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PIONEER

Graduation not a done deal for all students

Disappointment may loom for those who haven't checked on their credits lately

By Kevin Robinson
Newswriting I Student

You've spent at least two years taking the necessary classes needed for a degree and you're ready to graduate. It's finally over. Or is it?

Approximately 10 percent of the OKCCC students who thought they were finished with college or were going on to another college or university after this semester will find themselves enrolling at

OKCCC for yet another semester.

There are several reasons for this.

OKCCC Credentials Analyst Barbara Cornelson said the main stumbling block for those students is that they haven't met the necessary criteria for graduation.

"They [may still] need a history course or they don't have their computer proficiency," she said.

See "Graduation," page 12

Alertness the key to happy holiday

Holiday magic often alters the reality of crime

By Ben Everett
Newswriting I Student

At Christmastime it's easy to get caught up in the flow of the season and not notice that you are about to become a crime victim.

OKCCC Chief of Safety and Security Keith Bourque said everyone needs to remain alert during this time of year.

"Never leave book bags or other personal belongings laying around unattended," he said. "Common sense can be your best asset."

He also said to never leave valuables out in the open in a car.

Leave them at home or in the trunk somewhere where they will be secure and out of sight. Usually, Bourque said, people will not steal what they cannot see.

With book buy back right around the corner, the opportunity for thieves to make some extra cash is abundant.

A recent incident report tells of a student who fell asleep in the library, book bag at her feet. When she awoke, the bag was gone.

"The more protective people are of their belongings the less chance there is of becoming a victim of a crime," Bourque said.



Photo by Ryan Johnson

Last-minute touches: Pamela Squires, left, and Tracy Combs spend time in the computer lab, working on Excel homework. The freshman students said they are thrilled the semester is nearing the end.

Professor ready to sign his book

By Becky Gerred
Staff Writer

OKCCC Science Professor Richard Trout has discovered dreams really do come true.

It took 16 years but Trout is now a published author.

A book signing for his first novel in a series of three, "Cayman Gold: Lost Treasure of Devil's Grotto" will be held from 10:30 a.m. until noon and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Dec. 15 in the Science and Math Division office at OKCCC.

Trout said his author's journey has been a long one.

After attending a men's Christian conference, Trout said, he felt led to write a Bible-based novel.

He said he received numerous rejections on this novel before he heard from LangMarc Publishing.

In April LangMarc sent Trout a letter telling him how much they enjoyed his

novel but said it was not what they were looking for at the time.

Trout said LangMarc asked if he would be interested in writing adventure stories for teens so he quickly sent back a sampling of an adventure story. LangMarc loved it and signed him to a three book contract.

"It was a dream come true, especially since I get to write about things I love," Trout said. "I've always been a history and geography buff so I use both, along with science, as the foundation of my stories."

All three books in the series follow zoologist Dr. Jack McGregor, his wife and three teenagers around the world as they work to fight against the destructive forces of nature.

LangMarc describes "Cayman Gold: Lost Treasure of Devil's Grotto" as gripping, heart pounding and adrenaline racing, fun and true to its mission.

The story goes from



Photo courtesy of Public Relations
Richard Trout

1622 into modern day with the McGregors discovering the sunken treasure that had been lost during the hurricane.

The second book, "Elephant Tears: Mask of the Elephant," is due to be released in the spring.

The third book, "Osiris 7: The Falcon of Abydos," is due out in June.

"The books in this series are designed for young adults but they are really entertaining for everyone," Trout said.

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

20th century all about girl power

The 20th century has been defined by women and their accomplishments. Women now earn high degrees in education. They are in leadership positions. They vote, speak up and are often the tour guides of the journey through life.

As a tribute, I dedicate this space to the pioneer women who had a great impact on this century.

In politics women have made changes unthinkable 100 years ago. Sandra Day O'Connor was the first lady appointed to a prestigious all-gentlemen's club — the U.S. Supreme Court. Madeleine Albright is the first female Secretary of State. Recently Elizabeth Dole tried to break into the last untouched male-dominated territory — the presidency.

Things that are viewed as normal by my generation were outlawed in the past. In the early 1900s, birth control was a no-no topic in America. To speak openly about it meant a possible trip to jail. In 1916 Margaret Sanger opened the first birth control clinic. She was arrested, but kept on working and founded today's Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

"Jane Roe," a young Texan by the name of Norma McCorvey who challenged a 1854 Texas law that prohibited abortion, changed America forever. In 1973, through the decision in Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court made one of the most significant and influential decisions in history. The justices agreed that abortion is a Constitutionally-protected right.

Women also conquered the sky. In 1932 Amelia Earhart flew across the Atlantic, becoming the first woman ever to do so. She disappeared on a flight five years later, but led women into an exclusively male pilot domain.

A few decades later Valentina Tereshkova went even further and higher. In 1963 she became the first female in space.

Science too was male dominated but this century brought change. Marie Curie pioneered the study of radioactivity (a word she coined). She was awarded the Nobel Prize twice.

Rosalind Franklin played a major role in the discovery of DNA. Her studies were the key for her male colleagues Francis Crick and James Watson to untangle the double helix structure of DNA.

Crick and Watson used, without permission, her research for their DNA model. The duo won the Nobel Prize in 1962. By then Franklin had died of cancer.

In music, women were once supposed to be pretty adornments, not out in front. Grace Slick of Jefferson's Airplane proved that women can rock just as well as men. Now, female musicians abound.

These are but a few examples of women changing the way in which females all over the world now live and think.

My generation of women can do whatever we please. To say it in the words of the Spice Girls: "Girl power rules!"

Thanks to the women who made it possible.

—**Michaela Marx**
Pioneer Editor

Education too costly for some

To the editor:

I am an international student from Nigeria, West Africa. I have been in the United States since January 1999.

Ever since I started at OKCCC I have been paying out-of-state fees. This amounts to approximately \$2200 per semester for five classes.

U.S. citizens are released from paying out-of-state fees after becoming state residents which happens after living in the state for about a year.

However, I will go on paying the same fees throughout my time at college. The fees will increase even more when I attend a four-year university.

I wish, and so do many other international students, I could get out of paying such high tuition and fees after residing in the state for one year like out-of-state students do.

Collecting an out-of-country fee each semester would be OK if it were a reasonable amount.

Many people do not realize foreign students cannot work off campus so their families back home have to support them.

The money the families send to the United States to support their children so they may get a better education is worth more in the home country.

Many of those families have to cut back on ex-

penses in order to be able to send the money.

A review of the policy that enables U.S. citizens to qualify for in-state tuition after one year but never allows foreign students to get a break would be very considerate and helpful for international students.

Everybody deserves a good education.

—**Ayodeji Famuagun**
OKCCC Student

PIONEER

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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.

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Letters may also be e-mailed to 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>



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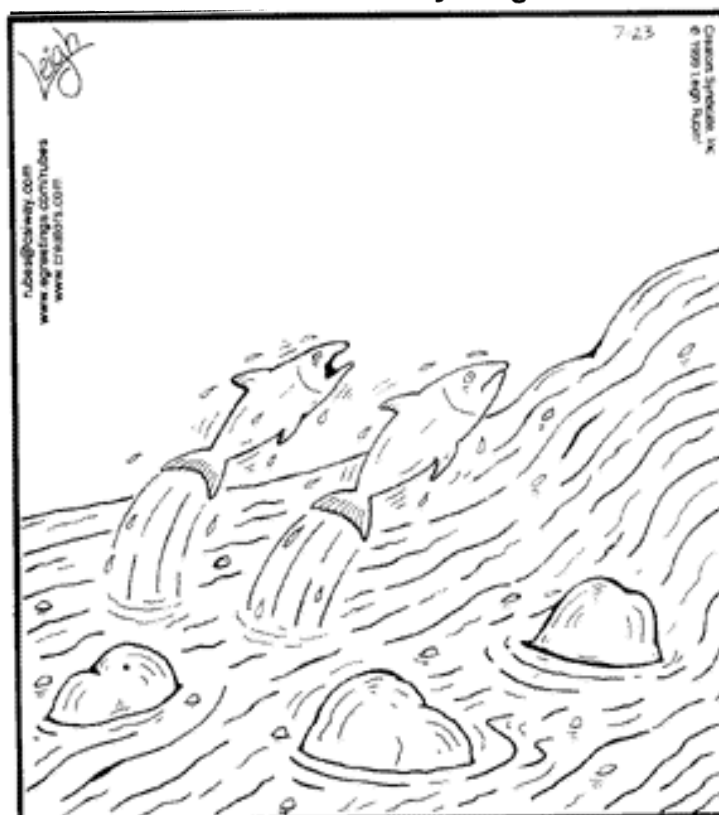
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or drop by 2M6 of the main building.

We want to hear from you!

RUBES®

By Leigh Rubin



"It's either swim hundreds of miles upstream so we can spawn and die, or end up as brunch in some deli. I hate to sound negative, Morton, but I'm beginning to take a dim view of our options in life."

Comments and Reviews

Gin Blossoms get four stars

If you are a Gin Blossoms fan, there is now a must-have addition to your collection.

"Outside Looking In: The Best of the Gin Blossoms" is now available in music stores everywhere and it rocks.

I haven't ever heard much of their music — actually only the stuff they play on the radio — but now that I've heard this CD I think I would like to purchase more of their music.

This disc has songs such as "Follow You Down," "Hey Jealousy," and "Til I Hear It From You" just to name a few well-known songs.



My personal favorite, which I had never heard until I listened to this CD, is "Until I Fall Away" which can also be found on their CD titled "New Miserable Experience."

The song is not what you would call rock or anything "heavy," which is usually

the music I listen to most, but I do know that it is very well written and performed.

There are a lot of other songs on this CD that I have never heard on the radio and it makes me wonder why. All of the songs on this CD are very good and all deserve air play.

If you are looking for a CD you can listen to all the way through without looking for the "good" songs, then search no more.

I would give this CD four stars on the Star Search scale. It's definitely a winner.

—**Ryan Johnson**
Staff Writer

We can all agree on this CD

Several years ago, at the Zoo Amphitheater, during a local radio station's birthday bash, a performer took the stage.

He was using borrowed equipment because some evil person or group of evil people had stolen his equipment while he waited his turn to take the stage.

Had I been in his shoes, I would have been too upset to give the crowd a good show. But not this guy. Not this professional.

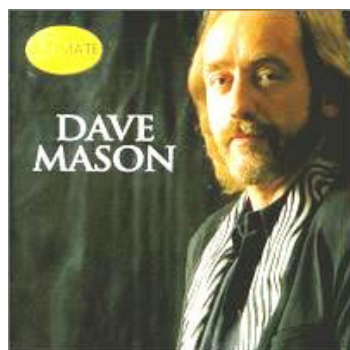
I thought I must have died and gone to heaven as, in the quiet stillness, I heard the first strains of one of my favorite songs. First, the acoustic guitar, unencumbered by any other instruments. Then, the words.

"Been away. Haven't seen you in awhile. How you been? Have you changed your style and do you think that we've grown up differently? Don't seem the same. Seems you've lost your feel for me."

"Dave Mason, The Ultimate Collection" CD contains that piece of heaven titled "We Just Disagree" and more — 18 more to be exact.

"Feelin' Alright" and "Only You Know and I Know" are some of the more familiar songs on the disc.

"Feelin' Alright," later performed by several artists



including Joe Cocker and Grand Funk Railroad, was written by Mason as a sort of personal statement about the direction his life was taking at the time.

Although he had already been in other, lesser-known bands, Mason spent the beginnings of his professional career in a band called Traffic. It was with this band that he really broke onto the music scene.

He shared much of the spotlight with another artist who also later went solo — Steve Winwood.

He was on his way out of that lineup when he wrote "Feelin' Alright."

Having heard it performed by various artists over the years, I stand firm that no one puts the guts into this song like its creator.

"Only You Know and I Know" was also a Mason-penned tune that was later recorded by Delaney and Bonnie, a group popular in

the '70s.

The melodic "Walk to the Point" is a song Mason recorded with Cass Elliot of the Mamas and Papas. The two had tried unsuccessfully to put together a duo in the summer of 1970.

Mason even joined Fleetwood Mac in the early '90s, touring and releasing the album "Time" on which Mason co-wrote two of the songs.

People often express surprise when they find out about Mason's background as a performer and a songwriter.

Mason has always had a flair for spinning thought-provoking tales, then setting them to music and telling the world all about them through the use of his strong vocals.

"The Ultimate Collection" contains 18 great songs that fans as well as those who have never given Mason or his music a second thought will thoroughly appreciate.

It's on the Hip-O label and can be ordered on the Internet at www.hip-o.com or found in local music stores.

If you truly enjoy music in its finest form, you will most certainly treasure this collection.

—**Pioneer In-House Relic**

You asked for it...
by **Becky Gerred**

Yellow, blue lines confusing to student

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 question.

OKCCC student Sister Barbara Joseph Foley wants to know why the blue lines that designate faculty and staff parking aren't better identified.

Foley said she parked in a space where the line on one side was yellow and the other was blue. But, she said, the blue side looked almost yellow also which she found very confusing.

"I got a ticket for it," she said.

She asks what students should do when confronted with this situation.

OKCCC Director of Safety and Security Keith Bourque said the blue lines designate faculty parking and the yellow lines designate student parking.

"When a space has one side yellow and one side blue then you must look to the front of the space to see if it is blue or yellow," Bourque said.

Counselors, advisers offer helpful program

Supplemental Instruction classes great way for students to achieve success

To the Editor:

It's December. A chill is finally in the air, and the sights and sounds of the holidays are everywhere.

That can only mean one thing — the semester is almost over!

Instead of counting weeks until they can get a break, students can count the days.

But even as the semester winds to a close, another awaits, just on the other side of the holidays.

The Center for Student Development wants to remind students as they come in to enroll for spring to consider those classes that have Supplemental Instruction support.

This is a new program on

campus to provide out-of-class assistance to students enrolled in participating sections.

A complete list is available in the Center for Student Development.

A counselor or adviser would be more than happy to discuss what SI is and how it might help provide some additional help in getting better grades.

Who knows. It might be the best present you give yourself this year.

—**Mary Turner**
Student Development Counselor

Tell us what you want to see in the Pioneer
editor@okc.cc.ok.us

Stand up and be counted when census 2000 calls

**By Vickie Southard
Newswriting I Student**

Census 2000 is currently under way.

Every 10 years the United States Census Bureau conducts a census, the counting of all people living in the United States.

The information collected is used in a variety of ways.

One is to provide population counts needed to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The information from the national census also provides data to determine state legislative district boundaries.

Susan Winchester, a Chickasha resident who represents Oklahoma District 47, said she believes an accurate census is vital and essential to the future.

She said Oklahoma is already underrepresented at the congressional level.

"Oklahoma recently lost two congressional seats and faces the very real possibility of losing another."

Other uses of the census information are:

- It offers information that helps communities determine where to build schools, supermarkets,

housing additions and hospitals.

- Provides information for federal programs. It identifies areas needing bilingual education, energy assistance, programs to stimulate economic growth and child assistance programs.

- Helps establish fair market rent values and enforces fair lending practices.

- Helps businesses and marketing by aiding in the selection of locations for marketing goods and services. It helps select sites for retail stores and new plants and assesses labor pools.

- Provides information for cities and communities to establish transportation systems.

- Assists individuals in family tree research by certifying ages of relatives.

Forms will be mailed to residents in March of 2000.

The law requires citizens to respond to the nationwide census.

If census forms are not returned, the information will have to be collected by census enumerators who will go house to house, speaking to the residents.

Taxpayers foot the bill for these employees to be paid.

notice an administrative hold is put on their account, or status, with the school," she said.

Students who are planning to transfer to another school or university cannot get transcripts of the courses they have taken at OKCCC with an administrative hold on their records.

Turn in those books.

Overdue books create delays for students

**By Michael Taylor
Newswriting I Student**

Students who have overdue books checked out at the end of the semester can be penalized.

Librarian Helen Webbink said those students will receive notices each week.

"On receipt of the third

Census creates numerous job opportunities for residents

**By Vickie Southard
Newswriting I Student**

Several employment positions are available for Census 2000.

Taking a census requires many different kinds of workers.

Census takers, or enumerators, make up the largest number of jobs to be filled for the 2000 Census.

The U.S. Census Bu-

reau will be hiring local people to work in their own areas locating addresses and interviewing household members.

The Census Bureau also needs crew leaders and office clerks to help with the tabulation of the information collected.

To become an employee for Census 2000, a person must first take an employment test in basic skills. The test consists of 28 questions designed to measure the skills, abilities,

and knowledge required to perform a variety of census jobs.

There are five parts to the test: reading, clerical, numerical, evaluative, and organizational skills.

Applicants will have 30 minutes to complete the test. The questions are all multiple choice.

Census 2000 jobs pay wages plus mileage. Day, evening and weekend work is available.

Call 605-6058 to apply.

Scholarship money available

The engineering club is offering students the chance to apply for the Jack Cain Memorial Scholarship.

The following criteria applies to all applicants:

- Must be a pre-engineering major.
- Must have completed 30 credit hours toward an engineering degree.
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0

With your application:

1. Include your latest transcript and list your academic achievements
2. List all your engineering club involvement. Be specific. Example: Number of times attended club meetings, field trips attended, hours spent on fund-raising activities and other activities (name of activity and hours volunteered).

Applications must be turned in to Professor Masil Masilamani before 5 p.m. on Dec. 15.



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1999 fall graduation candidates named

The following students have applied for December graduation. Diplomas will be granted after audits are done.

Associate in Arts

Child Development: Henryetta Caldwell, Deborah Henderson, Amy Powell, Veronica Rivera.

Diversified Studies: Stephanie Bovee, Sandra Davis, Denise Gomez, Karlen Grayson, Jarvis Hankins, Anona McCullar, Trevor Mueller, Alicia Price, Alisa Richmond, Mitsuhiro Takahashi Terry Tramel.

Humanities: Zachary Hughes, Bryan Kirchhoff.

History: Melody Joyce, Tony Papp*, Stefanie Parnell.

Journalism/Broadcasting: Emily David, Joseph French, Rhonda Hill, Brian Maughan, Dorothy Mullahey, Kelly Newman, Traci Washington.

Language: Kathryn Gurfinkel, Hee Kim.

Music: Kara Kear.

Political Science: Nora Miller, Susan O'Hara, Tony Papp*.

Psychology: Daylon Barnes, Heath Bowers, Shbrone Brookings, Amy Cannon, Jennifer Chaffin, Jimmie Chambers, David France, Robin Gebauer, Melissa Joslin, William Maddox, Marissa Manuel.

Stephanie Maze, Sandra Parker, Leann Parr, Courtney Penn, Carrie Preble, Tracy Robinson, Shelley Sanders, Jennifer Scott, Jill Sharp, Toni Shields.

Tara Shultz, Ami Steelman, Rebecca Sullivan, Dawn Talton*, Mark Taylor, Billie Thompson, Anthony Turner, Amy

Williams, Misty Williamson, Jennifer Willis, Sara Young.

Sociology: Tammy Campbell, Jennifer Chaffin, Kevin Collins, LaCedric Conrad, Jennifer Dessaint, Bonnie Harris, Jonathan Head, Pamela Hudson, Stephanie Maze, Calvin Oldcamp, Katrina Roberts, Patricia Skelly.

Theater Arts: Jason Lamb.

Visual Arts: Donald Lizenbee, Jessica Mitchell.

Associate in Science

Business: José Alvarez, Lance Babbitt, Kyle Bene, Cynthia Bynswanger, Asty Birken, Patricia Bowen, Dietra Bradsher, KeJuana Brown, Matt Byers, Carol Card, Elizabeth Clay.

Ty Coleman, Matthew Conrad, Jeffrey Cottner, Stacy Crawford, Michael Douglas, LaTasha Featherstone, Andrea Ferguson, Lori Grout, Michael Grout, Tennessee Gunter.

M. Habib, Hiroyuki Hagiwara, Sara Hale, Kristie Harned, Loralyn Haxel, Tomotaka Hosoya, Linda Huckabaa, Brandon Lewis, Phoenix Long, Matthew Martin, Beverly McElroy.

James Mengers, Justin Miller, Stephanie Miller, Emi Murakami, Kari Odoi, Shannon Odom, Raymond Rampersad, Kira Richardson, Mark Richardson;

Berry Sewell, Janet Stewart, Danielle Streich, Kristin Strong, Mohammad Uddin, Dylan Vann, Linda Vaughan.

Jill Walters, Sarah Whiteside, Angela Woodie, Chen Wu.

Computer Science: M.D. Alam, Nhan Bui, Billy Cha-

ffin, Fred Clark, Glen Collymore, Christen Collymore, Tara Deer, Justin Duncan, Tiki Ferguson, Jarman Mingnonne.

Jason Johns, Philip Khoo, Chad Lamb, Lu Huong, Bindhu Mathews, Jason Nelson, Matthew Rabe, Akhlaqur Rahman*, Thomas Scaria, Brian Schmidt, David Sewell*, Michael Smith, Judy Vu, Maki Yokoi.

Diversified Studies: Laura Brown, Darrell Crone, Rosie Digby, Julie Jarvis, Laura Long, Christine Smith, Laura Spurggon, Aleasha Timm, Dennis Valentin, Carissa Walker.

Education: Monica Bradshaw, Stephanie Cavner, Karen Cobb, Diana Jaurige, Kathy Prosser, Casey Satterlee, Vickie Smith, Amber Touchstone, Sheila Walker.

Engineering: Scott Donnelly, Paul Gerber, Dennis Harris, Steven Hess, Richard Ketchanga, Jeteral Mitchell, Phuong Nguyen, Jonathan Scruggs, David Steagall, Juste Tchandra, Dan Tran, Sixto Viesca, Kyle Walker.

Math: Daniel Dareing, Donna Doan, Ronald Gooch, Steven Hess*, Kelsey Kennedy, Akhlaqur Rahman*, David Sewell*, Gloria Walker*.

Science: Olubunmi Adesina, Darin Dewitt, Austin Ezugha, Steven Hess*, Lashanda Hines, Tina Kappes, George Knapp, Christina Markarim, Jennifer Merriweather.

Minoo Moradi, Kim Uyen Pham, Melyssa Rains, Zulfiqar Raja, Jaime Samples, Deziray Swing.

Dania Viesca, Gloria Walker*, Tammy Williams, Kimberly Winters.

Associate in Applied Science

Aviation Maintenance Technology: Steven Lamb.

Commercial Art: Jacine Arias, Teresa States*, Tommy Torres, Dan Williams.

Automotive Technology: William Broom, Nicholas Chiles, Anthony Foster.

Child Development: Shelly Jackson, Angelia Jones, Betty Tinsley.

Computer-Aided Design: Travis French*.

Computer Science: Andy Anders, Alan Barfulz*, Kevin Barry, Jana Brown, Jeremy Bunyard*, Tony Cleek, Helen Davis, Sheryl Dixon.

Michael Kearney, Larry Lindsey, Anna M., Debbie Mata, Dawn Miller, Steven Millwee, Michael Newby, Linda Osborn, Cody Sikes, Marilu Urquia, Eric Wheeler.

Emergency Medical Technician: Allison Coleman*, Ronny Gordon*, Brandi Holland*, Joseph Rendahl, Bryan Russell, Angela Sumrell.

Electronics: Gary Alford, Debra Blackwell, Kevin Bruce, Leslie Colliver, Mark Duffy, Scott Lee, Jon Rice, Sophom Se, Dustin Wooten*.

Finance: Michelle Ervin, Chasiti Horvater, Barbara Kelley, Stephanie Poag, Pamela Spaulding, Kimberly Steph-ens*.

Gerontology: James Tate.

Medical Assistant: LaToya House

Management: Richard Hitzel, Shu-Chuan Jiang, Sherry Phillips, Leonard Thomas

Nursing: Jennifer Ahrens-Sims, Susan Arnold, Storm Arnold, Debra Barrett, Kendra Bates, Lesa Benson, Apryll Billingley, Shelly Britz, Lynda Bryant, Leah Burch, Nikki Carter, Lizette Collins.

Joni Cookman, Sherrie Cuff, Deann Davidson, Frank Dickinson, Lisa Dickson, Carrie Fricker, Debra Gaines.

Jennie Gardner, Lesa Hicks, Carrie Johnston, Jerry Killiam, Renae Lancaster, Stephanie Martin, Suzanne Mayeux, Lisa McKee, Lucy Mishuia, Cindy Nabors.

Jenifer Neher, Mark Obermiller, Jeanette Reiff, Stephen Rodgers, Tandra Russell, Le Seaborg, Paula Shiplett, Jennifer Statton.

Janice Swanner, Brian Taylor, Melissa Terhune, JoNell Walker, Eric Webster, Renee White, Kelly White, Dawn White, Pamela Whiteshield, Brandy Williams.

Administrative Office Technician: Heather Buckhalter, Tammie Eubank, Andrea Jones, Leona Loneman.

Occupational Therapy Assistant: Kathleen Claxton, Kelly Crooks, Terri Davis, Julia Fetter, Portia Fryar, Laura Goodman, Jennifer Hammond, Malissia Harrison, Elizabeth Hatcher.

Shelly Kingsbury, Jennifer Knabe, Kimberly Mayfield, Janice Miller-Buckley, Lea Milton, Patricia Molina, Nike Odejimi, Dominique Oldman, Kristi Walker, Rosa Williams.

Certificates

Respiratory Care Therapist: Jennyfer

Maruska, Amber Wehrenberg, George Wolfe.

Banking and Finance: Susan Donnelly, Kimberly Stevens*.

Computer-Aided Design: William Birchett, Idris Khatari, William Birchett.

Computer Science: Dustin Barthelme, Alan Barfulz*, Jeremy Bunyard*, Kimberly Chessmore, Nina Landon.

Emergency Medical Technology: Chad Adams, Laura Alexander, Andy Barton, Warren Bingham, Kendra Braselton, Angela Brooks, Sherrie Busby.

Michael Christy, Jennifer Conrad, Brandi Cowart, Dustin Davis, Patrick Deighton, Troy Denton, Aspen Dewey.

Misty Dunn, Mason Dunn, Tommy Evans, Jeremy Fillmore, Leslie Finkle, Mitchell Glover, Catharine Hale.

John Hanson, Brian Harding, Scott Haskett, John Hicks, Nathan Hollenbeck, Kay Hollingsworth, Kenneth Kapp, Chleu Khamthansy.

Peter Lachance, Terrance Lane, Lori Luttrell, Chad Mach, Gary Martin, Kelly McGlasson, Chris McMahon.

Clayton Morris, Sara Parnell, Melissa Petros, Michael Rainbolt, Curtis Rhodes, Jennifer Rodgers, William Smith.

Frank Smith, Frankie Strange Jr., Wes Tebo, Dale Titsworth, Ruth Tondore, Jeanne Walden, Timothy Way, Valari Wedel, Riley Williams.

Medical Transcriptionist: DeAnn Woods.

*Denotes two or more degrees or certificates

Home for the holidays

By Michaela Marx
Editor

The tourism industry and event managers have been preparing for New Year's Eve 2000 for almost a decade.

Advertisers try to make us feel awkward if we choose to stay home the big night... What are you supposed to tell your grandkids you did to welcome the new millennium if you did not go on a cruise or a \$200-per-ticket Y2K bash?

Well, the answer is: there are ways to party right, even though you stay at home.

Also, a definite plus for at-home-stayers is if the Y2K bug really bites or some crazy fanatic decides to blow-up Times Square, you are safe at home in Oklahoma.

The right idea for a house party

Most important in order to make your party a success is the understanding that a stand-around-have-a-beer-party won't work for Y2K. Give your party a theme.

Costume parties

An all time classic, which is totally Y2K compatible, is a costume party. Tell your guests to dress up as what they think the world of style will bring in the future.

A creative way to beat the Y2K bug is to simply celebrate the change of a decade in the past, for example welcome the roaring 20s or make your party a boogie night with a 70s theme. Your guests could also individually dress up as their favorite character in history.

Rock as if it's 2000

You also could throw a karaoke party... yeah it's kind of old but it's still a blast. Tell your guests to prepare their favorite song from the last century. Enjoy watching your friends deliver their versions of "American Pie," "Jail House Rock," or "Like a Virgin."

Pack a "90s box"

If you neither like costumes nor the sound of music, there is another option. Tell everybody to bring a box filled with a few items they think describe the nineties and the life during this decade. Tell them to tape it up. Then number the boxes and every guest receives the box of another guest.

About an hour before midnight, ask them to get together and tell each other what they found in the box and about the memory each individual associates with these items. Then tell them to tape the boxes back up and keep them as a reminder of the nineties.



Glamour Bash

For all the people who like gala's and just had way to much fun at Prom should have a cocktail party at their house. Dress code: Tuxedos and evening gowns. Prepare a buffet and hand each arriving guest a glass of champagne.

Honestly-who does not enjoy dressing up? Did you ever realize that the men always look twice as good when they wear a suit?

Music, foods and decoration

The difference lies in the details. The best party ideas go to waste if the host runs out of drinks or the "Metallica"-loving cousin Ed takes over the DJ-job.

A general rule is get enough drinks and snacks. Tell your friends to bring something to eat or drink to keep down the cost of the party. Good food is the essence of a great party, so stock up on goodies. This tip is especially important in case the lights go out and America is in a national Y2K crisis. Then your friends will be stuck at your house for a while!

Decorate your house to match the party theme. Get all breakable things out of the way and cover up the carpet if you expect more than a dozen people. Better safe than sorry.

Music can create a party mood or totally destroy it. So choose your party soundtrack wisely. Don't just play one kind of music and don't forget playing the recorded hits especially for Y2K from artists like Jennifer Lopez, Will Smith and everybody else who thinks of himself as a part of 90s pop culture.

A good idea is to record songs from your favorite CD's. This way people get different music and don't need to mess with your CD player.

Fun for less

If the host or hostess stays cool and organizes the party well, a house party can definitely be the right event to start the new millennium. Just consider how expensive going out and celebrating this New Year's Eve in the manner TV and magazines expect us to.

Tickets for the event of your choice are, on average, twice as expensive as usually. Then add dinner and drinks.

Possibly you may travel to a bigger metro than Oklahoma City, because society was told by the media that staying home for New Year's Eve is uncool.

Also you cannot celebrate Y2K in a old or cheap dress, so add another \$100-300 for wardrobe, shoes and accessories.

My theory is that the whole Y2K thing is a conspiracy from the travel industry and retailers.

So my tip is celebrate at home, with people you love. It's safe, it's cheap and it's guaranteed fun.

Pre-diet recipes sure to make your guests drool

By Becky Gerred
Staff Writer

New Year's Eve is another chance to eat the goodies before New Years Day when you resolve to go on a diet.

After turkey for Thanksgiving and ham for Christmas, you probably are ready for a little lighter food.

Chips and dip fit nicely while you gather around the kitchen table playing games until the New Year arrives.

Spinach Dip goes really well with your favorite chips or raw vegetables.

SPINACH DIP

1-10 oz. package frozen spinach
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 tbsp. dried parsley
1 tbsp. onion flakes
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper

Thaw and drain spinach. Mix spinach and remaining ingredients in blender until smooth.

Just for fun you can pull out your punch bowl that you only use at wedding and fill it with lime sherbet and 7-UP, or Sprite. I use one two-liter bottle to a half-gallon of sherbet. Your guests will ask you for the recipe.



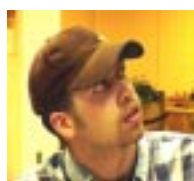
New Year brings resolutions...



"Have a better (year) 2000 than (year) 1999."
— Melissa Hodge, student



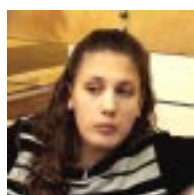
"To have fun dating and to stay single."
— Melanie Scruggs, student



"I don't have one, because I never kept them for more than a week."
— Greg Higgins, student



"Study more and sleep more."
— Cody Ponder



"To lose 10 pounds, have a job in a medical environment, move out of my parents house, and spend time with my son."
— Malinda Jackson, student



"Make better grades."
— William Duren, student

**Photos by
Ryan Johnson**

New Year's Metro Events

**By Kathi Etherton
Staff Writer**

If you haven't made reservations and plans by now to go to New York City for the big New Year's Eve bash, then you probably aren't going, considering that reservations had to be made years in advance.

So, if you can't be in New York City then why not make the best of the millennium celebration in Oklahoma City. On New Year's Eve the excitement comes out and Oklahoma City has places to celebrate for everyone.

On Dec. 31, people will ring in the new year at Opening Night 2000 in downtown Oklahoma City. It starts at 7 p.m. with opening performances and will continue until midnight. Fireworks will light the sky at Kerr Park at 11:40 p.m. to announce the new millennium. This celebration is family oriented with 36 performing groups to sing, dance, and amaze. This celebration will include magic shows, face painting, clowns, reggae music, comedy shows, rock 'n' roll music, bluegrass music, children's theatre, country music, jazz music, and folk music, among many others. Admission is \$6 and children under five are free. Admissions buttons can be purchased beginning Dec. 13 at Homeland Stores, Mathis Brothers, Leadership Square, First National Concierge desk and the Arts Council of Oklahoma City. For more information call 270-4848 or visit www.artscouncilokc.com.

For sports fans, there is plenty to do. University of Oklahoma will participate in the Sanford Independence Bowl, the first bowl game since 1994. The game is set for Dec. 31 in Shreveport, La. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$30 and can be placed by calling the OU Athletic Ticket office at (405) 325-2424 or (800) 456-4668.

The Oklahoma City Blazers will play San Antonio on Dec. 31 at 6:35 p.m. at the Myriad Convention Center. For information call 297-3000.

The Christmas spirit still lingers on New Year's Eve. Christmas lights are still on display in Lawton, Chickasha, Oklahoma City, and Yukon.

There are places to go and people to see in Oklahoma City on New Year's so make it memorable and be safe.

Is it really the new millennium?

**By Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer**

When is the new millennium?

The world in general seems to believe it starts Jan. 1, 2000, but this is wrong. The 21st century begins Jan. 1, 2001.

"The end of the second millennium and the beginning of the third will be reached on Jan. 1, 2001," says the United States Naval Observatory (USNO).

"This date is based on the now globally recognized Gregorian calendar, the epoch of which was established by the sixth-century scholar Dionysius Exiguus."

Dionysius Exiguus compiled all the dates of Easter, and rather than starting the year with

the year zero, years in this calendar start with Jan. 1, 1 AD

The Royal Observatory Greenwich (ROG) states the same facts as the USNO.

"A millennium is an interval of 1000 years and a century is an interval of 100 years," says the ROG.

"In the Gregorian calendar, which we use, there is no year zero and the sequence of years near the start runs as follows: ..., 2 BC, 1 BC, 1 AD, 2 AD, ..."

Because there isn't any zero year, the first year of the of the calendar ends at the end of the year named 1 AD. Since 2000 AD is the 2000th year of the Christian calendar, two millennia will have passed at midnight on Dec. 31, 2000.

Consequently, the next millennium does not begin until Jan. 1, 2001 AD

Race is on for first baby of the year

**By Michaela Marx
Editor**

Every year a baby born right after midnight makes the news. It is the first baby of the year.

The upcoming year's first baby born will attract the attention of even more people than before since it is going to be the millennium baby.

Babies who were conceived late last March have a chance to make the race.

Former OKCCC student Angel Cayloa's unborn baby boy may have a chance.

"People ask me all the time if I want to have him at this date. As far as I am concerned it is not really important," she said.

Many parents had timed the arrival of a pos-

sible millennium baby, others just got lucky.

Cayloa said she heard that more deliveries than usual are expected. "Hospitals say that they will not submit patients who induce labor, only natural births."

Reporters all over the country will keep an eye on the hospitals, trying to get the story of the millennium baby. Not only reporters are going to welcome the infant, but also people all over the nation will send congratulations cards and gifts. Radio shows and Internet sites offer money prizes to the families of the first baby of the year 2000.

"My friend says that if I have the right timing I might make a million bucks," she said.

The Cayloas have no New Years Eve plans, of course, except to welcome a new family member. Let's see who is going to make the race in Oklahoma City.

Students find man in women's restroom

By Becky Gerred
Staff Writer

On Dec. 2, a group of evening students found a man in the women's restroom in the Arts and Humanities building.

Vickie Southard was in a stall when she noticed the feet in the next stall looked like those of a man.

She said the position of the feet also looked odd.

"His feet were tightly pulled together and his heels were on the neck of the stool," Southard said.

She said she thought about calling security on her cell phone but, instead, she told two men from her class what she had seen.

Student Kevin Robinson was one of them.

He said he thought it was a joke when he first heard about it.

"It got real serious when we realized this man was probably waiting for a girl to come into the bathroom

alone," Robinson said.

Students took turns looking in the door, checking out the feet under the stall, Southard said.

"The man in the stall was in there for about 15 minutes," she said.

Southard finally called security after about five minutes. Three officers responded to the call within the next five minutes she said.

Before the officers arrived the man left the restroom.

Southard, who teaches classes in personal protection and specializes in women's protection, said she wishes she had gone with her first instinct.

Student Kyle Ferguson said he watched through a window in a nearby classroom until the man left the

women's restroom.

"He wore straggly clothes and really dirty looking," Ferguson said. "He came out and looked around. I think he saw me."

"I ran out the door and as soon as I ran out he started towards me."

"Two girls ran out of the classroom behind me and I pushed them back in and shut the door."

"As soon as he saw we were on to him, he darted through the fire escape door."

Robinson and Ferguson followed the man into the fire escape stairwell.

"We looked for him everywhere," Robinson said.

OKCCC Security Officers James Cobble, Alton Horn and Community Service Officer Allison Coleman responded to the scene.

Horn said the man had disappeared by the time they reached the restroom.

"Once I got the description I went through the

building and started looking for him," Horn said.

There was a lot of confusion on campus that evening, Horn said.

"It was a crazy evening, anyway," he said.

"Alarms were going off due to a hail storm and we had a hit and run call so I did not get the report written until later," Horn said.

After students had given Horn a description he followed up with a picture of an OKCCC employee that matched the description.

"I showed a picture to one individual. I asked them if it looked like the

person, just to get a general idea of the description. They told me, 'no it wasn't him' and I said OK and it was dismissed," Horn said.

Ferguson said he was positive it wasn't an employee or even a student from the man's appearance.

Horn said they checked the entire grounds looking for the suspect the students had described.

According to the incident report, witnesses described the suspect as a white male in his mid 40s, 5'10", 160 pounds, with short, salt-and-pepper hair, a scraggly beard and shabby clothing.

He was wearing dark blue pants, blue or gray shirt and dirty sneakers.



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Hit-and-run driver injures student

By Michaela Marx
Editor

OKCCC student Robert Holybee was injured in a hit-and-run accident at OKCCC Dec. 2.

Holybee was walking toward the Arts and Humanities building from parking area C around 7:40 p.m. when he was hit by an unidentified car and thrown onto the hood into the windshield.

An incident report states that Holybee's left arm was injured when he hit the windshield.

Glass was imbedded in his arm. He also reported pain in his left leg and a headache. Holybee refused to have EMSA come to the scene. OKCCC security officer Al Horn gave the student first aid.

Horn said Holybee did not see the vehicle until it had already hit him.

"All he knew was it was a lady driving a small cream-colored car," Horn said.

"It was a hit and run and that's why Oklahoma City Police Department was called out," he said.

The Oklahoma City Police Department was called and took a report.

Holybee was not available for comment at press time.



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Dressing for success important for interviews

**By Kristin Vincent
Newswriting I Student**

Students who are about to graduate may soon be looking for jobs. According to some people in the business world, there are many factors to consider before setting out for interviews.

Appearance is one of the most important considerations.

OKCCC students were asked if they knew what they would wear for an interview.

Nine out of 10 said they had no idea what to wear. One student said a nice shirt and slacks would be the correct attire.

Jana Atkins, president of Hi-noon Business and Professional Women's club, said while that outfit is OK,

it's not actually what the business world looks for.

She said when graduates are interviewing for a career job, they need to invest in good suits and business attire.

Atkins said black is always a professional color.

"If you are a woman you can put a bright color under your black suit jacket," she said.

"A black suit is very versatile — pants or skirt, white shirt or blue shirt, jacket or no jacket," she said. "Black is always a sharp color."

Atkins said students should take in consideration the type of job they are looking for and how long they want to be employed there.

Ben Hayes, manager of Big Red Sports and Imports of Edmond said nice shoes

are what he looks for.

"When someone walks in with a great suit on and I look down at scuffed bluish-black shoes," he said, "I wonder why that person stopped here."

Hayes said a person should strive to have nice, clean, scuff-free shoes.

Hayes also said it's best to invest in a nice suit that is versatile and wears well. He said linen is not the best kind of suit to buy if you can only buy one.

"You don't want something that wrinkles and looks flimsy at work," he

said.

"Buy a neutral-tone suit, nice shoes, white shirt and a nice tie."

And, he said, don't forget about personal hygiene.

"Don't forget to shave, no matter what kind of job you are interviewing for."

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Highlights

Medical Coding course being offered

OKCCC will offer the course "Medical coding" this spring. This course is a requirement for Students earning Certificates of Mastery in Medical Transcription. The class will be held from 5:30 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays, starting the week of Jan. 17.

Students will learn to enter internal classification of disease, or ICD-9-CM codes used on claim forms, and identify current procedural terminology, known as CPT, and understand their applications in a medical office. Students will also learn the legal issues concerning medical records, and rules of Medicare and learn to identify various insurance companies. For more information call Lisa Adkins at 682-1611, ext. 7235 or the Division of Information Technology at 682-7888.

Weekend course offered

OKCCC is offering a weekend course in Securities and Insurance Licensing. The students will study the legal, ethical and theoretical environment of the securities and insurance industry, including mutual funds and variable insurance products. Students will also learn about the laws governing state licensing and registration requirements.

Orientation will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 8. The class will meet for two consecutive weekends, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 14 and 21, and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 15 and 22, and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 16 and 23. The cost is \$130.80 plus materials. For more information call 682-7550.

Scholarships for spring 2000 available

Applications for Program for Academic Achievement Scholarships for the spring of 2000 are now available. The scholarships are designated for pre-education majors interested in teaching elementary, early childhood or special education. Benefits include tuition, fees and books. For more information call Mary Ann Merz at 682-1611, ext. 7247. Applications are available in Educational Support Services next to the Testing Center in the main building. Deadline for the spring semester is January 11, 2000.

New intersession class planned in history

Hist. 1002, American History Through Film, is a new intersession class being offered this January. Dr. Nigel Sellars will be the instructor and will be focusing on how the public learns about historical events from television, movies and Hollywood. The class will need a minimum of 25 students, so please hurry and enroll if you are interested.

Academic Tuition Fee Waiver awards announced

The Student Financial Aid Center will post the Academic Tuition Fee Waiver awards on Dec. 13.

Enroll now, pay later

OKCCC students need to be enrolling now if they hope to get the classes they need or want. Fees are not due until January. Students can enroll from home or from the library through the internet at <http://www.okc.cc.ok.us>

Holiday gift idea

Memberships to the college's Wellness and Aquatic Center can be customized for any family's specific needs. Discount Punch Cards, good for 20 visits or 16 weeks from the date of purchase, are on sale for \$25 until Dec. 23. Call 682-7860 to learn more about gift ideas.



Photo by Ryan Johnson

Baskets being readied: J. P. Johnson, co-sponsor of PASS with CLASS, fills baskets that are to be given to parents staying at the Ronald McDonald House with their kids over the holidays. They also prepare stockings for the club members' children.

Single parent students find friendship and support in club

By Becky Gerred
Staff Writer

OKCCC students who are juggling classes, working and single parenting can find friendship and support in a club designed just for them.

Dean of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Annmarie Shirazi said she loves being a sponsor for the club. She was a single parent herself while attending college.

Shirazi recalled how the club actually came about through one student's efforts.

"An OT [Occupational Therapy] student had several kids. She felt like there was a real need for a support group," Shirazi said.

Coordinator of College Clubs J. P. Johnson and co-sponsor, said the club has recently merged with the Critical Learning Activities for Students Success club. "Originally PASS and CLASS were separate," Johnson said. "Last year we decided to join the two together as many students

would fit into both groups."

Johnson also was a single parent while attending college.

Johnson said she loves to be able to help others who are in the same boat she was.

"The club [PASS with CLASS] is a way students can get to know other single parents," Johnson said.

"It's an emotional support knowing that they are not the only one doing it [going to college while juggling children and work alone]."

Some parents even do cooperative baby-sitting to help each other out, she said.

Johnson described the club as a family thing. Children are included in some of the activities. "We try to send cards to all the members' kids on their birthdays," Johnson said.

"We try to encourage the students to bring their kids on campus for movies and special events."

By involving the children the club serves more than one purpose.

Youngsters are less

likely to see school as competing for their parents' time and more likely to see school as a part of their life when they grow up, Johnson said.

Nora Pugh-Seemster, another sponsor for the club, is involved in the Career Transitions Program.

She was not a single parent going to college but said she has worked with many single mothers while working as a social worker with child welfare.

She is excited about her roll as a sponsor in the PASS with CLASS club, and would like to see other students take advantage of it.

Pugh-Seemster spoke of the community service project they are presently involved in trying to lift the spirits of other parents.

"We are doing baskets for the parents that are staying at the Ronald McDonald House while their children are in the hospital," Pugh-Seemster said.

This really fits in well with what the club is about: "parents helping other parents," she said.

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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FOR SALE: '86 Honda Accord, Burgundy, AC, AM/FM Cass., new tires, 250K miles. Runs great and starts every time. \$1,500 OBO. Call 521-8402.

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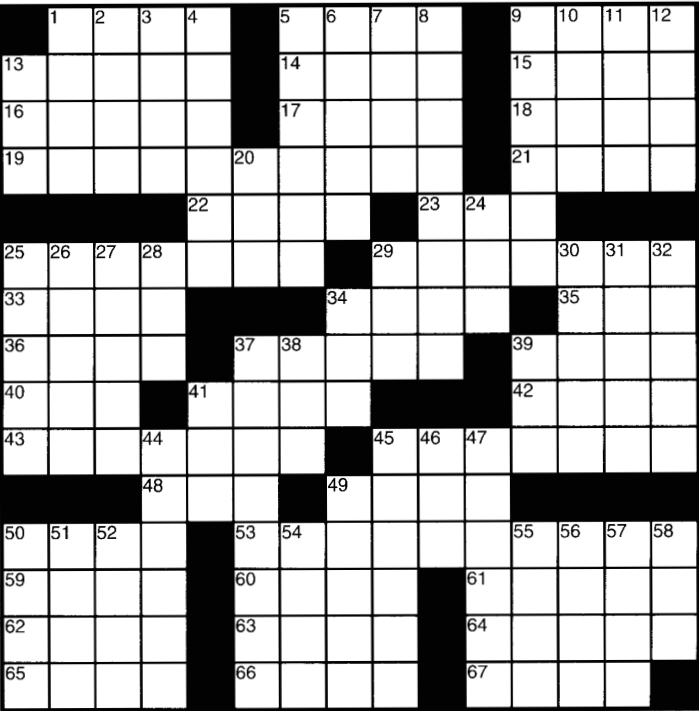
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Early planning can ensure smooth path to graduation

"Graduate,"
Cont. from page 1

Some students are delayed because they haven't transferred credits they may have received from other colleges.

Students who are ready to graduate but have also accumulated hours from another college need to make certain all of the hours are accounted for.

"A student has four weeks after enrolling at OKCCC to have their grades transferred before they will be counted towards graduation during that semester," she said.

Then, there are students who procrastinate until the last minute and miss the application deadline.

Cornelison said deadlines cannot be extended.

For instance, students who have enough credit hours to graduate in May must apply for graduation before Feb. 4.

"Often students come in and want to apply after the deadline, but once the list is sent in there are no additions."

Cornelison said students need to start thinking about graduation early in their college careers.

She said before a student can graduate, an appointment must be made with the Credential Analysis office.

"At 45-hours, the student should apply for graduation," she said.

OKCCC counselor George Maxwell said counselors are also able to help students determine where they are academically.

He recommends all students meet with an academic adviser.

"Students who work closely with an adviser find graduating more efficient and quicker.

"However," he said, "a sizable percentage of stu-

dents try to be their own adviser."

Maxwell said students who self-advise may not keep good track of the credits they have, resulting in confusion about when they are eligible for graduation.

Maxwell said sometimes students find out that they are eligible and weren't aware of that fact.

Public relations major Emily David said she met with Maxwell and found out she was much closer to graduating than she realized.

David only needed 18-hours to graduate but thought she needed much more.

"Since I followed their advice, I will graduate a semester early," she said.

OKCCC student Mike Thomas thought he would be graduating this month.

"I've been going to OKCCC off and on now for five years," he said.

"Last semester I applied for December graduation and found out I was still going to be three hours short."

Maxwell said all students should keep up with their hours, even those who have taken some time off from school.

"Students who have not been in school lately often just drop in to touch base or to have questions answered," he said.

Maxwell said, during the fall 1998 semester, 7,954 people came to the student development department to speak to one of the six full-time counselors.

During this same period counselors received 3,335 phone calls.

That's more than 10,000 students and potential students being advised.

Maxwell said there are plenty of people to handle the flow.

Six full-time counselors and 10 part-time counselors each put in six to 30 hours a week.

Holiday pounds can be avoided

By Misty Cornelius
Newswriting I Student

With the holiday eating frenzy only half-way behind us, it is still not too late to begin watching what we eat.

The holiday season may seem like one non-stop food feast, but staying in control can be simple.

On their website at www.eatright.org the American Dietetic Association (ADA) suggests being honest with yourself by realizing you cannot change the past.

Then, move on into the future keeping in mind eating healthful is for life, and the holidays are just one part of that.

Once your mental attitude is intact, the ADA said, pull out the Food Guide Pyramid and use it to plan meals.

The food guide pyra-

mid is a table of suggested serving sizes of each of the food groups a person needs each day to maintain a healthy diet.

The groups and their recommended servings are:

- Breads, cereals, rice and pasta - 6 to 11 servings

- Fruits - 3 servings

- Vegetables - 3 to 5 servings

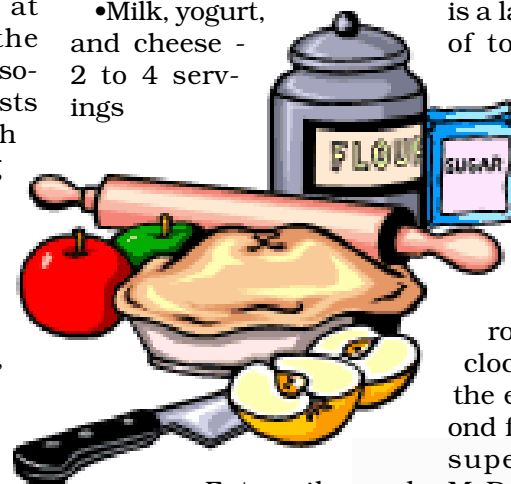
- Meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs, and nuts - 2 to 3 servings

- Milk, yogurt,

- and cheese -

- 2 to 4 serv-

- ings



- Fats, oils, and sweets - use sparingly

Other suggestions when planning meals are:

- Choose smaller portions of high calorie foods and in-

crease fruits, vegetables and whole grains.

- Use leftovers or serve smaller amounts. Leftover creamed dishes can be the start of soups or casseroles. Leftover meat or turkey can be stretched by mixing it with pasta, rice potatoes, or vegetables.

Overall, it is very important to one's health to eat right.

What individuals eat is a large cause of many of today's serious illnesses such as heart disease and cancer.


There are those who get the car's oil changed every 3,000 miles and

rotate the tires like clockwork, then take the elevator to the second floor while eating a supersized order of McDonalds fries.

For more information on eating right, call ADA's Consumer Nutrition Hot Line at 1-800-366-1655.

Get into the

Holiday Spirit



Climb aboard the Holiday Spirit

and enjoy the Festival of Lights

at the Myriad Gardens and

Stockyards. This December,

Metro Transit makes the rounds

every evening after 6.

Route Info.
235-RIDE

another service
provided by

