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PIONEER

Construction project snarls college traffic

By Michaela Marx
Editor

Construction work on May Avenue may have added a few extra minutes to the time it takes to get onto the OKCCC campus.

When completed, the \$3.1 million facelift will have widened May Avenue into five lanes, said Derek Jackson, engineering manager of the project. The fifth lane will be a left turn lane.

The project, that started

"The best bet is to enter the property on 74th Street. This way you'll avoid the construction totally."

—Keith Bourque
OKCCC Director of
Campus Safety
and Security

March 1 and will continue through the middle of September, has temporarily transformed May Avenue, between SW 84th and SW 64th, into a two-lane road.

Supervised by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, the construction starts just south of SW 79th and goes northbound to SW 64th.

The goal is to provide turn lanes in that area of May Avenue.

Jackson said, when construction is finished, there will be a middle lane that, hopefully, will prevent traffic jams because of those stopping and waiting for

oncoming traffic to pass in order to turn left.

"In the area between SW 84th to 64th traffic can get very congested," he said, "because of cars turning into the college or Braum's."

The middle lane will be a left turn lane in front of the college entrance, as well as other frequently used sites Jackson said.

When the actual widening process on May Avenue starts traffic might be even more impeded than it is now, said Jackson.

The construction crews are currently working on the roadside of the college installing water lines and storm sewers to improve drainage, Jackson said.

He said ODOT will inform the college in advance when the roadwork will drastically affect traffic.

While the construction is under way students are advised to plan extra time for their ride to school in order to avoid getting stuck in traffic and arriving late for class.

Keith Bourque, director of campus safety and security, said another idea is to avoid the construction all together.

"The best bet is to enter the property on 74th Street," Bourque said. "This way you'll avoid the construction totally."

The project is scheduled to last 200 calendar days.

OKCCC Vice-President for Business and Finance Gary Lombard said he is hopeful the construction in front of the college will be completed by August before fall classes start.



Photo by Ryan Johnson

And the winners are... Rebecca Iman, left, and Kathy Collins were both winners in the recent Student Art Show. Iman won first place in graphic design for a book cover "The Hiding Place." Collins won first for an oil painting titled "Lady Cleaning an Old Amish Church."

Outstanding college students to be recognized at ceremony

By Dena Drabek
Newswriting I Student

Outstanding students will be awarded April 21 for their academic and extracurricular activities as recognized by the faculty and staff.

Professors were responsible for nominating potential students for the

awards. Academic deans will present the awards.

Approximately 18 President's Awards of Excellence, 11 Honors Graduates, 36 scholarships, 39 certificates of achievement, and 16 certificates of appreciation will be awarded that evening.

Staci McPhearson, director of student life, said students should be proud of their accomplishments.

"The awards ceremony offers us a chance to formally recognize student success," she said.

Recipients of the awards were notified by mail.

The 24th annual student awards ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. in OKCCC's general dining area. A reception will follow at 8:30 p.m. in the college union.

The office of Student Life is coordinating the event.

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

No one will inherit the earth if we don't change our ways

April 22 is Earth Day, a day dedicated to establishing national awareness about the scary shape Mother Earth is in.

According to all predictions, the planet is going down the drain and our great-grandkids will probably never know about wildlife, blue skies and home-grown foods.

You may be wondering what this has to do with you? After all, you might be saying to yourself, I don't litter, don't operate a stinky, smoking factory.

However, many are unaware of the everyday acts that can earn a person the distinction of being environmentally wasteful.

We all love conveniences such as disposable dinnerware, cars, instant water at the turn of a handle and much more. All these things contribute to destroying or depleting the planet.

However, it's easy to help make this world a cleaner, nicer place — one step at the time.

If all people would bring non-disposable cups from home, the need for plastic bottles and styrofoam cups would be eliminated. Trashed throwaways will still exist in one form or another in 1000 years.

If all students would take notes on recycled paper fewer trees would be felled for paper production.

Carpooling or even using a bicycle to commute would eliminate a great deal of pollution.

Sometimes, a busy schedule does not allow time for home-prepared food so a stop at a fast food place seems to be a good solution. There, you're given a paper or plastic cup, one or two paper boxes or bags and plastic ketchup bags. All this goes in the trash and, in the long run, contributes to pollution and the eventual downfall of the planet.

People often drive to a convenience store around the corner instead of walking a few feet. Walking would not only prevent air pollution, but also help people stay in better shape.

Water is another resource people believe is unlimited — especially singles who may turn on the dishwasher for two plates and a fork.

People also often let the water run in the kitchen and the bathroom while searching for soap, toothpaste and other toiletries. Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or wash your face. Not only will you save on the water bill, you can feel good about not wasting water.

Yes, we all are guilty of doing these things and more. If everyone takes even one step toward changing these bad habits, that small action will contribute to a better, cleaner environment and this planet may just stand a chance after all.

—**Michaela Marx**
Editor

Census 2000 needs helpers

To the Editor:

Greetings!

On behalf of the thousands of people working together to make the Census 2000 program a success for our state we would like to thank all people who did their civic responsibility by filling out and mailing their Census 2000 questionnaires.

For the households and individuals who did not respond we ask for your cooperation in ensuring that you get counted in this very important census count. Beginning April 24, census workers will begin the largest peacetime effort in American history. They will be following up on the households that did not respond.

We are asking you to encourage your clients, friends, relatives and anyone you come in contact with to please cooperate. If you are interested in partnering with the Census 2000 program by posting fliers or posters we may

"People who are interested in working flexible hours during the day, evenings and weekends please contact me..."

—**Jeronimo Gallegos**
Census 2000

provide you with them.

This enumeration will take only a few minutes, but will count for the next 10 years. All census workers will have a Census 2000 badge to identify them as they visit non-respondent households.

Finally, we are still hiring many people — in particular bi-lingual individuals — to assist in this operation. People who are interested in working flexible hours during the day, evenings and weekends please contact me toll-free at 1-888-325-7733

Let's all work together in ensuring that we have a better future for Oklahoma.

If you have any questions please contact me toll-free at 877-240-2927, then press for voice mail option

2 or e-mail me at: census
jero@yahoo.com

—**Jeronimo Gallegos**
Census 2000
**Oklahoma Community
Partnership Specialist**

PIONEER

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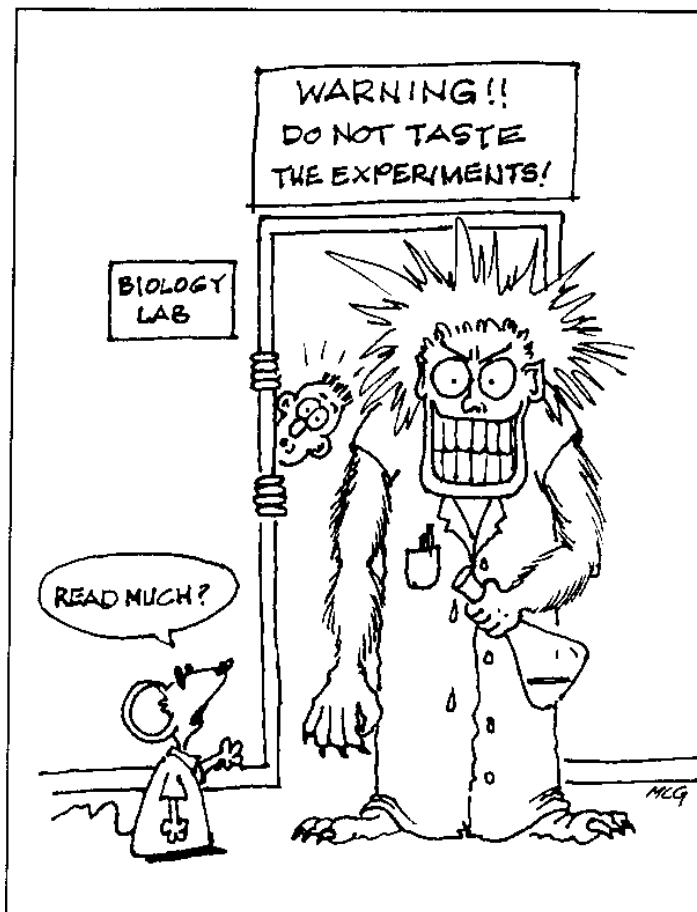
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STRAIGHTJACKET By: M.C. Garey



Read the Pioneer at www.okc.cc.ok.us

Comments and Reviews

'Open Plains Originals' allow students to shine

Students writing and staging their own plays was the basis for the production "Open Plains Originals" April 5 through 8 in the college library.

Director Melanie Scott collected six 10-minute plays written by students. The plays were designed to allow students to gain experience in writing and staging.

The first three plays were "radio shows" allowing the actors to focus on vocal quality and characterization.

The final three plays were staged, focusing on physical actions and reactions.

Each play was based on real-life events or situations people experience in the world, allowing the audience to be more familiar and understand what was going on.

There were two plays which stood out in my mind — "Test" by Jennie Martinez and "Strangers" by Kalisa Renee. Both mixed great comedy with drama.

Actors Christian Anthony and Leila Janloo really caught my eye with their acting abilities.

All six plays were brilliantly staged by the students.

They showed the talent possessed by both actors and actresses. Each one stood out from one another. They all had distinct qualities that made them shine.

Overall, "Open Plains Originals" was a hit.

Both director Melanie Scott and the actors should be proud of their accomplishments.

—Chad Pittman
Newswriting I Student

Convenience store TOTAL experience for customers

A freshman college student needs just three basic means to survive their first year of college: a good watch, fried meat on a stick and gasoline with fuel additives.

Why the fuel additives? Dirty fuel injectors and carbs are bad.

Freshmen also need a place to belong but that's another topic altogether.

I have found everything I need at the TOTAL convenience store north of OKCCC on May Avenue.

They have ice cream, fried burritos, a fountain machine and STP fuel additives. They have eggrolls and apple juice. They also have a variety of gold watches with warranties.

Every item is easily consumable, considering my purchasing power.

The atmosphere gently takes one away to a faraway land. Pleasant chimes greet you as you enter and windows in all directions reveal a cornucopia of life.

The store is spacious and clean, revealing a certain simplistic serenity usually only found at the rising of the sun.

Candy is plentiful and the newspaper rack is located in a convenient location.

Everything seems to be where it belongs.

Although my time there was limited to three minutes, I felt like I was at home during my stay at the TOTAL convenience store. Each minute was like a day in paradise.

—Vu Vu
Staff Writer

Have a story idea?
Have a complaint?
Want to share your opinion?
e-mail the editor:
editor@okc.cc.ok.us

Serious-minded role players find 'Ultima' computer game

"Are you with us?"

That is the company Origin's slogan and my answer is a resounding "Yes!"

Origin is the creator of the popular line of computer games called Ultima.

This game has been around for 17 years; it's as old as the Commodore 64. (For those of you who don't know, that's an ancient computer made for the first home consumers).

Now, Origin has gone all out.

Not only can you play Ultima by yourself on any of the many personal games available, but you can play online in real-time

(that means 'live') with thousands of other players all over the world.

If I were asked to compare Ultima to another game, I would compare it to Dungeons and Dragons RPG because the game offers almost endless options. That is unlike many other RPGs that have a storyline you must adhere to.

Players get to make their own adventures, choose the groups they want to belong to, or even go it alone.

Simply put, this game is the master of all role-playing games on the planet.

If I were inclined to give this game a rating, it would definitely get a 5 out of 5, but it is beyond rating. It is that good. Go out and buy your copy today.

You'll have to spend \$15 on the software, then there is a monthly fee of \$10 for the Internet hook-up to the game. You can find the software at any store that sells computer games.

—Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer



'American Beauty' comes out smelling like roses

Everyone who has not yet seen "American Beauty" should invest in a ticket to the movie.

It is the story about the character study of a normal — well, maybe not quite normal — American suburban family and their strange neighbor and the weird friends of their kids. Well, I guess they are normal after all.

Actors Annette Benning and Kevin Spacey, who won the Best Actor Academy award for this performance, are a couple whose marriage has lost all its spice.

She has an affair with her real estate competitor and he lusts after his daughter's best friend.

Their teenage daughter is disgusted by her parents behavior and isolates herself from them.

The next door neighbors on one side are a happy homosexual yuppie couple. A family with a tyrant father and a voyeuristic son

moves in next door on the other side.

This mixture develops into an explosive compound that ultimately results in someone's murder.

The movie is beautifully crafted and has great special effects such as the famous roses that appear throughout the movie. Editing techniques that give the movie a whole different look from unusual Hollywood films.

The unusual storytelling also makes the film special.

Overall I would say "American Beauty" has personality, just like each of its characters.

Go see it now, while it is still playing in theaters.

You don't want to be the only person in America who has not yet seen "American Beauty."

—Michaela Marx
Editor

Sexually transmitted diseases need to be discussed

By Michaela Marx
Editor

They have strangely exotic and scary names such as chlamydia and gonorrhea. No one wants to talk about them and most people try to ignore their existence.

Yet, sexually transmitted diseases are no longer only the problem of alternative lifestyle minorities, but a highly under-recognized health threat for all.

In Oklahoma, the group most at risk are teens and young adults ages 13 to 29, according to information from the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

April is recognized as national Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month.

This time is dedicated to bringing the subject out of hiding and promote aware-

ness about STDs.

Fifteen million Americans become newly infected with STDs each year, state Planned Parenthood statistics indicate.

The Oklahoma Commissioner of Health Dr. J.R. Nida said some STDs are curable, but many people do not know that. When infected with STDs, the risk to become infected with HIV increases because of an increased susceptibility to the virus.

Many people are also not aware of the facts surrounding STDs. Knowledge can help prevent mistakes that can ruin somebody's life forever.

According to the Planned Parenthood website, rates of curable STDs in the United States are the highest among all countries in the developed world.

Considering all the national safe-sex campaigns, the U.S. STD rates should

have declined. Instead, the rates are up for all STDs other than syphilis and gonorrhea.

Planned Parenthood said there are also myths associated with STDs.

For instance, women are often wrongly accused of being the "carriers." The risk is equal among both genders.

However, women — who make up approximately 50 percent of all STD cases — often suffer more severe long-term and more frequent consequences than men.

Women can pass on STDs to their children during pregnancy, childbirth breastfeeding or close contact. As a result, spontaneous abortions, stillbirth, premature delivery, low birth weight, blindness and mental retardation can occur, according to Planned Parenthood.

One of the first STDs

“Some STDs are curable, but many people do not know that. When infected with STDs, the risk to become infected with HIV increases because of an increased susceptibility to the virus.”

—Dr. J.R. Nida
Oklahoma Commissioner of Health

that comes to mind for most is AIDS.

The Planned Parenthood website said, as of 1998, 688,200 Americans reported having AIDS and 410,800 have died from AIDS since 1981.

The largest percentage of people with AIDS has always been among the age group 25 to 44.

It is the fifth leading cause of death in that group, the seventh leading cause in the age group 15 to 24 and the ninth leading cause of death among the 5- to 14-year-olds.

Nida said increasing awareness and abstinence

are both important factors in lowering the percentage of young Oklahomans with STDs.

For more information, call the National STD Hotline at 1-800-227-8922, or the local health departments.

Organizations such as Planned Parenthood are also a good source for information. Call Planned Parenthood of Central Oklahoma at 528-2157.

For OKCCC students the Office for Student Development can help out with contacts and information. Call Mary Turner at 682-1611, ext. 7535.

Knowledge and protection key to STD safety

By Michaela Marx
Editor

Sexually Transmitted Diseases are more common than one might think. Everybody hopes to never be confronted with the problem; however, knowledge and protection are the best defense.

(Information obtained from Planned Parenthood, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Public Health Division website of Victoria, Australia)

•HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)
HIV can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

Cause: The virus attacks cells of the immune system.

Signs: HIV often has no signs for up to 10 years. It is usually detected through testing. Signs can include weight loss, persistent tiredness, night sweats, persistent diarrhea and swollen glands in the neck, armpits and groin.

When HIV turns into the deadly AIDS most common signs are shortness of breath, persistent dry cough, red or purple skin lesions and fatigue over a long period of time.

Treatment: There is presently no cure. Combination therapies in early stages of the disease show success to prolong life with the virus.

•Chlamydia
It can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease (PID)

in women and non-specific urethritis (NSU) in men.

Cause: A bacterium called chlamydia trachomatis.

Signs: Often there are no signs. In women there may be extra vaginal discharge. Women with PID might experience pain in the lower abdomen or fever. PID can damage fallopian tubes and can lead to infertility.

Treatment. If detected early antibiotics may help. PID may require hospital stays. Men experience pain or possible sterility.

•Genital herpes:
Cause: Herpes simplex virus.
Signs: Clusters of blisters on the genitals, sometimes it is painful or comes with flu symptoms.
Treatment: It is not curable. The virus stays in the body. It can break out again. Drugs that make life easier are available.

•Gonorrhea:
Cause: A bacterium called Neisseria gonorrhea.
Signs: In both, men and women, pain when urinating. For men it occurs with white or yellow discharge from the penis. In women it can lead to PID. It can lead to sterility in men.
Treatment: Antibiotics, but some strains are resistant against penicillin.

•Hepatitis B
Cause: The Hepatitis B virus infects the liver.
Signs: In extreme cases it destroys the liver and causes death. Common signs are yellow skin, fever, loss of appetite, tiredness and pain in joints.
Treatment: There is no cure. The outbreak will

eventually rest, but there might be complications later in life such as liver cancer and cirrhosis. There is an effective vaccine for Hepatitis B to prevent the disease in the first place.

•Parasites Amoebiasis and similar conditions:
Cause: Microscopic parasites such as amoebas.
Signs: Persistent or recurring diarrhea.
Treatment: Antibiotics

•Pubic Lice or Scabies
Cause: Infestation by lice or mites.
Signs: Itchiness in hairy body parts.
Treatment: Shampoos and lotions are widely available.

•Trichomoniasis
Cause: A parasite called Trichomonas vaginalis.
Signs: In men there are rarely any signs. Women might experience yellow discharge from vagina, smell and itchiness.
Treatment: Antibiotics

•Genital Warts
Cause: A virus called human papillomavirus.
Signs: Small painless cauliflower-looking lumps on genitals. It is possible to have the infection without developing signs, but spread it to others. For women the infection increases risk for cervical cancer.
Treatment: Freezing, chemical painting, laser and diathermy are used.

Contestants get crazy at Olympics



Above: The Psychology I team put their all into a Tug-o-War competition.

Left: Raelynn Marshal stuffs her face with marshmallows in the Big Mouth contest.

Below:(l-r) An unknown contestant, along with Raelynn Marshal, Joel Mann, John West IV and John Huggins prepare to let the games begin. Michelle Perry, background left, and Kelly Thompson, far right, cheer on the teams.



By Michaela Marx
Staff Writer

About 30 contestants got together on a sunny afternoon to determine the winners of the tenth annual Crazy Olympics on April 7.

In the end, the overall "victory" ribbon went to the Lazy E team, made up of members from the Engineering Club.

A tie breaker had to be held between the Lazy E team and the Scrubs from the Health Professions Club who, ultimately, ended up taking second place. Third place overall went to the team Psychology 2.

Team Gravy from the Drama Club and Psychology 1 rounded out the team rosters.

"I think this was the best Crazy Olympics in a long time," said Mike Jones, coordinator of campus activities.

"It gave the students a chance to blow off some stress and have some fun in the sun."

Six games were played in order to determine the overall winner.

In the Big Mouth contest the contestants had to put as many marshmallows as possible in their mouths. The Scrubs and Gravy shared first place in this contest with the representative from both teams each putting 40 marshmallows in their mouths, said Jones.

The Time Trial Trivia Relay was a hit. Jones said it combines knowledge and a wheelchair race.

"It is like 'Who wants to be a Millionaire,' except without Regis and the money," Jones said. The Lazy E took the win there.

Other events were a volleyball tournament, which was won by the Scrubs; Spin-the-Bat contest, won by Psychology 2; Egg Toss contest, won by the Scrubs, and Tug-o-War, which The Lazy E team won.

The Crazy Olympics have a long tradition at OKCCC. In 1990 the Campus Activities Board sponsored the first games, said Jones.



Above: John Huggins checks out the back of a Crazy Olympics shirt worn by a teammate.

Photos by Julie Dye

Senator began Earth Day in 1970 to raise pollution awareness

By Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer

"For many years prior to Earth Day, it had been troubling to me that the state of our environment was simply a non-issue in the politics of our country," Senator Gaylord Nelson told Earthday.envirolink.org.

Nelson, the founder of Earth Day, felt that the issue of our planet's future was of no importance to the government.

"Our goal is an environment of decency, quality and mutual respect for all other human creatures and for all other living creatures. An environment without ugliness, without ghettos, without discrimination, without hunger, without poverty, without war," Nelson said.

Nelson came up with an idea, in 1962, that would put the world's environmental problems in the limelight of the media and politics.

"The idea was to persuade President John Kennedy to give a national visibility to this issue by going on a nationwide conservation tour, spelling out in dramatic language the serious and deteriorating condition of our environment," Nelson said.

Kennedy agreed and went on a five day tour in late September 1963.

The tour didn't succeed in making the environment an issue in politics.

In 1969, Nelson had an idea on how to put the issue into the political arena.

"At that time there was a great deal of turmoil on the college campuses over the Vietnam War," Nelson said.

"Protests, called teach-ins, were being held all across the nation. In a speech in Seattle in 1969, I announced there would be a national environmental teach-in in the spring of 1970. The response was dramatic."

The idea of the teach-in was to get a nationwide demonstration of concern for the environment. It was a great success in permanently forcing the issue onto the political agenda.

"It was a gamble, but it worked."

An estimated 20 million people participated in demonstrations all over the country.

"The people cared, and Earth Day became the first opportunity they had ever had to join in a nationwide demonstration to send a message to the politicians."



Sen. Gaylord Nelson

Earth Day, every day in home of biology prof

By Kathi Etherton
Staff Writer

Although only one day a year is celebrated as Earth Day, Tony Stancampiano, a professor of biology, keeps the idea alive year-round in his home.

"I have a big trash can thing that I use for recycling. I can fill two of those up. Sometimes I even have to request another one to get it all," he said.

"Some would call it anal retentive, but not really," he jokes.

Recycling is not the only way to help, Stancampiano says can help. Another thing he says that individuals can do is simply pick things up and keep the earth clean.

"The most important thing is education. We need to teach young kids that

picking stuff up is good."

In Stancampiano's house, not only are cans and bottles recycled, he also tries to reuse everything. This includes clothes.

"I try to reuse instead of recycle. At least until it is worn out.

"I receive clothes for my kids and then we pass it on," he said.

He emphasized the idea that one person can help even if it doesn't seem like two hands can make a difference.

"People think that one person can't do anything, but one person can make a big difference.

"We need to cultivate the attitude that we can make a difference."

In order to increase awareness in his students lives, Stancampiano is taking his students out to Kerr Park on April 13 for Earth Day 2000.



Tony Stancampiano

He said that instead of having a lecture and a lab, he is taking students downtown to show them what they can do to help the earth and how to reduce air pollution.

"People not fighting pollution is due to laziness," Stancampiano said.

"We need to break the cycle and teach kids to help."

Earth Day celebrations nationwide

Around the globe, different ways to help the earth

By Vu Vu
Staff Writer

Earth Day 2000, April 22, marks the 30th anniversary of the day set aside for pollution awareness by Earth Day Network, based in Seattle. This year's theme is "Clean Energy for a New Era."

After 20 million original activists celebrated the initial Earth Day in the United States in 1970, 500 million people from all over the globe will participate in Earth Day 2000.

"People are more conscious on recycling," said Accounting Professor Connie Nieser.

From Antarctica to Australia, from North America to South America, from

Europe to Asia, Earth advocates will clean pollution, block streets from cars, protest polluting companies and inform the public on environmental goals.

In Egypt, 500 people climbing at sunrise will light 2000 candles on Mount Sinai's winding stone steps at sunset.

In Antarctica, the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASCO) will pick up discarded fishing debris.

In Indonesia, 60,000 people will join hands in honor of Earth Day 2000.

In Sydney, Australia activists will block streets from cars.

In Tokyo, Seoul and Hong Kong, vehicles will be barred from cities on Earth Day.

In the United States,

hundreds of communities will celebrate with music, fairs and education.

In Washington DC, celebrities such as Clint Black, Leonardo DiCaprio, Carole King, Keb 'Mo' and James Taylor will appear at Earth Fair 2000. DiCaprio will be the chair for the event.

In Boston, music-lovers and conservationists will watch concerts at the Charles River Esplanade performed on a stage powered solely on renewable energy sources.

In California, more than 100,000 people will attend festivals at local campuses, zoos, forests and beaches.

Even on a more local scale, students, faculty and staff at OKCCC have planned ways to help the environment.

"I plan on recycling all of my newspapers and plastic containers," said Chris Gray, OKCCC student.



Bombing memorial set to open on 5th anniversary

By Ryan Johnson
Staff Writer

April 19, 1995 is a day that will live in the memory of many Oklahomans and citizens of the world alike.

It is the day that terrorists attacked the United States, specifically Oklahoma, bombing the Alfred P. Murrah building and claiming the lives of 168 children and adults.

Now, five years later, the memorial is being finished and will be dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives.

The design for the memorial started shortly after the bombing, and competition was open to the public of

all 50 states and 23 countries. Over the course of a few months, 624 designs were submitted and a panel made up of families, design professionals, and local civic leaders narrowed the choices to five designs.

A new panel was then appointed to choose the winner of the five designs. The panel consisted of 15 people: eight family members and survivors, three local leaders, and four design professionals.

"It was a juried process. There were 624 designs submitted and the public



tive.

The new memorial will be built on the three acres of land that was once occupied by the Murrah building.

"The design is timeless, preserving the sense of loss shown by the chairs in the actual footprint, the spirit of the change in the water and the hope the survivor tree gives those who come

here," said Robert M. Johnson, Chairman of the Memorial Foundation. When one reaches the entrance of the memorial, they come to a gate that reads "9:01."

They are drawn through the memorial complex, "9:02," that consists of 168 empty chairs, in remembrance of those who died.

The design will consist of 168 chairs placed on the same location that the Murrah building once stood. Each chair will be inscribed with the name of one who died.

The chairs will be arranged in rows of nine, symbolizing the nine floors of the building.

A reflecting pool will replace a section of nearby

5th Street.

The Survivor Tree, which survived the blast, will be surrounded by a low circular wall engraved with each of the survivor's names.

At the end of the memorial stands the final wall, "9:03," a symbolic gesture that you had just gone through and experienced what the victims went through and experienced.

The memorial will be open and dedicated on the morning of April 19 to the family members and survivors of the bombing.

The public dedication will be at 5 p.m. the same day.

If you have any further questions or need more information, call Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation at (405) 235-3313.

Student narrowly escaped tragedy by about an hour

By Vu Vu
Staff Writer

Emotions and memories play back as the official dedication of the Oklahoma Bombing Memorial nears, five years after the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building April 19.

Student Marcus Mizzell, 26, was a sophomore at the University of Oklahoma and an assistant teacher at Norman High School April 19, 1995.

Scheduled to get his Social Security card at



Photo by Edgar Martinez

10:30 a.m. in the federal building, Mizzell received a phone call from his mother.

"My mom called me and told me not to go because the building blew up," Mizzell said. "That's what spooked me. If this had hap-

pened an hour and a half later, that could have been me."

He later went downtown to look around at what he had seen on the news.

"The buildings looked like they had been shot up, like in Beirut.

"After you saw one person carried out bleeding, you were numb," Mizzell said.

Later in the day at 12:50, Mizzell went to Norman High to teach a media class.

"The loudest and most obnoxious guy in the class stopped talking for the rest of the year," Mizzell said. "His father died."

Five years later, Mizzell returned to the site as a part of the media for Fox News 25.

"We shot it as they put together the reflection pool. There were flags where the chairs were going to be," Mizzell said.

Where were you when the bomb exploded?

Photos by Kathi Etherton



"I was in Bethany getting my daughter ready for school. I was watching Regis and Kathie Lee, it had just started. It sounded like thunder, but when my husband left that morning it was a clear day."

—Gaea Atkinson
OKCCC student



"I was in 8th grade at Yukon Junior High. I was in the gym when it went off, but I couldn't feel it. I found out three hours later in my fourth hour."

—Tiffany Chancellor
OKCCC student



"I was in downtown at a hotel eating breakfast and a picture fell off the wall. We were walking back to our room and everyone was in someone else's room so we stopped and they had the news on."

—Krista Milaszusky
OKCCC student



"I was in my British Literature class at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. They interrupted our class and told us. Two people from my high school class died."

—Greg Daubenspeck
OKCCC adjunct professor



"I was in 8th grade. My friend's uncle was one of the first officers on the scene."

—Nikie Harris
OKCCC student



"I was in my high school drama class. We didn't feel the bomb explode. At first we didn't believe what we were being told."

—Stacia Roybal
OKCCC student



"I was in high school. We couldn't hear it, but one of the teachers' husband's called on the phone. I was really emotional. I was really mad. I didn't understand why [this happened]."

—Rachel Cheatwood
OKCCC student

Bake sale to aid scholarships

By Carrie Reichenbach
Newswriting I Student

Abilities Galore will be hosting a bake sale April 21 on the first floor of the main building outside the student store.

Meredith Dunkeson, president of Abilities Galore, said the proceeds from the sale will go to a scholarship fund for club members.

"We are going to have really good tasting food," she said. "We always receive great responses to the treats we sell."

Members of the club will be making homemade snacks such as cookies, cakes, and cinnamon rolls to support the scholarships which are awarded to about two students every year. The Abilities Galore club may be able to award three scholarships this year if sales are exceptional.

Josh Hansen, vice-president and secretary of Abili-

ties Galore said the scholarship "is awarded to an active member of our club who has helped out with most of our activities."

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Mentoring program offers college students chance to share knowledge

By Dena Drabek
Newswriting I Student

College students will soon have the opportunity to impart some of their wisdom to younger students by working or volunteering as tutors and mentors.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education has funded \$300,000 in seed money to encourage public and private universities to take part in the America Reads and America Counts programs.

The two programs are devoted to the improvement of reading and math skills for students in grades one through nine by way of adult tutors and mentors.

The Regents' funding will help meet the cost of providing the training and administrative infrastructure required within each participating institution.

OKCCC, along with six other institutions, has

made a request for funding to begin building an infrastructure for the America Reads and America Counts programs.

The funding is for an 18-month period. The first six months will be used to develop the program.

"Implementation is scheduled for fall 2000," said Annmarie Shirazi, OKCCC dean of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness.

She said the process of getting the program started is currently under way.

A part-time coordinator for the program is needed, she said, but after the position is filled, interested students can vie for the other 15 positions available.

J.P. Johnson, director of Early College Awareness and grant administrator, said college students should apply for those spots.

"OKCCC students who are looking forward to a

"OKCCC students who are looking forward to a career in education, have college level reading and math skills, would like to gain valuable work experience, receive tutor and mentor training, and would like to provide service to their community will particularly benefit from this program."

—J.P. Johnson

Early College Awareness Director

career in education, have college level reading and math skills, would like to gain valuable work experience, receive tutor and mentor training, and would like to provide service to their community will particularly benefit from this program," she said.

Students with the appropriate reading and math skills may become involved as a paid workstudy tutor and mentor or as a volunteer tutor and mentor.

To be eligible for pay, students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid and indicate an interest in workstudy.

Those who are awarded workstudy should then pick up their authorization form and notify Dudley Freeman, OKCCC director of staff development, so they can be added to the pool of applicants.

Those who do not qualify for workstudy can apply to be volunteers.

All applicants must submit to background checks, screening and interviews.

Those selected to participate will be notified by mail or phone this summer.

The program coordinator will facilitate training and assignment to schools in the fall.

No limits on spring fashions

By Laura Roberts
Newswriting I Student

The smell of fresh flowers and spring air has arrived.

Toss away those bulky sweaters and faded blue jeans, and step into the newest fashion for springtime.

Jamicia Davenport, employee of Gil's Contemporary Clothing Store in Oklahoma City, said the seasonally warm weather is the perfect excuse to don get-ups printed with gingham and floral patterns and polka dots.

"Color is the key to the season," she said. "It used to be mainly black and white but pinks, turquoise and jewel tones are the colors being worn now."

Davenport said short pants, animal print bags and shoes are also the craze.

She added that, when going out on the town or heading to class, items from gingham tops to pastel knee-length dresses are always a winner.

Three-quarter sleeve blouses are in for the long-haul, Davenport said, and may be worn in any season.

Beaded handbags and fringed, angled skirts are also in vogue she said.

She said the main point to remember is: when your look needs a renewal, start with what is comfortable and go from there.

Christian, folk customs create Easter traditions

By Tara Picek
Newswriting I Student

April 23 marks a day of celebration around the world — Easter. The holiday is observed in many different ways by several cultures and for most, signals the arrival of springtime activities.

For many religions, Easter Sunday represents a Holy and sacred time, the day that Jesus Christ arose from the dead.

The Encyclopedia Britannica defines Easter as the principal festival of the Christian church year, celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after his crucifixion.

The origin of Easter dates to the beginning of Christianity and is the oldest Christian observance after the Sabbath.

Originally observed on Saturday, then later on Sunday, the Sabbath subsequently came to be known as the weekly celebration of the resurrection.

Eighth-century Anglo-Saxon priest, Venerable Bede, derived the name from the spring goddess Eostre.

The website, www.4easter4anything.com contains a lot of information about Easter traditions. According to information at the site, many folk customs are based on the Christian observance of Easter.

Many of the customs have been handed down from

ancient ceremonials and symbolisms of European and Middle Eastern pagan spring festivals, and combined with the resurrection theme. These customs have taken a variety of forms.

For example, eggs, formerly forbidden to be eaten during Lent, have been viewed as prominent symbols of new life and resurrection.

The hare — the symbol of fertility in ancient Egypt — is another example. Hares are found in Europe but not in North America. Americans have replaced the symbol of the hare with the Easter bunny rabbit.

The Easter bunny is a symbol of fertility and new beginnings. We associate the Easter bunny with laying eggs (often brightly colored and decorated) in nests, otherwise known as Easter baskets. We add the tradition of hiding the eggs for children to find.

Younger children seem to love Easter most of all. They get to color and hunt the eggs and some are lucky enough to get gifts and baskets filled with candy and surprises.

Five-year-old Chloe Reid of Norman opened her big blue eyes wide and lifted her small hands in excitement as she described what Easter day will hold for her.

"I get to wear my new purple dress on Easter," she said. "I'm going to dress up for Jesus so he knows how much I love him and I am going to fill my basket full of all the eggs I can find."



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Highlights

Activities on campus for Jesus Awareness Week

A guest speaker and worship band will be on campus as part of Jesus Awareness Week Rally sponsored by Baptist Collegiate Ministries and Chi Alpha at 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m., April 20. The rally takes place on the stages in front of entry 5 (Arts and Humanities Building). Popcorn and candy will be on sale with all proceeds going to missions work.

Future Teacher Scholarship applications available

Scholarship applications are now available for future teachers who plan to teach in a shortage area. The deadline is May 5. Contact the Office of Prospective Student Services at 682-7580.

Literary and art journal to debut

A reception for the writers and artists whose work has been published in Absolute 2000 will be held at 12:30 p.m. April 27 in the area CU1 of the Main Building. Critic's Awards will be presented and readings of published works will be given by the authors. Refreshments will be served.

Learn about Kiowa culture and music

A Brown Bag lunch is scheduled at 11:30 p.m., April 18 in CU8. Guest speaker Dr. Cornel Pewewardy from the University of Kansas will present a lecture about Kiowa music and culture.

Brown Bag Lunch addresses E-Commerce

Questions about E-Commerce will be answered from noon to 12:45 p.m., April 26, in CU3. Guest speaker Dr. Randy Goldsmith, President of Oklahoma Technology Development Corporation and Executive Director of Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center, will be lecturing about the subject.

Veterans meeting on campus

Dennis Jackson will be at OKCCC from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 18, 19, 20 in room CU4. He will answer questions concerning Chapter 31 benefits. For more information call 682-1611 ext. 7694 or 7695.

Register to vote

Voter Registration Forms are available in the Student Life Office and in the Services to Students with Disabilities Office. All students are encouraged to pick up a voter registration form today. For more information stop by at the Student Life Office.

Occupational Therapy Assistant program

Applications for the Occupational Therapy Assistant program will be accepted until noon on May 12 in the Admissions and Records office. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Gowdy at 682-7528.

Summer tuition fee waiver deadline nears

Summer tuition fee waiver applications are available at the Student Financial Aid Center. All applications must be turned in to the financial aid center by 5 p.m., April 21.

Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday. Items that are turned in by deadline will be considered for publication first.

**Call us with your club news!
682-1611, ext. 7676 or 7675**



Photo by Ryan Johnson

From left to right: Indonesian students Ivan Adrian and Dhewandarin Ninditawati, along with Japanese students Chiaki Rikimaru and Eri Ishimine belong to the campus club Helping International Students. All of them say they benefit from the camaraderie of the club.

International students find support through organization

**By Amy Perkins
Newswriting I Student**

What do movies, education, freedom and friendliness have in common?

For four international students, those words represent the best things the United States has to offer.

Life in a foreign land is a challenge, especially when you're only 19 and thousands of miles away from a familiar face.

Such is the case for Chiaki Rikimaru, Eri Ishimine, Ivan Adrian, and Dhewandarin Ninditawati — all international students attending OKCCC. They are experiencing the difficulties and struggles, along with the wonder, of living in a new country.

An organization specifically designed to meet the needs of such students — Helping International Students — has been formed.

H.I.S. is a group set up to provide assistance to international students attending school in Oklahoma.

Their goal, stated on the front of their brochure is "Offering help and friend-

ship to international students in the OKC area."

Randy and Mary Hill head the organization. By answering questions, supplying English tutoring, providing transportation and even temporary housing if needed, the Hills demonstrate their desire to serve young people.

Bi-monthly meetings on campus provide a means by which international students can come together from their culturally diverse backgrounds to support and encourage one another.

At the last meeting April 3, the students talked about the benefit of the program in their lives.

A young lady from Kenya led the group in an informal discussion about Japan, the homeland of members Rikimaru and Ishimine.

In Japan, the two said, young girls are preferred in business jobs. Once a woman reaches the age of 25, she is expected to quit her job and get married.

At the close of the meeting, four of the members stayed and answered questions about their perspectives of the United States.

When asked what they missed most about their country, Rikimaru and Ishimine said Tatami (a traditional Japanese carpet made from grass) and the beach in Okinawa.

For Adrian and Ninditawah, both from Indonesia, music and tropical fruit are missed.

Since Oklahoma does not have mangos readily available, Braums and Burger King suffice for favorite foods.

They all agreed the most difficult things to adjust to have been drive-in restaurants, overweight people and casual atmosphere in the classroom.

For many international students who come from structured environments, the relaxed air of the classroom is surprising.

Ninditawah said with wide eyes, "People actually have their feet on the table and are allowed to bring drinks in during class!"

All four said they like it in the States and agreed that they feel the education they are receiving makes America—both the good and bad parts—completely worth the adjustments they're having to make.

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: '87 Toyota Camry LE Sedan, 4-Cyl., auto, A/C, power locks/windows, tilt wheel, cruise, leather interior, alloy wheels, and AM/FM Cass. 153K miles. Asking \$3,000. Call 799-2815 for more details.

FOR SALE: Beautiful '94 Olds. Cutlass Supreme, 2 door, power locks/windows, rear spoiler, one owner. 71K miles, \$8,000 OBO. Call 692-0177 for more details.

FOR SALE: '96 Isuzu Hombre XS, silver, 4 cyl, 5 spd, A/C, AM/FM, split bench, 37K miles. \$7,200 OBO. 524-9707, pager 539-4068.

FOR SALE: '87 Isuzu Trooper, 4x4, 4-door, A/C, white, new brakes, excellent condition. Asking \$2,200. Leave a message for Suzana at 330-0731.

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43 — down: move like an eagle
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47 Admirer
49 Glamorous wraps
50 "Shine On, —": old musical
54 Miniature, as a

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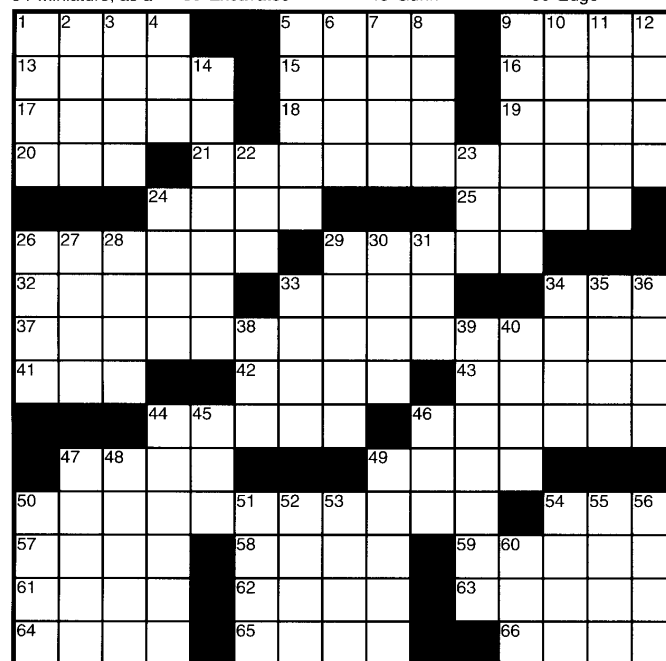
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Donate blood for clothes and food

By Sarah Goldner
Newswriting I Student

The Campus Activities Board will be sponsoring a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 26 and 27 in room 3 of the College Union.

CAB members said the goal is that 80 people will each give one pint of blood in a process that takes approximately 30 minutes.

This is the third blood drive to be held at the OKCCC this year.

Sixty-five people gave blood at the last blood drive in February while 86 people gave blood at the September blood drive.

The Oklahoma Blood Institute suggests that everyone who wants to donate increase their fluid intake 24 hours beforehand as well as eat breakfast the day of the event in order to assure a better experience.

All donors will receive a free T-shirt as well as cookies and juice.



Traffic turmoil temporary



Photo by Ryan Johnson

Shown is the construction area in front of the college on May Avenue. At this point, crews are installing water lines and storm sewers to improve drainage. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is heading up the project which will eventually add a center turn lane to May Avenue. Work is expected to end in September.



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MATH 2213 940

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It is the student's responsibility to confirm with an advisor the applicability of a course to his/her degree program. Eligibility for enrollment in courses listed above is subject to admissibility to the University of Oklahoma and satisfaction of prerequisites when applicable.

For registration and course information contact OKCCC-OU office, 682-7569 (located in Main Building near Campus Safety & Security Office), or the University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education, 325-2891.



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