Lab learning

Mechanical engineering major Frederick Kordsiemon and environmental engineering major Tri Pham work together in the Engineering Lab on June 9. “I’m doing homework for statistics,” Pham said.

Steward prepared to take on leadership role

Incoming president says his goal is to help students get the best education possible

Jorge Krzyzanik
Editor
editor@occc.edu

As he prepares to step into the empty seat being left by retiring OCCC President Paul Sechrist, current Executive Vice President Jerry Steward said he already has a clear-cut mission of his own for the college.

“The real reason that I want to be president is I want education to transform the lives of OCCC students like it transformed my life.”

Steward said he understands the obstacles students face and college as a janitor … I had a wife and a baby and all the things that most of our students do, and I understand where they are.”

Lobbying for higher education also is high on the list for Steward. He said he has maintained a consistent presence at the state Capitol during his 20 years at OCCC, and, before that time, during his four years as a state representative from 1976 to 1980.

“There are some colleges that pay lobbyists to do that work for them,” he said. “In our case, I do the majority of that work for OCCC.”

Because of my background with the Legislature, because of my experience, because of my contacts with the current members of the Legislature, I can serve the college best by continuing to represent OCCC at the Legislature.

“That's what I intend to do.”

Steward said he also will continue to work with city council, county commissioners and the U.S. Congress to push for the best funding the college can get.

He said while the outlook for education funding looks bleak, things could be worse.

Steward said in the hours before the Legislature's final budget agreement was reached, it appeared cuts to state appropriations for higher education would be even more drastic.

He said he was at the Capitol the day before the final vote, asking the Senate for the lowest cut he could.

“It is awkward for me to say to you that I am pleased higher ed only got cut by 3.5 percent. "I feel good about us reducing the amount of the cut. I don't feel good about higher ed being cut at all. In fact, there should have
POLITICIANS will need to better align themselves or face losing future constituents

Younger voters uninterested

In just a few months, I will be able to vote for the first time in my life. Shortly after I become eligible to vote, the 2016 presidential election will take place. Since I was a little kid, I always got excited at the thought of voting.

However, as time went on, I gradually lost interest in voting. I looked at our politicians and realized that, for the most part, my views were not being properly represented. I think that most people around my age feel this way or have felt this way at some point. According to a 2014 study from census.gov, the group of voters with the lowest voting rates in America are 18- through 24-year-olds. This study covers voting rates in presidential elections by age group from 1964 to 2012.

In the 1964 election, the 18- through 24-year-old voting rate was 50.9 percent. In the 2012 election, the voting rate of the same age group was only 38 percent. On the other end of the spectrum, the highest voting age group is that of 65 years and over. Older Americans had a voting rate of 69.7 percent in the 2012 election.

Younger generations have become more and more polarized, and pushed away from voting. Many factors play into this polarization. Since most votes come from older Americans, many politicians cater to their needs. Therefore, fresh voters are being pushed away by political parties.

According to John Della Volpe, polling director at Harvard University’s Institute of Politics, many younger millennials believe politicians are selfish, that they don’t share the same priorities, and that political involvement yields little tangible benefit. As I got older, I began to notice this in myself. Until just a few weeks ago, I did not plan on voting in what would be my first presidential election. Then, on April 30, Bernie Sanders announced he is running for president.

Bernie Sanders is a self-described “democratic socialist” who is running for the Democratic Party’s presidential nomination. Sanders is a leading progressive voice on issues such as income inequality, climate change and campaign finance reform. Although he is 73-years-old, he is very focused on issues surrounding younger generations.

Almost all of my beliefs and ideas match up with those of Sanders. Looking at his past decisions and his future goals made me have faith in politics again. I realized that voting is not always necessary, and sometimes, it is best to keep your vote stored away. However, people in my age group need to stay aware of the political situation in America because, although they may not like most politicians, sometimes, someone like Bernie Sanders might come along.

Regardless of your political affiliation, you should stay hopeful. Someone that represents your beliefs will eventually come along. Hopefully, young voters will become more engaged in politics, as they once were. The biggest factor in stimulating this growth is the politicians themselves. It is up to people like Bernie Sanders to get voters interested again.

In short, to get young voters into the political world, politicians need to better align themselves with the priorities of said voters. If this change isn’t made soon, then nobody will make it at all.

—HARRISON LANGSTON
SPORTS WRITER

Governor names state election board members

To the Editor:

Gov. Mary Fallin recently re-appointed four members of the Oklahoma State Election Board, with Debi Thompson of Carney appointed as the new alternate Democratic member of the board.

Dr. Tim Mauldin of Norman, who had served as the Democratic alternate member, took the regular Democratic seat on the board.

The two Republican members of the board, Steve Curry and Tom Montgomery, were reappointed, as was Republican alternate member Jerry Buchanan. Members of the board elected Curry as chairman and Montgomery as vice chairman.

Board members are appointed by the governor from lists provided by the state’s two largest political parties with advice and consent by the State Senate to four-year terms.

Thompson is a self-employed accountant and insurance agent with an office in Chandler.

She is a former member of the Carney School Board and was president of the Oklahoma State School Boards Association in 2000. She is a longtime member of the Chandler Chamber of Commerce and serves as secretary of the American Farmers & Ranchers’ Agent’s Association.

To view complete biographies of all the members, visit the “About Us” section of Oklahoma State Election Board’s website at http://elections.ok.gov.

—BRYAN DEAN
STATE ELECTION BOARD

PIONEER

The PIONEER is a student publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts. It is published weekly during the 16-week fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer sessions.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the PIONEER, the college or the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author’s name, address, phone number and signature. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The PIONEER will withhold the author’s name if the request is made in writing.

The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be no more than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

Letters to the editor can be submitted to the PIONEER office, located in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, mailed to 7777 S May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, or submitted via e-mail to editorial@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The PIONEER ONLINE also can be accessed at http://pioneer.occc.edu.
God poems for weak of spirit

Maybe this book of religious themed poetry was in the wrong hands. Generally I regard organized religion as a danger to the collective human psyche. I strive to stay open minded though. When a friend asks, I accompany them to whatever church they attend. And when someone hands me a tract or leaflet or a flyer advertising my eternal damnation, I read it – just as I read the little book of poetry I’d been asked to review. I try to open myself to these things, hoping that one might move me as others claim to have been moved.

Music moves me, deeply and spiritually. The poetry of Walt Whitman, Allen Ginsberg or Maya Angelou moves me. Unfortunately, religious cliché does not.

The book “Free” by Midwest City poet Krystle Martin felt like reading I’d done a thousand times. Its unmoving, religious cliché that demonstrates gods and religions as a fragile crutch to the otherwise heartaches and disappointments the poet claims to have been made free from.

“Free” as a title for this, feels like a thinly veiled delusion of the poet. To the reader, the shackles clearly remain. They are made only more burdensome by praises to the poet’s god-like, “I am hiding behind your wing of protection,” and “you have broken my chains.” The words suggest any strength within a person, anything that keeps one moving forward, is dependent upon a terribly delicate hope that the blind, fragile faith felt at that particular moment will always remain perfectly intact.

From the poems that wallow in self-pity and weakness and even the best line of the book, “I’ve had my fill of dirt, sand, lies and water,” show that such faith just can’t always remain so unshaken. Every part of this book shows a brokenness of an individual who proclaims strength and hopes it will convince her that the strength is real.

Rating: D
—Jorge Krzyzaniak
Editor

‘Thrones’ delivers in spite of critics

As I write this review, season five, episode 9, of “Game of Thrones” just aired, which means this season has entered the home stretch.

With the season finale imminent, I think it’s a good time to look back at the good and the bad of a season which has deviated from expectation — and the books — far more than anyone expected.

Before we go any further let me get a couple of things out of the way. Yes, I have read all of the books and yes, this review contains spoilers for both the books and the TV show.

OK, with that out of the way, let’s get to the point. I have heard complaints from everywhere — my friends, forums and reviewers — about how producers David Benioff and Daniel Weiss have taken the latest season of “Game of Thrones” on a fast train to crazy town.

A lot of characters have been cut or dramatically altered.

Lady Stone Heart does not appear in the show, and probably never will. Euron Greyjoy and pretty much the entire Greyjoy clan except for Theon are absent. There is no sign of Young Griff. Tyrion Lanister meets Jorah Mormont. Jamie goes to Dorne. It’s easy to criticise these choices from the comfort of the couch. We’d each like to see things play out like they did in our minds as we read the books.

Still, if you watch it for what it is, a TV show with real time and budget constraints based on thousands of pages of writing, it holds up pretty well.

Many choices make for a better show. Sansa Stark’s appearance at Winterfell makes for compelling viewing. It highlights Theon Greyjoy’s betrayal of her family and scenes from the book that rely on internal monologue would translate poorly if at all.

My only complaint is that it is difficult to watch a scene like the meeting of Tyron and Danaerys, which clearly spoils the forthcoming book, “Winds of Winter.” Whether you love it or hate it, it’s hard to deny that season five has been dramatic.

Rating: B+
—Amar Molinas
Webmaster

Lighthearted blood bath

Smartphone games these days are all about cuteness. I suppose they always have been since the dawn of time — at least since 2007 when the modern smartphone emerged.

Cuteness sells, as we all know. The Internet isn’t controlled by the Illuminati. It is controlled by cats.

If money makes the world go ‘round, cuteness makes money go ’round.

If you don’t believe me, look at the Nintendo Wii. Its competitors in the gaming market at the time were the Playstation 3 and the Xbox 360. The Nintendo Wii crushed them in sales. This happened because the Wii was the cutest console to ever hit the market. Adorable plumbers and hedgehogs were formidable foes for Sony’s and Microsoft’s superior graphics.

Cute things are family friendly. Families buy more things than individuals.

Naturally, the market is saturated with cute. Because of this, it is refreshing to have a gory little app called “Crush the Castle.”

“Crush the Castle” can simply be described as “Angry Birds” without the cute.

Using a trebuchet, you swing huge rocks and bombs across the screen at the castle on the other side. Like “Angry Birds,” it’s a matter of strategically aiming the shots to cause the most structural damage. A major difference, though, is that the player doesn’t get to specifically aim the shots to cause the most structural damage. A major difference, though, is that the player doesn’t get to specifically aim the launcher where he or she wants it to go. It’s one tap to make the trebuchet start the throw, and another tap to release the devastation.

This makes for sweet victories and hilarious failures.

Seeing a huge medieval weapon lob boulders, four feet with a limp wrist is a pretty funny sight.

Most importantly, though, it isn’t adorable. It’s not candy or fat birds.

It’s rust and iron and fire and blood.

The little kings and guards and queens get squashed and bloodied with a scream of anguish.

They look a bit like Terry Gilliam’s cartoons in “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” so this app may cause you to immediately watch that movie.

“Crush the Castle” is 99 cents at the Apple Store and, if you act fast, you can get “Holy Grail” on Amazon for under $5.

—Jake McMahon
Videographer
When the NBA finals having just happened, it seems appropriate to upgrade my basketball video game experience from "NBA 2k14" to 15.

The latest edition of this franchise doesn't have anything in the way of new features, but that's OK. The game has introduced new features and gameplay modes in the past several editions that are solid enough to the point that they don't need any more added on.

The game really just shines as the definitive basketball sim.

NBA Live has seen a resurgence recently, but is almost like an amateur effort compared to the brilliance that is "NBA 2k." And everyone plays "NBA 2k" — your roomie, your roomie's annoying girlfriend who is basically an unpaid resident in your apartment, your co-worker — practically everyone knows what "2k" is.

Another thing I love about the latest version of "2k" is that if you're a roster freak like me, automatic roster updates are pushed to your game every time you open it, so your matchups are guaranteed to be as life-like as possible.

The player-creation feature is incredibly in-depth, and it's kinda fun to use the My Career Mode to try and get your mohawked and mustached player onto an actual NBA team.

One major difference is if you're playing on an older console or, last gen, for all you tech savvies out there, the difference in graphics and blocky gameplay is painfully noticeable compared to running it on a PC, or even a next gen console like the Xbox One. If you don't have a strong enough processor on your PC, the performance still may not be desirable. If your computer is strong enough to handle it though, the "2k" experience is second to none.

It's eerie almost how life-like the entire process of a game is, from the player introductions to TV personalities Ernie Johnson and Shaq talking animatedly while the game loads.

For the true basketball aficionado, "NBA 2k" has been the only way to go and will more than likely continue its brilliance into the foreseeable future.

Rating: A+

—Spencer Grant
Staff Writer

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Rating: A+

—Spencer Grant
Staff Writer

Is there a restaurant, movie or book you'd like reviewed?
Submit your idea to the Pioneer editor at EDITOR@OCCC.EDU
**English language groups forming for fall**

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Senior Writer
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OCCC students — foreign and domestic — looking to improve their English speaking abilities may want to join an English as a Second Language conversation group this coming fall semester, said group leader and Communications Lab assistant Tonja Nelson.

Nelson said ESL group conversations are not taking place during the summer because fewer students are at the college.

She said the group will start with a new format in the fall, where an opening day mixer will allow students to meet and learn more information about what the group will be doing.

“We’re just going to tell them everything about it,” she said. “There’s going to be a meet-and-greet, maybe some snacks.

“If you’re interested, this is where you can come to get all the information that you need about it, so you understand what’s expected, and so we can get your times of availability.”

Nelson said the opening day meeting also will help leaders put together a schedule that works best for the students.

“Scheduling for the group is going to be the main program for me, and I’m going to make the schedule around their needs.

“We had set times and days in the past, and they were not successful because the students had something during those times, and then we’ve had to change it.

Nelson said the class has been around for more than five years. She said while she has helped with the group in the past, she is now taking it over herself for the first time this fall.

She said she is excited to provide something for students who really need it.

Nelson said she is motivated to help when she sees students struggling.

“It’s about seeing and meeting a need,” she said.

Students should be encouraged to try to better themselves and further their knowledge and education, Nelson said. She said the group gives students an opportunity to do just that.

“It’s important to seek new experiences, and become part of a family.

“That I’m trying to do is get students connected. If you are connected to some type of club or group in school, you do much better.

“That’s the ultimate goal, is to get them connected, and make them feel like they’re part of a team.”

The mission statement of the group reads: “The ESL Conversation Group is a fun, safe, student-centered group that helps strengthen the self-esteem, fluency and cultural awareness of English Language Learners at Oklahoma City Community College.”

Participation in the ESL conversation group is free to students. For more information, contact Nelson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7150, or the Communications Lab at 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.

**Unruly student, theft reported**

CLAYTON MITCHELL
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

Inappropriate behavior in the Bursar’s office, items stolen from a locker room and a medical call for low blood sugar were reported to campus police recently.

On June 2, campus police responded to a call from the Bursar’s office of a disturbance. The report by OCCC Officer Jeremy Bohannon said Bursar Cynthia Gary told police a man became upset about not receiving his financial aid money on his debit card after Gary told him the card would not become active until June 12.

The report showed he demanded his money immediately and “became vocal,” but did not make threats to any OCCC employees.

The man was later found at a computer near the Welcome Center.

When asked what happened, he replied there was no answer when he called the card’s 800 number, and he thought the “fiber optic lines were being blocked.”

The suspect gave his student ID to police, but after it was returned he claimed he was leaving campus.

When questioned about it, the report shows he responded that he’s “probably not returning to OCCC again.”

The man’s name was redacted from the report. Additional information is available in a supplemental report which was requested but not provided.

Campus visitor Leonard Holland was the subject of a theft while swimming at the Aquatic Center on May 27.

Holland, an OCCC Recreation and Fitness program member, “placed his clothes and wallet in a locker ... and went to the pool area to swim,” according to a report made by Officer Bruce Funderburk.

The report shows Holland returned to his locker after swimming for approximately 45 minutes to find the lock had been twisted off.

His wallet remained but roughly $300 was stolen from it, as well as five blank checks in his name, and his address book. Security footage of the area was reviewed, but determined to be inconclusive, according to the report.

On June 5, a call came to campus police about a student with “aberrant behavior” in the Visual and Performing Arts Center.

The student was barely able to communicate, but indicated he needed to use the restroom. According to the report, the student’s classmates informed Officer Zachary Andrews he was diabetic and was possibly suffering from low blood sugar.

The report said EMSA was called, and the student, “was given a sugary drink and a candy bar.”

He soon became able to communicate more clearly, and informed Officer Andrews his last meal was lunch, and he had no recollection of the afternoon.

EMSA arrived shortly after, and verified the student was in stable condition. He was given a ride home, according to the report.

The student’s name was redacted from the report.

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 PD 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.
Summer bus service available to students

GRANT SWALLWELL
Online Writer
onlinewriter@occc.edu

Those needing a ride to and from OCCC can hop on an Embark public transportation bus at the stop in front of the Main Building.

The main line for metro area residents is likely to be the 012 S May route connecting to downtown, said Embark Public Relations Agent Michael Scroggins. He said the bus runs every 30 minutes — from 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Scroggins said the S May route has enough connections to get a passenger across most of the city within reasonable business hours.

Fares start at $1.75 but a variety of bus pass deals can be found online ranging from one day to one month unlimited bus passes, he said.

There also are a few 30-day bus passes available in the OCCC bookstore, discounted to $35 from the usual $50.

Although that program was a pilot and expired in May, Scroggins said, Embark officials are reviewing the results and may move forward with a more permanent program to facilitate transportation for OCCC staff and students.

The Community Action Agency of OKC also has limited number of bus passes available for OCCC students with logistical and financial limitations.

CAA can be found at caaofokc.org or reached at 405-232-0199.

For those with a qualifying disability, over the age of 60, in possession of a Medicare card, or between 7 and 17 years old, reduced fares are available through Embark's sharefare program.

Valentina Vancuren, Embark's representative for the program, said it is almost exclusively for individuals with physical disabilities rather than financial difficulties.

Vancuren said applications can be found online at http://embarkok.com. For more information, contact 405-235-RIDE (7433) to learn more about scheduling and sharefare.

Scroggins said Embark also hosts Ozone Awareness day on the third Friday of each month when bus fare is free.

The map shows the route of the Embark bus that stops at OCCC every 30 minutes from 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, visit http://embarkok.com.
Babylonians first to honor dads

Scholars believe the origin of Father’s Day can be traced back to the ruins of Babylon.

They have recorded that a young boy named Elmesu carved a Father’s Day message on a card made out of clay nearly 4,000 years ago.

On the card, Elmesu wished his Babylonian father good health and a long life.

Though there is no record of what happened to Elmesu and his father, the tradition of celebrating Father’s Day carries on in several countries all over the world.

However, the modern version of Father’s Day originated in the U.S. and, is credited to Sonora Louise Smart Dodd from Spokane, Washington.

The idea for Father’s Day came to Dodd after she listened to a Mother’s Day sermon in 1909.

It’s said Dodd, 27 at the time, wondered why there was a day to honor mothers but not fathers.

Sonora felt strongly for fathers because of the affection she received from her own father, William Jackson Smart, a Civil War veteran. Dodd’s mother had died while giving birth when she was just 16. Smart singlehandedly raised the newborn and five other children with love and care.

Inspired by Mother’s Day, Dodd began a rigorous campaign to celebrate Father’s Day in the U.S.

The Spokane Ministerial Association and the local YMCA supported Dodd’s cause.

As a result, Spokane celebrated its first Father’s Day on June 19, 1910.

Although there was initial hesitation, the idea gained gradual popularity all over the U.S. and Father’s Day eventually came to be celebrated in cities across the country.

—www.fathersdaycelebration.com

Last-minute gift ideas that won’t empty your wallet

If you can’t be with dad on Father’s Day, call him. Ask him what his favorite childhood memories are and just listen.

Area businesses offering free entry

Sunday, June 21, is Father’s Day and several area businesses are offering free admission that day for dads.

- National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum:
  10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  405-478-2250
  www.nationalcowboymuseum.org
- Oklahoma Aquarium:
  10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  918-296-3474
  www.okaquarium.org
- Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum:
  noon to 6 p.m.
  405-235-3313
  www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org
- Science Museum Oklahoma:
  (with the donation of a new children’s book for the Boys & Girls Club)
  11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  405-602-6664
  www.sciencemuseumok.org
- Oklahoma City Zoo:
  9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  405-424-3344
  www.okczoo.com
- Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art:
  1 to 4 p.m.
  405-878-5300
  www.mgmoa.org
- Myriad Gardens Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory:
  11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  405-445-7080
  www.myriadgardens.org
- Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History:
  1 to 5 p.m.
  405-325-4712
  www.snomnh.ou.edu
- Summer Breeze Concert at Lions Park in Norman:
  This week’s featured musician is Parker Millsap & Band. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. so bring a blanket and enjoy live music. For more information, call 405-307-9320 or visit www.pasnorman.org.

What do you want for Father’s Day?

“I don’t want anything. I don’t believe in Mother’s Day or Father’s Day. I think they’re all just hyped to help merchants sell things.”
—Gray Frederickson
Artist-in-Residence

“To spend time with my family.”
—Brian Nguyen
Testing Coordinator

“A visit from my kids.”
—Bruce Fiscus
Developmental Math Lab Instructor

“A card or a phone call, just letting me know that they love me. They live in Phoenix. I have a set of twin granddaughters.”
—Ike Shoels
Science major

“A new watch. I haven’t had one for years. And a subscription to Hearts of Space radio. And…we’re going to landscape my front yard together.”
—Stephen Morrow
English Professor

Hmm...that’s a deep subject. For Father’s Day, just something simple. To be remembered.”
—Roy Stafford
Pre-law major

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  www.nationalcowboymuseum.org
• Oklahoma Aquarium:
  10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  918-296-3474
  www.okaquarium.org
• Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum:
  noon to 6 p.m.
  405-235-3313
  www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org
• Science Museum Oklahoma:
  (with the donation of a new children’s book for the Boys & Girls Club)
  11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
  405-602-6664
  www.sciencemuseumok.org
• Oklahoma City Zoo:
  9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  405-424-3344
  www.okczoo.com
• Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art:
  1 to 4 p.m.
  405-878-5300
  www.mgmoa.org
• Myriad Gardens Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory:
  11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  405-445-7080
  www.myriadgardens.org
• Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History:
  1 to 5 p.m.
  405-325-4712
  www.snomnh.ou.edu
• Summer Breeze Concert at Lions Park in Norman:
  This week’s featured musician is Parker Millsap & Band. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. so bring a blanket and enjoy live music. For more information, call 405-307-9320 or visit www.pasnorman.org.
SPORTS

Getting fit

Medical assistant major Jocelyn Hernandez jogs on the treadmill in OCCC’s Wellness Center on June 9. “I want to be more fit, be healthier,” Hernandez said.

HARRISON LANGSTON
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Those who are looking for a fun and easy yoga class may be in luck.

Casi Summers, part-time yoga instructor at OCCC, hosts a class called “flow yoga,” each Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. in room 1C4.

Summers said she has been practicing yoga for five years, teaches yoga full-time outside of the college, and has taught classes at the college since last August.

When asked about the difference between traditional yoga and flow yoga, Summers said, “Yoga has so many different branches. We’re basically moving from one pose to the next.

“Going nice and slow, we connect things with the breath. Everything is modified toward your personal needs, so if you have a back injury or a hip injury … we’re able to make it to where it’s easy for anybody to do it.”

Summers said yoga is just one of many activities that a person can do to stay healthy. She encourages a healthy lifestyle that starts with moving.

“I grew up with a lot of health issues, so being healthy, eating healthy is super important.”

Summers said her favorite part of yoga is the diversity.

“Everybody comes to yoga and they bring something to it — their own spin.”

Summers described the class as easy to teach and participate in.

“I have a lot of people who are experienced,” she said. “They know what they’re doing.”

Summers said the class is not hard for people to get into.

Typically, she said, the class has a small number of participants, but the experience is intimate. She said in some of her other classes with 20-plus students, she doesn’t get to know them that well.

This class is free for all OCCC students with a valid OCCC ID, as are all group fitness classes at the college. Classes are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Present your student ID at the Wellness Center desk for a wristband.

For more information, contact Summers at 503yoga@gmail.com, visit the Recreation and Fitness office on the first floor of the Main Building, or call the 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.

• OCCC Group Fitness classes are offered at a variety of fitness levels and are spaced conveniently throughout the afternoon and late evening hours.

• 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.

Present your student ID at the Wellness Center desk for a wristband.

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/RF or call 405-682-7860.

HARRISON LANGSTON
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Those who are looking for a fun and easy yoga class may be in luck.

Casi Summers, part-time yoga instructor at OCCC, hosts a class called “flow yoga,” each Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. in room 1C4.

Summers said she has been practicing yoga for five years, teaches yoga full-time outside of the college, and has taught classes at the college since last August.

When asked about the difference between traditional yoga and flow yoga, Summers said, “Yoga has so many different branches. We’re basically moving from one pose to the next.

“Going nice and slow, we connect things with the breath. Everything is modified toward your personal needs, so if you have a back injury or a hip injury … we’re able to make it to where it’s easy for anybody to do it.”

Summers said yoga is just one of many activities that a person can do to stay healthy. She encourages a healthy lifestyle that starts with moving.

“I grew up with a lot of health issues, so being healthy, eating healthy is super important.”

Summers said her favorite part of yoga is the diversity.

“Everybody comes to yoga and they bring something to it — their own spin.”

Summers described the class as easy to teach and participate in.

“I have a lot of people who are experienced,” she said. “They know what they’re doing.”

Summers said the class is not hard for people to get into.

Typically, she said, the class has a small number of participants, but the experience is intimate. She said in some of her other classes with 20-plus students, she doesn’t get to know them that well.

This class is free for all OCCC students with a valid OCCC ID, as are all group fitness classes at the college. Classes are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Present your student ID at the Wellness Center desk for a wristband.

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JAKE MCMAHON/PIONEER

Medical assistant major Jocelyn Hernandez jogs on the treadmill in OCCC’s Wellness Center on June 9. “I want to be more fit, be healthier,” Hernandez said.

All event news is due Monday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Email your news to sportswriter@occc.edu.
Leader: Incoming president says he identifies with students

Continued from page 1

been an increase.”

Steward said he doesn’t expect state funding to improve any time soon.

“Virtually every legislator I talked to during the entire session about the budget said something like this, ‘If you think this year’s bad, wait until next year.’”

To eventually change that trend, Steward said, everyone involved has to become even more dedicated to the success of education.

“We need to make the best case we can to the Legislature about the value of higher education,” he said.

“We need to make sure legislators understand that education is an investment in improving education. It’s an investment for the future.”

He said most of the state’s legislators benefited from higher education in Oklahoma and he will remind them of that.

To help ease the reliance on state funding, Steward said, he will continue to dedicate himself to raising funds for the college from other sources: federal funds, grants and private donations.

Steward said among his greatest professional accomplishments — and something he is even more proud of achieving for the sake of the school — is the more than $10 million he has raised for OCCC since 2011 through what he said were his direct efforts in the Legislature.

“I’m pleased because I know what the money has gone for,” he said.

Named to the presidency by a Board of Regents vote in April, Steward will take office on Thursday, July 2.

He said his first official act as president will be to appoint a new executive vice president.

It will then be up to that person, he said, to appoint their own replacement to their former position.

Steward said, before July 2, he will announce no plans for any change in college operations.

He said the President’s Leadership Class, developed by Sechrist in 2011 to install principle-centered leadership in its students, will continue under his presidency.

Steward said he looks forward to teaching again and is excited to take on this class.

His true duty as president, he said, is to serve OCCC’s students.

“I would like OCCC students to know they have a friend in the president’s office,” he said.

“They have a president who has been both a student and a teacher. I understand what the students are going through to get their education and I want them to know they have a president that understands what they’re going through, understands how they feel, and understands how difficult it can be sometimes.”

Steward said, while state education is facing challenges, he knows OCCC and its students have what it takes to remain dedicated to success during hard times.

“Yes, there are tremendous challenges, but we’re going to get through this,” he said.

“We are going to move forward. We are going to make progress and the best days are ahead of us. I won’t make it happen. But all of us together will make it happen.”

Clery: OCCC must comply with 1986 Right-to-Know act

Continued from page 1

The report must include information about crime statistics for the past year, as well as information about school’s legal policies involving crimes on campus.

“IT’S A VERY comprehensive document on campus safety,” he said. “There are crime statistics in the Annual Security Report, but I’m not really sure that is the main emphasis of the Annual Security Report. It also requires policy statements. They want to know what the institutions do, what is their practice.

“What the Clery Act wants in the Annual Security Report is what we practice, what we do in case something happens,” he said. “Some of that stuff is required as to how you perform and what actions you will take under the circumstances of a crime occurring on campus or an emergency situation.”

Fitzpatrick said that includes how the university or college would handle complaints of certain crimes, what they would do in the case of having a sexual assault, what preventative measures are suggested, how information is distributed and how to access that information, and how they work with the Oklahoma City Police Department.

He said new requirements are added every few years as the Clery Act is amended.

Amendments such as the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act of 2013, and the Violence Against Women Act of 2013 have added significant requirements to the report about sexual assault and domestic abuse, Fitzpatrick said.

He said notifications about crimes and safety on campus also are required by the Clery Act, in the form of timely warnings and emergency notifications.

“When we put out a tornado warning or things like that, that is an emergency notification,” he said.

“We do that when there is an immediate threat to the safety of our students, and it doesn’t have to be related to a Clery-type crime. It could be a gas leak, a fire alarm in the buildings, criminal behavior, or even weather.

“A timely warning is something that is specifically required by the department of education to Clery-type crimes, that we have to report to them.

“If we have information which was given to us by the Oklahoma City Police Department that someone had been sexually assaulted on campus, we would put out a timely warning, telling when and where it happened, and any information we know about the suspect.

“We would be doing that anyway, but the Clery Act requires it.”

Fitzpatrick said an example of a timely warning would be the June 4 email that was sent to students informing them that multiple cars had been stolen on campus within days of each other. He said that was sent to make students aware, cautious, and more safe.

Fitzpatrick said students have a right to know about campus activity and policies.

“I cannot think of any time in my four-and-a-half years here, where someone was just beaten, and robbed,” he said.

“And that takes preventative measures on the part of our students.

“For example, a stolen phone is important. They are expensive, and many times people keep personal information on them. So we tell students, don’t give anyone your password, don’t leave your phone around, etc.

The police department has extreme amounts of responsibility in the prevention of crime.”

—James Fitzpatrick

OCCC Police Chief

“The police department has extreme amounts of responsibility in the prevention of crime. Just taking reports and reacting to crime is not the mission. We are out there to actually prevent crime.”

Fitzpatrick said the Clery Act is an important part of keeping students safe.

“You cannot interfere with someone’s right to an education,” he said.

“Each institution is responsible for handling crime, taking immediate measures to stop whatever is going on, and putting sanctions in place to prevent it.”

For more information on the Clery Act and related acts, or to file a Clery related complaint, visit www.clerayact.info. To learn more about OCCC’s compliance to the Clery Act, or report a crime, contact campus police at 405-682-7872, or email jfitzpatrick@occc.edu.
CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Mischievously mingling

Computer animation and 3D design major John Kennedy and diversified studies major Marissa Steinhofer relax after class in the cafeteria on June 8. “I’m just socializing,” Steinhofer said. “Awkwardly, but socializing.”

COMMUNITY | Honored former students display now open

Alumni Hall of Fame Wall unveiled

DARLA KILHOFFER
Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

President Paul Sechrist and Alumni Relations Director Randy Cassimus unveiled OCCC’s new Alumni Hall of Fame Wall of Honor June 4 in the administrative connector between the president’s office and the Academic Affairs office. The display features the names of previous inductees and photos of the most recently honored alumni.

“We just thought it would be a great way to permanently memorialize and pay tribute to our great alumni who are out in the world telling the world that this is a great institution,” Sechrist said.

Mary Brese, 2012 Alumni Hall of Fame inductee and currently a mathematics teacher, was eager to see the wall of honor.

“I’m excited about it,” she said. “I really think it’s a step forward to further acknowledge the alumni but also to encourage people to take part in it more.”

Brese received her associate degree in math at OCCC and is ending her first year as a member on the alumni board. She praised the college for helping students prepare for their careers.

“I felt like the community college helped me plan my future versus plan my semester, if that makes sense to you,” she said. “They helped me look at where everything I was doing was leading, versus ‘what are you going to do next semester?’”

City Rescue Mission CEO and President Tom Jones, also a 2012 Alumni Hall of Fame inductee, said OCCC’s professors stand out because of their investment in their students.

“I think that the staff in connecting with their students — which is different than many major universities — encouraged me to stick with it,” he said.

“At OCCC, every instructor that I had, I felt, took a personal interest in my success and sometimes, it’s just the words of encouragement when you’re not doing well. They kind of make you realize that the journey of education is a process, that there are ups and downs and they always encouraged me.”

Cassimus said the OCCC Association of Alumni and Friends is accepting nominations now through Aug. 28 for alumni to be considered for into the 2015 Alumni Hall of Fame.

He said nominees are considered based on their professional or community achievements as well as the impact they have made on OCCC.

To submit a nomination, visit www.occc.edu/foundation/alumni. For more information, contact Cassimus at 405-682-1611, ext.7478, or rcassimus@occc.edu.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Free Dodgers tickets for blood donors

The Oklahoma Blood Institute is giving two free Dodgers general admission ticket vouchers to “early bird” blood donors for June 25, July 17, or Aug. 2 games. To be considered an “early bird,” donors must give blood on a Monday or Tuesday at any participating donor center. For a list of participating donor centers, contact OBI at 877-340-8777 or obi.org.

Students can get fit for free all summer

Group fitness classes will continue free to OCCC students with a valid OCCC ID. The Wellness Center summer hours are effective May 29 through Aug. 21. The weight and cardio rooms are open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; and closed Saturday and Sunday. The gym is open 6 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. Monday through Friday; 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; closed from 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekly. For more information, contact the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof’ coming to OCCC

Reduxion Theatre Company presents Tennessee Williams’ famed drama, “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” at 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 19 and 20, in the VPAC Theater. Students, faculty, and staff can pick up $10 discount tickets at the OCCC Box Office with a valid OCCC ID. To purchase additional tickets, visit reduxiontheatre.com or call 405-682-7579. Additional performances will be Thursday through Saturday, June 25, 26, and 27, and a matinee show will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, June 21. For more information, contact the Cultural Programs office at 405-682-7576 or culturalprograms@occc.edu.

Disbelief Discourse hosting Dr. Chris Garneau

The Agnostic, Atheist and Freethinkers club is holding a Disbelief Discourse the third Tuesday of each month through August. Dr. Chris Garneau, professor of Sociology at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, is the guest speaker for this month’s discourse on atheism internationally at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, in room AH1C3. For more information, contact AAF at aaf@my.occc.edu.

Christians on Campus to meet each Monday

Christians on Campus will host Bible studies at noon on Mondays in room AH1C5. All students are welcome to attend. For more information, contact Christians on Campus at christiansoncampus@my.occc.edu.

New Student Orientation sessions continue

OCCC will hold free New Student Orientation sessions from June through August. The upcoming session is from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, in rooms CU2 and CU3. To register for an orientation session, e-mail the Student Life office at studentlife@occc.edu or call the office at 405-682-7523.

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.

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**WEEKLY CROSSWORD**

**Across**
1. Flat letters
9. In the zone
15. Preceding in development
16. 1995 Literature Nobelist
17. Nelson since ’91
18. Unlikely to make waves
19. Jazz pianist
20. “Told ya!”
22. Roster abbr.
23. Boxes
26. Specialty
28. “Lord, is _?”
29. Put back in
30. Seven Years’ War participant
32. Bottle model
34. Half of a clamshell
35. Carrie creator
41. Sonata movement
42. "Family of Charles IV" artist
43. Crawl quicker than
46. Raccoons, in a way
51. City in Kyrgyzstan
52. DoO division
53. “So...”
54. Make some Joe
56. Kid’s hangout
58. Decorator’s assist.
59. Ballet attraction
61. Monster movie mainstay
64. Presidential nickname
65. One who fiddles
66. P toe better time
67. Couch potato’s condition

**Down**
1. Brutal critic
2. Like some publications
3. Straightway
4. Spell
5. Tears into
6. "Der Spiegel" article
7. Bourbon ruler
8. Max. matrons
9. Words of consternation
10. Start of some art movements
11. Refuse to ignore
12. FDR and JFK
13. Not absolute
14. Pencil product
21. Go to a lower level
24. Off-the-wall product
25. Big house
27. Good-natured repartee
31. Chi predecessor
33. Identify correctly
35. Ticket issuers
36. December landing spot
37. Exalt
38. GI uniforms
39. Fictional Copperfield
40. King of K’s
44. Out
45. "Of Mice and Men" wife
47. ___ Island, NY
48. Skeptical comment
49. Bath units
50. Ugly looks
55. Variety
57. When Caesar is warned
60. "Charlie’s Angels" actress
62. Clear
63. Photo-lab abbr.

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Comments? Opinions? Let us know! E-mail the editor at editor@occc.edu
Recreational camps offered for ages 6 though 12

HARRISON LANGSTON
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Through Aug. 6, OCCC will host weekly summer recreational camps for children ages 6 through 12.

The purpose of the camps is to teach the campers new skills and help them make new friends. This is done in the form of indoor and outdoor group activities, said Sports Assistant Matthew Wright.

“If they’re not here, they’re going to be spending their summers at home, and they’re not really going to get that much interaction,” he said. “It’s just interaction with other kids.”

When asked what his favorite part of camp is, Eric, 12, said, “Playing capture the flag.”

He said his favorite sport is track.

Morgan, 8, said her favorite part of camp is an activity called scatterball.

“You can catch the ball or you can run away from the ball, and if you get hit, you just have to sit down but you’re still in the game,” she said.

“If you’re sitting down, you can throw the ball at them or roll it to them.”

Parents can sign their kids up for either all-day or half-day sessions. All-day sessions last from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and cost $110 per week. Half-day sessions are broken up into morning and afternoon sections.

Morning sections are from 8 a.m. until noon, while afternoon sections are from 1 to 5 p.m. Half-day sessions cost $65 per week.

To learn more about the camps and other recreational opportunities, visit the Recreation and Fitness office on the first floor of the Main Building or call 405-682-7860.

Collin and Austin, both 10, watch as their fellow camper Danny, 12, kicks a soccer ball downfield in OCCC’s gym on June 10. The boys are enrolled in an OCCC summer recreational camp.

JAKE McMAHON/PIONEER