Out with the old

Math major and student worker Robert Beauchamp replaces ceiling tiles outside of the Bruce Owen Theater on March 2. “We are changing ceiling tiles because they get stained from leaks and stuff,” he said. To contact OCCC’s Maintenance and Operations, call 405-682-7554 or visit www.occc.edu/fm/Maintenance.html.

Transferring to a four-year? Plan ahead

College expert says advance planning is crucial when seeking a bachelor’s degree

LAUREN DANIEL
Online Editor
onlineditor@occc.edu

Jennifer Martinez, environmental engineering major, said she plans to transfer to Oklahoma State University but needs to complete her associate degree first.

Premed and biology major Katherine Engel said she plans to transfer to Oklahoma State University or the University of Wisconsin at Madison in the fall of 2016.

She said she has not yet started her transfer process, but has met with an academic adviser.

“I just did it once in the three years I’ve been here,” Engel said.

Ingrid Moreno, mechanical engineering major, said she transferred from UCO to OCCC and is planning to return to UCO next semester.

She said the process has been pretty smooth, but encourages students to pay attention to their prerequisites.

“If you’re in higher-level classes and trying to transfer somewhere else, to make sure they get those prerequisites looked at so you don’t get held back …,” Moreno said.

More than 60 percent of students will transfer to a four-year institution if they first attend a two-year college, according to National Student Clearinghouse. This means many OCCC students will face the daunting transfer process at some point.

Javier Puebla, Graduation, Employment and Transfer Services Transferring to a four-year? Plan ahead

Rosetta Stone language program free at OCCC

HUNG TRAN
News Writing Student

The Rosetta Stone computer program is easy to sign up for and free to learn for students who want to study the 11 language courses available at the World Languages and Cultures Center.

Rosetta Stone has been used in the center since summer 2008, said Chiaki Troutman, WLCC coordinator.

Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese,
Bike lanes needed in metro area

Some Oklahoma City residents who have shown interest in promoting bicycle infrastructure and development should continue to be encouraged.

In 2008, the Oklahoma City Bicycle Transportation Plan was approved, which envisioned the eventual creation of 200 miles of bike lanes to be installed in Oklahoma City with federal grant money. In 2012, 70 miles of bike lanes were installed and in 2014, approval was given for installation of the other 62.

Bicycles are a great mode of transportation. They provide benefits to both the rider and society. Bicycles are cheap to own and operate. Used bikes can be found at pawn shops for under $100 and even top-of-the-line new models are a fraction of the price of a new car.

They also save riders money. Oklahoma's gas prices are relatively low — currently about $2.27 per gallon — but the cost still adds up quickly.

Other benefits are less obvious, but studies like one from 2011 in the online journal BMJ have shown that switching to bicycles from cars has a significant impact on reducing air pollution and improving rider health.

Yet, even with all these benefits, it is still common to hear sentiments hostile to cyclists and pedestrians, such as the one expressed by Debbie Gardner in a news report by Channel 5 KOCO.

“I don’t need [bicycles] on the road. Maybe the sidewalks, but not the road.”

Her concerns included “… Hitting them, getting in a wreck or causing a death.”

Her desire for safety both for drivers and for cyclists is commendable since 76 bicyclists were hit by cars in Oklahoma City in 2013, but the solution is not to put bikes onto walkways where bikes and pedestrians can collide.

In many parts of Oklahoma City this is not even an alternative since there are no sidewalks.

It would be far better to continue with the improvements that have already been put in place.

The bike lanes that have been created are a good first step, but many of them are “sharrows” lanes — lanes marked for shared use by cars and bicycles. These shared lanes look good on paper, but provide little real benefit since they rely on the voluntary change in behaviour of motorists.

It is already legal for bikes to use the street and take up the full lane, but that has not prevented many motorists from treating riders with contempt by driving dangerously close to them.

Dedicated bike lanes would be a better solution. A 2012 Canadian study showed that dedicated bike lanes reduced the risk of injury by 50 percent compared to multi-use roads.

If bike lanes are protected from cars by a physical barrier, the risk drops by 90 percent.

If done correctly, these improvements also could benefit pedestrians and reduce the number involved in motor vehicle accidents — plus give incentive to build more and better sidewalks.

—Amar Molinas
Webmaster

Renters insurance affordable, covers personal belongings

To the Editor:

If you are currently renting or plan to rent soon, we recommend you contact an insurance agent to discuss renters insurance. While it is the landlord’s responsibility to fix the building if something like a fire or tornado damages the home, your personal belongings will be your responsibility to replace.

In addition to personal belongings, some policies also will cover living expenses if your apartment or house is uninhabitable due to damage caused by a covered peril.

The premiums for renter’s insurance average between $15 and $30 per month depending on the location, the policy limit requested, loss history and other underwriting guidelines.

Most renters insurance policies provide two basic types of coverage: personal property and liability.

Personal property coverage pays to repair or replace personal belongings if they are damaged, destroyed or stolen. This is the most commonly purchased renters policy. Liability insurance provides coverage against a claim or lawsuit resulting from bodily injury or property damage to others caused by an accident while on the policyholder’s property.

There are two major types of renters insurance:

The broad form covers personal belongings against specific events, such as fire or theft. This is the most commonly purchased renter’s policy. Typical coverage under this form includes damage from fire, lightning, explosion, smoke, vandalism, theft and water-related damage from property utilities.

The comprehensive form provides coverage for a range of events, unless specifically excluded by the policy. Considering the potential amount of coverage, the premiums for this policy may be higher.

One important factor to look for when shopping for renter’s insurance is actual cash value versus replacement cost coverage. While it may not have a large effect on your short-term premiums, it may make a large difference in your claim.

Actual cash value coverage will reimburse the renter for the cost to replace the personal property minus depreciation. It’s important to account for depreciation when considering this coverage option. Replacement cost coverage will reimburse the renter for the cost of replacing the property.

It is also important to have a current home inventory list so that if you do have to file a claim, you can easily show what contents you had before the loss.

A free home inventory list is at www.ok.gov/oid/home_inventory.html.

For more information on renters insurance visit www.oid.ok.gov or contact the Oklahoma Insurance Department at 1-800-522-0071.

—Kesha Keith
Oklahoma Insurance Department
Kesha.Keith@oid.ok.gov

LETTER TO THE EDITOR | At $15 to $30 a month, most can afford to insure their possessions
Ever since I started watching anime shows on Adult Swim when I was in the third grade, there’s always been a part of me that’s still attracted to the over-sized eyes, lightning quick ninja moves and, of course, the ridiculous storylines.

Anime shows are basically just Japanese action cartoons – but really, really deep cartoons.

I’ve revisited one show in particular called “Samurai Champloo.” When I was a kid, I didn’t know why I liked it other than the badass samurai sword fighting.

As an adult, my eyes were opened to the incredible story and background of the characters, and the amazing hip-hop-esque soundtrack. I mean, what’s cooler than watching people fight with samurai swords to some good beats?

The story revolves around the brutish samurai known as Mugen, who is ruthless, loud and constantly disturbing the peace.

Along with Mugen, there’s Jin, the reserved, quiet, yet skillful, samurai who has a bad reputation after killing his master as a student.

These two characters are the real yin-yang symbol. Though the show has its goofy and comical moments, it remains very philosophical and somewhat historical in a fictional way. As a YouTube commenter once said on a “Samurai Champloo” video, “This show is more than an anime, it’s an experience.” I couldn’t agree more.

Rating: A

—Bryce McElhaney
Senior Writer

MOVIE REVIEW I ‘Rock n’ Roll High School Forever’ set reviewer on lifelong path of rebellion

The late-coming sequel to the original “Rock n’ Roll High School” is a vibrant, ’90s-era masterpiece of teenage angst.

I was only 10 when this movie came out and probably 12 when I began watching it over and over.

Everything about it spoke to my inborn distrust of authority. It was a film that resonated deep in the part of me that had long since suspected that everyone is a freak and that those who try to force conformity upon others tend to be the freakiest of all.

I knew little about music then but I already knew defiance well. “Rock n’ Roll High School Forever” only stirred my lust for more. What I knew, even before I’d fallen in love with G.G. Allin or Chuck Berry, was that rock and roll music would always be a devastatingly powerful and explosive device in any struggle against tyranny.

This is where I got my sense of style, I learned most of the dance moves I still use today, and it’s where I fell in love with Mojo Nixon and the Ramones.

Punk rock purists will surely shiver to see me laud a sequel; a sequel that in almost no way involved the Ramones who played the central characters in the original and provided its entire soundtrack. Even I (a child of the ’90s who grew up with Gin Blossoms and Hootie and the Blowfish in the air around me), cringe at some of the ultra ’90s music in “Rock n’ Roll High School Forever.”

Fifties music and punk should clearly have made the whole soundtrack. But the strength of the message remains the same.

“You’ve got to save the school from the uncool.” Twelve-year-old me took this line and applied it to every aspect of my life henceforth, switching out the word “school” with whatever needed saving at the time. The uncool are lurking everywhere.

This is the creed by which I live as proclaimed by my forefather; the “yuppy hatin’, lower-body gyratin’, beenie-weenie eatin’ spirit of rock n’ roll!” (Mojo Nixon)

Under his guidance, I have gotten bodacious and I’ve remained so ever since.

Long live rock n’ roll.

Rating: A

—Jorge Krzyzaniak
Senior Writer

ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING REVIEW | Reviewer says hip-hop backed cartoon is more than mere anime

‘Samurai Champloo’ still delivers

The two constantly try to fight and kill each other, but seem to be equally matched.

Fuu, a young girl with a mission to find the samurai who smells of sunflowers. Cheesy, I know, but nonetheless captivating.

In the first episode, Fuu cons the two samurais into helping her with her mission. This is where the story begins and the three set out on the journey.

Throughout the show, the three find themselves in whacky, impossible situations where they either have to fight their way out, or even play a baseball game against annoying Americans.

Rating: A

—Clayton Mitchell
Sports Writer

Headspace brings users inner peace

For years, friends and acquaintances have told me about meditating as a method of relieving stress and thinking clearly. I’ve been skeptical for years — that is, until recently.

During the fall 2014 semester, when my school workload getting heavier and heavier, I decided to finally give it a try and see what it was all about, to help relieve my stress, and to help me fall asleep more easily.

I tried to accomplish this on my own, but I still could not quite get my head clear. I decided to search for a guide. This is when I fell upon Headspace.

I found the app randomly while searching the word “meditation” on the app store. It was the highest rated app, so I downloaded it immediately.

When I started the first lesson, I was surprised to hear a beautifully voiced British man guiding me through the meditation process. I can only imagine him being gorgeous based on his voice.

He said many things throughout the process that I found interesting, such as stressing focus on the body, including scanning the body to determine the sensation in each part, starting with my head and scanning all the way down to my toes.

He also said to attempt to count to 10 with my breaths. Doing this is way harder than it seems, because of how powerful the mind is and how easily it wanders off.

While I still have never managed to fully clear my mind of everything, thanks to Headspace, I am now able to analyze the space around me and analyze my body in a way that makes me forget all my troubles, even if very temporarily.

The app only gives 10 sessions, encouraging the participant to purchase the entire service for the full experience. However, the information given in the first 10 sessions is enough to grasp the basics of meditation.

To find out more about this glorious app and how meditation works from a scientific perspective, visit headspace.com.
Winter weather can bring people together or bring out the scrooges of ice and snow. The recent shenanigans of Mother Nature have done the former for my family and me.

My brothers-in-law, with their wonderful better halves, came over to help my husband fix the rear axle he broke on my truck after using the roads as a slip and slide.

Now, while I am not happy with the reason for the gathering, one of the outcomes was greatly pleasing to me and, more specifically, my taste buds.

Papa Murphy’s Take and Bake 5-meat stuffed pizza was the perfect way to keep my attention off tearing my husband a new one for breaking my truck.

The double layer of dough was the perfect combination of chewy and crunchy to keep my mouth chewing and from yelling words I would later regret.

The little bits of sausage, beef, and bacon filled my mouth enough to where I dared not open it for fear of just the tiniest piece falling out and blaming him for that as well.

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“Take and Bake pizza equals four pounds of perfection”

If you’re looking to get the full Tucker’s experience, wear the same size pants for the next few years.

Rating: A

—Katie Axtell
Community Writer

TOP 20 MOVIES
Weekend of March 6 through March 8
www.newyorktimes.com

1. Chappie
2. Focus
3. The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
5. The Spongebob Movie: Sponge Out of Water
6. Fifty Shades of Grey
7. McFarland, USA
8. The Lazarus Effect
9. The DUFF
10. Unfinished Business
11. American Sniper
12. Still Alice
13. Paddington
14. The Imitation Game
15. Jupiter Ascending
16. A La Mala
17. Birdman
18. Crazy Beautiful You
19. Hot Tub Time Machine 2
20. Selma

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

PRODUCT REVIEW | Papa Murphy’s is the perfect gooey masterpiece

Take and Bake pizza equals four pounds of perfection

Winter weather can bring people together or bring out the scrooges of ice and snow. The recent shenanigans of Mother Nature have done the former for my family and me.

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If you’re looking to get the full Tucker’s experience, wear the same size pants for the next few years.

Rating: A

—Katie Axtell
Community Writer

RESTAURANT REVIEW | Find flavorful burgers and hand-cut fries at local grill

Tucker’s has best burgers in state

Sometimes my family feels the need to try new restaurants. Most of the time, I do not look forward to these experiences, because contrary to popular belief, I am not a very adventurous person. So, I try to steer them in the right direction by recommending locally owned restaurants that basically offer kids menus for adults.

Tucker’s Onion Burgers at 15001 N May Ave. in Oklahoma City seemed like the perfect place.

I walked into Tucker’s and immediately knew we had collectively made the right choice. The smell of grease, hamburgers and fries made my mouth water while I looked over the relatively simple menu.

Tucker’s is similar to Five Guys, because the menu is simple and only has a few different sizes of burgers ranging in cost from $5.49 to $10.49. They allow you to pick all of the toppings you want at no additional cost. Those include grilled jalapenos, lettuce, tomatoes, pickles and condiments. All burgers are served with grilled onions, but they will kindly hold them if you ask. In case you were wondering, I did.

If you’re looking to get the full Tucker’s experience, you must try their $9.49 the “Mother Tucker” burger, which consists of lettuce, onion, cheese, tomatoes, pinto beans, Fritos and Catalina Dressing.

My favorite item at Tucker’s was the hand-cut French fries. I am a French fry snob, and I can honestly say their fries are some of the best I’ve ever had. Although they were a bit expensive, at $2.59, they are easily big enough for two people to share.

If you’re trying to eat healthy or looking for a menu with a vast number of options, go somewhere else. But, if you’re looking for a local restaurant that makes awesome, juicy, greasy, flavorful burgers, go to Tucker’s.

There’s a reason Tucker’s was named the best burger in Oklahoma by Thrillist. To find a location near you, visit www.tuckersonionburgers.com/menu.

Rating: A

—Lauren Daniel
Online Editor
Campus police operate like any city department

TIMOTHY SMITH
News Writing Student

Having a commissioned police force on campus is a plus when seconds count in an emergency, said OCCC Police Chief James Fitzpatrick. He spoke in an interview explaining the importance of having campus police as opposed to campus security guards.

“The benefit of having police officers right here (is,) within a minute — sometimes less than a minute away from when you call for help — you’ve got somebody there,” Fitzpatrick said. “For your safety, that’s irreplaceable.”

Campus police can handle the same calls for help that a city police officer would; whereas, in the past, campus security officers would have to call the Oklahoma City Police Department when things went wrong.

Education major Aire Thorne told how the campus police helped her after a hit-and-run accident damaged her vehicle.

“They were super nice,” Thorne said.

“They taught me some things I didn’t really know. I was supposed to have my (driver’s) license changed within 10 days of moving,” Thorne said.

Thorne said she feels having a police force on a college campus is necessary.

“If you don’t have campus police … I wouldn’t feel safe,” she said. “You have thousands of people around you and no one to keep order.”

Fitzpatrick said the police at OCCC are ready and able to handle any situation which may appear in a campus setting. He said campus police ensure the safety of students.

“To be a police officer in the state of Oklahoma, you have to have a CLEET Peace Officer certification,” Fitzpatrick said.

“Oklahoma City Community College does not hire anybody without their certification.”

Campus Police Officer David Madden said that being a police officer on campus is similar to being an officer in the city.

“We have nowhere near what Oklahoma City has in call volume, but we get the same type of calls,” Madden said. “We get everything from domestic violence, to larceny, to burglary.”

Madden said being a campus officer does not limit his authority to campus alone.

“A lot of students don’t realize that we are a police department,” Madden said. “We’re a state agency. We make traffic stops. We can get out on city streets. If you leave the property, it doesn’t mean we can’t come after you.”

Familiarity with the campus helps the officers work better and faster.

“We have a confined environment,” Fitzpatrick said. “We’ve got 297 cameras. Very little can go on on this campus that we can’t at least figure out who were the parties involved.”

Another advantage of having police on campus, according to Madden and Fitzpatrick, is that a campus police officer has complete ownership of a crime case.

“One of the things about Oklahoma City is that an officer there will take an initial call and then pass it on to a detective, versus here, (where) you work the call from the time that the crime occurred all the way through all of your paperwork, to submitting charges to the district attorney, to going to court … .” Madden said.

Fitzpatrick agreed.

“We’re able to actually bring resolution to a case,” he said. Fitzpatrick also talked about how campus police are not only helpful for handling crimes on campus but also performing public service functions.

“We respond to emergency medical calls and we obviously handle if any kind of fire alarm is activated here,” he said.

Fitzpatrick said his department looks to hire service-minded individuals.

He said a campus police officer should have a personality that is looking to be a help to the students on campus.

Fitzpatrick gave examples of what the campus police will do to help.

“We’ll escort them to their cars,” he said. “If your battery needs jumped, we’ll jump it for you. If you lock your keys in your car, we’ll get you in the car”.

For more information on the OCCC Campus Police Department, email Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@occc.edu

OCCC Police Chief James Fitzpatrick
Cadaver dissection easier than exams

JORGE KRZYZANIAK
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

The following story is part two of a three-part series on OCCC’s Human Anatomy course where students are working with human cadavers. Part one of the series ran in the Jan. 30 issue of the Pioneer and can be found online at http://pioneer.occc.edu.

“I think the most interesting part will be when we get to the brains.”

Eight weeks into the spring semester, Nursing student Johnny Wong said dissecting the six cadavers that were donated for OCCC’s Human Anatomy class remains the most interesting part of the course.

Nursing major Jordan Garner said she feels the same way. “Dissecting and finding all the muscles and the nerves has been most interesting,” she said. “I’m realizing how much is inside your body and how much is inside just one small space.”

Wong and Garner are two of three students the Pioneer is following this semester as they work their way through the Human Anatomy course.

Wong said he is most excited for the day he literally comes face-to-face with the cadavers.

At this point, he said, the cadavers’ faces are still shrouded. Students won’t actually see the faces until they reach the final unit of the course.

Wong said while working with the cadavers is interesting, it comes with a small price. He said the embalming chemical vapors coming off the body irritate his eyes sometimes.

Garner said she looks forward to working with the cadavers each week. She said she got over the uneasiness of working with human bodies early on in the semester.

“I love the class even though it’s really hard,” she said.

Wong and his classmates said the tests have become far more intimidating than working with dead bodies.

“Yeah, they suck,” he said. “They’re very word-for-word from the lectures.”

He said tests are lengthy and students have to recall an extensive amount of medical terminology.

“The tests are the hardest part,” Garner agrees.

“There are two different tests,” she said. “We have a lecture test and a lab test.”

Garner said the lab tests have been the most stressful of the two.

“I still get anxious about every lab exam,” she said. “You really need to know everything.”

Wong said the class requires extensive work outside of the cadaver lab as well, an investment of personal time that’s proven too much for many of his peers.

“You might as well just come in every day and just live there,” he said.

“There have been a few students who’ve dropped the class. But not the majority of the class.”

“I think they’re dropping because of time management,” he said. “The ones who drop early on, they realize they have to put a lot of time into studying for anatomy and then they drop out because they don’t have that kind of time.”

Premed major Bart Considine, who initially was in the group being interviewed, is one of those students who dropped. Considine could not be reached for comment by press time.

Garner, said, of the students who have withdrawn from the anatomy course, most had done so in the first two weeks of the semester.

Wong said this is his second attempt at finishing the course, having come within one percentage point of finishing with a passing C last time. He said he expects to finish strong this semester. This is his last remaining class at OCCC before he moves on to the University of Oklahoma.

“I should have spent more time,” he said, “I know people [who] have quit jobs to study anatomy.”

Garner agrees that the only way to succeed in this anatomy course is to dedicate as much time to it as possible.

“Open lab is a really big deal,” she said. “If you can’t make it to open lab, it can really hurt you. It’s really beneficial but there’s a big difference between the people who can go to open lab and go to class all the time and the people who just go to class.

“Class is getting pretty difficult but it’s good,” she said.

Garner said the days the campus was closed for bad weather pushed exam dates back for her class and have added new pressures.

“I wish I could say I was going to relax over spring break but I’ll be studying because we have a test the day we come back,” she said.

Wong said he might study some over the break but said he mainly needs a little time to relax.

He said he just wants to complete the course — the one thing he’s looking forward to more than anything else in this class.

For more information about OCCC’s Cadaver Lab, visit www.occc.edu/biology/courses.html.

Professor uses art to educate

BRUCE MCELHANEY
Editor
editor@occc.edu

Biology Professor Nathaniel Abraham said he is teaching Human Anatomy for the first time at OCCC.

He illustrates parts of the human anatomy for his class through elaborate drawings which, he said, he draws from memory and experience.

“[The drawing] is a unique perspective I got from reading several books,” he said.

Abraham said he uses the illustrations to help students understand the relationship between the various structures in the human anatomy.

“A picture is worth 1,000 words, and I think that’s true especially in anatomy,” he said.

At the beginning of spring 2015, 54 students were enrolled in OCCC’s 15-semester hour course that explores anatomy with human cadavers. The number has dropped to around 44 students now, said biology Professor Nathaniel Abraham.

“This a course that’s definitely going to have high attrition,” he said. “It’s very intense. It’s got a lot more details that they have to memorize.”

Unless the students are extremely motivated or have the aptitude for it, he said, it’s going to be a difficult course.

Abraham said when students enroll for the course, they should expect to be challenged and study a lot.

“We have an amazing thing here that I don’t think many schools offer,” he said. “We give them huge amounts of time outside of the lab, because we have excellent teaching assistants that are hired for the lab.”

Students will have to plan on putting those extra hours in at the lab in order to succeed, Abraham said.

“The people who are going to do better in the labs are the people who put more time into the labs,” he said.

Abraham said the hardest part of the course is going to be the labs rather than the lectures. He said it is unusual for students to do better in the labs than in the lectures.

“Finding a structure from a book is extremely easy – it’s all laid out. In the actual cadaver, there’s so much variation.”

Look for part three of this series in the May 8 issue of the Pioneer.

“[The drawing] is a unique perspective I got from reading several books,” he said.

For more information, call at 405-682-1611, ext. 7330, or nathaniel.abraham@occc.edu.
Vietnamese student likes fairness of U.S. education

KATIE AXTELL
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

“Cool and interesting” is how public relations major Hung Tran describes the U.S. Tran has only been in the states for four months, but said he really likes it here so far.

However, he said, he also misses his home in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.

“I really miss my family and the food like the [fish noodles] in my home town,” he said.

“I don’t like a lot of the food here — like the hamburgers.”

Tran said the major differences between here and Ho Chi Minh are the people and the weather.

Tran said the recent winter weather is the first time he’s seen snow.

“You only see so hot or cold in Vietnam and it’s rainy half the year,” he said. “Here, you can see the snow in the winter and the fall clearly.”

Tran said his first impression of America wasn’t a good one but said that changed after being able to experience the country firsthand.

Before I came here I didn’t like America,” he said, “but after four months of being here I really like it.

“I like the people, environment and education system. I’ve met many people that are helpful.

“Also it’s a challenge and I like a new challenge.”

Tran said he came to the U.S. to get a better education in a country that provides more diversity for students than Vietnam does.

“In Vietnam, if you’re rich, you don’t have to put in your time and effort to study so you just apply for credit hours and after four or five months you get your degree,” he said.

“You don’t have to study. Here you have to study and put forth your effort and everyone is equal. I like it.”

Tran said he wants to get a job in the U.S. after graduating from either Southern Nazarine University or the University of Oklahoma where, he said, he plans to to get a bachelor’s degree in public relations.

He said he has many goals.

“I just want to talk and work with people and improve my communication,” he said.

“I love working with people. Leadership and management are my interests.”

Eventually, Tran said, he will move to Canada to live with his sister but only after he helps his nephew complete his education here in the states.

“I don’t plan on moving back to Vietnam,” he said.

Vietnam

Capital: Hanoi
Population: 89.71 million (2013)
GDP: 171.4 billion USD (2013)
Size: 489,200 sq. miles (1.267 million km²)
Official Language: Vietnamese
Currency: Vietnamese Dong
Government: The politics of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam are defined by a single-party socialist republic framework, where the President of Vietnam is the head of state and the Prime Minister of Vietnam is the head of government, in a one-party system led by the Communist Party of Vietnam.
Religion: Mahayana Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism.
SPORTS

Ready. Shoot.

Film and video production major Aaron Davis shoots baskets in OCCC’s gym on March 5. The gym, located in the Wellness Center on the first floor of the Main Building, is free to all students with a valid student ID. Balls are available on-site. For more information, contact the Recreation and Fitness Office at 405-682-7580 or visit www.occc.edu/rf.

SPORTS | Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright hoping to get participants

Students, employees invited to play soccer

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

One of OCCC’s newer intramural sports, 7 vs 7 soccer, is set to begin on Wednesday, April 1, said Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

Wright said he hopes the sport has enough participants this time around.

“I tried to do it last year and I didn’t really have enough people sign up, so we haven’t actually done a competition yet,” he said.

The sport is set to take place each Wednesday April 1 through 22 on the field just south of the Aquatic Center, Wright said.

He said game times are not yet finalized, but said they will most likely start in the late afternoon and last through the evening to allow students with afternoon classes to participate.

“It may be [from] 4 to 7 p.m., maybe 5 to 8 p.m., depending on when it gets dark. I’ll try to do it as late as possible. I know students are in class earlier in the day,” he said.

Wright said other than the difference of players per team, seven compared to the normal 11, there are very minimal differences from regular soccer.

“Essentially it’s going to be normal soccer,” he said. “You’ll have six players and a goalie on each team. The only difference is that there’s not going to be any offsides. It’s going to be more like indoor soccer.

“And there will be a smaller field too. I think it’s 110 yards by 80 yards for a regulation field, and it’ll be like 85 yards by 40 or 50 for us.”

Wright said while most intramural sports are only for students, faculty and staff also are welcome to participate in the soccer competition.

“Usually we do just get students, but any faculty and staff that want to come out and play soccer, that’s perfectly fine,” he said.

“If they’re fine playing with a whole bunch of students, that’s no problem at all.”

Wright said registration is similar to all team intramural sports, where those who want to participate must register online at imleagues.com/occc. There, a person can start a team, join a team or apply as a free agent to be put on an already existing team.

For more information, contact Wright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7684, or at matthew.j.wright@occc.edu, or contact the Recreation and Fitness department office at 405-682-7860.

EVENT NEWS

SPRING 2015:

• Students with a valid OCCC ID can use the Aquatic Center free of charge. The Aquatic Center features two pools, and an 18½-ft. deep diving well with 1- and 3-meter spring boards and 5-, 7- and 10-meter platforms. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF.

• OCCC Group Fitness classes are offered at a variety of fitness levels and are spaced conveniently throughout the afternoon and late evening hours. Classes are free to OCCC students with a valid ID. See more at www.occc.edu/rf/cr-group-fitness.

• The Recreation & Fitness Center is open to students, faculty, staff and community members. The center features a 15,000-square-foot gym with two basketball courts and one recreational volleyball court, a cardio room with three treadmills, two cross trainers and two recumbent bikes as well as a weight room featuring a complete circuit of Cybex equipment and free weights. Students with a valid OCCC ID can use the facilities free of charge. For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF or call 405-682-7860.

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Students, employees invited to play soccer

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

One of OCCC’s newer intramural sports, 7 vs 7 soccer, is set to begin on Wednesday, April 1, said Intramural Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

Wright said he hopes the sport has enough participants this time around.

“I tried to do it last year and I didn’t really have enough people sign up, so we haven’t actually done a competition yet,” he said.

The sport is set to take place each Wednesday April 1 through 22 on the field just south of the Aquatic Center, Wright said.

He said game times are not yet finalized, but said they will most likely start in the late afternoon and last through the evening to allow students with afternoon classes to participate.

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**Transfer:** Students encouraged to meet with advisers early

Continued from page 1

vices coordinator, said students can make that process easier by first meeting with an academic adviser and declaring a major.

Then, he said, they are able to take advantage of the resources at OCCC — such as faculty advisers.

Puebla said first-time students are required to meet with an adviser so they can request a faculty adviser. At that point while current students can stop by Academic Advising to get an assigned faculty adviser.

"The faculty adviser, especially, but even the academic adviser, can really provide specific information about the program," he said.

"Not only [what] they’re pursuing here, but how it fits into the bachelor’s degree program they’re wanting to pursue ultimately at a university."

Puebla said faculty advisers can give students advice and insight other advisers cannot, because they are experts in their fields.

They can refer students for internships, introduce them to faculty at other institutions, and help them follow the most efficient path leading to a bachelor’s degree.

Puebla said he recommends meeting with a faculty adviser as soon as possible.

After meeting with a faculty adviser, students can then take their knowledge and do what it takes to complete their classes.

"Should you need to change your major or should you fail a class you need at that point, when you go to an adviser … it’s easier for the student to understand and realize how to be able to pivot and be adaptable so they can continue on with their track," he said.

Many transfer options exist in-state and even out-of-state, Puebla said, and students can get overwhelmed if they don’t start to narrow their search.

He said those who start thinking about the transfer process earlier are at an advantage.

"I think the earlier you’re prepared and the better you’re prepared, the more comfortable you are once you actually transfer, as opposed to those who do it last minute and constantly feel rushed … because it’s a lot to be absorbed and processed … ," Puebla said.

Doing research about the four-year colleges will allow students to discover which ones offer the program they need, which one they can afford, and which one is most appealing to them, he said.

Puebla recommends not only doing research online and by phone, but also physically visiting each campus.

"There’s general information out there — students just know this school is more affordable than the other one, the other school is bigger."

However, he said, students won’t know if those things matter until they visit the campus and see for themselves.

"… Then you’re in a position as a student to be able to compare apples to apples versus just general information that somebody says," he said.

After deciding on a four-year college, applying is the next step, and generally occurs during the last semester before graduation from OCCC.

Puebla said if students fail to pay attention to the unique application and deadlines at each school, they could have a problem registering for classes or even be charged a higher application fee.

"There’s deadlines you have to pay attention to both for scholarships and admission. I know the University of Central Oklahoma now has this thing where if you apply after a certain date, they raise the fee from $40 to $90, because they’re really wanting people to apply early enough," he said.

"Other schools just won’t consider you if they have enough students for that term."

Puebla said students who are used to the flexibility of OCCC’s classes will have a different experience when transferring to a four-year school.

"If you don’t find a class at OCCC on a certain day that works for you, you can find it on a different day."

"That may not be the case at that university, and so the earlier you apply, the more options you’ll have."

Puebla said he often sees students being hesitant about transferring, but said the process is typically not much different than when they applied for OCCC.

"It’s an online application," he said. "It’s submitting your official transcript from the previous institutions you’ve attended and earned credit at, and once you’re admitted to, and then going to meet with your adviser."

"It’s the same process. You’re going to repeat it again, so if you follow those steps, you should be good. It’s all these other little nuances you really should focus on," he said.

Kimberly Bays, Academic Advising assistant director, said students can’t always expect all their classes to transfer to any university.

"They should definitely be talking to an adviser at the school they’re going to," Bays said.

"Just because one class transfers to the school doesn’t necessarily mean it would be something they would need for that program."

She said graduating from OCCC with a degree can make the transition to a four-year school in Oklahoma easier, versus taking random classes.

"… If you transfer to schools in Oklahoma such as the University of Oklahoma or UCO, then once you finish your degree at OCCC, then you have completed your general education requirements," she said.

"Additional gen ed they require are waived for students who graduate from an Oklahoma community college, or from OCCC."

Bays said the sooner students seek advice, the better.

"We’re here to help them navigate their way through OCCC as much as we can help them. Feel free to come by and ask questions."

For more information about transferring, visit www.occc.edu/get/tips.html.

Contact Puebla by phone at 405-682-7567 or by email at jpuebla@occc.edu.

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**Rosetta:** Foreign language program offered free to students

Continued from page 1

Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish are offered through the interactive programs.

"English as a Second Language is the 11th language," Troutman said. "It is used mainly by international students, especially freshmen, who are trying to improve their English skills."

Troutman said international students use Rosetta Stone ESL to manage the difficulty with beginning English grammar concepts and pronunciation.

"In the same way, the program helps students to keep practicing conversational phrases without being pressured," she said. "However, Rosetta Stone can’t replace a class or textbooks."

There were 67 students registered to use Rosetta Stone this semester, Troutman said.

Spanish is the most frequently learned language with 28 students, and half of them want to enroll in a Spanish class after they finish Rosetta Stone.

Troutman said students who want to sign up for Rosetta Stone can visit the WLCC and show a valid student ID. The center is located on the second floor of the Main Building, overlooking the coffee shop.

"It takes only about 15 minutes for students to create their own account," she said.

Students who want to have more time to practice on Rosetta Stone besides the limited hours the WLCC offers can go to the Communication Lab, located between the coffee shop and the student union.

There are two to three computers there providing the language program, Troutman said.

Student Chiemezie Ibekwe is using the language program to improve his French.

"I have spent six hours every week to study French in Rosetta Stone for three weeks," he said. "I feel really content and efficient in improving my fluency in French after using Rosetta Stone."

Ibekwe recommends students visit the World Languages and Cultures Center.

"The people working there are so helpful," Ibekwe said.

"When I came here, Chiaki showed me the BBC website so that I can learn conversation. They also have many textbooks."

Ibekwe also uses Rosetta Stone to study Spanish.

"They should definitely be speaking to an adviser at the school they’re going to," Bays said.

"Just because one class transfers to the school doesn’t necessarily mean it would be something they would need for that program."

She said graduating from OCCC with a degree can make the transition to a four-year school in Oklahoma easier, versus taking random classes.

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**Campus Highlights**

**Jazz Band performing in OCCC theater**
The OCCC Jazz Band will perform at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, in the Bruce Owen Theater. Admission is free. For more information, contact Jessica DeArman at jessica.r.dearman@occc.edu or 405-686-6278.

**ExCEl meeting with coffee and religion**
A coffee and religion ExCEl meeting will be held at noon in room CU3 on Wednesday, March 25. The presentation will be on promoting diversity, inclusion, and cultural awareness. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

**VPAC hosting Chamber Orchestra Kremlin**
The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26, in the VPAC. Ticket prices range between $15 and $45. For more information, contact the Cultural Programs office at culturalprograms@occc.edu or 405-682-7576.

**Baptist Children’s Home place of service trip**
A service trip to the Baptist Children’s Home in Moore will be from 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, March 27. Registration is required with limited spots. For more information, contact Student Life at studentlife@occc.edu or 405-682-7523.

**Mary Chapin Carpenter performing at OCCC**
Mary Chapin Carpenter will perform at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 30, in the VPAC. Ticket prices range from $28 to $52. Special guest Aoife O’Donovan also will perform. For more information, contact the Cultural Programs office at culturalprograms@occc.edu or 405-682-7576.

**Cards Against Humanity hosted by student clubs**
The Agnostics, Atheists and Freethinkers club will play Cards Against Humanity with the Gamers Guild at noon Monday, March 30, in the College Union. All students are invited to attend. For more information, contact AAF at aaf@my.occc.edu or facebook.com/aafatoccc.

**Solid Ground Ministries on Monday nights**
Christians on Campus will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Mondays in room MB1X5 for a “Solid Ground” ministry series. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the Christians on Campus at christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu or club president Kaie Huizar at kaie.huizar@gmail.com.

**Christians on Campus to meet each Monday**
Christians on Campus will host a Bible study at noon on Mondays in room AH1C3. The Bible study will be over the “Basic Words of Life and Truth.” All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the Christians on Campus at christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu or club president Kaie Huizar at kaie.huizar@gmail.com.

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

FREE: Your ad here. Students can place non-business classified ads for free. No more than 7 lines. Submit your ad to adman@occc.edu with your name, student ID and valid phone number.

FOR SALE: This space for $8 per week. Place your business classified today and reach thousands of potential customers. Up to seven lines. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

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

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WEEKLY CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Waves
5. Ancient Greek marketplace
10. Part of an ear
14. Vue
15. Cut wood
16. Require
17. Quaking
19. Steiga
20. Historic period
21. Cut of beef
22. Long times
23. Walks unsteadily
25. Governed
27. South southeast
28. Activeness
31. Jaragua
34. Pudda
35. Half of a pair
36. German for "Mister"
37. Foam
38. Husky fit
39. Sphere
40. Hides
41. Pans
42. Decreeing
44. Record (abbrev.)
45. Persons, places or things
46. Defi
50. Scottish for "Child"
52. Brague
54. Short sleep
55. Does something
56. A payment of money
58. You (archaic)
59. Bee
60. Affaire d’honneur
61. Exam
62. Banana oil, e.g.
63. Soil
18. Amount of hair
22. Beers
24. Russian emperor
26. Desire
28. Catapulted
29. Trim
30. Collections
31. Speaker or pump
32. Composer Jerome __________
33. City dwellers
34. Elderly
35. Unmarried women
37. An outer surface
38. Big bag
40. Render unconscious
41. Agile Old World
twigs
43. Gritle
44. A list of names
46. Salt water
47. Boredom
48. Formula 1 driver
49. Hardy wheat
50. Insulation
51. Dial pain
53. Seed sift
56. Regret
57. Contribute

DOWN
1. A common green newt
2. Donkey
3. Sheep sound
4. Calypso offspring
5. On the beach
6. Celebrations
7. Is indebted to
8. Lavatories
9. Commercials
10. Not observed
11. Small reed organs
12. Existent
13. Probabilities
14. A fruit
15. A hard drink
16. Body
17. Monday
19. Simplex
20. Nuts
21. A staff
22. A horn
23. A fancy oil
24. A head
25. A story
26. A breakdown
27. A hollowloud
28. A food
29. A type
30. A globular flat
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High school students can earn college credit while completing high school

MACI MCGREGOR
News Writing Student

More than 100 high school students attend class daily on campus, enrolled in Santa Fe South Pathways Middle College. The school is located on the third floor of the Main Building.

College students walk by the high school offices and classrooms without even realizing it. The only clue might be the T-shirts and hoodies with the school’s logo that constitute the school uniform. Next year the uniform will be a black polo with the school’s logo in white.

The Pathways Middle College provides high school students with the opportunity to obtain a high school diploma and an associate degree all in one place.

Director Christopher McAdoo said he is determined to get word out about the opportunity Pathways Middle College is offering.

“All you have to do is fill out an application,” McAdoo said. “It’s that simple. We don’t pick and choose. All of the applicants’ names go into a hat and are drawn at random.”

There are 125 slots for grades 9 through 12, each one filled by lottery. McAdoo said. The first drawing will be held March 23. Students who make the list will be notified March 24. If there are only 80 students who apply then they will have another drawing the next month, once more applications are turned in so that every slot will be filled.

The applicants who are not drawn go onto a waiting list, he said. Siblings of current students receive first option when a slot becomes available.

Senior Carol Bahena is a first-generation college student and will have her first semester of college done when she graduates high school. She is an undecided major and was told about the program by her school counselor at Roosevelt Middle School.

“It’s a really good school to go to,” Bahena said. “Their main focus is (you) getting your college education.”

Senior Marco Garden is currently majoring in cyber security and also is a first-generation college student. When he graduates from high school, he also will have completed his first year of college.

“[Pathways is] not your typical high school,” he said.

“But you know that, in the end, you get such a great benefit that you’re grateful.”

Students are required to take the ACT after applying before they can enroll in college classes. If juniors don’t make a 21 or don’t have a GPA of 3.5, they are encouraged to study and try again. Seniors are required to make a 19 or have a GPA of 3.0 to take college coursework.

“They even have classes dedicated to ACT prep so it makes it easier to know what to study,” Garden said. “And they are encouraging.”

For more information about Pathways, visit http://okcps.pathways.schooldesk.net.

Intoxicated worker transferred to area detox center

JORGE KRZYZANIAK
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Campus police recently responded to intoxicated individuals and thefts on campus.

A contracted worker for OCCC was found to have an outstanding warrant after she was alleged to be intoxicated on campus Thursday, Feb. 26.

According to police documents, a student reported seeing a woman having difficulty walking and standing.

Police made contact with Irene Eddah Makami Odom at 4:56 p.m. and noted an odor of alcohol, bloodshot, glassy eyes and slurred speech.

Odom was found to be in possession of a bottle of 100 proof vodka "with about two-thirds of the liquid remaining," the report states. Police administered sobriety tests in which Odom "stumbled frequently," swayed, and was unable to follow instructions.

Odom was found to have a warrant in Cleveland County for disturbing the peace. However, the Cleveland County Warrants Division was unwilling to take her into custody in her intoxicated state.

The woman was not arrested for public intoxication but received a Notice To Leave Oklahoma City Community College (per administrative policy 142).

Odom was transported by campus police to Oklahoma City Metro Alliance Detoxification Center where she registered a .237 for blood alcohol content.

A visitor to OCCC was arrested after failing to stop at a red light and then failing a series of sobriety tests on Friday, Feb. 20.

Campus police officer Patrick Martino reported he first noticed Katheryn Lark Harris’ car had a headlight out. Martino pulled Harris over after she ran a red light. Martino said Harris stopped her car without pulling over. She was reportedly "agitated, speaking rapidly, stuttering and argumentative."

Martino said Harris did not show signs of being under the influence of alcohol after he conducted a field sobriety test. A search of the car revealed "a bag full of supplement bottles containing unmarked pills.”

Harris denied consuming any illegal substances. She was reported to have been "constantly looing in and out of a manic and anxious state to being calm" when police transported her to Southwest Integris Medical Center for blood testing before she was booked into Oklahoma County Detention Center.

An unidentified man was seen on library surveillance video stuffing a keyboard into a bag before leaving the building and getting into a dark-colored SUV in parking lot B.

The keyboard and mouse, valued at around $20, was reported stolen from the library Tuesday, Feb. 24.

The items were taken around 4:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9. No arrest has been made.

One visitor had his cell phone returned after reporting it stolen Saturday, Feb. 28. After reviewing area surveillance footage, Officer Tim Harris was able to locate the person who had taken the phone from a locker near the Testing Center. No other information was available.

Some information was redacted from the reports under the direction of Marketing and Public Relations Director Cordell Jordan who said names are redacted "according to OCCC’s Standard Operating Procedures involving information released and information withheld."

To obtain a copy of the procedure, email cjordan@occc.edu.

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.