Study time

A group of students get together to study in the library. They are Mike Nguyen, electrical engineering major; Than Vo, mechanical engineering major; Hy Nguyen, accounting major; Trang Nguyen, pre-pharmacy; and Thu Pham, chemical engineering major. The library offers a number of areas for students.

OCCC spring job fair canceled

Students urged instead to attend Greater Grads Job fair in OKC

LAUREN DANIEL
Editor
daniel@occc.edu

The OCCC Spring Job Fair, held for the past eight years, has been canceled, said Tamara Madden, Student Employment and Career Services acting director.

Madden said the goal now is to regroup and have the fair in the upcoming fall semester. Originally scheduled for March 5, Madden said the job fair was postponed because of a staff shortage.

“It was a difficult decision, because it’s a great event,” she said. “But when it came right down to it — because of the limited staff and resources that we had — it was the best course of action …”

Madden sent out an email Jan. 16 letting students know the job fair was canceled but that all other services offered through Student Employment and Career Services such as workshops, résumé building, and career exploration, are still available.

“That email indicated that Student Employment and Career Services still have … workshops available, still can meet with students about optimal résumé, Kuder Journey, and so many other services that they offer,” she said. Madden said students can — and should — still attend the Greater Grads Fair from 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, at the Cox Convention Center.

“The 2013 Greater Grads Career Fair attracted nearly 100 Oklahoma employers and 1,000 students from across the state,” their website shows. For more information visit their website at www.greater-grads.com and choose Greater

See FAIR page 9

Textbook rentals on the increase

SIALI SIAOSI
Staff Writer
siaosi@occc.edu

OCCC’s bookstore has seen an increase in rental sales after its first year partnering with third-party distributor Campus Book Runners.

Reinke said renting is a good idea for students who may not have the means to pay full price at the current time. She said that if a student does not return the

See RENTALS page 9
**EDITORIAL | Writer says love is the center**

**Time to accept marriage equality**

For most Oklahomans, the thought of same-sex marriage is synonymous with flamboyance, glitter, and rainbows — and for some same-sex couples, that’s may be exactly what the perfect wedding might entail.

However, considering the milestones the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered community has recently made, it’s time we rid our minds of stereotypes and embrace progression.

I get that Oklahoma prides itself on being the “heart” of the Bible belt. There’s a church on every street corner, and Gov. Mary Fallin has publicly opposed same-sex marriage on several occasions. Anti-gay Oklahomans were content with the fact that the state’s constitution retains marriage rights exclusively to opposite-sex couples — until last week when that was ruled unconstitutional.

On Tuesday, Jan. 14, in Tulsa, U.S. District Court Judge Terence Kern declared that Oklahoma’s constitutional amendment limiting marriage to heterosexual couples violates the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Kern said “moral disapproval of homosexuals as a class, or same-sex marriage as a practice, is not a permissible justification” for the ban to remain.

Fallin said she was “disappointed in the judge’s ruling and troubled that the will of the people has once again been ignored by the federal government.”

Furthermore, Fallin said Kern’s decision opposed 75 percent of Oklahoma voters who believe marriage should remain between a man and woman when the ban was upheld in 2004. But how much have those numbers changed since?

The two lesbian couples that challenged the Oklahoma ban on gay marriage in 2004 have waited a decade for this to happen — and they won’t quit now.

Susan Barton, one of the women involved, said she “[couldn’t] stay in this for nine years and not have faith.” She said she and her partner feel like they’re married already but she “[wants] our state to recognize our marriage.”

It’s admirable that these women have fought for so long and it’s reassuring to know their efforts haven’t all been in vain. Whether the state will uphold the ruling and recognize same-sex marriages is a decision that will come later but, with this much progress made already, there’s hope that Oklahomans might exercise some empathy.

We have to remember that the concept of marriage is just that — a concept — and its interpretation is different to each of us. Though Oklahoma is the Bible belt’s pride and joy, its overall perspective of marriage remaining between a man and woman does not represent the views of everyone. Moreover, two people don’t have to agree on a particular matter for the right decision to be made (and it’s not always on the right side).

Oklahoma’s ban on same-sex marriage is not only insensitive, it’s illogical, and it inhibits a segment of its citizens from exercising their rights under federal law. It’s not the concept of marriage that Barton and her partner are fighting for; it’s the principle — why shouldn’t the state they call home recognize their marriage as valid?

I trust that soon enough, Oklahoma’s ban will be lifted. It may not be today, tomorrow or even this year, but the impetus behind change is far too strong to avoid.

Love is about hearts, not parts.

—**SIALI SIAOSI**

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR | OSDH offers help in planning for a healthy pregnancy**

**Birth defects can be prevented with early prenatal care**

*To the Editor:*

Birth defects are the most common cause of death in infants and the second most common cause of death in children ages 1 to 4 years.

More than 120,000 babies are born with a birth defect each year in the U.S. Each year, about 2,000 cases are in Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health notes that the risk for many types of birth defects can be reduced through healthy lifestyle choices and medical interventions before and during pregnancy.

Those include congenital heart defects, cleft lip or palate, defects of brain and spine, and a variety of genetic syndromes such as Down syndrome. Public awareness, accurate and early diagnosis, expert medical care and social support systems are essential for prevention and treatment of these all-too-common and often deadly conditions.

“Diet, lifestyle choices, factors in the environment, health conditions and medications before and during pregnancy all can play a role in preventing or increasing the risk of birth defects,” said Sharon Vaz, OSDH Screening and Special Services director.

Studies have demonstrated several important steps women can take to help prevent birth defects. Women who are pregnant or may become pregnant are advised to:

• Take 400 mcg of folic acid daily from the beginning of menstruation through menopause.

• Eat a healthy diet and aim for a healthy weight.

• Get a medical checkup before pregnancy and address specific health issues including weight control, control of diabetes, and any medications taken.

• Stop smoking and avoid secondhand smoke.

• Stop drinking alcohol prior to pregnancy.

• Do not take illegal drugs.

• Know your family medical history and potential genetic risks.

Additional information on preventing birth defects can be found at www.obdr.health.ok.gov. For more information about having a healthy pregnancy and a healthy baby, view the “Preparing for a Lifetime, It’s Everyone’s Responsibility” public education campaign on the OSDH website at http://ioo.health.ok.gov.

—**OKLAHOMA STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**
PRODUCT REVIEW | Writer says Six-MonthProof might be a better brand name

LifeProof phone case disappoints

For a product that prides itself on lasting forever, LifeProof cell phone cases aren’t as sturdy as they claim to be. Moreover, the company might consider rebranding themselves as “Six-MonthProof” because although their product is good while it lasts, it indeed has a shelf-life.

I purchased a LifeProof case for my iPhone in May 2013 and immediately fell in love. Though it cost me a pretty penny, the color was stylish, and — best of all — it guaranteed lifetime protection from fire, water and other natural disasters. How could I resist?

For the first few months, things were great. I took my iPhone swimming, let it serenade me while I showered, and often found my dog using it as a chew toy. I rarely worried about what my iPhone endured, because its LifeProof case made it durable.

It survived being dropped underwater, thrown across the room and trampled upon by my size-13 feet but after awhile, the LifeProof case seemed to grow weary.

I was out walking my dog when I dropped my phone on the sidewalk. Annoyed, I bent down to retrieve it, presuming that no damage had been done. Much to my chagrin, however, I soon laid eyes upon the most devastating sight of my life — a cracked phone case and a shattered screen.

My first thought was to vehemently contact LifeProof and demand a refund or product replacement, but I’d long ago misplaced the receipt as well as discarded its original packaging (why would I need them if I’d have the same phone case forever?) But after considering the irony of the situation, I couldn’t help but laugh.

If you need a cell phone case, LifeProof is a quality brand, but it’s important to remember that nothing lasts forever.

With standard pricing around $80, it’s a tad expensive for something that doesn’t uphold its lifetime guarantee.

That said, I can’t wait to get a new LifeProof case as soon as I’m able to afford it.

Rating: C

—SIALI SIAOSI
Staff Writer

BOOK REVIEW | ‘Catching Fire’ continues excitement of first film

‘Divergent’ lengthy but a quick read

Although Tris initially struggles to fit in, she soon rises to the top because she appears to be fearless.

She faces many trials while trying to prove to the Dauntless leader that she belongs in the faction.

She also fights many internal battles, which causes her to question which faction she is most like.

Tris eventually forms a unique bond with one of the Dauntless leaders whose name is Four. They become very close throughout the book.

The Dauntless and the Abnegation start a war with each other. Tris, her family and Four escape, and are determined to stop the war.

The trilogy reminds me of the “Hunger Games” trilogy, which I loved.

“Divergent” is a bit lengthy but I finished the book quickly because I could not put it down.

I strongly recommend “Divergent” to students in general — especially those who like the “Hunger Games.”

Rating: A

—LAUREN DANIEL
Editor

COUNSELOR’S CORNER

Students should plan, set goals

“Goals are the fuel in the furnace of achievement.” —Brian Tracy, author of “Eat that Frog!”

Academic success in college is built on the back of some four-letter words: Goal; Plan; Work; Team. Author Brian Tracy stresses the importance of setting goals and working toward them as a way to overcome procrastination. Having specific long-term and short-term goals can indeed enhance your chances of being successful in life.

We all benefit from setting goals. Some of you arrived on campus for some reason that may or may not be clear to you. Maybe you were told college is the thing you do after high school. Maybe your parents told you would have to get a job and move out if you didn’t get enrolled. Maybe you know you want to do something in the future, but you haven’t figured out what that is yet.

Sitting through classes becomes more challenging if you aren’t sure why you are there. If you fall into this category, one of your first goals should be to do some career exploration so you can find that “something” you want to do in the future. This type of exploration takes place in the Success in College and Life course and the college offers a specific Career Exploration class, too.

Each of these one-credit hour classes is a good initial investment in that they may save you time and money later by helping you focus on the courses you need as opposed to random courses you take.

Once you have set that future goal to work toward, you can now work with an academic adviser or faculty adviser to set your short-term goals that will help you get to your destination.

Short-term goals may involve planning for the classes that you will take each semester so you have a “roadmap” to your degree.

Creating a solid plan is one of the best things you can do to increase your success. Good planning involves more than just picking out the classes you will take. It also involves looking at your whole life and making sure you have allowed adequate time for all of the important things — job, family, classes, other commitments — while minimizing and controlling distractions.

Frequent assessments of your goals and plans can help you stay on track and make any necessary modifications as you move forward.

We in Student Support Services wish you a successful semester.

—MARY TURNER
Learning Support Services
Aldi offers fresh food, produce for less

The price of fresh produce is so high nowadays that many families are forced to settle for canned vegetables, french fries or chips and pastas to feed their families.

It's not that they don't realize the food isn't the healthiest of choices, but with the cost of living increasing faster than wages, they have no choice.

There is an alternative in the Oklahoma City area that most people aren't familiar with. It's called Aldi.

Keep in mind that I take food very seriously. I'm a vegetarian who gets bored quickly with the mundane.

Some of the things I cook are biryani, chile rellenos stuffed with cheese, aloo gobi, spinach lasagne, cheese enchiladas, egg foo yung and other healthy foods.

I did mention that I get bored easily, didn't I?

The same avocados that cost about $1.50 at other grocers runs less than 50 cents at Aldi. That's essentially a three-for-one sale.

Are you a milk drinker? A gallon at Aldi is a little more than $2, but at other stores you will pay more than $4 dollars. That's half price.

There is a wide selection of fruits and vegetables, including blueberries, strawberries, fresh pineapple, poblano peppers, tomatoes, oranges, apples and other delicious choices for a fraction of the cost at a large store.

On tables throughout the store are bargains on anything from a walker for the handicapped to cookware sets and camping supplies.

Another reason I shop at Aldi is they treat their employees with respect.

Cashiers at the store sit while checking out customers. If you’ve ever worked for a boss who told you, “If you have time to lean, you have time to clean,” you know how wonderful it is when they understand that your feet and back hurt after a day of lifting milk jugs and other items onto a conveyor belt.

They also pay them a true living wage, so they aren’t forced to apply for food stamps and other government subsidies that come from taxpayers and allow the corporations to make record profits.

The employees love working there, the selection is big, quality of merchandise is great, the prices are affordable, and you’re in and out in record time.

It’s the perfect grocery store.

There are several locations throughout the metro area. To find one in your area, go to https://www.aldi.us/en/services/store-locator.

Rating: A

—Nancy Martinez
Contributing Writer

PRODUCT REVIEW | Students want healthy choices too

Campus vending machines earn a D-

OCCC is stocked full of vending machines. In fact, they’re almost everywhere you look.

A harried student running from one class to another may be tempted to plop some coins in the slot and grab a candy bar or bag of chips. No wonder freshmen are said to gain an average of fifteen pounds.

However, some of us aren’t content with consuming food and drinks that are high in sugar, sodium, fats and calories, and other ingredients that might taste good, and have no real nutritional value.

These machines set a very bad precedent in teaching unhealthy eating habits, which usually follow the students home.

It is more difficult if you want healthy food choices. The only option is to walk across campus to the food service area.

The problem with this is the food service area isn’t open for night classes.

At lunch time, there is sometimes a very long line to stand in before students get inside and then, they may stand in another line to order what they want.

If you’re a vegetarian, diabetic or have religious dietary restrictions on foods, the selection in the cafeteria is limited.

The pricing also is not affordable for all students.

Doctors advise patients to eat the largest meal in the morning, the next largest at midday and only a small meal at night. For most of us, that would require eating while on campus.

Why is it that there are no vending machines that contain healthy choices?

During the summer, I worked for an insurance company call center that was committed to helping employees stay healthy.

There were several vending machines containing an assortment of foods in the cafeteria area.

The selections included sandwiches, TV Dinners, fresh fruit, raw vegetables with dips or a salad and even ice cream.

Even the drinks were healthy. Employees could choose milk, orange juice, protein drinks or others.

I don’t know about everyone else, but it’s refreshing to be able to pop some coins in the slot and sit down to a healthy meal even when I’m away from home.

Considering that OCCC has one of the best nursing programs in the state and offers classes on nutrition, I’m surprised the only vending machines on campus are full of food that’s laden in fat, full of preservatives and high in calories.

I asked some students what type of food they would like to see in a vending machine and they replied that they’d like vegetable cups, strawberries, grapes, cheese, small TV dinners, fresh unsalted nuts and milk or juice to drink.

I’d like to see salads, nuts, cheese sticks, yogurt, sunflower kernels, pretzels, popcorn, fruit, and pre-cooked dinners to heat up such as lasagna or enchiladas.

On a side note, why are we paying so much for what we buy?

A small pack of gum that runs between 25 to 35 cents in a convenience store is 75 cents in our machines. That doesn’t make sense.

Unfortunately, it doesn’t seem that we’ll see positive changes in this area anytime soon.

Rating: D-

—Nancy Martinez
Contributing Writer

TOP 20 MOVIES

Weekend of Jan. 17 through Jan. 19
www.newyorktimes.com

1. Ride Along
2. Lone Survivor
3. The Nut Job
4. Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit
5. Frozen
6. American Hustle
7. Devil’s Due
8. the Wolf of Wall Street
9. August: Osage County
10. Saving Mr. Banks
11. Her
12. The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug
13. The Legend of Hercules
14. The Hunger Games: Catching Fire
15. Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues
16. Gravity
17. 12 Years a Slave
18. The Secret Life of Wally Mitty
19. Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones
20. Philomena
Most students have difficulty choosing their career at some point during their college journey. Academic Advising Director Tamara Madden said Student Employment and Career Services offers a tool that can help guide those students — Kuder Journey.

"...Kuder Journey ... [is] an interest and values inventory, basically," Madden said.

To use the program, she said, students must get the Kuder Activation Code from Student Employment and Career Services.

Once there, Madden said, students can fill out a personal interests and values inventory.

From there, they are given access to a network that connects them with people who have similar interests and shows them the careers those people have chosen. 

"Kuder Journey can connect to ... a job outlook, and you could detail into a specific job you want to investigate, get information about that — what the job outlook is as far as how many jobs are going to be available in the future," she said.

After taking a Kuder assessment, Madden said, students will then meet with someone in Academic Advising and talk about their results.

"In February, Academic Advising will start using that and help the students kind of investigate and talk about career options, [that] there are majors here at OCCC ... they could consider," she said. "We will do that career advising with them."

Madden said a class that can really assist students with choosing a career is Success in College and Life.

"They are introduced to a lot of different opportunities that the college has as far as resources to do that career exploration ..." Madden said.

Student Yanira Thomas said she used the program to find something she has a passion for — nursing.

"I like to help people," Thomas as said.

Madden said the sooner students figure out which career to pursue, the better off they will be.

"Every person is different as far as their journey toward their career," she said.

"If they are undecided coming in, the sooner they start exploring and investigating, and really getting an idea of what they want to do, the more beneficial it is for them, because they start getting focused and motivated."

When given a purpose, Madden said, students are more likely to enjoy their classes and put more effort into their work.

"Sometimes it’s hard to be motivated to take the general education classes if you’re not sure what the purpose is," she said.

Madden said students often end up changing their major, but said it isn’t the end of the world.

"The sooner you can figure that out, the better, but if it changes as you go, that’s okay," she said.

"...It’s all about your passion. What is it that you want to do?"

For more information about the Kuder Journey program or finding a career, visit the Student Employment and Career Services Website at www.occc.edu/es or call Madden at 405-682-7897.
Fall Vice President’s honor roll released

Students are eligible to be on the Vice President’s honor roll by achieving a GPA of 3.5 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 3.5 GPA for two consecutive semesters.

Mackenzie Adams, Joseph Addo, Kabita Adhikari, Ninet Aguiral de Campos, Ginger Alexander, Kayla Alen, Veronica Alvarado, Anna Alvey, Matthew Alvey, Martha Amos.


Covey Barlow, James Barnes, Robbin Bebott, Katy Bebek, Brian Beck,侈 Brian, Thomas Belkind, Ciera Cooper, Sierra Cooper-Cook, Curtis Cooksey, Christopher Conner, Vanessa Contreras, Trynisha Cheadle, Erin Chibitty, Matthew Cater.


Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a GPA of 3.5 while carrying at least 12 hours. It is a major accomplishment of which all recipients can be proud.

—FELIX AQUINO

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS VICE PRESIDENT

I wish to commend all these being named to the Vice President’s honor roll. It is a major accomplishment of which all recipients can be proud.
Students named to President's honor roll

Students are eligible to be on the President's honor roll by achieving a GPA of 4.0 while carrying at least 12 hours. Part-time students are eligible if they have maintained a 4.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters.


Dawn Beck, Shannon Beckman, Krissy Belyeu, Donnie Benedix, Keirsten Bennet, Jake Bigby, Bradley Birdfich, Cynthia Bishop, April Bitten, Amanda Bitsche, Hannah Blackford, Stacy Blake, Lauren Bolt, Marc Boulanger, Diana Boyd, Kacy Breasehars, Corlissa Breaux, Cindy Brennise.


Amr Elghondakly, Andrew Emerson, Anna Engel, Jennifer Estrada, Jasmin Farmer, Nicole Farrel, McKinzi Farrell, Shiloh Farris, Anthony Feehan, Tiana Ferguson, Abra Figueroa, Caitlyn Fincher, Colleen Fitzgerald.


Michael Griffin, Casey Griffin, Jacob Grothe, Dominique Halal, Elizabeth Hall, Chadwick Hamilton, Etony Hamilton, Nicholas Hamilton, Nathan Hamlet, Miranda Hannon, Kelly Harder, Sashanna Hardesty, Kent Hathaway, Tammie Haworth, Heather Haywood, Sean Heard, Sarah Heath.


Natalie Jackson, Tyler James, Jenny Jansing, Sarah Jay, Tiffany Jenkins, Zinjennings, Jonathan Jester, Michelle Jerzoro.


Prashantkumar Patel, Pablo Perez, Juan Perez, Melissa Perkins, Emily Perry, Samantha Perry, Misako Perssoa, Michelle Peterson, Stephanie Pettijohn, Viet Pham, Nhan Pham, Dustin Pham, Micah Pilkenton, Monica Piratos, Alex Pollock, Nathan Post, Ryan Powell, Ellen Powell, Jessica Prefume, Shawn Price, Stacy Provens, Jason Pruitt.

Yen Quach, Arnon Radfar, Emerson Ramseyer-Miller, Kelsey Randall, Tyler Rawson, Dakota Ray, Christopher Ray, Emily Redman, Matthew Reeves, Amy Remington, Stephanie Renaud, Rachel Ren-kiewicz, Tyrone Richard, Gerardo Rico Cervantes, Preshel Rijal, Jordan Risner, Juan Rodriguez.


Ashley Sloan, Kelli Smid, Karli Smith, Beverly Smith, Thomas Smith, Brandi Smith, Jordan Smith, Timothy Smith, Steven Snyder, Johan Soltani, Karina Sosa, Shwana Sparks, Cassie Spears, Jesse Spradlin, Chad Stephenson, Lauren Stephenson, Amanda Stevens, Alyssa Stewart, Cassandra Stillwell.

Jacob Story, Michael Stutzman, Leah Sweet, Chiew Ting Tan, Casey Tette, Jessica Taylor, Melissa Teague, Uyen Phuong Thanh, Susamma Thomas, Anthony Thomas, Cody Thornton, Christopher Tinsley, Amber Tobin, Preston Tollers, Nicole Torres, Vu Thuy Hoan Tran, Thuy Linh Tran, Dragon Tran, Linh Tran, Daniel Trejo, Quyen Truong, Van Truong, Victor Truong, Valorine Tsopmoh, Elyar Tursun, Lorena Uribe, Joseph Vandenbogaerde, Pakjub Vang, Michelle Vasquez, Priscilla Vega, Gabriele Velez, Abigail Vesc-chage, Thanh Vo, Ai Phung Vu, Cong Vu, Dat Vu.

Nicole Waddle, Timothy Wainner, Matt Wainscott, Taylor Wall, Kayli Warmker, Joseph Wash, Tyler Watkins, Marissa Weidner, Jacob Welch, Gerald Welch, Brandon West, Joshua West, William Westerheide, Brittnay Wheeler, John Whipple, James White, April Whitebird, Davis Whitten.

Kyle Wierick, Jesse Wilhelm, Amanda Wilkinson, Shannon Williams, Karen Williams, Chelsea Williams, Deanna Williams, Francis Williams, Kymio Williams, Daniel Willmon.

Jacob Wilmoth, Christopher Wingate, Travis Wog, Samantha Woodring, Katelyn Wright, Alison Wright, Wayne Wright, Sydney Wynn, Christina Yeager, Hannah Youngblood, Paul Zaple-tal, Bendec Zuck.

I commend all of the students listed for their exceptional academic achievement”

—PAUL SECHRIST

OCCC President
Pre-education major Stephen Dellinger works on his upper core strength on the pull-up bar in the OCCC gym. OCCC provides free access to exercise equipment, the gym and the Aquatic Center for OCCC students.

SIALI SIAOSI
Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Sports and Recreation Specialist Eric Watson said, with a valid student ID, OCCC students have free access to almost everything Campus Recreation has to offer, with the exception of group fitness classes and certification courses.

OCCC students have free access to state-of-the-art gym equipment, an Olympic-sized swimming pool, intramural sports and sports clubs, as well as volunteer opportunities, he said.

“Campus Recreation [houses] everything that is offered to students through the Recreation and Fitness department.”

Watson said the OCCC Wellness Center includes free weights, cardio machines, and a weight-training circuit.

He said students also can check out footballs, volleyballs, and other sports equipment to use in the gymnasium or outside.

Watson said there is a youth activity field on campus that students can use for outdoor sports.

For those who like water activities, he said, the Aquatic Center is divided accordingly to permit recreational swimming and competitive swimming, along with an area for diving.

“Students get free access [to the pool],” he said.

Watson said there are always staff members on duty at the Wellness and Aquatic Centers to ensure the safety of those using the facilities.

Watson said students can visit the Campus and Recreation page at www.occc.edu/rf to find out more about the free services.

“Students will have access to … read about certifications, intramural schedules — all that good stuff,” he said.

Watson said students also can purchase a Group Fitness Pass for $35 to access all group fitness classes for the semester.

He said the Campus Recreation catalogue for Spring 2014 also contains important information and dates regarding intramural sports. Those can be found in the

For more information, contact Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• Feb. 27
  Men’s Spring Open Basketball League pre-season open run for registered teams at 7 p.m. in the OCCC gym. Teams will be assigned to their divisions according to their performance. Open Divisions: A and B. League Fee: $275 per team. League dates are March 6 through May 1. Game days are Thursdays at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. End of season tournament is May 8 and May 15 (single elimination). For more information, call 405-682-7861 or visit www.occc.edu/rf/adultsports.

• March 1
  Final day for Spring Coed Volleyball registration with payment. League starts March 10 and runs through April 21. Games are at 6:30 p.m. each Monday. Each team will play 12 games plus tournament using USVBA rules with some modifications. League fees: $230 per team. Roster limit is 12. For more information, call 405-682-7861 or visit www.occc.edu/rf/adultsports.

• Spring semester:
  Visit www.occc.edu/rf/swimming-diving to enroll in a number of events held in the college’s Aquatic Center.

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.
Fair: Officials hope to reschedule Job Fair for the fall

Continued from page 1

Grads fair on the left side of the page under the Student tab.

Employers who were planning to be at the OCCC Job Fair have been referred to that event as well, Madden said.

“We’re trying to continue to support students in their efforts in finding jobs,” she said.

“We want to make sure we are not eliminating access. We’re just redirecting.”

Madden said many students and community members attend the OCCC Job Fair each spring.

“It’s not an exact number, but certainly in the past … we have had [more than] 100 employers and … hundreds of students and community members,” she said.

Taylor Aldridge, nursing student, said she is disappointed the fair has been canceled.

“[Renting] is just another option,” she said.

“We [now] have a bigger market where we can get rid of books if we no longer want to use them on campus without the bookstore taking a loss.”

Reinke said since partnering with Campus Book Runners, the bookstore has increased the number of titles it is able to distribute.

“Now, we have [more than] 250 titles,” Reinke said.

Thanks to the addition of more titles, Reinke said, the bookstore has seen a revenue increase as well.

“It’s gone from maybe $10,000 a semester … to close to a quarter of a million dollars on rentals.”

Reinke said students can rent a textbook any time throughout the semester.

She said the rental program is ideal for students who study last-minute for final tests.

She said students need a credit or debit card in order to rent from the bookstore.

“There is not currently a way to rent textbooks online, Reinke said.

Reinke said although renting a textbook is not always the cheapest choice, the OCCC bookstore’s primary goal is to provide as many options as possible for students to afford their books.

“[Renting] is just another option,” she said.

Sometimes it’s cheaper than getting a used or new [book], and sometimes it’s about the same. It just depends.

“Our goal is to provide the students with the options, and they can choose what’s best for them,” Reinke said.

“Some students like to keep their books.”

For more information about book rentals, contact the OCCC Bookstore at 405-682-7510.

Rentals: Bookstore director says textbook options there

Continued from page 1

rental or the book is damaged, the student is responsible.

Reinke said rental prices vary by book. She said students can save anywhere from $10 to $50, depending on the title.

She said using a third-party company to distribute textbook rentals has its benefits.

“Going with a third-party company, they had a [better] way to secure rentals,” Reinke said.

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She said students need a credit or debit card in order to rent from the bookstore.

There is not currently a way to rent textbooks online, Reinke said.

Reinke said although renting a textbook is not always the cheapest choice, the OCCC bookstore’s primary goal is to provide as many options as possible for students to afford their books.

“[Renting] is just another option,” she said.

Sometimes it’s cheaper than getting a used or new [book], and sometimes it’s about the same. It just depends.

“Our goal is to provide the students with the options, and they can choose what’s best for them,” Reinke said.

“Some students like to keep their books.”

For more information about book rentals, contact the OCCC Bookstore at 405-682-7510.

Public Notice of Upcoming Accreditation Review Visit by the ACEN

ANNOUNCEMENT

Oklahoma City Community College Nursing Program wishes to announce that it will host a site review for continuing accreditation of its associate degree nursing program by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

You are invited to meet the site visit team and share your comments about the program in person at a meeting scheduled at 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm on February 12, 2014 in College Union 1 at Oklahoma City Community College.

Written comments are also welcome and should be submitted directly to:
Dr. Sharon Tanner, Chief Executive Officer
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing
3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850
Atlanta, GA 30326

Or e-mail: sjtanner@acenursing.org

All written comments should be received by the ACEN by February 4, 2014.

www.occc.edu/pioneer

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

SECS
Student Employment & Career Services
www.occc.edu/sectools
CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Quick energy
Behnaz Adelilard, business major, adds sugar to coffee she bought at the OCCC Coffee Shop located on the first floor of the Main Building. The Coffee Shop offers a variety of Starbucks beverages plus muffins, wraps and other food items. —Lauren Daniel/Pioneer

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Future Alumni Network club wants you
SIALI SIAOSI
Staff Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

The Future Alumni Network is seeking to expand its club this semester, said Alumni Relations Coordinator Randy Cassimus.

"The FAN Club is a student organization ... designed to give students [the] opportunity to build networking connections," —Randy Cassimus, Alumni Relations Coordinator

Because of its tie-in with the OCCC Alumni Association, he said, the FAN Club has more people at its disposal to complete large-scale service projects. This semester, Cassimus said, the FAN Club will engage in a campuswide fundraiser but said he could not disclose any further details just yet.

Last semester, Cassimus said FAN Club members were special guests at the Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Banquet. He said each FAN Club member sat with an inductee whose career corresponded with his or her major.

FAN Club president Anna Morgan said it was a great experience.

"The Hall of Fame banquet was the biggest thing for us," Morgan said.

She said the organization has allowed her to connect with alumni members she wouldn't otherwise have had access to.

Cassimus said listing the FAN Club on a résumé can potentially benefit future employment opportunities, especially when an employer is part of the OCCC Alumni Association.

The first FAN Club meeting is at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 27. Cassimus said the meeting location is currently undetermined, but he can be contacted at 405-682-1611, ext. 7478, for more information.

Health Fair scheduled for Feb. 5
The OCCC Health and Wellness Taskforce will host the 5th annual Health Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the College Union.

Vendors will provide a broad range of health and wellness information including health screenings; flu shots (also for those uninsured); chiropractic and acupuncture care; massage therapy; nutritional information; fitness and exercise information, dental screenings and pro-active care; breast and cervical cancer information, tobacco prevention, immunization information, health insurance information, and HIV information and testing. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7662.

Club sponsor lunch Feb. 6
Interested in joining a club but unsure which one is right for you? From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6, students can stop by CU1 in the Student Union to meet with sponsors from different campus clubs and organizations. Students should come with questions about the clubs they're interested in. For more information, call 405-682-7523.

Spring graduation application deadline Feb. 7
Students seeking to graduate in spring 2014 need to submit their application for graduation to the Records and Admissions office before Friday, Feb. 7. Failure to submit the application by Feb. 7 may result in a change of graduation date. Commencement ceremonies are held in May. For more information, call 405-682-7580.

All Highlights are due Monday by noon for inclusion in the next issue. Email your event to editor@occc.edu with HIGHLIGHT in the subject line or visit the Pioneer office located in 1F2 AH.
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.


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: 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.


FOR SALE: Barfoot's specialty Down 1. ‘Foolish’ tiger
2. Hedgehog
3. Dish list
4. Euphemistic explosives
5. How to make gymnastics explosive
6. Weight allowance
7. Type of rock
8. B. Baby
9. Item not lost in the couch
10. One-time quiet record-holder, for short
11. Luigi’s capital city
12. Guatemalan
13. It has a turn
14. Takes too much LSD
15. More prudent
16. Baking, e.g.
17. Place for spectacles
18. A well-known sea is green
19. Dutch plants
20. Twenty’s concern
21. Capital of Sengal
22. Two 40’s
23. Four times a bear
24. A put-down for a showman
25. A dress worn by a dancer
26. ‘Eulogy’
27. One of the capital’s largest cities
28. Escape from
29. A coating
30. 1 to 3:1
31. Couples...
32. It needs dressing
33. Lift up
34. Furnishings
35. Down
36. Down
37. Pigeon pater
38. Cap
39. False
40. Waco campus
41. Last word in “America the Beautiful”
42. Not a liability
43. Pass a bill
44. Married
45. Make like Waldo
46. ‘60s of Man
47. Foot and feminist of the Americas (1895-1957)
48. Close neighbor
49. Courteous
50. Unpleasant
51. Ultramarine
52. Vichyssoise ingredient

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Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7307, or e-mail: adman@occc.edu

Comments? Opinions? Let us know! E-mail Lauren Daniel
editor@occc.edu
Let your voice be heard!
Former NBA star’s art on display in new gallery

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Staff Writer
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Retired NBA player Desmond Mason said OCCC’s new Visual Performing Arts Center is the perfect venue for his art show that opened Jan. 18.

“I said when I walked through before [the theater] was completely done that it was phenomenal,” Mason said. “And this is incredible.”

Mason said the amount of lighting in the Inasmuch Foundation gallery is refreshing.

“It’s … nicely lit — that’s what you want. I think it’s perfect,” he said. “This is a great space.”

Mason said he’s been an artist since high school but that his talent flourished during his college years.

“I didn’t really like to draw [when I was younger],” he said, “I just liked to make stuff.”

In his early years, Mason said he preferred creating things with his hands but fell in love with drawing as he grew older.

Mason’s show displays 17 pieces, including the most recent contribution to the “Spirit of the Buffalo” Project, an Oklahoma City public art tradition that began in 2004.

The buffalo Mason spray-painted blue, red and gold is the final piece to the project.

“There were only 200 made and he’s number 200,” he said. Mason said he was able to research the other buffalo projects so he could ensure his personal contribution met the standard. He said he had specific emotions in mind when considering what colors to decorate his piece.

Mason said he studied art while attending Oklahoma State University and color theory was something he was passionate about.

“When I draw from red, it’s energy —it’s intensity,” he said. “It’s one of the main colors that attract the eyes. It’s one of the main colors in child psychology that are utilized on a regular basis.”

He said he added blue because it’s the polar opposite of red — serene and calm.

“Gold is considered to be a regal color,” he said. “It’s a color of power and hierarchy.”

Mason said his goal was to capture the energy of each color when decorating the buffalo piece.

“Outside of all of that, the colors are extremely complementary.”

Mason said his “Untitled Buffalo” will permanently be located at the corner NW 7th Street and Hudson Avenue in downtown Oklahoma City. He said he intends to open an art gallery in the same area. Though he said he is still in the early processes of opening the gallery, Mason said he hopes to have other artists’ work on display when his pieces aren’t in circulation.

For more information, contact Academic Advancement Executive Director Lealon Taylor at 405-682-1611, ext. 7617.