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# PIONEER



Photo by Kathi Etherton

**Spectacular pig:** Logan and his mother Sunshine Loyd with Gary Belcher, OKCCC maintenance mechanic, play with Turbo the Helping Ham. The United Way golf tournament, held Oct. 25, resulted in the highest-scoring team kissing the pig. Paula Belcher, secretary to the executive director of enrollment management, and J.P. Johnson, coordinator of College Clubs, ended up giving the squealing pig a smooch.

## Classes devised to encourage students to bond, be supportive

By Kathi Etherton  
Staff Writer

In hopes that students will bond and support each other, a grant was written last year to create a learning community for some OKCCC classes.

The idea behind the program is that students will take classes together and, because of frequent contact with one another, they will bond and support each other socially and academically.

The classes to be offered on Monday,

Wednesday and Friday are basic math at 9 a.m., college writing II or college reading II at 10 a.m. and study skills at 11 a.m.

Linda Robinett, professor of learning skills, and Judy Mee, professor of mathematics, are coordinating the program.

Robinett is teaching the reading section, Mee is teaching the math, David Charlson the writing, and Carlotta Hill will teach study skills.

"Research shows if you can retain students and let them share the same concerns and problems,

**"Research shows if you can retain students and let them share the same concerns and problems, both academically and socially, then they are more likely to do better."**

—Linda Robinett  
OKCCC Professor

both academically and socially, then they are more likely to do better," Robinett said.

She said the classes are developmental courses designed to build skills in certain subjects.

They are intended to prepare students for success in other courses needed for a

particular degree.

"Study skills focuses on problems in other classes too," Robinett said. "That way everything is connected."

To enroll in these courses or receive more information, visit the Student Development area on the first floor of the main building.

## Busy students may find answer in consortium

OKCCC's accelerated degree program perfect for working class

By Celina Abernathy  
Newswriting I Student

If spending less time in the classroom while earning a bachelor of business administration degree sounds good, the new accelerated degree program, offered by the Downtown College Consortium, may be the answer.

Through the program, students can earn an associate degree from OKCCC, Rose State College, Redlands Community College or Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City which leads to a bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Beginning Jan. 3, classes will be offered in five-week sessions, meeting during lunchtime or at 4 p.m. for an hour and 20 minutes twice weekly at the downtown consortium, located at 120 N. Robinson.

**"We've combined the best of both worlds by offering traditional class time, keeping working adults focused, and added the benefit of online technology so students can work at their own pace."**

—Jay Parmley  
Downtown College Consortium Administrator

"The 4 p.m. classes are convenient for students who don't like to attend night classes," said Jay Parmley, downtown college consortium administrator.

"Many companies allow employees to leave work early to go to school," he said. "This allows students to attend an evening class and still get home early enough to enjoy their families or home life."

Classes are competency-based, allowing students to meet course requirements without sitting in class for the number of hours students in regular programs do.

The majority of the coursework is completed over the Internet at the convenience of the student.

See "Downtown," page 8



## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

# Kids deserve parents' full protection

A 10-year-old boy starts acting out for no apparent reason. He was doing well in school and was never a discipline problem. Then suddenly he starts failing his school work and gets into fights daily.

An 8-year-old girl suddenly becomes withdrawn and stays in her room after school. She pulls away when someone tries to hug her. She cries easily and cannot explain why.

Parents often do not have a clue to deep-rooted, unmentionable secrets that children are harboring.

Many children lose their innocence every day either through the acts of a pedophile, articles or pictures in magazines, on certain Internet sites or movies meant only for adults.

We are turning our children on to sex at younger ages via our society in general.

When I was a child the word "sex" was not even said in front of a child. Now many young children give their parents the sex talk they should instead be receiving.

Parents need to be more responsible toward their kids. Parents need to know who their children are associating with. I mean, really know them. Have them to your house, visit with them every chance you can. If you feel uncomfortable about a person your child hangs around, do not let the child go with that person.

A children's hockey coach commented once that parents often drop their kids off at the curb of his house for an out-of-town game without ever bothering to meet the man who will be keeping them overnight.

Granted, parents cannot watch their kids 24 hours a day but there are many precautions they can take to guard them.

Talk to children about OK touches and touches that aren't OK. Talk to children when there is noticeable change in their behavior such as unexplained bed-wetting, fear of others, crying excessively, being extra unruly, or any behavior that is uncharacteristic for that child.

Investigator for the Oklahoma City Police Department Willard Edwards said if parents discover a child has experienced sexual abuse, they should be very cautious about the tone of their response to the situation.

When a child is sexually molested, he said, parents usually begin by blaming themselves. Then, they may inadvertently blame the child with questions such as: Why did you do that? Why did you let someone do that to you? Why didn't you scream or bite them?

Allow a child to feel free to talk to you about anything. Listen closely. If you suspect child abuse of any kind you are required by law to report it to the authorities.

Let's protect our children's innocence as long as we can.

—Becky Gerred  
Staff Writer

# Professor in need of support

## To the Editor:

I wish to congratulate the faculty at OKCCC who have accomplished undermining the purpose of this facility.

I was under the impression you were here to educate [students] to be respectful assets to society and that you were an example for us.

Yet some are representing the opposite. You are showing us your rude, senseless, malicious snickering defamation because you feel superior to another of your peers.

Yes, I am referring to Professor Stephen McCloy. I am unsure if you truly believe he is guilty and if so, you are using a childish way of expressing it.

Just be a true man or woman and say out loud [what you think] instead of by whispers, behind backs and closed doors.

I do not appreciate you hiding behind your religious beliefs. A true Christian would not do what you are doing to this man. This,

or something equivalent, could happen to any one of you. How would it feel then if your peers did not give you support and respect until you were proven innocent or guilty? What goes around comes around, faculty members, and HE will give you your just rewards.

The media has damaged Professor McCloy's reputation no matter what the result. He will always have that infamy because of words on paper.

The Pioneer staff is just as guilty for this misbehavior. You have said many of the dissenting words.

Professor McCloy is a good, honest, respected educator and smarter than some of you are giving him credit for. The shallow people here are the ones who cannot see that. How can I look up to a faculty that is biased and unwilling to make a stand against the critics?

On a positive note, there are a select few faculty who are being supportive of him.

They do not belittle him or snicker in little groups, nor will they if the outcome is negative. They are adults with command of their brains. To them, I give great praise.

The rest are childish, weak, sniveling cowards.

One bad apple spoils the batch, but the bad apple is not Professor McCloy.

—By Barbara Brown  
OKCCC Student

## PIONEER

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Kathi Etherton.....Staff Writer  
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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. However, the PIONEER will withhold the 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 to the editor can be delivered in person to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to 682-7568.

Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@okc.cc.ok.us](mailto:editor@okc.cc.ok.us). A phone number for verification must be included.

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: <http://www.okc.cc.ok.us>



RUBES®

By Leigh Rubin



## Comments and Reviews

# There's no crime in seeing 'Double Jeopardy' twice

"Double Jeopardy" is getting rave reviews in the theaters. The box-office hit with Ashley Judd and Tommy Lee Jones ranks high on movie-goers' lists.

Judd plays Libby Parsons, a mother and wife accused of killing her husband Nick Parsons, played by Bruce Greenwood.

Libby is wrongly convicted and spends six years in prison.

While there she lets a friend adopt her son, but the friend leaves town and can't be reached. This raises her curiosity.

After her release from prison it's revealed that her husband may still be alive, so she embarks on a mission to find not only her son, but also her husband.

Libby is put in the care of Travis Lehman, a parole officer played by Jones.



Tommy Lee Jones and Ashley Judd in a scene from the hit movie "Double Jeopardy."

Under the double jeopardy law, no individual can be tried twice for the same crime.

The title of the movie gives some indication to the end, but in order to find out, watch the movie. It's well worth your time and money. "Double Jeopardy"

is action packed and full of suspense with a new twist around every corner.

A must-see for adults and teenagers looking for a good movie.

It gets five stars on a five-star rating scale.

—By **Kathi Etherton**  
Staff Writer

# HBO scores with original show

HBO strikes big with its line-up of original series lately. My personal favorite is "Sex and the City."

I am slightly embarrassed to admit this, but I find myself stuck in front of the television at 8 p.m. every Sunday, desperate to know what catastrophes life will provide this time for single women Carrie, Miranda, Charlotte and Samantha.

I do not watch the show for its high intellectual level, because there is basically none. These girls have the outspokenness and moral consciousness of sailors, except they are big city girls in designer clothes.

They do what they please because they have the money to do so. They sleep with whomever may cross their paths and there are many.

Most of the show is dedicated to discussion of the smaller or larger crises in a female's life or whining about the latest dating fiasco.

The show also could not be further from real life. The number of crises and bad examples of the male population, which create stress in the lives of these four women, would be enough to keep all the relationship and sex counselors in the world busy.

Considering this, what is it that keeps me, as well as the large group of male and female fellow watchers, hooked on the show? It is the fact that even though these women could not be more unrealistic, they



Charlotte, Samantha, Miranda, Carrie of HBO's "Sex and the City."

still seem to be familiar?

Everybody knows a Samantha, the man-eating vamp of the show, or a "I am smart, I am rich, why doesn't any man want me" Miranda. Many of us have had a commitment-phobic boyfriend like Carrie or had to burst the bubble of a friend like Charlotte with the truth that fairy tales are truly fictional.

"Sex and the City" is no-use-of-braincells-required entertainment.

It is one of the funniest shows around if you are able to handle some girls living out loud and the ...you know... explicit language.

—**Michaela Marx**  
Editor

*You asked for it...*

by **Becky Gerred**

## Parking problem solution found

Many OKCCC students have questions about the campus. Some are serious, some are whimsical.

For the remainder of the semester, staff writer Becky Gerred will use this space to provide the answers to some of those questions.

OKCCC student Solanke Shonukan said he finds parking a daily headache.

"I arrive for class at 11 a.m. and all the parking spaces are taken," Shonukan said.

He wants to know if anything can be done to alleviate his problem.

Coordinator of Campus Safety and Security Keith Bourque said parking is monitored closely by the OKCCC safety and security department.

He said the real problem seems to be that some parking lots are more popular than others.

He said there are plenty of spaces in other areas. "The back lots are fine. Parking lots D and E always have parking."

## Admission scariest part of haunted house

Next Halloween season, if you plan to go somewhere and pay to be scared, make sure Bricktown Haunted Warehouse is not that place — at least not if they don't make improvements over this year's show.

I paid \$7 to enter this year's alleged haunted warehouse and left feeling I had been scammed.

None of the people who worked in this year's haunted house were very energetic in their roles as frighteners. I was comfortable knowing that when I turned the next corner, I was not going to be scared in any way.

The actors wore dark clothes and there was no light so they couldn't be seen. And since they were not allowed to touch anyone, a person might not ever be aware of their presence. Scary? No.

Then, there were the props — they were fake looking. There was a mechanical dog and some al-

ligators that were so obviously fake that they were funny. My friends and I laughed for five minutes.

The place was not all bad though — as an amusement park.

The entrance was a tunnel that spun on a horizontal axis. The effect was very much like vertigo. I had a hard time walking straight for the rest of the tour.

Then there were crooked hallways where the floors were tilted to make you fall into the wall and make it hard to walk. Then as soon as you thought you had the hallway figured out, it tilted you in the other direction and threw you for another loop. These were a lot of fun to navigate.

Thumbs down to this year's Bricktown Haunted Warehouse. Maybe next year the owners will take some of the cash they raked in and make some needed improvements.

—**By Ryan Johnson**  
Staff Writer





**Music to the ears:** Music is an international language, understood by all races and nationalities. Ecuador's violin virtuoso Jorge Saade-Scaff, one of his native country's most outstanding musicians, will perform at OKCCC on Dec. 7.

He will present samples of his art at the college theater as a part of the ongoing Cultural Awareness Series. The concert features the music of Ecuadorian and South American composers.

For more information call the office of Global Education and Cultural Programming at 682-1611 ext. 7579 or visit their web site at <http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/globaled>.

## AutoCAD update courses offered

Professionals wanting to know all they can about the latest computer-aided design software, AutoCAD 2000, should enroll now for update training offered by the Training Center at OKCCC.

The course is for users of AutoCAD Release 14.

It provides 16 hours of hands-on instruction for AutoCAD 2000.

"This course will introduce a significantly changed and more powerful product," said John Helton, manager for the AutoCAD Training Center and program coordinator for the CAD department.

"It covers interface enhancements, new drafting tools, Multiple Document Environment, layouts for plotting and much more," Helton said.

One section of the classes

will be offered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 12 and 19.

Another is offered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 23 and 24. Registration is \$230. For more information or to enroll, call the Training Center at 682-7562.

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## State Regents may relax entry rules for high schoolers

By Becky Gerred  
Staff Writer

OKCCC student Tim Desrochers is concurrently enrolled at Norman High School and OKCCC.

Under current requirements, to be able to be enrolled concurrently Desrochers has to have an ACT score of 19 or better and has to have finished the prerequisite course work for his classes.

"I am taking English, sociology, government, and history here at the college," said Desrochers.

Desrochers said, because he has been able to attend high school and college at the same time, he will have his general education classes out of the way by the time he graduates from high school. He plans to go to the University of Oklahoma in the fall.

J.P. Johnson, director of Early College Awareness, said by the end of this year, high school students could have an additional option that will enable them to participate in concurrent enrollment.

The State Regents of Higher Education will be voting Dec. 3 on proposals to allow more options for high school juniors and seniors to concurrently enroll in their high school and at a two-year college.

If the state regents approve the plan, seniors in high school could also be allowed to enroll concurrently if they have a 3.0 grade point average and are in the top third of their class, Johnson said.

High school juniors will need a 3.5 grade point average and an ACT score of 21.

"We have had students who are valedictorians of their high school class who could not get a high enough ACT score," Johnson said.

Counselors caution students not to take on more than their schedule will allow.

"We don't advise them to go really heavy in any one area. If they are taking a lot of history in high school, we do not recommend they take additional history here at the same time."

Some classes high school students take are general education classes such as psychology, sociology and history.

If State Regents approve the change, it will make it much easier for high school students to qualify for concurrent enrollment.

"Many times high school students find they only need to take a couple of classes in their senior year. That leaves them with lots of free time to pursue the next step in their education process," Johnson said.

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story ideas



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# No tricks, all treats at Halloween party



**Above:** Kylee Hale, 2, attended the Halloween party with her mother Shelly Hale who manned the Future Teachers Organization booth.



**Above left:** Kaegan McCalab, 3, dressed up as a dragon for a night of fun.



**Above right:** Madelynn Mitchell, 2, squeaked her way through the night as a mouse.

.....  
by Kristin Tucker  
Newswriting I Student

The annual Halloween Party brought a smile and a satisfied sweet tooth to 600 children, Oct. 29. The OKCCC college union was packed with people dressed as an assortment of different characters.

They came as witches, Wizard of Oz characters, ghosts, baseball players and clowns.

Game booths were staffed by 100 volunteers. The popular haunted house was presented by the Scholars League with 50 volunteers spooking children throughout the evening.

Chameleon Entertainment Inc. provided the music for the evening with a mobile deejay unit. The dance floor was a lively place, filled with spooks and characters of all ages.

The successful event was sponsored by Student Life. "Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed the party, especially the people who volunteered," said Student Life Coordinator Mike Jones.

Jones said OKCCC students will be able to relieve stress in another Student Life event later in November — frozen turkey bowling.



**Above:** Mr. Bones enjoys the party.

**Below:** OKCCC Professor Steve Kamm gets a bloody headache from grading papers during the event.



**Left:** James Springer, left, and Al Horn attended the Halloween party dressed as OKCCC security officers. The two pose here with a UAF (Unidentified Alien Friend.)



**Above:** This royal court posed pretty for the camera just outside the student union but said they couldn't give their names because "we aren't supposed to be out here!" Six hundred youngsters attended the party.



**Photos by Ronna Austin**



# Highlights

## Native American club meeting

Native American Cultural Awareness Organization is having a meeting at noon Wednesday, Nov. 10, in room 2N5 in the main building.

## Sponsor needed for College Republicans

The College Republicans are an enthusiastic group of students who are ready to move forward once they find a club sponsor. If you can help please call Director of Student Life Staci McPhearson at 682-1611, ext. 7726.

## Music honoring Oklahoma Heritage Day

The Campus Activities Board is sponsoring the Byron Berline Band at 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the college union in honor of Oklahoma Heritage Day.

## Health Professions Club will conduct panel discussion

Health Professions Club will conduct a panel discussion with students from the OU Health Sciences Center. Topics discussed will be varied. The discussion will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 10, in college union room 1 or 2.

## Spring Tuition Fee Waiver applications are due

Deadline to return applications for Spring Tuition Fee Waiver is 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 19. The Student Financial Aid Center will post the Academic Tuition Fee Waiver awards on Dec. 13.

## The Leadership Council elects officers

The Leadership Council elected Valerie Case president of Scholar's League as the chair. Marcie Green president of Hispanic Organization to Promote Education was elected co-chair.

## Sign up time for youth basketball

OKCCC Office of Recreation and Community Service will be conducting youth basketball starting Monday, Nov. 15. Co-ed Youth Recreation League is for kids ages 5 through 12. The Competitive League, will include teams for boys and girls ages 9 through 16. Cost for the youth league is \$45 for each player. Players will receive a team shirt. Cost for the competitive league is \$400 a team. For more information or to enroll call 682-1611, ext. 7205 or ext. 7786.

## Distance Ed Courses open for enrollment

Students who are interested in enrolling in online or telecourse classes for the spring 2000 semester need to pick up the updated Distance Education Schedule in admissions. For more information, please contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 682-7512 or the Office of Distance Education at 682-7574.

## Here's your chance to have your work published

OKCCC's Absolute is looking for donations of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, black-and-white photography and drawings by Dec. 1. The Absolute, a literary and art magazine, is published in April by the Arts and Humanities Division. Pick up submission guidelines and release forms at the Arts and Humanities office located on the first floor of the Arts and Humanities building. For more information call Clay Randolph at 682-1611, ext. 7238.

**Read the Pioneer! It's your paper!**



Photo by Ryan Johnson

**Indian Tacos for sale:** (l to r) Jackie Holstein, Monica Pickins, Cecil Grey, Chantel Pewewardy, and Nickki Factor, members of the Native American Cultural Awareness Organization prepare Indian Tacos for a recent fund raiser.

## Middle school students today, college students tomorrow

Future teachers and educators plan visit to OKCCC

**By Michaela Marx  
Editor**

Ask many kids what they dream of being when they grow up and you will often hear the answer, "A teacher."

On Nov. 12 and 19 approximately 200 Pro Team Middle School students will come to OKCCC to find out what it will take to achieve that dream.

The sixth to ninth graders, mostly minority students, from 10 middle schools in Anadarko, Del City and the Oklahoma City area will come to the college to hear from professionals, OKCCC professors and counselors, on what it will take to reach their goal, said J.P. Johnson, director of Early College Awareness at OKCCC.

The students will spend their day at OKCCC engaged in discussions,

learning projects and campus tours.

During the morning hours students will rotate through several different learning sessions and tour the campus.

After lunch, the different groups will attend special sessions and will meet afterward in a wrap-up session, said Johnson.

OKCCC staff and faculty will lead most of the sessions and plan many interesting activities.

Professor Debra Burris is going to offer a hands-on lab session in practical physics.

"The reason I am participating is that if I can motivate one of the kids, like I was motivated in the past, to become a good science teacher, I achieved my goal," Burris said.

Melinda Bergin, OKCCC history professor, will be discussing teaching and learning at the higher education level, as well as the

special perspectives minority students can add to teaching social sciences.

J.P. Johnson also will offer a workshop.

Her focus will be on early college awareness and ACT and SAT testing.

She said she will point out some helpful web pages for students interested in college education.

Pro Team Clubs are part of a program funded by a Minority Teacher Recruitment grant.

It is administered by Edra Thrower, program director for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, said Johnson.

The clubs help in raising college awareness at an early age.

Students are taught what's important to focus on while in high school in order to succeed in college.

**Have club news?  
Call Becky at  
682-1611, ext. 7675**



# Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is **free** to all **currently enrolled OKCCC students** and employees for any **personal classified ad**. Ads must be submitted in writing with IDs supplied or work area and college extension included. Deadline for advertising is 5 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. Call 682-1611, ext. 7674 for more information.

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openings for energetic individuals in the after school program.  
For more information, please  
contact Shelley Fuller at 681-  
6636 or apply in person at 5325  
S. Pennsylvania.

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## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

1 Marry in haste  
6 Eve's mate  
10 Goad  
14 Citrus fruit  
15 Arizona river  
16 Llama country  
17 More sensible  
18 Soon  
19 Fury  
20 Writer Isaac —  
22 Shuddered  
24 "Crooklyn" director

26 Off the track  
27 Snow vehicle  
31 W. Hemisphere alliance

32 Glances  
33 Dentist's tool  
36 Wane  
39 Nothing but  
40 Horror-flick role

41 Mayberry boy  
42 Halloween creature  
43 Primp  
44 Encounters  
45 "Golly!"

46 Hillary's conquest  
48 Puzzle direction  
51 Mystery writer  
52 Predatory fish  
54 Headdresses for

59 Radiate  
60 Actress Sommer  
62 Clench  
63 18-wheeler  
64 Agitate  
65 Excuse  
66 Keats' works  
67 Use a keyboard  
68 Drip-dry fabric

### princesses

1 Famous lioness  
2 Meadows  
3 Atlanta arena  
4 Sonnet, e.g.  
5 Registers  
6 — Khan  
7 Hubbubs  
8 Honolulu welcome  
9 Varied  
10 Binges  
11 Oyster's treasure  
12 Persuaded  
13 Was sorry  
21 Goose formation  
23 Bottle  
25 Actor Cantor  
27 Amorphous mass  
28 A Chaplin  
29 Lock part

30 Upper atmosphere  
34 Female sandpiper  
35 Secret  
36 Fencing weapon  
37 Scraps  
38 Most excellent  
40 Crispest  
41 Above: poet.  
43 Laborer  
44 Juarez native

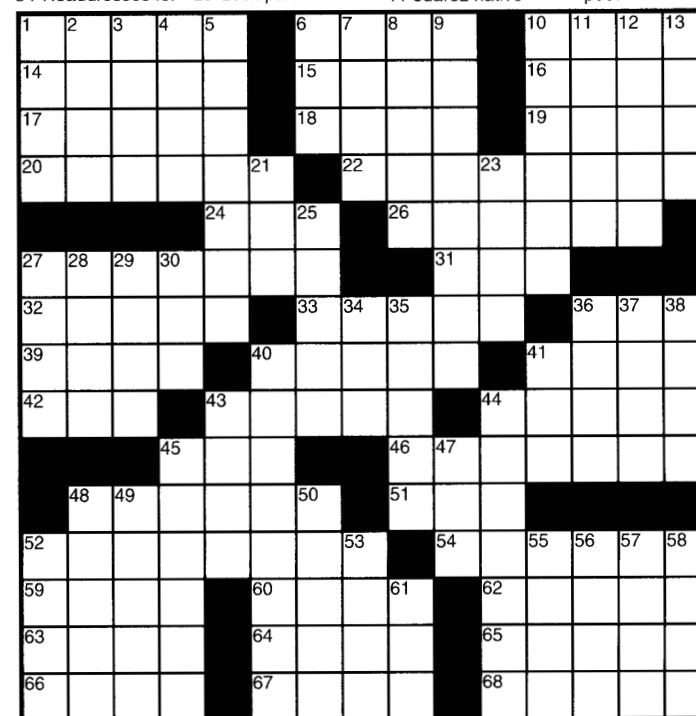
45 Free  
47 Old soldier  
48 Intended  
49 It doesn't pay!  
50 Like pretzels  
52 Senor's coin  
53 Omit  
55 Friend  
56 Banister  
57 Pulpit  
58 Quick drive  
61 Before, to a poet

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

O	H	A	R	A	G	R	O	W	N	M	A	W
T	O	P	A	Z	R	O	D	E	O	A	M	A
T	W	E	E	T	A	L	D	E	R	X	I	I
E	A	V	E	S	M	A	I	N	S			
S	K	E	T	C	H	Y	M	A	R	M	O	T
H	O	A	R	S	E	S	P	I	L	T		
U	R	S	A	M	E	L	O	N	I	L	I	
T	E	E	N	W	A	R	C	O	S			
S	A	S	S	F	E	V	E	R	L	A	S	H
M	O	O	S	E	A	V	E	N	U	E		
R	O	V	I	N	G	D	R	E	S	S	E	R
U	N	I	T	S	G	R	E	A	T			
M	E	N	A	F	O	O	T	O	V	E	R	T
B	A	Y	L	E	A	S	E	E	A	R	N	S
A	L	L	E	N	T	E	R	S	T	R	A	P

6-16-98

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• Paid vacation

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• Sunrise (limited availability)  
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4:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
• Twilight  
Monday-Friday  
5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  
• Midnight  
Sunday - Thursday  
10:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.

If interested, we would like to invite you to come to our facility every Monday at 7:30 p.m. or 10:30 p.m. or call us at 948-2405.

# Accelerated degree program added to downtown consortium schedule

"Downtown,"  
Cont. from page 1

Students who don't have access to the Internet at work or at home can complete assignments in the consortium's computer lab during the day or evening.

"We've combined the best of both worlds by offering traditional class time, keeping working adults focused, and added the benefit of online technology so students can work at their own pace," Parmley said.

It takes two years to complete an associate degree and another two years to complete a bachelor's degree with the program.

Parmley said the system is attractive to people who cannot spend four years away from their jobs to complete their degree.

"With this program, students can work and have a family life while still going to school," said Parmley.

"It puts a degree program into a manageable system where students can see the end.

"It also gives people with

**"We owe it to the people downtown. We're committed to helping them get a degree."**

—Jay Parmley

some credit hours a realistic way to complete their degree."

Terry Cross, a downtown OG&E employee, said she plans to enroll in the accelerated degree program after she completes her associate degree, which she is currently working on at the consortium.

"I like the easier access and the fact that it's right downtown," Cross said.

"I don't have to get in my

car to go someplace else and I can do the work in the computer lab."

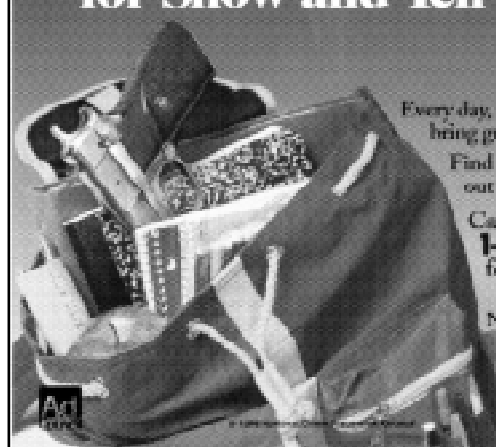
Parmley said the new program is being offered at the consortium as a way to meet a need downtown.

"We owe it to the people downtown.

"We're committed to helping them get a degree," he said.

"Before, we just offered a few classes for students working toward a degree. Now, we provide a way to finish that degree."

**Guess what Johnny's bringing for Show and Tell today.**



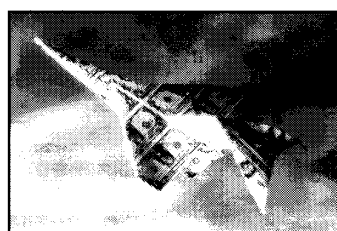
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