Club at [www.chesapeakeclub.org](http://www.chesapeakeclub.org).

This is the final fall 2013 semester issue. Don't be left in the dark during the Christmas break and intersession. Follow us for instant news and updates!

[www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer](http://www.twitter.com/OCCCPioneer)  
[www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer](http://www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer)

# Live ammunition, hit-and-run reported to campus cops

KATIE THURMAN  
Editor  
editor@occc.edu

The discovery of an ammunition cartridge in a finance employee's office and a minor motor vehicle accident kept campus police busy the week of Nov. 18.

On Monday, Nov. 18, Payroll Coordinator Lori Johnson reported she had discovered a firearm cartridge on her desk, according to a report filed by campus police officer Jeremy Bohannon.

Johnson reported she arrived at her office at 8 a.m. and didn't see the cartridge at that time. She then went to a meeting.

After the meeting, she returned to her office and noticed the cartridge. According to Bohannon, Johnson said neither she nor any other John Massey Center employee had touched or moved the cartridge after finding it.

Bohannon said a review of the security cameras from the time Johnson was out of her office showed five people entering and leaving the work-

place. One was a fellow OCCC employee who denied knowing where the cartridge came from. The other four people were part of the cleaning crew.

The following day, Johnson reported that her son had been in her office the prior week after a hunting trip. Johnson's son said he believed the cartridge may have fallen out of his pocket at that time.

Also on Nov. 19, part-time employee Joel Soria reported his vehicle may have been involved in a hit-and-run accident in parking lot D. Officer

Ventresca responded.

According to Officer Ronald Ventresca, Soria parked his car in lot D and when he returned, he saw someone had hit his vehicle, knocking off the passenger side mirror of his black 2005 Scion.

Ventresca reviewed video footage where he saw a maroon SUV or Crossover park next to the Scion.

Ventresca said footage showed when the driver exited the vehicle, she appeared to inspect the damage done to both vehicles and afterwards

got back into her vehicle and drove away.

She then parked in lot E, according to Ventresca.

The subject appeared to be a white female in her 30s, wearing a dark jacket, white and black T-shirt and faded jeans.

Ventresca printed a picture of the subject in an attempt to learn her identity.

To contact campus police, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7747. For an emergency, use one of the call boxes located inside and outside on campus or call 405-682-7872.

## Toys: People can donate to Toys for Tots in many ways

Continued from page 1

Services office, in front of the Testing Center.

Two donation bins are located on the second floor of the SEM center outside of the biology lab, and one final bin is located near the front desk at the main entrance.

Fulcher said if need be, more donation bins can be put out around the school.

Ryan Hurt, VA work study aid, said the best thing about

participating in the program is looking forward to the child's reaction.

"It brings joy to kids' faces," Hurt said. "It's always feels nice to do something good."

Fulcher said programs like Toys for Tots are more important at times like this — when the economy is bad. "A lot of parents are without jobs," she said, and might have trouble providing Christmas for a child.

The Toys for Tots website,

www.toysfortots.org, lists gift ideas for children of all ages.

In their FAQ section, they have a special list of gift ideas for preteen children, ages 12-13 or beyond, depending on the community guidelines for who will be receiving the gifts.

The website's gift ideas for older children include: "sporting equipment/bags/balls; books, backpacks, cosmetics, purses, watch/wallet gift sets, bath gift sets, board games, radio control cars/trucks, hand-

held electronics, skateboards/helmets, curling irons, hair straighteners, and hair dryers."

The website also provides a form and directions for parents to apply for their children to be eligible to receive toys. The group said 97 percent of donations go toward the program's mission of "providing toys, books, and other gifts to less fortunate children.

"The 3 percent spent on support principally covers fund-raising expenses — not

one donated dollar goes to pay for salaries or any other manpower costs."

Online users also can make a monetary donation that will go toward being spent in a region of their choice or to whatever region needs the donation most at the time.

For more information about donating and volunteering with the Toys for Tots program, visit [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org).

For more information, call 405-682-7527.

## Buyback: Students can sell textbooks on, off campus

Continued from page 1

to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday Dec. 10 through Dec. 12; from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13; and from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday Dec. 14. Buyback also will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13.

"Just bring your books back at the scheduled time," she said.

LaFerney said the bookstore determines if they can purchase books from students upon inspection.

She said textbooks should be in clean condition for the bookstore to consider buying them.

"They just bring them to us, and we let them know whether we are buying them or not."

In order for the bookstore to buy books, they have to be current editions students will use in the next semester.

Old books or editions that will not be used again cannot be bought. Textbooks with software licenses, online passcodes, or learning packets also are not eligible to be bought.

Because the bookstore cannot overstock, LaFerney said, they can only take a certain number of each textbook.

Pricing is set by the bookstore and it depends on each individual textbook, said LaFerney.

"It depends on the book — whether it has a code, whether it's a new edition or old edition," she said.

The bookstore's goal is to buy

back as many books as they can.

"We try to get as many from the students as possible," LaFerney said.

"We are always wanting to buy them back ... if they're being used again."

Gabriele Spaulding, child development major, said she was very pleased with her previous textbook buyback experience.

"It was pretty quick," she said. "I sold two or three books."

While some students participate in textbook buyback for the money, other students may keep their books for future reference.

"(I keep mine) just in case if I want to reference them later," said premed major Adriana Lopez.

Eduardo Santoyo, business

major, said he hasn't participated in textbook buyback yet, but said he plans to in the future.

Some students turn to other stores off campus to purchase and sell books.

"I feel like other places ... pay you more," said energy management major Tae Roh.

Although students can shop

elsewhere, such as online or at nearby Textbook Brokers, located at 7445 S May Ave., the bookstore staff enjoys helping students.

For more information, visit <http://bookstore.occc.edu/buyback>. For information about other options, students can Google textbook buyback.

SE&S

Student Employment & Career Services OCCC

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OPTIMAL RESUME

<https://occc.optimalresume.com>

Students' access ID is their OCCC email address; example > john.t.doe@my.occc.edu

Resumes • Cover Letters • Interview Skills

# CAMPUS COMMUNITY

## Keeping tradition alive



ERIN PEDEN/PIONEER

Choctaw Nation members weave baskets Nov. 22 in CU 3. The group visited from Durant in celebration of Native American Heritage Month. Students were able to learn how to and weave their own baskets from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.choctawnation.com](http://www.choctawnation.com).

**COMMUNITY** | Ballroom Dancing Club wants students to try new hobby

## Ballroom club calls all to branch out

LAUREN DANIEL

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

The college has a new club whose goal is to encourage members to step out of their comfort zones and try new things — and that potentially new thing is ballroom dancing.

Ballroom Dancing Club sponsor Randall Abrams said the club can serve as an outlet for fun.

“I just think it would be a fun thing to do besides study all the time,” Abrams said.

“College is a place to try different things... see what’s out there,” he said.

Joining the club will allow students to meet new people, become a bigger part of school and get exposure in different settings, he said.

Despite its unique subject, the hardest part of getting the club kick-started has been getting information to students, said club member Haley Harris.

Because the club is so new, they do not have a spot on bulletin boards found around campus.

“It’s been kind of hard to get the word out about it,” Harris said.

The club is aiming to get as many members as possible.

“We actually had a lot of people, it was over 50 people, say that they were interested in it,” she said.

“I feel like students don’t really know about some stuff offered to them,” she said.

Harris said many people may feel too nervous to join the club because they are unexperienced, but she said no experience is needed to join the club.

Harris started ballroom dancing because her boyfriend was an instructor and has since grown to love it.

“I started learning ballroom about a year and a half ago,” she said. “But (I’m) nowhere near actually feeling like I’m good at it.”

Harris said classes start with basics.

“I think ballroom dance is something that a lot of people just don’t do because they’re afraid they won’t be able to,” she said.

“I think it will give people an opportunity to step out of their comfort zones a little bit and maybe find something that they’ll actually really enjoy, they just don’t know it yet,” Harris said.

The dance instructor is former OCCC teacher Jeff Wolford, who used to be an instructor at Dance Masters.

The club meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. every Thursday in room 1C4 in the Wellness Center.

“I know that’s kind of late for some people, but that was the only time we could get the room for,” Harris said.

The club is determined to become more active next semester and has several events planned, including a potential Valentine’s Day Ball.

For more information, call Abrams at 405-682-1611 ext. 7291.

## CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

### Help fight against hunger

Students can take a service learning trip to the Regional Food Bank or to the Christmas Connection from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7. Register through the Student Life webpage, under the “service day registration” tab. The registration deadline for this event is 11:59 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6. Those who sign up will receive further instructions by email. For more information, call 405-682-7523.

### Student art on display through end of semester

Artwork from Visual Arts Portfolio students will be on display in an exhibit from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Monday, Dec. 16, in the Visual and Performing Arts Center room 124. For more information, call Doug Blake at 405-682-1611 ext. 7250.

### Advocates of Peace spread Christmas cheer

Students can buy an assortment of baked goods during a Christmas bake sale from noon to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, in the Main Building. For more information, call Stephen Morrow at 405-682-1611 ext. 7350.

### Free hugs from Advocates of Peace

The Advocates of Peace club will give out free hugs to students from noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, in the Main Building. For more information, call Stephen Morrow at 405-682-1611 ext. 7350.

### College Poets & Writers club meeting

OCCC’s only writing club meets each week from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. on Wednesdays in room AH 2E1. The group helps writers grow and express themselves. For more information, contact club President Maria F. Rivera at CPW@my.occc.edu.

### Join Christians on Campus for weekly Bible study

Christians on Campus hosts a Bible study every Monday from noon to 12:45 p.m. in room 2N7 in the Main Building and Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. in 1C3 AH. For more information, email [christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu](mailto:christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu).

### Spread holiday cheer with toy donations

Veterans Services has joined with U.S. Marine Corps as a collection site for Toys for Tots until Friday, Dec. 13. Boxes are located in the Student Life office, the Bookstore and the Veterans Services office. For more information, email [SLStaffDL@occc.edu](mailto:SLStaffDL@occc.edu).

### School’s out for winter

Saturday, Dec. 14 is the last day of all fall classes. The college campus will be closed from Monday, Dec. 23 and spring classes will begin Monday, Jan. 20.

### Enroll now for spring electrical training

Enrollment is open for an electrical training program offered Jan. 9 to April 10. The program will teach required skills to work in the electrical industry. Training days and times are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 9:30 p.m. To register, call 405-682-7855.

**All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to [communitywriter@occc.edu](mailto:communitywriter@occc.edu) or visit the Pioneer office located in 1F2 AH.**

# 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. Fridays prior to the next publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

advertise your business here. For more rate information, email adman@occc.edu.

**FOR SALE:** Neiman Marcus Robert Rodriguez collection size 14 strapless cocktail dress. Never worn. Still has store tags. \$50. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

**FOR SALE:** New size 26 jeans — never been worn. Brands include Vans, Levi's and Zumiez. \$10 per pair. Retail for \$40 each. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

**FOR SALE:** Collector's Item! "Star Wars" Hayden Christensen autographed photo in plastic protector & Certificate of Authenticity. \$60. Text 405-818-0083 for more information.

**FOR SALE:** HP office jet all-in-one printer. New color and B&W cartridges. Power cord. Works great. \$50. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

**FOR SALE:** Golden oak corner TV cabinet. Gold trim, glass door on power storage section. Gently used. \$50. 405-602-6499 or 405-568-5996.

## AUTOMOTIVE

**FOR SALE:** 1994 White Saturn model SC1. Body type CP, 169,000 miles. Asking \$800.00. Call 212.6027 for more information.

## FURNITURE

**FOR SALE:** Two 40" CRT televisions. Both are in excellent condition. Great for a gaming TV in the kids' room. \$30 each. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE:** Bed liner for standard long bed pickup w/ tailgate liner. \$75. GC. Text 405-818-0083 for pictures or more information.

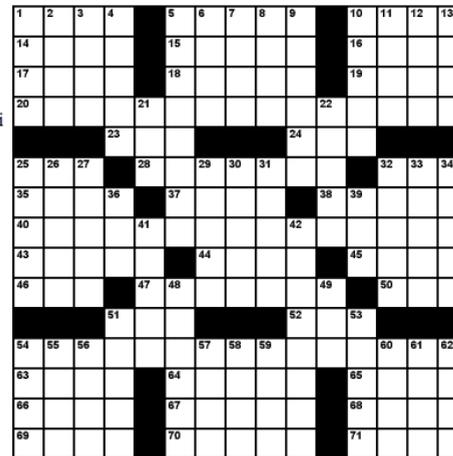
**FOR SALE:** This space. For just \$8 per week, you could

# THIS WEEK'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

'Ignorance Is This' Crossword by Dave Fisher

**Across**

- 1. Volume with a lot of volume
  - 5. Up to snuff
  - 10. Student's org.
  - 14. Designer Cassini
  - 15. Followers of Muhammad ibn Ismail ad-Darazi
  - 16. Kinks hit
  - 17. Columbus caravel
  - 18. Strauss material
  - 19. Sign
  - 20. Does this mean I'm ignorant or...
  - 23. Reagan's 'Star Wars' project, for short
  - 24. Relative of 17 across
  - 25. No spring chicken
  - 28. Marches
  - 32. Tie a knot
  - 35. What the 'fat lady' sings
  - 37. Susan on "Coupling"
  - 38. La Sorbonne, e.g.
  - 40. ... that I don't read this guy's books or...
  - 43. \_\_\_ voice (conscience)
  - 44. Just a drop
  - 45. Knows what's up
  - 46. Make lace
  - 47. Takes in
  - 50. \_\_\_ Spiegel
  - 51. Collection
  - 52. Shaq's shoe width
  - 54. ...that I don't buy this guy's booze?
  - 63. Sound of displeasure
  - 64. Shocking
  - 65. Having the resources
  - 66. Eric of Monty Python fame
  - 67. In reserve
  - 68. Lawsuit
  - 69. Word with swap or track
  - 70. Leveled
  - 71. Sherpa's specialty
- Down**
- 1. 'Flakey' tiger



- 2. Hodgepodge
- 3. Dish list
- 4. Euphemistic expletives
- 5. How to make glycerin explosive
- 6. Weight allowance
- 7. Type of rock
- 8. B \_\_\_ Baby
- 9. Item oft lost in the couch
- 10. Onetime sprint record-holder, for short
- 11. Luigi's capital city
- 12. Guinness
- 13. It has a turret
- 21. Takes too much LSD
- 22. More prudent
- 25. Smoking, e.g.
- 26. Place for spectacles
- 27. A well-known one is green
- 29. Ditch plants
- 30. Emcee's concern
- 31. Capital of Senegal
- 32. It needs dressing
- 33. Lift up
- 34. Furnishings
- 36. Downed
- 39. Pigeon patter
- 41. Caper
- 42. Firmly inserted
- 48. Waco campus
- 49. Last word in "America the Beautiful"
- 51. Not a liability
- 53. Pass a bill
- 54. Notion
- 55. Make like Waldo
- 56. \_\_\_ of Man
- 57. Poet and feminist of the Americas (1895-1965), Lee
- 58. Calif. neighbor
- 59. Courteous
- 60. Girder
- 61. Ultimatum word
- 62. Vichyssoise ingredient

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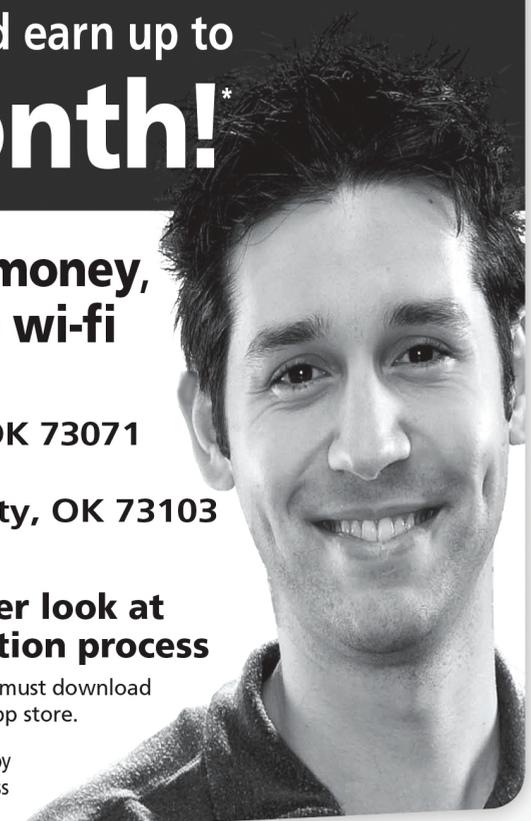
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**editor@occc.edu**

# Three nursing students appointed to state offices

NANCY MARTINEZ

Staff Writer  
staffwriter2@occc.edu

For the first time in the history of the college, nursing students have been appointed to represent Oklahoma and OCCC in state offices during the Annual National Student Nurse's Association conference, said Cindy Milam, Nursing Students Association sponsor.

Katherine Chavez was elected as community project director, Kelsey Payne as legislative director and Kymdria Russo as breakthrough director.

"We're extremely excited to have our first officers represent the college for our state in the nationals," Milam said.

"We have one of the best nursing programs in the state," Chavez said.

"[OCCC] also won the Outstanding Service Award for Oklahoma student nurses."

Payne said volunteering inspires her passion for nursing.

"That's the spirit of nursing," Payne said. "If you're active in volunteering as a student, you'll stay active as a nurse."

The students actively volunteer with non-

profit organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the Christmas Connection and the Walk Against Alzheimers, Payne said.

Chavez said because nurses work so closely with patients, focus and teamwork are important factors in nursing.

"Nurses should be able to think critically, clinically, technically and know why they are giving that shot and where," she said.

It's important to promote collaboration between healthcare positions such as nurses, paramedics and EMTs to show cooperation within the school, she said.

The conference will be held April 9 to 13 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, TN, Milam said.

For more information, email Milam at [cmilam@occc.edu](mailto:cmilam@occc.edu) or visit the NSNA's website at [www.nsna.org](http://www.nsna.org).

Left to right: nursing students Katherine Chavez, Kymdria Russo and Kelsey Payne who will represent their state and school in state offices during the 61st Annual National Student Nurse's Association conference April 9 to 13.

KATIE THURMAN/  
PIONEER



## Professor wins teacher of year

ERIN PEDEN

Online Editor  
onlineeditor@occc.edu

Political science professor Dana Glencross has been honored as teacher of the year by the Oklahoma Political Science Association (OSPA.)

Glencross has worked at OCCC for 23 and a half years.

"I'm a person who doesn't think I'm going to win until it runs me over because there's

so many other good, talented researchers and dedicated teachers.

"All my colleagues came up and congratulated me and told me how well-deserved it was; it's kind of hard to believe, but a great honor."

Political science professor Sharon Vaughan nominated Glencross.

"She is a great teacher," Vaughan said. "She really cares about her students and is very

dedicated to them."

Glencross said the most rewarding part about teaching is the relationship she develops with students.

"That's why all of us do what we do," she said. "To develop people to the point where they can succeed and get out and get whatever their dream is."

For more information, call Glencross at 405-682-1611, ext. 7385, or email Vaughan at [sharon.k.vaughan@occc.edu](mailto:sharon.k.vaughan@occc.edu).

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