

- Drivers! Please. editorial, p. 2.
- Volunteers look for missing student, p. 6.
- Help for domestic violence, p. 7.
- Club to help out elderly, p. 10.

# PIONEER



Photo by Ashley Martin

**Search party:** Phyllis Switzer talks to crews from FOX and KWTU. On Nov. 17, about 20 people met in parking lot A at OKCCC to begin searching drainage ditches and wooded areas surrounding Cinnamon Square Apartments, where missing Japanese student Mayuko Kawase lived. The group also combed the OKCCC grounds. See page 6 for story.

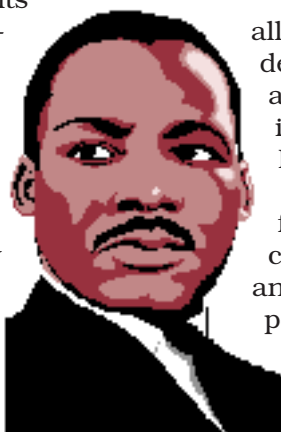
## College plans to observe Martin Luther King Day

Administration says it's time to join other public schools in honoring freedom fighter

By Ashley Martin  
Staff Writer

In the nearly 30 years since OKCCC first opened its doors, classes have always been held on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. That tradition will change Jan. 21, 2002, when, for the first time, classes will not be held so students and faculty can celebrate the birthdate of the late civil rights leader.

Dr. Paul Sechrist, provost and vice president for academic affairs, said the idea was sug-



gested by faculty and students. "We felt it was time to join the increasing number of colleges and public schools that are honoring Dr. King by not having classes.

"Not having classes allows interested students and faculty to attend activities held in the city honoring Dr. King."

Sechrist said the feedback he has received from students and faculty has been positive.

He said although classes are not being held Jan. 21, the college still will be open.

## Admissions office open with records

Student's personal request met in timely manner

By Ashley Martin  
Staff Writer

The admissions office is chock full of information on the students who attend OKCCC. Home addresses, phone numbers, classes in which a student is enrolled, and many other personal and educational tidbits are housed there.

How much of that information are students entitled to?

A couple of weeks ago, when I requested my personal files from the financial aid office, I had much success. I decided to try my luck in admissions.

Although they didn't score as well as the financial aid department, overall, my trip to admissions and records was a pleasant one with

just a couple of exceptions.

When I approached the attendant at the admissions and records counter and told her what information I was seeking, she seemed a little perplexed.

I guess asking for everything they had with my name on it was a little overwhelming. I'm sure the admissions office has more information on a typical student than the financial aid office does.

The admissions and records department also does not have request forms for students to fill out, while financial aid did.

Instead, I was asked to write my name, address, phone number, student ID number, and a brief ex-

See "Information," page 12

## Early retirement incentive offered to college employees

By Mark Stack  
Editor

For faculty and staff members pondering retirement, the OKCCC Board of Regents approved a measure that should make that decision a little easier.

Nov. 12, the Board of Regents approved the Early Retirement Incentive Plan during its regular monthly meeting.

Larry Robertson, human resources director, said, through the measure, the college hopes to entice those who are eligible for early retirement to do so.

"It's an opportunity for those who are already thinking about retirement, to give them something to help them out as they make that decision," Robertson said.

The added incentives include a one-time stipend of one percent of the employee's current salary multiplied by the number of years worked at OKCCC.

That would be paid in a single lump sum in the employee's final paycheck.

Eligible employees also would be given a \$105 monthly reduction on their current health insurance program, with the employee paying the remaining amount of the required premium.

The reduction would last until either the employee reaches the age of 65 or death.

Robertson said for employees to qualify, they must be eligible to retire through the Oklahoma Teach-

See "Retirement," page 12

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Stupid cars, stupid drivers

Every time I venture out on the road I'm reminded of how any idiot can get a license.

I could go on and on forever about all the stupid things people do when they're driving.

So, I've decided to use this editorial to vent all my bottled up anger concerning Oklahoma drivers.

Some of the simplest acts like merging on the highway can seem like rocket science to some imbeciles.

I don't understand what is so difficult about merging on the friggin' highway. All you have to do is look over your shoulder to make sure no one is in your lane and then glide onto the highway.

The key is to make sure your foot remains on the accelerator at all times.

I hate when people brake while trying to merge on the highway unless it is deemed necessary. If the oncoming traffic on the highway is too congested than it is pertinent for drivers to yield.

So many people drive like they own the road without giving any consideration to other drivers. It is dangerous when people aren't cautious and alert while merging on the highway.

Another thing that really gets my blood boiling is when people get in the fast lane on the highway and only go 40 miles and hour.

According to the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety, the left lane is designated as the pass lane. State law states that anyone driving at speeds that are less than the maximum allowed speed should drive in the right hand lane.

There is no purpose of having a fast lane if it's going to be patrolled by grandma drivers.

It's even more frustrating when you try to pass these fools and they all of a sudden speed up.

What is that all about?

It's obvious these people don't want to drive fast. They just want to prove who is the "bigger" person.

On the same token, it is annoying when people feel the need to pass you but once they're in front of you, they slow down.

Something else that rubs me the wrong way is when people choose to ignore right turn signals.

It is so irritating when the right arrow is green and the car in front of you decides to wait until all the lights on your side turn green.

Either some people are totally oblivious or they were never taught that a green arrow means go.

People need to start opening their eyes and be more observant of their surroundings.

When you think about it, driving is just about using common sense but some people can create a challenge out of anything.

If people would just start using their heads and keep focused on the road, then the roads would be a lot less hazardous.

—Kat Mohr  
Staff Writer

## United Way extends time to donate

### To the Editor:

This year's annual United Way campaign had to be extended due to a lack of donations.

As both a board member and an avid supporter of United Way, I cannot stress to you enough how important it is to meet the fund-raising goals.

Funds sent to United Way help Oklahomans.

In fact, one out of every three Oklahomans are helped by a United Way

agency each year.

For instance, 67 Oklahoma health and human service agencies receive critical funding through this great organization.

To assure you that proper care is taken with your precious donations, each of the 67 agencies are audited every year by KPMG.

The amazing part is that all of this is done with one of the lowest overhead costs in the country for nonprofits.

Please join me by sending in just a little extra help this year to really make a difference in Oklahomans' lives.

Donations can be made to: United Way, P.O. Box 837, Oklahoma City, OK, 73101.

—Stuart Earnest Sr.  
Oklahoma County  
Commissioner

## Parents cautioned to check toy safety

### To the Editor:

The annual State Public Interest group report "Trouble in Toyland" highlights potential hazards of toys found during a survey of stores in October and November.

PIRG cautioned consumers about toy hazards in five categories: choking hazards including balloons, toxic chemicals, hearing loss hazards, scooter dangers, and purchasing toys on the Internet.

PIRG also identified toys that do not have manufacturer information, which makes it difficult for consumers and government officials to identify and recall unsafe toys.

The annual PIRG report, on the web at [www.toysafety.net](http://www.toysafety.net), has resulted in more than 100 recalls and other enforcement actions in the last 15 years.

—Martha Collar  
Safe Kids Coalition

[WWW.KANIAMANIA.COM](http://WWW.KANIAMANIA.COM)

by Chris Kania



Nightmares of obsessive personalities

[www.okcccpioneer.com](http://www.okcccpioneer.com)

## PIONEER

Vol. 30 No. 15

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All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. However, the PIONEER will withhold the name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

Letters to the editor can be delivered in person to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to 682-7568.

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

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



## Comments and Reviews

### A Diamond good for one night

He may be 60 years old, but he's still a diamond.

Neil Diamond came rumbling through Oklahoma on his "Mission of Love" tour during the Thanksgiving holiday, Nov. 23.

Diamond, who had spent Thanksgiving in Oklahoma with his family, was in a glorious and upbeat mood which the audience picked up on right away.

The jam-packed Myriad crowd was delighted with Diamond's opening song "America" as the huge American flag on stage ascended to the roof with Diamond standing tall on stage.

Diamond strapped on the guitar to strum a few notes from his hits "Red Red Wine" and "Solitary Man."

Diamond then performed his hit "Girl, You'll be a Woman Soon" as he serenaded a beautiful young woman in the front row while singing. Floor seats didn't allow us to see what exactly Diamond was up to.



After he was finished singing his heart out to the lovely woman, Diamond asked the audience if anyone had a cigarette.

Diamond had a lot of fun playing to and with the audience all night long. It is obvious Diamond cares about his fans, and cares about putting on the best show possible for them.

Diamond remarked early in the show to a man with binoculars that "binoc-

ulars are allowed, but not when you're sitting on the second row."

"There's nothing I can hide from that close," Diamond said.

He then performed "You Don't Bring Me Flowers," with Linda Press, his long-time backup singer.

Diamond and Press shared a passionate kiss toward the end of the song, giving the audience a taste of romance on stage.

Diamond said how much he loves doing that song-and-kiss routine, considering Press is married to Diamond's bass player.

Although Diamond showcased a little more dancing in his 1997 concert in Norman, he surely didn't disappoint the capacity crowd by performing all his hits.

He may be getting up there in age, but he's still got what it takes to drive the ladies wild.

—**Mark Stack**  
Editor

### Kline saving grace in 'Life is a House'

If you knew you only had a few months to live how would you spend your last days?

When George Monroe, played Kevin Kline, realizes he is dying of cancer, he decides to take charge for the first time in his life.

Through the years George has had his fair share of ups and downs.

He lost his wife and son to divorce and wasted 20 years of his life at an unfilling and thankless firm as an architect.

It wasn't until he was fired from his job and diagnosed with cancer that George began to appreciate life to its fullest.

George decided to spend his last few months building his dream house while also mending the shattered relationships in his life.

After living such a disappointing life, he wants to build something real.

George demands that his son Sam, (Hayden Christensen), live with him in the plumbing-challenged shack on his property, as he tears down his old house and replaces it with the new.

George's plan is to rekindle his broken relationship with his son plank by plank.

Sam is your typical bitter and confused teenager who goes out of his way to rebel against his parents' wishes.

At first Sam refuses to help his dad with the house but eventually he comes around.

Soon, George's neighbors and much of the town become involved in his project.

Even George's ex-wife, (Kristen Scott Thomas) offers a helping hand.

In the last few months of his life, George was able to accomplish all his dreams.

George not only leaves a bittersweet legacy, he also reconstructs his life before dies.

Kline does an excellent job in this film.

His outrageous and outwardly performance can make you laugh and cry at the same time.

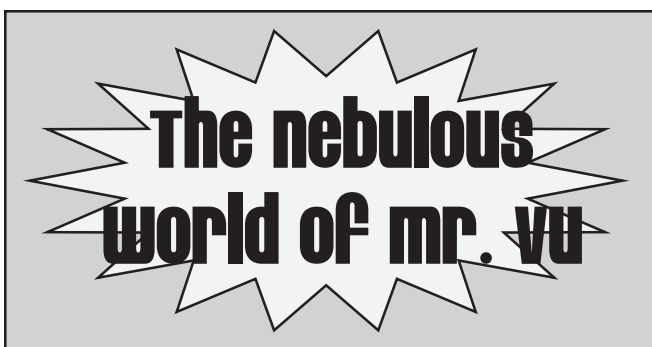
There are some unnecessary scenes in the movie, though, that seem too much like "American Beauty."

For instance the neighbor's daughter out of nowhere decides to jump in bed with George.

This scene is totally unexpected and makes no sense at all.

This movie has a powerful and sentimental message but without Kline's humor, this movie would be nothing.

—**Kat Mohr**  
Staff Writer



### What a trip it's been

Heck, I've got some time to kill, so let's reminisce about the nebulous world of Mr. Vu this year. In January, I became editor of the Pioneer and got to see some of the inner workings of the college, like the formulation of the college's yearly budget.

Then in the summer, I went to Washington, D.C. for the Environmental Journalism Academy, all by myself. To my surprise, my mom arranged a limo to pick me up at the airport, which was neat because my first ride in a limo came right after my first ride in an airplane.

I was chauffeured to India House Too, a youth hostel where I spent my first night. It's not every day that a limo drops off an Asian Okie in front of a youth hostel. When I got on top of my bunk bed made out of wood thinner than my wrists, the bed broke and I re-enacted a scene from the Three Stooges, awakening five other fellows and a young lady behind a curtain.

While exploring D.C. at midnight in the middle of the week with people from South Africa, Denver and Jersey (they leave out the "New"), we saw a guy walking into a dark, abandoned store. He waved us in and offered us Corona beer. I declined because I was scared and do not drink alcohol. It turned out that he wasn't crazy, but an activist using the abandoned room to paint a banner for a children's march that weekend. Public education in our nation's capitol, I learned, is different than here.

I met journalism students and activists from all over the country and learned that money talks louder than actions and words. I also learned that there's a trash transfer station in the middle of a poor, mostly black neighborhood, and that there were no trash transfer stations in the middle of affluent, mostly white neighborhoods. My last night there, I went to a bar/bookstore/restaurant and shared a \$5 strawberry smoothie with a young lady, the closest to French kissing I have ever been. I rode on a train, a subway and a cab, all first times.

In August, I went to Six Flags with friends. It was my first non-adult-supervised trip, and my second airplane ride in less than three months. In Dallas, waiting at the bus station, with all my possessions on my back, I watched pigeons fight for a pizza crust while a man was being arrested for public intoxication (there is a hint of symbolism here). For someone who had never flown or taken public transportation, I experienced quite a bit this year.

Then Sept. 11 happened.

Finally, I got an internship reading Oklahoma business news on Gospel AM 890, which is neat because I'm not a big talker.

This has been a crazy year, so crazy that, using my power as Mr. Vu, I have decided that 2001 is now over. Good riddance and HAPPY 2002!

—**Vu A. Vu**  
Staff Writer

# Apply early for physical therapist program

**By Emily Jaworsky  
News Writing I Student**

With only 20 open spots in the program, competition is fierce for students interested in the physical therapist assistant program at OKCCC.

The PTA program is headed by Professor Peggy Newman, who was recently the 2001 recipient of the Oklahoma Physical Therapy Association, (OPTA) founders award.

A physical therapy assistant works with patients to try to gain or regain mobility. PTA's work with the physical therapist who

evaluates the patient and decides what kinds of therapy need to be done.

"We want the patients to be as functional as they can," said Debby Fowlkes, who graduated from the program in May and is now working at the outpatient physical therapy department at Deaconess Hospital.

The PTA program is difficult to get in to. Each year the program chooses 20 students from numerous applications.

The program has had as many as 200 people apply. Although only 28 people applied this past year, Newman said she expects

the numbers to be much higher for the upcoming year.

"I have had tons of calls from people wanting to know about the program," said Newman.

Applications are available in November and due in by March. The selection of the students takes place in mid-April. Applicants are selected by the preference point system.

Along with their applications, students have to turn in their ACT scores, overall GPA, and/or, letters of recommendation from a physical therapist they have worked for or observed.

Alternates may be notified to take the place of those who have been accepted but decided not to start the program. These alternates can come in up to the first week of school.

**"I have had tons of calls from people wanting to know about the program."**

—Peggy Newman  
Physical Therapy Assistant Professor

"After that it gets too hard to catch up," said Newman.

Every year the new class elects class officers who will remain officers for the next two years.

President of the 2002 Class, Carrie Doerksen, talked about what an honor it is to be accepted into the program.

"I was excited and anxious. It's a great program," said Doerksen as she recalled her feelings when she found out she had been accepted to the program. "I was a little fearful to start something new, but I was excited."

After the students finish the program, they have to take the state license exam before they can work. In the past few years, OKCCC has averaged about an 88 to 92 percent first time pass rate, and a 100 percent retake pass rate. Almost all go on to have full time jobs, said Newman.

"I love my job, it's very rewarding," said Fowlkes.

"The school did an excellent job preparing us.

"It is an awesome program and it is an honor to have graduated from the OKCCC PTA program."

## Give that essay a chance to shine

**By Ashley Martin  
Staff Writer**

Any students who are interested in writing and would also like the chance to win some cash should enter the annual essay contest sponsored by the OKCCC Department of English.

Mary Punches, English professor at OKCCC and organizer of the event, said she encourages students to participate in the contest for several reasons.

"Students have to write essays for their English classes anyway, so they may as well take the time to fill out the form and enter the contest," she said.

The winner of each category will win \$100.

"A student could win \$200 if they enter both categories," Punches said.

The categories are English Composition and

Composition and Literature. Students may enter both categories, but they may only submit one paper per category.

Students must also have been enrolled in the English classes during this year.

Punches said winning the essay contest would be an accomplishment to have on a résumé or on college applications of students intending to transfer to a four-year college.

"Even law schools are looking for good writers, so it doesn't hurt to try," she said.

For more information about this year's essay contest, contact Mary Punches at 682-1611 ext. 7634 or by e-mail at mcpunches@okc.cc.ok.us.

Students may also obtain information from their own English instructors.

Entry forms with contest rules are located on the table outside the Arts and Humanities office.

## Cultural Awareness series continues with Uruguay trio

**By Megan Moore  
News Writing I Student**

A tango concert by the Trio Montevideo chamber music group of Uruguay will be performed on campus Dec. 4.

The College's 2001-2002 Cultural Awareness Series continues with the performance scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday in the OKCCC theater, said Melissa Vincent, assistant to Manuel Prestamo, Cultural Awareness Series coordinator and Global Education Dean.

Ticket prices for the event are \$7 each for general admission, and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

The concert is to be preceded by a free public lecture, "The Arts in Uruguay," at 1:30 p.m. Tues-

day afternoon in Room 1H5 in the college's Health Technologies Center, according to OKCCC's Cultural Programs and Community Development website.

The music for Tuesday's performance will be a variety of standard and non-standard selections of South American classical tango music pieces, including a piece composed by the trio's own cellist, Gerardo Moreira.

The performance of the planned musical pieces is estimated to last just under an hour, said Moreira.

The two other members of the trio are Victor Szilagyu on the violin and Julian Bello on the piano.

The trio, discovered by Prestamo while he was living in Uruguay several years ago, has received

critical acclaim internationally and in Uruguay since their formation in 1987.

The press in Uruguay has repeatedly hailed them as the best chamber music group in that country, according to the group's press biography.

Season tickets are still available at a discounted rate for all Cultural Awareness Series events, said Vincent.

Season tickets are \$25 each for the general public, and \$16 each for students and senior citizens.

To purchase event and season tickets or find further information on the events in the series, people can visit the Cultural Programs and Community Development website at <http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/globaled> or call the department at 682-7579.

# Computer lab affords great view of city

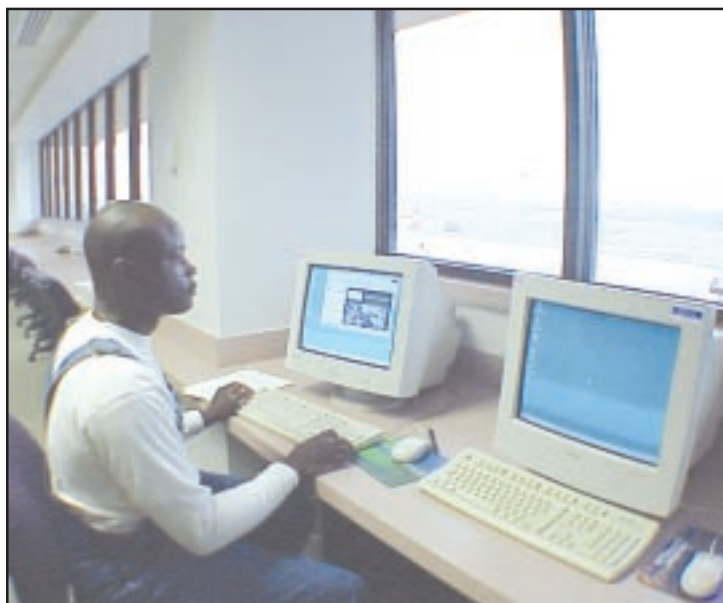


Photo by Kat Mohr

OKCCC student Pasiyana Kahuni takes a break from working on the computer to admire the city-wide view from the new computer lab located on the third floor of the college library.

**By Jennifer Iler**  
**News Writing I Student**

The new home of the college's computer lab has an asset uncommon on campus — windows to the outside world.

"I love the view.

"In the morning you can see the sun coming up and it is just beautiful," said acting Dean of Information Technology Al Heitkamper.

Student Steve Coffelt agrees.

"The view gives someone

something different to look at other than the computer screen or the people around them. It's relaxing."

A panoramic view of south Oklahoma City is something everyone enjoys when entering the new lab.

The computer-aided design lab also resides on the third floor of the library.

Heitkamper said now that the labs share the same space, lab attendants can help the students more effectively.

The labs house a total of 90 computers, with 20 more on order, he said.

"The new area is much larger and able to handle the abundance of computers more comfortably."

New computer tables also are something students are glad to see.

The tables keep students spread throughout the room, giving them more space to work.

"The students now seem to be more productive," Heitkamper said.

Student Kenny Lankford agrees.

"It gives you a lot more room to work and is a lot more personal."

## 'Everyman' a great play for everyone

**By Jessica Mayhugh**  
**News Writing I Student**

Theater-goers will get an age-old message that still carries value today when OKCCC's theater department presents "Everyman" in December.

Theater professor Ruth Charnay said the classic piece is being presented in an interesting way.

"We're going to take an old-fashioned play and present it in such a way that students will understand and enjoy its meaning, which is still as impor-

tant today as it was 500 years ago."

"Everyman" is described by Charnay as a medieval morality play. Charnay also is the director of the play.

Showtimes are at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 6 through 8.

The Dec. 6 show is a student preview, with free admission to students and faculty members.

A Sunday matinee also is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Dec. 9.

Admission for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday shows is \$5 for adults and \$4 for students.

For more information, call 682-1611, ext. 7558.

## Students celebrate Ramadan

Worldwide, more than one billion Muslims observe the holiday

**By Vu A. Vu**  
**Staff Writer**

When student Yaser Dorri and his friends go out, they usually get something to eat. But, for about one month each year, Dorri refuses food and even water from sunrise to sunset because of his faith.

"When I go out with my friends during Ramadan, they don't understand why I can't eat," Dorri said.

During the ninth month of the Persian calendar, which is based on lunar cycles, more than one billion Muslims worldwide celebrate Ramadan.

This year, Ramadan began on Nov. 16, the day after the new moon appeared on Nov. 15.

Ramadan will continue until the next lunar cycle begins with a new moon the following month.

Ramadan moves backwards, according to the western January-through-December calendar.

Next year, Ramadan will be in October. The year after that, Ramadan will occur in September, again, always one day after the new moon.

"Summer is hardest because the days are so long," Dorri said. "Winter has the shortest days."

Although abstaining from food and liquids from sunup to sundown characterizes Ramadan, the Muslim holiday mainly focuses on being closer to God,

Dorri said.

He said Ramadan is a time for Muslims to abstain from worldly distractions and to concentrate on God.

Mohmamed Momenian, a friend of Dorri, said although Islam teaches them that things like cheating, deceit and temptation are wrong, Ramadan exclusively targets these actions.

"Muslims are supposed to restrain themselves from any wrongdoing," Momenian said.

During the day, Muslims must refrain from eating or drinking.

However, Dorri said, the Koran, the holy book of Islam, allows people who are sick or pregnant women to consume food and drink liquids.

After the sun sets, Muslims are allowed to break their fast.

Usually, said Dorri, dates are eaten because they are low in cholesterol and healthy.

Muslims usually prepare food in the night and eat before sunrise to prepare for the day, he said.

According to Islamic tradition, boys begin fasting for Ramadan at age 15, whereas girls begin fasting for Ramadan at age 9.

"We believe girls mature earlier than boys. [The ages reflect] they are mature enough to choose their own religion," Dorri said.

A sick or pregnant Muslim will not eat in front of other Muslims during Ramadan, Dorri said.

"It's disrespectful."

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# Volunteers search for missing Japanese student

**By Ashley Martin**  
Staff Writer

Volunteers from the University of Central Oklahoma and OKCCC gathered on a chilly Saturday morning to search smelly ditches and thorn-ridden brush for any sign of Mayuko Kawase.

However, no sign of the Japanese student, missing since August, was found.

On Nov. 17, about 20 people met in parking lot A at OKCCC to begin searching drainage ditches and

wooded areas surrounding Cinnamon Square Apartments, where Kawase lived. The group also combed the OKCCC grounds.

Phyllis Switzer, a member of the American family Kawase lived with when she first moved to the United States, organized the search.

She said although the search did not result in any clues about Kawase's disappearance, she felt it was still a success.

"In my mind, [the search] was successful because we did not find a dead body, and because we got

[Kawase] into the news again," Switzer said.

KOCO, KFOR, KWTU, and KTOK were on hand at the college covering the event for their evening broadcasts.

"[As a result of the coverage] I've had people come up to me since the search and ask me if she's been found," she said.

Students from the Japanese Student Association and the Asian American Student Association from UCO, as well as volunteers from OKCCC, participated in the four-hour search.

Barbara Anamar, an em-

ployee of UCO, was one of the volunteers.

Anamar said she didn't know Kawase personally, but said she had read a story about the search in UCO's student newspaper, the Vista, and felt the need to help.

"I have children," she said. "I can't imagine what her parents are going through, being so far away, so I did this to help them."

Switzer said a private investigator should be hired to find out what happened to Kawase. She said the only setback to hiring one is a lack of funding.

Switzer said she would like to see a fund-raiser organized to raise the money, but she doesn't feel emotionally ready to organize one herself.

"I would be happy to help with one though, just not be in charge of it," she said.

Switzer said anyone who wants updates on the investigation should e-mail her at okiemom2000@hotmail.com

"I would like to thank everyone who showed up on a cold, rainy day to help make the search possible." I appreciate everyone who helped out," she said.

## Growth seen in all Oklahoma colleges, universities

**By Vu A. Vu**  
Staff Writer

It's getting a bit more crowded in Oklahoma college classrooms.

A report from the State Regents for Higher Education states 169,485 students enrolled in Oklahoma colleges in the fall 2001, 4.6 percent more than last year.

Locally, OKCCC students broke the college enrollment record this fall when 10,320 students enrolled.

In a press release, Higher Education Chancellor Hans Brisch said a reason for the growth may be due to Brain Gain 2010, a plan to increase the number of Oklahomans with bachelor's and associate degrees by the year 2010.

Math and history adjunct Professor Christopher Gehringer said the cause for the jump in enrollment was probably monetary.

"When there are economic hard times, people go back to school," Gehringer said.

J.P. Johnson, director of Early College Awareness, said programs such as GEAR-UP, Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, may not have caused the significant rise

in enrollment, but may impact college enrollment numbers in the future.

GEAR-UP is a mentoring program for seventh graders that continues until they graduate from high school, with hopes that students will be more inclined to attend college.

Johnson said OKCCC's GEAR-UP program reaches 2,000 youngsters each year.

She said the first crop of GEAR-UP students is currently in the eighth or ninth grades and may have passed on information about more ways to pay for school to older college-bound siblings or parents, which may have increased enrollment numbers.

Johnson said GEAR-UP students tell family members about the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program, or OHLAP, a scholarship for which eighth to tenth grade students are eligible if their parents make less than \$50,000 a year.

Harold Case, dean of Student Financial Support Services, said 43 students who received the OHLAP scholarship attended OKCCC last year.

Case said the number of OHLAP students this year has already met the mark of last year's number.

He expects another in-

crease this spring as students transfer to OKCCC from universities, or students who decided to hold off college until the spring semester enroll.

He expects the number of OHLAP students to increase in the coming years, citing the program's benefits.

Bryce Fair, State Regents assistant vice chancellor for scholarships and grants, said since the program started for the 1992-93 school year, 22,000 students have enrolled.

He said 15,000 students are still in high school.

In the past, parents of students must have made less than \$24,000 to be eli-

gible. Since then, the State Legislature approved increasing that amount to \$50,000.

Fair expects the number of OHLAP enrollments to increase now that parents' income limit has increased. There is a greater number of students whose families fall into the \$50,000 income range.

His projections show more than 20,000 students enrolling in the program during the 2007-08 school year. About 11,000 students will be eligible for scholarships, Fair said.

Currently, about 60 percent of students in the program qualify for scholarships after graduation, said

Fair. Of the 60 percent, 80 percent choose to remain in the state.

Although the program requires a 2.5 GPA, Fair said, students who graduate from the program leave with GPAs and ACT scores higher than the 2001 state average of 20.5 and the national average of 21, even though ACT scores are not required by OHLAP.

Student's improved academic performance is why the legislature increased funding to OHLAP every year, Fair said.

Fair said students who qualify for the scholarships but leave the state for college aren't eligible to receive the OHLAP scholarships.



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# Domestic violence help available on campus

Getting away from the abuse only the beginning, experts say

By Amanda Rogers  
News Writing I Student

Each Monday, Terri Hartman, representative of the Young Women's Christian Association or YWCA, is available on the OKCCC campus to provide counseling for people who are victims of abuse, drug and alcohol problems.

However, the main focus of the program is domestic violence.

"We especially try to encourage counseling because domestic violence is a long-term issue," Hartman said.

"Many people think once they are out of the abuse, that's it, they don't have to address any issues.

"Getting away from the abusive situation is only the beginning, so we certainly encourage counseling," she said.

She said the program is designed to be convenient for busy students and working mothers.

The women in the program are expected to put in a certain amount of school hours as well as work.

"It's difficult for them to get to the services," Hartman said.

"I'm a service coming to them, so it helps."

The program is also meant to make the women feel comfortable she said.

Hartman said under no circumstance are the women who seek help required to say anything.

She stresses that there is no shame in asking for help. If the women choose, they can just listen to the group and talk to a counselor at a later time.

The YWCA not only offers group sessions, but also individual sessions.

The number of women who attend the sessions varies quite a bit. If it is a day when Hartman meets only with individuals, she



speaks to a total of about 10 women in that day.

"It just depends on the needs at that time," she said.

Hartman believes her program has been very successful. She has plans to refer some of the women who have approached her to different counselors.

Hartman said she has helped about 20 women since she started working for the YWCA several weeks ago.

The program has been at the college for five months.

"I really feel like it's helpful to them," she said.

The program also offers dental work and medical needs at a reduced cost.

"To me, dental work comes with the abuse because there are so many women that have teeth knocked out or loose, have not had access to the finances or family to be able

to pay for good dental care," Hartman said.

To bring financial relief to these women, Hartman is trying to get some different organizations to do the dental work at reduced cost.

She has managed to reach a few organizations to help out with the dental care, as well as with the vision problems these women sometimes have.

"It's hard to get your life back in order when you can't see very well.

"You know [the women] are going to work, going to school, doing what it takes to get their lives back on track.

"If they can't see well, that's really going to hold them back," she said.

The YWCA program does try to meet all the needs of those who ask for help. They work very hard on repairing psychological damage done to these women as

**"Getting away from the abusive situation is only the beginning, so we certainly encourage counseling."**

—Terri Hartman  
YWCA

well.

"We really want to help make their lives better," Hartman said.

One of the women, identified as "Jane," lived at the shelter for two and a half months. She said it was very helpful to her.

"I was at the shelter for domestic violence," she said.

"There were regular meetings not only for domestic violence, but for alcohol issues as well.

"Today, I no longer live at the shelter. I now attend the meetings with Terri on Mondays."

The shelter is a very organized facility. There are curfews for both adults and children.

The curfew for adults is 10 p.m. on weekdays, and midnight on weekends.

The curfew for children is 8 p.m. every night of the week, including weekends.

"The shelter is not without rules and discipline. This really helps everyone get their lives under control," the former resident said.

Members living at the shelter also can feel safe with the security measures

taken to protect them.

Codes are used to enter the building and visitors are not allowed, especially male visitors.

"If someone is to pick you up from the shelter, they have to meet you at least two blocks from the shelter," Jane said.

"No family can visit, and if you have to leave for a funeral or some such function, you have to request the time away," she said.

The YWCA also teaches responsibility. If residents are going to be late for curfew, they have to call. They also have to call to reserve meals, since the shelter actually cooks for them.

"It is in their policy to cook for the people that stay there. Some shelters don't do that. This one does and it's nice," Jane said.

As for whether it is good for the women to continue friendships after they leave the shelter, that is left up to them.

"The shelter does not intervene as far as friendships are concerned. They leave that up to the women themselves," Jane said.

The YWCA leaves this decision to the women because some of the women are constantly on the run from their abuser.

Hartman said they run from state to state at times, so it depends on how safe they feel.

The YWCA is very focused on helping out anyone who needs it.

They want to show everyone there is another life to be had, one with independence and without violence.

For more information about the YWCA program, contact Terri Hartman at 946-9587.

## YWCA making holiday wishes come true for families

By Amanda Rogers  
News Writing I Student

The Young Women's Christian Association, YWCA, has special plans for the holidays.

Terri Hartman, counse-

lor for the YWCA, said she has high hopes for her plans.

"We want to adopt families for the holidays," Hartman said.

The reason for this newest service is to give families the chance to experience a great holiday.

"These women and chil-

dren have been through so much," she said. "The program is designed to help them realize how great life can be."

Organizations interested in participating with the YWCA's service or in finding out more about this program, call 946-9587.

# History prof paves way for discussion style

**By Joseph R. Seals Jr.  
News Writing I Student**

Dr. Ron Gray teaches his American History classes at OKCCC differently from many other history professors.

He has discarded the traditional system of doing homework so students can memorize facts for the test.

Gray has developed a system all his own for making sure students learn the material.

One major feature of his classes, Gray said, is that they are discussion based.

Rather than grading students based on whether they did their homework and did well on their test, Gray's classes are conducted in a "discussion style where the students take no written tests."

Gray said he gives his students reading assignments.



**Ron Gray**

As the students do the readings, they take notes on what they read.

Later, the class (usually between 18 to 25 students in any given class period) is divided up into two groups, each with a team leader.

Gray selects a team leader each class period from among those in attendance.

In the group discussions, students talk about what they learned as they stud-

ied using the notes they had taken.

Students are graded on their notes, factual knowledge, how well they understand the material and their participation in group discussions.

Student response to Gray's methods has been positive overall.

Of the students polled from Gray's classes, 84 percent said they prefer his teaching style over the more traditional approach, while only 16 percent saying they prefer it the other way around.

Similarly, 89 percent of the students polled from his classes said they find his style easier to work with.

Only 11 percent were in disagreement on this.

Only 55.5 percent of the students polled from Gray's classes felt they learned more under his system than they would have un-

der a more traditional approach.

Thirty-nine percent of the students polled felt that they do not learn more under his system and 5.5 percent were undecided.

"How much do I have to talk to get an A," is a question that students sometimes ask, Gray said.

"It's not how much you talk but what you get out of it," Gray said.

When asked what they liked best about Gray's classes, students said they liked the discussion format because they get to meet new people.

Many students also said they enjoy the fact that there are no tests (unless a student misses a class and needs to make up a grade) and that students are responsible to take learning upon themselves.

Gray's teaching style is similar to what is sometimes called the Socratic Method of Teaching (a to-

tally oral teaching method named after the famous Greek philosopher Socrates.)

Gray said his first experience teaching a test-free and 100 percent participation-based class was with an eight-week summer class in 1977.

He began working at OKCCC in 1976 and has taught the Socratic method from the very beginning.

Before that, when he was a teaching assistant at Texas Tech in Lubbock, Gray also used a discussion approach.

Gray said, for the most part, he does not believe students learn any more or less in his class than they would under a more traditional approach.

While the opinions of his students vary greatly on this issue and seem to confirm what he himself believes, many students do appear to find the differences to be a nice change.

## Students urged to plan ahead for financial aid

Students who received federal financial assistance for the fall semester and expect to maintain satisfactory academic progress, you can plan to receive assistance for the spring semester.

The number of credit hours students take in the spring semester will determine the amount of assistance they receive, just as in the fall semester.

Students do not have to reapply. The final amount students receive will be based on credit hours they maintain through the schedule adjustment period as published in the spring semester class schedule.

Spring semester student loan checks are normally released during the week before classes begin. Student loan checks will be mailed to the address on file with College Admissions and Records Office unless students owe the college for tuition and fees.

If students owe charges, they must endorse the check over to the college to pay the charges. The remaining balance will be mailed to the student in about 10 days after endorsement.

Students who received a Pell Grant in the fall semester who are enrolled for spring and maintain academic progress may be able to charge books and supplies against their Pell Grant beginning one week before classes begin, depending on funds remaining after tuition and fees.

Students who received federal financial assistance for fall semester should review the Financial Aid satisfactory academic progress standards which were mailed to students with their award letter.

Students may pick up information about satisfactory academic progress from the Financial Aid Office. If students do not make satisfactory academic

progress, they may appeal for a review of their circumstances and consideration for continuing their eligibility for Spring Semester.

If a student needs to appeal, he or she should do so before the close of the fall semester to allow time for early consideration.

Once the grades for fall semester are recorded, the financial aid office will notify those students who did not make progress. Students will receive a letter and an appeal form if needed. Students who are not currently receiving financial assistance should know they can still apply for assistance for the current academic year and summer if they believe they will need some financial help.

Interested students can pick up the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from the Financial Aid office, room 1S7, or file the FAFSA over the Internet at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

The Financial Aid Office provides two computer stations within the office for use in applying for federal assistance using the FAFSA

on the web. Students may also use FAFSA on the web using computer in the College Library or on their home computer.



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# Former math prof moves up again

**By Jaimi Lentz**  
News Writing I Student

Dr. Ann Ackerman has been promoted to vice President for Economic and Community Development at OKCCC.

A 25-year veteran of the college, Ackerman began working here as a math professor.

Ackerman said that this is just one of the many opportunities for change that the college has offered her.

Ackerman's new position allows her to work closely with area businesses and

with lots of different people and departments within the college.

She enjoys being able to represent higher education to businesses looking to bring jobs to Oklahoma.

She recently participated on a committee that is bringing Corning, a fiberoptics company, and Quad/Graphics, a high powered printing company, to Oklahoma.

Ackerman has also served in many civic organizations.

She has served as the chairwoman of the board of the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma.

She said that serving the American Red Cross has allowed her to see things differently.

"It is a wonderful organization," Ackerman said.

Even with the crisis in New York City right now, the Red Cross continues to serve local communities as well as address national needs.

"If your house burned down today, the Red Cross would still be there to help you," Ackerman said.

Ackerman believes OKCCC is a great college. She said she hopes that this is just another step in her career here.



Photo by Kat Mohr

Ann Ackerman

## No parking in profs' spots

**By Andy Kopp**  
News Writing I Student

A number of OKCCC students have developed alternatives to distant spaces in remote parking lots.

The faculty parking spaces have become a popular option for a number of reasons.

For starters, the penalty is only a \$5 parking ticket and spots are vacant most of the time.

Questioning individuals who were parked in faculty parking without the faculty sticker resulted in responses of indifference.

"It's the closest spot, and I haven't gotten a ticket yet," said student Nick Finely.

The security staff said they check the parking lot daily, ticketing those who are illegally parked, resulting in a \$5 fine.

Campus security declined to give the num-

ber of tickets that have been issued this year.

Faculty members expressed mixed feelings about the parking situation.

Sociology Professor Pat Barker said he didn't believe faculty and staff should have special parking.

"People should have to fight for their parking space," Barker said.

On the other hand, History Professor Ron Gray thinks faculty parking is a good idea.

"All colleges have faculty parking, it's traditional."

There are a total of 3,000 parking spaces on campus, while only 300 are faculty and staff spaces.

Darker pavement and blue lines in between each space designate faculty-staff spaces.

Failure to pay a parking fine results in students' records and transcripts being put on hold, said a campus security officer.

## Future nurses to be pinned

**By Kat Mohr**  
Staff Writer

There are a few moments in a person's life that are unforgettable. Graduating from nursing school is one of those moments.

There will be a pinning ceremony held on 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 13, in the general dining area to congratulate the 53 students who are graduating with an associate degree in nursing.

"It's always a very special

"It's always a very special ceremony where students can be recognized for their achievements."

—Lea Ann Loftis

Nursing Program Director

ceremony where students can be recognized for their achievements," said Lea Ann Loftis, director of the nursing program.

Every student will receive an award and Dr. Paul Sechrist, vice president for academic affairs, will present each student with the nursing pin.

During the ceremony a film containing many memorable pictures of the students' training will be shown.

After the ceremony a reception will be held.

In order to graduate from OKCCC with a nursing degree, students must have completed 71 credit hours.

## Get paid while attending class

**By Rita Gracia**  
News Writing I Student

A job that is rewarding and fun is at the top of many students' wish list. Some students will find that job right here.

OKCCC offers work-study, a federally funded program that provides part-time jobs to students.

Pam Jordan, director of federal student aid pro-

grams, said many students are unaware of the work-study option.

By filling out the 2001-2002 FAFSA form, students can apply for work-study.

Work-study offers on-campus jobs to students who qualify for financial aid.

Once a student's information is submitted and verified then the student will receive an award letter.

If work-study is autho-

rized, then OKCCC's department of human resources will assist the student in finding a job on campus.

The Human Resources office is located on the third floor in the main building.

After finding a job, the pay is on par with many fast food joints.

Jordan said that most jobs on campus pay \$6.50 per hour. The maximum number of hours permitted each week is 20.

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# Highlights

## Do your holiday shopping at school

With finals just around the corner, the Computer Aided Design Club will sell gifts along with cotton candy Tuesday through Thursday, Dec. 3 through 6, in front of the college union. The funds raised will go towards a possible field trip to SigGraph, a computer graphics convention.

## Phi Theta Kappa meeting planned

Phi Theta Kappa, OKCCC's honor society, encourages its members to meet at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 5, in room CU7, or at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6, in CU8. PTK will discuss events for the spring semester.

## Leaving the country for the holidays?

International students who plan to travel during the winter break need to come by the Office of Admissions and Records at least one week before leaving the country so the college can prepare the proper travel documents. Contact Sunny Garner at 682-1611, ext. 7366.

## Just how does a CAT scan work?

Health Professions Club is planning a trip at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 7 to the Diagnostics/Imaging Clinic. All those interested in how MRI, CAT scans, and other sophisticated equipment works should attend the field trip, especially those interested in allied health. Contact Sergio Fasuez at 324-8333 or faculty sponsor Steve Kamm at 682-1611, ext. 7268 for more information.

## Get your literary groove on

Editors of the Absolute, OKCCC's literary magazine, are looking for original works of short story, essay, poetry, photography, and artwork for the 2002 edition. The last day to submit is Dec. 8. Submission forms are available in the Arts and Humanities department, or online at [www.okc.cc.ok.us/ah/absolute/index.htm](http://www.okc.cc.ok.us/ah/absolute/index.htm).

## Spring graduates, listen up

Students planning to graduate in the spring 2002 can apply now. Forms are available in the admissions and records office, information center and graduation/transfer evaluation office. Students can also apply online at [www.okc.cc.ok.us](http://www.okc.cc.ok.us). Students wishing to participate in the commencement ceremony on May 10 should apply by Feb. 8. Summer 2002 candidates can also apply for commencement.

## Time to find scholarships

For scholarship information, visit the Office of Prospective Student Services located by entry 2. There are many new scholarships available. Contact Linda Sapp at 682-7580 for more information.

## Academic scholarships deadline nearing

The All-USA Academic Team Scholarship applications are available in the office of the Vice President for Student Services. USA TODAY, the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society sponsor the scholarship. Students must meet the following to be eligible: Must be enrolled in an accredited community college, eligible to graduate between Sept. 1, 2001 and Aug. 31, 2002, have already completed 12 semester hours, and post a cumulative 3.25 GPA in all college course work completed in the last five years. Applications must be completed and submitted to the office of the Vice President for Student Services no later than Nov. 19. Contact Kim Velleca at 682-7595 or English Professor Richard Rouillard at 682-1611, ext. 7389.



Photo by Kat Mohr

Left with only a container of fried rice, the International Students Association signify a job well done with a "thumbs up" gesture after they sold out their homemade egg rolls, lo mein, fried rice and salad fund-raiser. Proceeds from the sale will be used to buy gifts for local nursing home residents in Oklahoma City. From left to right: My Nguyen, Phap Nguyen, Aittchakht Abdelali, Singi Tac, Thao Pham, Syam Gumurh, Michael Hudson, Kim Pham and Danielle Swingle.

# Students raise money to buy senior citizens gifts

**By Vu A. Vu**  
Staff Writer

While the cold Oklahoma wind nipped at people's noses outside, students and employees inside the college nibbled on warm, homemade eggrolls sold at the International Students Association Asian food fund-raiser in the college union Nov. 27.

Kim Pham, ISA student president, said the proceeds from the sale will help purchase presents for 40 senior citizens at a local nursing home.

The club sold eggrolls, lo mein, fried rice and salad platters for \$3.

At 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 21, ISA plans to visit the nursing home.

Pham said violinists, tap and ballet dancers will entertain the residents.

Also, ISA club members plan to have a talent show at the nursing home, along with a tea and cookie party and caroling.

Although the club raised more than \$100, they still need more, Pham said.

Pham said anyone who could donate a Christmas tree for the nursing home should e-mail Pham at

thaokim22@hotmail.com, or e-mail ISA student secretary Tham Pham at [thaopham9@hotmail.com](mailto:thaopham9@hotmail.com).

ISA will also accept money donations, said Aittchakht Abdelali, business major.

"We accept checks and credit cards," Abdelali said.

Pham said students could also donate gifts like scarves and other warm clothing for the nursing home residents.

Also, she said, if students or faculty have any talents, they are welcome and encouraged to participate in the talent show. All are welcome to help.

**Got club news for the holidays?**  
**Call us @ 682-1611, ext. 7676.**  
**Or e-mail the Pioneer with your club happenings @ [editor@okc.cc.ok.us](mailto:editor@okc.cc.ok.us)**  
**Happy Holidays**

# 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.

## AUTOMOBILES

**FOR SALE:** '97 GMC Sierra Z71, green, remote start and keyless entry, power everything, wood trim dash, 3 in. body lift, new tires 33x12.50 mud terrain, extra clean, non-smoker. Asking \$14,000. Call 387-2433 or 824-3800.

**FOR SALE:** '96 Nissan 200SX. Runs great, looks good, AM/FM cassette, cold air, 10K miles left on warranty, great on gas, low insurance. \$6,000. Call 912-0615.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Pontiac Grand AM. V6, automatic, new tires, power locks, cruise control, ABS. Teal, rear spoiler, new tires, 110,000 miles. New CD player needs to be installed. \$3,990, Call 943-6073.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Mustang V6, maroon, grey leather interior, a/c, CD player, power windows & power driver's seat. Excellent condition, 91K miles. \$6,500 OBO. Call Jessi 527-1644 or 834-6516.

**FOR SALE:** '95 GMC Suburban, one owner, excellent condition. Loaded, front & rear air. \$11,995. Call 682-1611, ext. 7729 or 273-4429.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Nissan Maxima GLE, dark blue with leather interior, loaded, 134,000 miles, excellent condition. \$6,900. Call 844-4788 or ext. 6733.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Mustang GT convertible, triple black, leather, Clifford Solaris alarm w/remote, start & keyless entry, 5-speed, power everything, many performance bolt-ons. CD/Cassette player, 95K highway miles. \$10,500 OBO. Call 381-2458.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Honda Passport 4x4-LX. Teal green, 92K miles, very good condition. \$9,500 OBO. Call 381-9608.

**FOR SALE:** '94 Yamaha FZR 600, 13,700 miles, purplish-blue with silver frame, black wheels, comes with Bieffe helmet (brand new). \$2,800 firm. Call 216-0574 or 748-7732.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Grand Prix, 100,000 miles, power windows/locks. \$3,200. Call 317-5111.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Pontiac Grand AM, SE, a/c, cassette, power locks, excellent condition. \$3,300 OBO. Call 613-6835.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Mazda 929, 4-door luxury sedan, automatic, loaded. CD, leather, all power, 125,000 miles, excellent condition. \$6,200. Call 613-6835.

**FOR SALE:** '92 Cadillac STS Seville, cherry red, leather seats, aluminum wheels, fully loaded. \$5,400. Call 386-9838.

**FOR SALE:** '91 Dodge Daytona, white/black leather interior, CD, air, under 100K miles. Runs great. \$3,500. Call 620-5688.

**FOR SALE:** '86 Chevrolet S10 2.8L, V-6, 156K miles, 4-speed manual transmission. Gold metallic paint, Corvette rally wheels. Interior like new. Cold a/c. \$2,500. Call 640-2458.

**FOR SALE:** '86 Ford Tempo GL, good condition. \$1,800 OBO. Call Padma at 672-5561.

**FOR SALE:** '85 Ford Econoline Van. Custom built by Tratech. Dual gas tanks, auto., am/fm/cassette. Power locks/windows. Tinted windows. Four bucket seats, one bench seat that folds into bed. Ext. two-tone blue/silver, int. blue with velour seats. \$3,000. Call Shelly at 681-4923.

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## ANIMALS

**FOUND:** Young female cat, probably part Siamese/Burmese, in school parking lot. Black ears and black spotted nose with brown and white fur and fluffy tail. Please call 740-5060.

**FREE:** Seven-month-old chocolate lab, female. Very sweet, needs a good home with a back yard. Call 503-7619 or 632-1535, leave message.

**FREE:** Two dogs, one white, one black, half-Chow, half-German Shepherd. Ten months old, very sweet, energetic & loyal. Would like to keep the brothers together. Call Amara at 632-4938.

**FREE:** Six-week-old puppies, shepherd and rat terrier mix. Have had shots. Call 573-0230 or 321-2505.

**FOR SALE:** Five month old Rot. Female, black and tan, has shots and was de-wormed. \$250 OBO. Call (405) 819-5146 or 819-5147.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE:** 19-inch computer monitor. Used from day one without a problem. In excellent condition with original package, and manual specs. Out pitch 0.26 mm, viewable image size 17.9 in. maximum resolution 1600x1200. \$150 OBO. Call 344-6959, e-mail oklapike@hotmail.com.

**FOR SALE:** TI-83 calculator, \$60. 2 TI-82 calculators, \$30 each. Ask for Dawnmarie @ 344-7507.

**WANTED:** Couple seeking right person to share house. Free rent in exchange for housework. Carpool to school if schedule allows. Call 912-2389, leave message.

**WANTED:** Dependable, experienced house cleaner needed. One day every two weeks. Will pay \$10 an hour. Close to college. Call Kim or John at 692-2397.

**WANTED:** Female roommate to share four bedroom home. Close to school. Must like dogs & be responsible. \$250 per month plus share bills. \$250 security deposit. Call Michelle at 682-3128.

**FOR SALE:** Coffee table/end table set, wooden lattice with glass top, \$30 for set. Wingback chair, blue, \$15. Washing machine, works but has problems with spin cycle, \$20. Call 692-0177.

**FOR SALE:** TI-86 calculator. Price negotiable. Call 527-4442, ask for Jared or Nate.

**FOR SALE:** TI-81 calculator. Good condition, \$25. Call Chad at 818-3790, leave message.

**FOR SALE:** Taylor-made supersteel irons 3-AQ, only played three rounds. \$450 new, will sacrifice at \$250. Call Jake 830-0222.

**WANTED:** Transportation for Monday, Wednesday 5:30 class. Willing to come to school earlier. Call Ruth 840-8403.

**FOR SALE:** 7 blade, 5/5 HP Briggs reel mower, queen size waterbed & word processor. Make offer. 722-9939 3-9 p.m.

**FOR SALE:** Little girl's white dresser & book shelf, 4 white wooden chairs. Call 912-0890.

**HELP:** My Spanish is rusty. Looking for a native Spanish speaker to help me prepare for some presentations. Call Dorothy 949-9687.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Coffee-break item
- 5 Court case
- 10 State positively
- 14 Locale
- 15 Part of a pound
- 16 Lose color
- 17 Rappickers, e.g.
- 19 Happy in a way
- 20 Torment
- 21 Legal matter
- 22 Garment edges
- 23 Scottish garments
- 25 Type of letter
- 26 Tree fluids
- 30 Luau souvenir
- 31 Spotted horses
- 34 Jeweler's measure
- 36 Twangy
- 38 BC's neighbor
- 39 Art of paper-folding
- 41 Dusted and swept
- 43 Fall mo.
- 44 Steamship
- 46 Greek letter
- 47 Shiny paint
- 49 Montreal's prov.
- 51 Helper: abbr.
- 52 Poetic contraction
- 53 Cuts into small pieces
- 55 Appearance
- 57 Period in history
- 58 Discount
- 63 Actor Baldwin
- 64 Greased
- 66 King's address
- 67 Free-for-all
- 68 Prod
- 69 "— of the D'Urbervilles"
- 70 Crafter
- 71 Agile

### DOWN

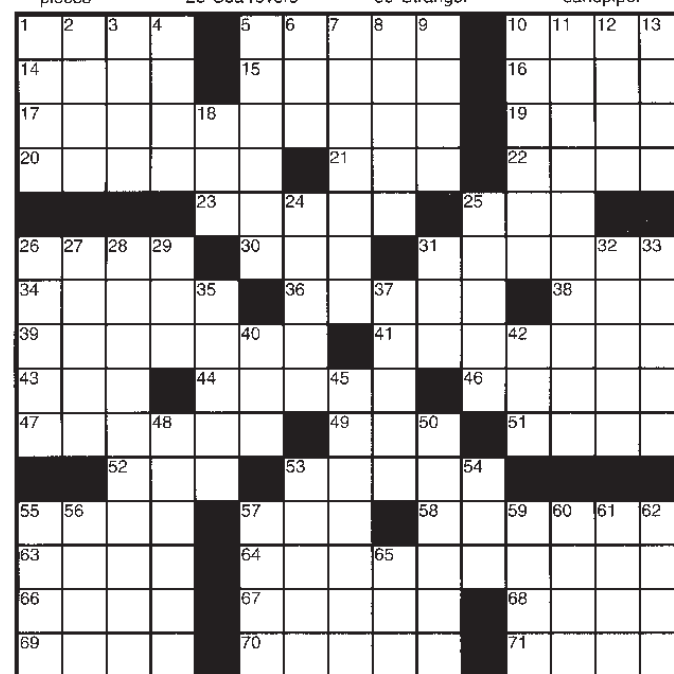
- 1 Impulsive
- 2 Killer whale
- 3 Nonsense poet
- 4 Volcano product
- 5 Certain lymphoid tissue
- 6 Carpet
- 7 Sluggishness
- 8 Land measures
- 9 More or —
- 10 Coverlet
- 11 February 14th items
- 12 Mild cheese
- 13 Cincinnati team
- 18 NWT native
- 24 Soviet founder
- 25 — mignon
- 26 Tea cake
- 27 Tori's dad
- 28 Sea rovers
- 29 Droop
- 31 Friend
- 32 Dramatist
- 33 Clifford
- 35 Answer —
- 37 Cancel a launch
- 40 Wire measure
- 42 Expression of surprise
- 45 Serenely
- 48 Walks with very short steps
- 50 Stranger
- 53 Hardhearted
- 54 Dry, as wine
- 55 "Two Years Before the —"
- 56 Tennis player
- 57 Shade trees
- 59 Purses
- 60 At the peak of
- 61 Wear's companion
- 62 Swirl
- 65 Female sandpiper

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

|          |          |       |
|----------|----------|-------|
| AXLE     | DOVER    | MEOW  |
| BEAN     | IRENE    | ERGO  |
| UNIT     | NEIGH    | TIER  |
| TARRAGON | EARNED   |       |
| ISH      | YETI     |       |
| HERESY   | ELECTED  |       |
| AVAST    | BASE     | IVE   |
| ROB      | NOTED    | MEL   |
| SKI      | OUTS     | ARENT |
| HEDGING  | SHASTA   |       |
| LASH     | CAL      |       |
| URBANE   | WARBLERS |       |
| MOOD     | NAIVE    | IRON  |
| PURE     | STREW    | ELLA  |
| SEES     | EMERY    | DEEP  |

9-21-98

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## Admissions department willing to comply with request

"Information,"  
Cont. from page 1

planation of why I wanted the records on a sheet of paper, which I was then supposed to return to the attendant.

It bothered me that although I was told to provide my student ID number, I

was never asked to show my actual student ID card to anyone.

I could have been anyone requesting my information.

I made my request on a Friday and was told to come back "sometime next week," which could either be a good thing or a bad thing.

It would be good if the information was waiting for

me the following Monday.

It would be bad if I drove all the way from Norman to the college on Monday and they didn't have the paperwork ready, forcing me to make another trip.

I would have liked to have been given a more definite time.

As it turned out, I waited until after the holiday break to pick up the information

and, sure enough, there it was — my original application, high school transcript, my academic history and more.

Thankfully, this time, before turning the file over to me, they asked for my student ID.

Next week, in the final issue of the semester, learn what rights students have in the classroom.

## College employees offered a few good reasons to retire early

"Retirement,"  
Cont. from page 1

ers' Retirement System. He said 60 to 65 employees are currently eligible for the Early Retirement program.

Francine West, payroll bookkeeper, said she would take advantage of the opportunity since she had already planned on retiring.

"I was going to retire anyway, and this is just an extra bonus," said West.

Another factor in West's

decision to retire early is the \$105 reduced-cost health insurance.

"Right now, the college pays my health insurance. When you retire, you have to pay it yourself, so this will help a lot," West said.

Director of Voice Communications Services Elwyn Hastings hadn't planned to retire just yet but did look into the incentive to see if it might cause him to change his mind.

"I'm eligible, so if they are going to make an offer, I'm going to listen to it," Hastings said.

In the end, the incentive plan wasn't enough to make him leave his position

with the college.

Hastings said he became skeptical after researching the offer.

"After taxes, I would only receive 60 percent of the one-time stipend and, in my case, it's not that much."

"I'm nine years away from being 65, so the \$105 health insurance deduction helps. It sounds good but it's just a flat amount," Hastings said.

Hastings said he expects a jump in insurance premiums by next year. He said it would be a more enticing plan if the college paid a fixed percentage of the insurance, instead of just

\$105 every month.

"Right now, I can't afford to take that big of a cut, plus I still have a kid in a private college," he said.

All employees eligible for the Early Retirement Incentive Plan will be notified by memorandum. All eligible employees have until Feb. 15 to decide if they want to take part.

Those taking advantage of the incentive plan must retire by the end of the fiscal year, June 31.

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**Age: 21**  
**Height: 5'5"**  
**Weight: 120**  
**Brown eyes, black hair**

**Last seen Aug. 20, 2001**  
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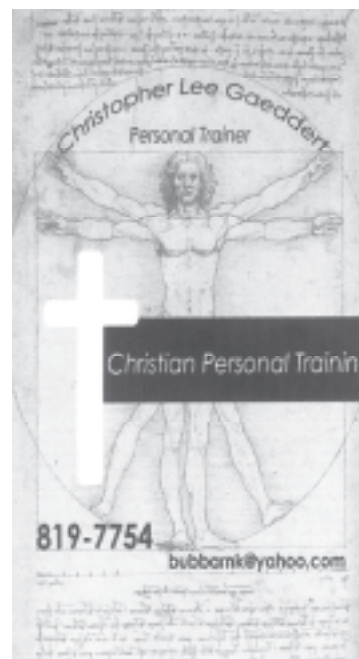
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