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Oklahoma City Community College

Financial aid disbursements undergo change

Datatel computer system meant to implement complete electronic fund transfers

By Gracelynn Allen Staff Writer

The implementation of a L new computer system has created several changes in the financial aid department.

Financial Aid Dean Harold Case said the system allows the school to be able to set up individual student accounts where financial aid monies are deposited, disbursed, charged and approved.

Datatel, the new computer system, took a year to develop and test. It was installed in the financial aid offices in June.

Case said the purpose of the system is to gradually implement complete electronic transferring of funds from lenders to student accounts, which will speed up the financial aid process.

When a student enrolls in classes and is approved for financial aid, all charges for classes and fees are attached to the student's account, Case said. As soon as the first deposit from a lender or institution is made into the account, the charges are deducted, and the remainder is sent to the student by mail in the form of a check by the Bursar's office.

The change affects Pell Grant and loan recipients by the reversal of tuition charges.

In the past when student loans were issued to the school for disbursement, the Financial Aid office would approve the release and the student would pick up the loan check in the bookstore or it would be mailed.

Then all charges for tuition,

fees and books would be applied to the student's Pell Grant award, and any remaining amount released to the students at the bookstore.

Now, any money received by the college, whether it is loan money or financial aid, goes directly into the individual student accounts where charges accrued for tuition and fees are deducted.

In addition, all disbursements are now mailed instead of picked up at the bookstore.

Case hopes this process will eliminate the need to wait in line at the bookstore or Bursar's office.

Students who receive only loans also will be affected.

In the past, loan recipients would have to pay tuition and fees before picking up their checks, or would be required to go to the bookstore, sign the loan check, hand it back to the school and wait for the remaining amount of the check to be mailed to them.

Now, the loan simply hits the student's account and the over-amount check is mailed out by the Bursar's office.

Mail-outs, sent with the award letter, advised students of the changes to be implemented with the new system.

Case said his office is working to improve overall efficiency and make the financial aid process smoother for students but said he also realizes the impact of a new system.

'We are learning as we go…it will take a little time."

Disbursement dates for various funds are posted in the Financial Aid office, located on the first floor of the main building.



Eager to help: Beginning nursing student Ellen Smith checks Allison Richards' blood pressure as part of the vital signs unit her class is studying. Smith said she is already enjoying the class. "I am excited to be learning how to help other people."

Wellness Fair all about hope

By Mark Stack **Editor**

hether it's dealing with the aftermath of Sept. 11, the death of a loved one or ending a five-year relationship, everyone encounters mental health issues in their lives.

To help cope with such emotions, CONTACT Crisis Helpline will present "A Festival of Hope" wellness fair, free to everyone, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 14, on the OKCCC campus.

CONTACT, a 24-hour mental health hotline, created the fair with the purpose of providing people with a better



understanding about the essentials to wellness, the keys to stability and how to handle life's uncertainties.

Chris Moler, director of recreation and community services, said it is no

See "Wellness," page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Giving up is the easy way

What is a student to do when they are burnt out almost to the point of quitting school?

Do we do just that, and go back to doing nothing? Have no drive, aspirations? No...goals?

Or, do we stick it out? Muddle through another semester of classes that make no sense to us, due not to a lack of intelligence but because of our amazing ability to just not care anymore?

This was the dilemma I came to about a week before this semester started.

The hassle of enrolling, the waiting for more than an hour to speak to a counselor for all of five minutes (just to have her disappoint me) and the college website problems all took their toll on my nerves.

To top it off, I am now in debt to the boyfriend to the tune of \$400 because I was not awarded financial aid quickly enough to avoid paying for my tuition and books.

So, I borrowed, I paid and I was awarded financial aid the day after I made my trip to the bookstore. What a deal, huh? All that stress about money and the letter came in just under the wire. Figures.

Once everything was taken care of, I had to put everything into perspective.

I am a single mom working frantically to set a child-friendly schedule so my daughter won't forget who I am

What's the plus side to this? I have a daughter, a wonderful little girl, without whom I guarantee I wouldn't have even gone to college.

I have a time-consuming job that doesn't pay the bills. In fact, this job barely covers the day care costs it takes to be here.

What's so great about that? I have a job. Some people don't. Enough said.

I have nothing to complain about. Of course I'm not going to drop out of school (you can breathe again, Dad) and I know I am destined to do something great. One day. Hopefully.

I will do my best to remember these things the next time I am waiting in a line somewhere on this campus, trying to make sense of it all.

It can be done.

—Ashley Martin Staff Writer

Read the PIONEER!

It's your source to all campus activities!



Where does all the money go?

To the editor:

Why do we apply for financial aid? The answer to this should be obvious: because we don't have the money. The money for what? Our enrollment fees, student activity fees, assessment fees, facility use fees and library fees. Oh, wait, I forgot one: the \$25 payment plan fee.

I don't think I'm alone when I express the feeling of being ripped off. Ask any of the hundreds of people who stood in line on Aug. 9. Many of us even got an early start on applying and enrolling so this sort of thing wouldn't happen.

I submitted all my applications for financial aid in May before the spring semester was over. In mid-June, I provided all the necessary forms to process my financial aid. Mind you, I only applied for grants, not loans. As August drew nearer, I received a statement in the mail telling me that all my fees were due on Aug. 9. As instructed by the financial aid office, I began calling to check on the status of my award letter. The answer was always, "No, but they should be in any day now."

By the time Aug. 7 rolled around, I still hadn't been awarded. I was told that if my letter wasn't in by Friday, I could go to the bursar's office and pay a

off the mark

non-refundable \$25 fee in order to set up a payment plan until my award letter came in.

Let me get this straight...I pay the school money so that I can pay the school money I don't have? Why, yes, that would be correct.

The wait in line on Aug. 9 was nearly three hours. I spoke with several people throughout the day who had waited that same amount of time. There was one lady who got in line, waited for an hour, and decided to drop all her classes and enroll at OSU-OKC.

The bursar's office was open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. or later, although they stopped letting people in line after 5 p.m. The line started forming at 8 a.m. Soon, the line turned into an hourlong wait. By 10 a.m., it was 2 to 3 hours. There were at least four cashiers working in the office.

By the time I got there, I believe there were six. It took all of three minutes to pay the money, get my receipt, and walk out. That's a lot of people, and a whole lot of money at \$25 per person.

What exactly will they do with all that money? I'm very curious to know. "Paperwork" does not cost \$25 per student. Of course, we could all go along with the it's-the-new-computer-system excuse. Don't you

by Mark Parisi

think they should figure out the system well enough to function properly when the semester is about to begin?

I desperately hope, for myself, other current students, prospective students, and the school itself, that next year they have their, uh, stuff together. Otherwise I (and many others) may not be back.

—Name Withheld by Request

PIONEER

Vol. 31 No. 2

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

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 PIO-NEER 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@okccc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: http://pioneer.okccc.edu.





w.offthemark.com

Comments and Reviews

'Stolen Lives' book gets your attention, keeps it

Oufkir had gone from being a princess to spending 15 years of her life starving for sunlight.

The biography "Stolen Lives," written by Malika and Michele Fitoussi, chronicles the hardships Malika and her family endured while in prison and the incredible journey she weathered to discover freedom for the first time.

Born in 1953 in Morocco. Malika was the eldest daughter to General Oufkir, the king's closest aide.

Malika led a typical childhood for the first five years of her life.

Adored by her parents, she was lavishly showered with affection and gifts.

Malika's life might have started out normal, but it changed drastically due to an unexpected request.

Since Malika's family was close to the royal family, they regularly visited the palace; and it was upon one of these visits that Malika's life took a radical turn.

King Muhammad V took a lively interest in Malika and decided he wanted to adopt her so his daughter, Princess Lalla Mina, could have a sister.

Malika was devastated to be separated from her mother but the king strove to assure her that she belonged in the palace.

From the beginning, she was doted on by the king and he raised her as if she were his own.

Even though Malika was treated like royalty, she was never really free.

She formed a strong bond with the king but she was shut out from the rest of the world, confined behind the palace walls.

Malika lived in the palace until she was 16 when the king finally succumbed to her wishes and let her return home to her family.

For three years Malika

At the age of 38, Malika got to experience life as a found strength to escape. carefree teenager, but her happiness came to an abrupt halt when her father attempted to assassinate the king.

> The king robbed Malika of her life before she even realized what hit her. After her father was executed, Malika, her five siblings and her mother were imprisoned in the desert for 15 years.

> While they were in prison, the Oufkirs were starved and beaten. During the last 10 years of their sentence they were separated into groups and permanently locked away from each other in different cells.

> They were so frantic to die that they actually drew straws to see who would commit suicide first.

> Her mother tried first and a few hours later Malika slashed her sister Soukaina's wrists with a piece of metal from a sardine can.

They all survived and out of their desperation they

They dug a tunnel by using a spoon, a knife handle, the lid of a sardine can and an iron bar from one of their beds. Within a month Malika escaped through the tunnel with two of her brothers and one sister.

I found this book to be very inspiring because it is a story about a resilient family who managed to survive when faced with such dire conditions.

"Stolen Lives" is one of the best biographies I've read in a long time because it gripped me from the beginning all the way to the

It will keep you on the edge of your seat the entire time you're reading it.

It's one of those books you can't bear to put down because you are so anxious to find out what happens.

Even when you put the book down you are still traipsing through the pages reliving the story in your mind.

> —Kat Mohr **Staff Writer**

French flick worthy of accolades

The only time her father would touch her was when he did her monthly check up. He would apply the cold stethoscope to her chest and she would react by her heart beating faster in a desperate hope for a sign of affection. This made him think that she had a heart defect.

A strict schoolteacher mother and an emotionally detached father raised Amelie.

She was kept away from school and the stresses of ordinary life in order for them to keep their precious little daughter and save her from her troublesome heart defect.

They cared for her and she knew it, but they just didn't show her.

As a young woman, Amelie is a secretive, mesmerizing do-gooder.

She desires to do something useful for others and to inspire the eccentric people who surround her. In return, they help to inspire her.

This movie follows charming Amelie through her adventures of two days that change her life forever and flashbacks of her life growing up.

It includes her mother's sudden surprising demise, an adventurous yard ornament that inspires her father and an unexpected matchmaking.

This is a subtitled French movie, directed by famed director Jean-Pierre Jeunet. This film broke box office records in France and was nominated for five Academy Awards in 2001. It is a charming, character-filled film that is available to rent in most video stores.

> —Grace Allen **Staff Writer**

'Hard Knocks' returns, Dallas style

It's a hard knock life baby, but somebody's gotta' live it.

HBO is presenting the second season of "Hard Knocks: Training Camp with the Dallas Cowboys" at 10 p.m. every Wednesday, with encore presentations airing throughout the week.

In the first season, HBO collaborated with NFL Films to follow the ill-fated Baltimore Ravens in their attempt to repeat as Super Bowl Champions.

NFL Films is involved in the production once again, being granted an all-access pass inside the locker rooms, team meetings, coaches' meetings, sidelines and hotel rooms. We

even witness Jerry Jones lay the ax to players like the hot-headed singing Cowboy Richmond Flowers.

"Hard Knocks" details the lives of several rookies and veterans trying to make the Dallas Cowboy roster, along with other veterans giving those armchair quarterbacks a glimpse into the real life as an NFL player.

While nothing in the NFL is guaranteed, neither is making the 53-man roster. The cameras follow three rookies trying desperately to make the squad, Pete Hunter, DeVeren Johnson and Richmond Flowers. Flowers has already been cut, while the other two show signs of promise by improving week-to-week.

Celebrity guests also make surprise appearances in hopes of motivating America's team, such as George Foreman and future hall-of-famer Deion Sand-

Sooner fans should be glad to know that Roy Williams' life as a rookie is being documented as well. From the draft day hysteria to attempting to take veteran Joey Galloway's limo, Williams is learning how to have fun on the job.

While I have never been comfortable with Emmitt Smith breaking the rushing record. "Hard Knocks" has shown a side of Smith we never see. Whether it's playing dominos with the fellas while everyone else is

out partying, or the tears streaming down his face as he accepted the Walter Payton "Spirit of Sweetness" award, Smith has shown himself to be a true gentlemen with exceptional character. As much as I love Payton, nobody is more deserving to break Sweetness' record than Smith.

This is the closest any of us will ever get to the NFL. As long as the cameras don't prove to be a distraction, more NFL teams will want their lives in training camp documented on television.

Several more shows remain, so tune in.

> -Mark Stack **Editor**

Students arrested in kidnapping, robbery

By Mark Stack Editor

Two OKCCC students have been linked to the abduction of a 44-year-old Edmond woman after police traced the vehicle they used from an automotive receipt found in the front yard of the woman's home.

Current OKCCC student Jason Raju, 20, and former student Stephen Thomas Joseph, 22, were both arrested Aug. 21 in Yukon on complaints of kidnapping, burglary, armed robbery, grand theft larceny of a vehicle, carrying a firearm in commission of a felony and assault with a deadly weapon.

The third suspect, Marcus Holmes, was arrested Aug. 22 in Langston.

Glynda Chu, spokeswoman for the Edmond police department, said the three men were dressed as UPS delivery men.

"The men attempted to deliver a package to the woman [while] dressed in UPS clothing," said Chu.

A representative from UPS said that the three men never worked for UPS, and were posing as delivery men.

Once the woman opened the door, the men forced their way into the house and ransacked the home.



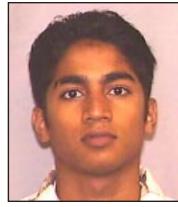
Jason Raju

The men then forced the woman into her green Chevrolet Lumina mini-van and took her to Grace Pentecostal Church in Yukon, where one of the men is a member.

When the woman's husband arrived home several hours later, he immediately noticed the house was in disarray and he could not find his wife or her minivan.

According to the Edmond police report, the husband then called the police. When Officer Todd Stradler arrived moments later, the phone rang with the victim on the other end.

The report said the woman called home to tell her husband not to call the police, because her abductors would soon let her go. She then called again, making sure her husband had not called the police, saying they would kill her and



Stephen Thomas Joseph

her husband too.

Police then scoured the house and yard looking for clues. They found a Pep Boy's receipt with a license number they traced to a woman living in Bethany.

According to the report, the woman in Bethany said that several days before she had let three men she "The men attempted to deliver a package to the woman [while] dressed in UPS clothing."

> —Glynda Chu Spokeswoman for the Edmond Police Department

knows borrow her car.

Police said the brother of the woman had the number of a pager belonging to one of the kidnappers, and used it to contact them.

Once they did, police made a trace on the call that led back to the Economy Hotel in Yukon.

Joseph was alone in the hotel around 3:30 a.m. when police arrived and arrested him.

The victim and the other two kidnappers were nowhere to be found.

Police began searching Raju under arrest.

the area around the hotel when they decided to check the Pentecostal church. Around 5 a.m. police found Raju and the woman inside the church.

"She seemed distressed," said Chu.

"Police found her tied up and blindfolded with no serious injuries other than the injury she suffered to the head," said Chu.

Chu said the injury might have come from being struck by a gun.

Police immediately placed Raju under arrest.

Seasoned actor to direct fall play

By Mindy Stowers News Writing I Student

Chris Freihofer, a professional actor and director, will take the reins for the production of "MacBeth ReDux" this fall at OKCCC.

His credits include supporting roles in films such as "O" with Josh Hartnett and Julia Stiles, "Eye of God" with Hal Holbrook and Martha Plimpton, and the upcoming "American Indian Graffiti."

His television appearances include Walker ,Texas Ranger and countless commercials.

Freihofer said he can't recall a time when he wasn't involved in theater. He played a part in his fifth grade play and has been acting since.

Freihofer has worked with OKCCC theater students in a variety of productions and has heard of many good things going on in the department at OKCCC.

Freihofer said he chose OKCCC because he believes there is amazing talent and people are really

beginning to realize the quality.

"I'm excited to be on campus and in an academic environment rather than professional for a change," he said.

"I think it will be a fun opportunity to work with the students."

Freihofer was raised in Okmulgee and now lives in Oklahoma City.

He was selected to direct the play by Ruth Charnay, OKCCC professor of theater.

Auditions will be held 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26. in the college theater for "MacBeth ReDux" and "The Immigrant" for the fall season.



By Mark Stack Editor

A 1979 Chevrolet Silverado truck belonging to OKCCC student Cody Cannon was stolen from the OKCCC campus Aug. 22.

According to the OKCCC incident report, Cannon arrived on campus around 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 22, and parked in parking lot E outside of the aquatics center.

Cody said in the incident report that he locked his

truck before he entered the building.

When he returned to the area where he had parked around 12:30 p.m., he noticed shattered glass on the ground where he had parked earlier in the day.

The vehicle tag of Cannon's truck is VIW586.
The Silverado's value is

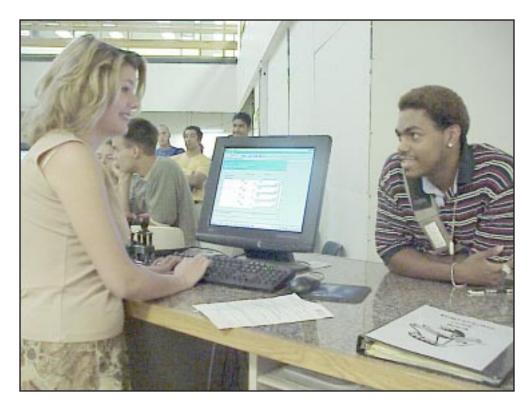
estimated at \$5,000.

If anyone has any information regarding the stolen vehicle, they are asked to please call the Oklahoma City Police Department at 297-1000.



Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?

Students remain optimistic amid chaos



Above: International Student Admissions Officer Sunny Garner admits OKCCC student Carl Wilkerson, architecture design major, into the college while also supplying him with all the information he needed to enroll in his classes.

Right: Students line up at the admissions office to get their pictures taken for their ID cards.



Above:Duy Nguyen, electronics major, flips through a Microsoft Windows book in the bookstore.

Enrollment at OKCCC has increased this fall and so have the lines encompassing the college's many hallways.

OKCCC enrollment is estimated to have risen 6 percent in credit hours and 4 percent in student head count this fall, said Charlotte French, executive director of enrollment management.

"Many of the gateway classes that beginning students enroll in, such as English, history and American Federal Government, are full this semester," French stated.

She also said there has been an increase in enrollment in online courses but she doesn't have any exact figures yet.

The increase in enrollment has added to the commotion that usually erupts the first week of school.

OKCCC student Duy Nguyen was one of the many students frustrated by the long line outside the bookstore.

"Besides standing in the bookstore line, I also had to wait two hours before I was able to speak to a counselor," Nguyen said.

But once Nguyen was done taking care of everything, he said he was anxious to get involved in school.

"I am nervous since it is my first year but I am looking forward to finishing my two years and going to the University of Oklahoma," Nguyen said.

Business major Ryan White was another face among the congested lines that enveloped the various enrollment offices.

White tried not to focus on the crowds and instead turned his attention onto his main concern this year, his grade point average.

"I'm hoping to make good grades this year."

Some students seemed impervious to the throng of students that swarmed the campus in the past week.

Carl Wilkerson is beginning his first year at OKCCC without a hitch.

"I am looking forward to this school year and especially to getting involved with the Computer-Aided Design Society of Oklahoma club.



Above: Mary Turner, coordinator of student support services, helps returning OKCCC student Ryan White enroll. White said his goal for this school year is to make good grades.

Above: In the registration office students wait patiently to enroll.

Text and Photos by Kat Mohr

Art, food await patrons at **Arts Festival Oklahoma**

By Ashley Martin **Staff Writer**

More than 160 artisans, variety foods and...horses?

That's what will be in store for visitors to this year's Arts Festival Oklahoma.

"Horsin' Around Oklahoma" consists of 100 lifesize painted horses that will graze OKCCC's campus as part of a traveling art show benefitting the American Diabetes Association.

Two bare horses will be made available to the children's activity tent for youngsters to paint.

Pastels, sculptures, oil paintings, watercolors, jewelry, pottery, stained glass just some of the other types of art that will be on display at Arts Festival Oklahoma.

In addition to viewing beautiful artwork, festival patrons can also sample cuisine from around the globe, thanks to Bill Coffey, coordinator of service contracts.

Coffey is responsible for bringing the food vendors to OKCCC's campus each year during Arts Festival Oklahoma.

"Some of these vendors have been coming back year after year and have proven to be successful with the crowds," Coffey said.

The longest running vendor at 16 years is Sweis's Restaurant. Sweis's specializes in Greek fare, servand dream catchers are ing up traditional gyros,

western gyros and baklava.

Brown's Indian Tacos, taking part in its 15th show, provides Indian tacos and frybread.

For those wanting American food, Circle J Concessions is joining the festival for its 10th year in a row. Hand-dipped corn dogs and funnel cakes are on the

Coffey said there will also be some new additions.

Roger Westmoreland Concessions will serve nachos with cheese, curly fries and chicken on a stick.

Choo Choo Charlie's Chocolate Company specializes in fudge, and lots of it.

They will have 10 different flavors of fudge, which can be bought by the pound, half pound or quarter pound.



The official poster for Arts Festival Oklahoma depicts a Native American dreaming of the future painted by Dwane Taylor of Weatherford, Okla.

Oklahoma astronaut to take part in opening celebrations

By Ashley Martin Staff Writer

The story of how the poster for Arts Festival Oklahoma came to be is very interesting, said Manuel Prestamo, dean of cultural programs and community development.

When he heard that a Native American man from Wetumka, Okla. was going into space, Prestamo decided he wanted his story to be a part of the festival.

John Herrington, an astronaut with NASA, will be the first Native American to travel to space, Prestamo

"Since he's from Oklahoma, that makes it even more exciting," he said.

Herrington was born in Wetumka and grew up in Colorado Springs. He will help kick off Arts Festival Oklahoma on Friday, Aug. 30 in the college theater.

Herrington will greet festival patrons through a live feed via satellite.

"It was decided that this year's poster should relate to this wonderful thing," Prestamo said.

Prestamo enlisted the help of Weatherford artist Dwane Taylor.

Taylor painted a watercolor depicting a Native American looking toward the sky at a bird and a space ship.

"It's like a painting of a dream," Prestamo said.

Arranging the festival opener with Herrington took about nine months,

I called, e-mailed, everything until we were able to make this happen," he said.

"At first, we weren't sure if [the feed] was going to work out. because [Herrington's shuttle] launch date kept getting switched."

Before an astronaut goes into space, they first must go into quarantine.

Prestamo said Herrington's time in quarantine could have conflicted with the opening of the festival, and he would not have been able to participate in the opening.

Luckily, his launch date is set for November, so he will be able to join us," he

Prestamo said everyone is welcome at the festival.

Music, music everywhere

The schedule of headlining bands at Arts Festival Oklahoma is as follows:

7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30

The Lettermen, a classic vocal group singing tunes from the sixties, seventies and eighties.

8:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 31 The Oklahoma City Philharmonic

7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 1

The Ballet Folklorico Mexico, an authentic dance troupe that will perform regional folk dances of Mexico.

There will be musical entertainment on stage all day during each day of the festival.

www.okccc.edu/afo

Parking areas to be closed for Arts Festival Oklahoma

- VIP section of parking lot D will be closed from now until 7 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 5
- Most of parking lot D will be closed from midnight, Tuesday, Aug. 27th until 7
- The first three rows of parking lot C will be closed from midnight, Thursday, Aug. 29 until 7 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 3

Students relax, have fun at retreat

By Kate Brennan Staff Writer

KCCC student leaders gained a positive spin on their views of life while attending the annual Student Life retreat at Lake Murray. The nearly 50 students and faculty sponsors enjoyed such activities as swimming and karaoke, and played lots of games before beginning the hectic pace of a new semester.

"The future is yours to create a look at life and leadership," said speaker Nancy Hunter Denney of Potential Leadership Training.

LaWanda LaVarnway, photography lab assistant and one of the sponsors of the photography club, said the speaker had great advice.

She said Denney spoke about finding the potential in every person to be a leader as well as looking for the positives in life.

"We had a great time and I can't wait to do it again next year," LaVarnway said.

Above: Derick Asmus, president of the Scholar's League, and member Heath Work take time out to cool off in Lake Murray.

Right: About 50 student club members and club sponsors attended the Student Life Retreat held at Lake Murray in southern Oklahoma.

Above: Marissa Shirley entertains the crowd

with a song during karaoke night.

Photos by LaWanda LaVarnway



Above: Misty Chance, co-sponsor for the Child Development club, signs a "positive statement" sheet.



Above: Mike Jones, coordinator of Student Life, catches some Zs after a day of fun.

Students wait in long lines to pay fees



Hurry up and wait: Hundreds of students waited until deadline day to pay a tuition extension fee, lining the college's corridors the week before classes. College officials tried to make the wait somewhat easier by bringing additional personnel, setting out chairs and a large industrial fan, and providing lemonade. Vice President for Special Projects Gary Lombard was among those who helped out. "Eight or more people have been brought in to help," he said. "They are dividing the lines and have [OKCCC security] officers helping people with questions."

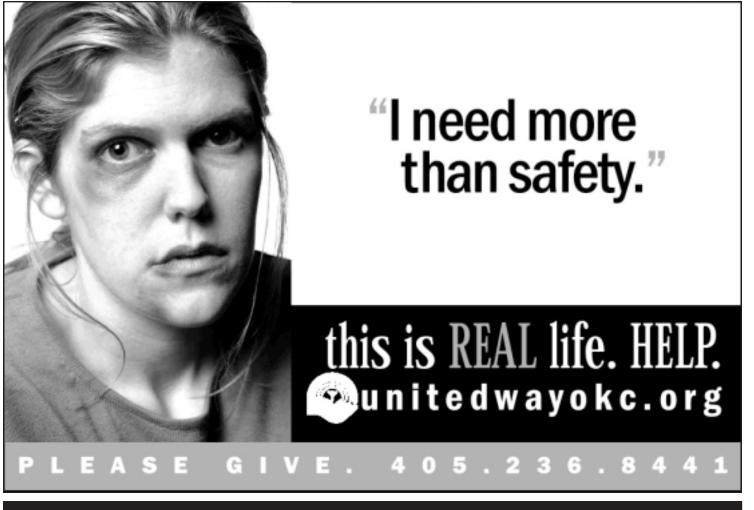


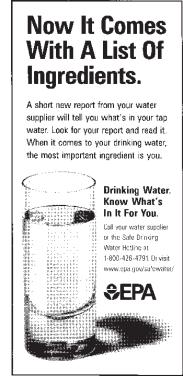
"This is disorganized and ridiculous. They need to staff more people."

—Aryn Noble (pictured with 5-yearold daughter Madeline) Astronomy major

"My wait was nice and long. Don't ever wait until the last minute to pay anything." —David Ruth Business Marketing major









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Gear Up, OKC-GO prove to be success

ACT scores up, college credit earned by high school students

By Maria Real News Writing I student

ACT test scores from OKCCC Gear Up students are above state average.

OKCCC Gear Up students out performed the state average when they took the ACT test last school year, said Gear Up Coordinator DeAnn Campbell.

Gaining Early College Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a national grant program.

Campbell said Gear Up aims to prepare low income students for post-secondary education through mentors, scholarships, college tours and awareness programs.

"It focuses on keeping them in school and letting them know college is possible," Campbell said.

OKCCC is one of seven higher education partners that participate in this pro-

OKCCC Gear Up serves local Oklahoma City Public high schools and alter-

native schools, including Pathways Middle College, located on campus.

Gear Up started at OKCCC in the fall of 1999. Oklahoma City Public Schools were given a five year federal grant to start this program.

The program started with sixth and seventh graders. The grant will follow these students through their high school graduation.

Campbell said that one of the areas to be focused on is fine arts. Some of these high schools do not have fine art programs available

to their students.

Last year Pathways Middle College through Gear Up attended a production of "Romeo and Juliet" at OCU.

"The kids enjoyed that production very much," said Pathways Principal, Carol Brogan.

OKCCC has served over 2,000 students through the Gear Up program. Gear Up opens the door for other opportunities, because of the motivation it provides.

Students can also participate in the OKC-GO program, which allows Okla-

homa City Public School graduates to receive the first 24 credits of their college tuition free. This does not include fees or books.

If students maintain a 1.7 GPA, they are eligible to receive the next year's tuition free.

"OKC-GO is like a blessing from heaven," said Shandaylyn Brothers, former Northeast Academy student.

"Because of all the opportunities available, it eliminates a lot of the excuses not to go to school," Campbell said.

Funds hanging in the balance for Summer Science Academy

By Scott Watkins **News Writing I Student**

The OKCCC Summer Science Academy may lose its funding due to the state education budget shortfalls.

The Academy, open to high school students through an application process, is funded by a grant from the Oklahoma Regents for Higher Education.

OKCCC has been the recipient of this grant for the last 11 years.

The current grant will

fund the Academy through OKCCC. next summer. After that, the future of the Academy "is uncertain" said Dean Anderson, director of the Academy and professor at OKCCC.

"We apply in the fall for the grant. The Academy is completely subject to funding," Anderson said.

"The Academy gives high school students the ability to work with equipment that may not be available at their respective schools," Anderson said.

Some students that have completed the Academy become science students at

The students also go on field trips according to Heather Bailey, biology lab assistant at the OKCCC Science Center.

"They learn skills that are used in the industry on these field trips," Anderson said.

The Summer Science Academy is held in June.

Interested persons may receive an application through their counselor or science teacher.

Applications may also be obtained by calling 682-7508 or visiting the OKCCC website at www.okccc.edu.

Keeping score...



Photo by Kat Mohr

Jack Nichols tries to block Rod Derrer from launching the volley ball over the net while Pam Matthews gets in position to defend her team against Nichols.

Glass fish prove inspirational

By Mindy Stowers **News Writing I Student**

Glass mosaic fish have been the center of attention in the arts and humanities building for the past few months.

OKCCC Professor of Visual Arts Mary Ann Moore is the creator of the glass creatures.

"I created the fish to inspire my students to try new things with mosaic," Moore said.

Moore believes they have been a huge success not only to her students but to other observers as well.

The fish were on display in Dallas from January through May and received lots of attention.

The small catfish in the case took well over 100 hours to complete.

The clay base must be molded and fired before she can begin to arrange the glass pieces.

In addition to creating the fish, Moore has been busy with the final wall of the mosaic mural in OKCCC courtyard.

Moore and her students have been working on the project for 20 years.

Each of her students have spent hours carefully placing cement and glass to create the masterpiece.

Moore is in the process of writing a book to recreate the making of the mural. It is expected to be available at the completion of the fi-

"You're working on humanity, not a grade." Moore tells her students.

Are you a newsworthy student? Want to tell your story? Contact the Pioneer and make HEADLINES! Call Mark at 682-1611, ext. 7675 or editor@okccc.edu

Highlights

Soccer coach needed

A coach is needed for a club soccer team that will be forming soon. It is a paid part-time position. Try-outs will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the soccer field by the SW 74th St. entrance. Students must be enrolled in six hours at OKCCC to be eligible, must bring a validated student ID and a soccer ball to try-outs. Games will start Saturday, Sept. 7.

Student volunteers needed to be Seemore Art

Student volunteers are needed Labor Day weekend, Friday, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 2. Volunteers will serve in teams of two to dress up as Seemore Art, the mascot of the Arts Festival Oklahoma. One person will be Seemore Art and the other person will be the guide. Volunteer teams will receive a free T-shirt, free drinks, an invitation to the volunteer party and a parking pass for the day. For more information or to sign up please call Scott Tigert at 682-7579.

Writers and artists needed for the Absolute

Submissions for Absolute, OKCCC's literary, art and photography journal, are being accepted this semester. Students and staff are encouraged to submit nonfiction, fiction, poetry, black-and-white photography and drawings. The next edition of the Absolute will be published in April 2003. The deadline for all submissions is Dec. 1. For further information, contact the Arts and Humanities office or Clay Randolph at 682-1611 ext. 7238 or crandolph@okccc.edu.

Workforce Oklahoma now at OKCCC

A representative of Workforce Oklahoma Career Connection Center will be available every Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at OKCCC on the second floor of the main building between 2P8 and 2R8 to hand out information. The center will offer a wide variety of services such as job tips and referrals, high demand occupation information, welfare work eligibility and community resource information. For more information call the Career Transitions office at 682-7844.

Join a club or organization

The student organizations fair will be held 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, Aug. 28 and 29 in the college union. All students are welcome to attend and get information about the active clubs at OKCCC. Members will be present to answer questions and sign up new students.

Join the campus activities board

All students are invited to join the Campus Activites Board. CAB will have its first meeting at noon on Sept. 3 with the place to be announced. CAB plans numerous activities throughout the year and is looking for people willing to participate and help to make OKCCC a fun and enjoyable place for everyone.

Hospice volunteers needed

Preferred Hospice is looking for special occasion volunteers to deliver birthday presents and some holiday cheer. For more information call Patricia Kriegel, volunteer coordinator at 602-6473.

Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday for publication in the next issue of the Pioneer.



Photo by Kat Mohr

Grab a sundae: OKCCC librarian Linda Boatright pours caramel topping on an ice cream sundae for OKCCC student Vera Hill. Welcome Back Sundaes is a promotional activity that the Campus Activities Board puts together to welcome students back to school each year.

Students shine at conference

Creation of computer animation and graphics highlight event

By Kate Brennan Staff Writer

Ten Computer-Aided Design students attended the four-day San Antonio SIGGRAPH conference in July.

SIGGRAPH is a conference for the creation of computer animation and graphics.

"It is the largest computer graphics conference in the world," said Doug Gregory, professor of Computer-Aided Design.

Movie giant George Lucas and Dreamworks (Spielberg's production company) were in attendance alongside the OKCCC stu-

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7676 with
the details!

dents.

"They really got a view of their industry and the future," Gregory said.

Most people recognize what it is that CAD does by the special effects in movies, Gregory said.

Students were able to see a new side of how computers are used in their chosen profession.

"[I learned that] computers aren't as bad as I thought they were," said Fatemeh Taghavi, graphic communications major.

"They showed us all new programs."

Students went from booth to booth learning about the new technology available to professionals in the field.

"It was very inspiring," said Adam Benson, student activities assistant.

CAD raised half of the money for this event, but more than \$2,000 was donated in grants from student life, faculty development and the development foundation.

"I just wanted to say thanks [to all who made] our trip possible," Gregory said

Parking lot closures

due to the Arts Festival Oklahoma

Parking lot D: Midnight Tuesday, Aug. 21 to 7 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3

Most of the lot will be closed

Parking lot C: Midnight Thursday, Aug.29 to 7a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 3
Only the first 3 rows will be closed

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: '98 Eagle Talon TSI Turbo. Burgundy, 5-speed, power everything, gray leather interior, CD, sunroof. 37K miles, like new. \$10,900. Call 306-8466.

FOR SALE: '97 Ford Mustang. Green, 5-speed, one owner, power everything, alarm system. 84K hwy miles, excellent condition, drives great. \$5,800. Call 306-8466

FOR SALE: '97 GMC Yukon, 4WD. 80K hwy miles, 350 V-8, black w/ gray interior, loaded, lots of extras. \$17,000 OBO. Call 672-6341 or 408-7285. Please leave a

FOR SALE: '97 Nissan Altima GXE, power windows and locks, CD, spoiler, sunroof, chrome wheels, customized woodgrain interior. \$6,875 OBO. Call 392-9714

FOR SALE: '96 Chevy S-10. 4cyl., 5-speed (manual), 2.2 ltr, 85.000 miles, a/c, all maintenance records. Call Neill at 722-7510.

FOR SALE: '96 Honda Civic OX, 5-speed, a/c, cassette, one owner, new tires, excellent condition. \$5,100 OBO. Call 691-5266 or 824-4998.

FOR SALE: '94 Dodge Shadow, 4-door, automatic, good condition, 116K miles, minor body damage. \$1,595. Call 816-3131.

FOR SALE: '94 Mazda Protege, 5-speed, new tires, tinted windows, new clutch, very clean. \$2,500. Call 314-6322.

FOR SALE: '94 Honda Accord. black, V-tech auto, leather seats, sunroof, power windows and locks. New tires, very nice. Asking \$6,500. Call 314-6322.

FOR SALE: '93 Chevy Lumina APV LS (van). One owner. All power, cassette, AM/FM, load lift system, 15" wheels, new tires, 7passenger modular, red, 138k miles. \$3,500. Call 376-1258.

FOR SALE: '93 Ford Explorer XLT, power locks and windows, sunroof, new tires, new brakes, loaded, runs great. \$4,500 OBO. Call 314-1941

FOR SALE: '92 Mustang, 4cylinder, auto, a/c, runs, great school or work car. \$1,950. Call 691-4531

FOR SALE: '92 Honda Accord

LX, auto, a/c, all power, CD, new timing belts, clean, loaded, 173K miles. \$2,900. Call 229-4279.

FOR SALE: '91 Honda Accord EX, auto, new tires, loaded with all power, 137K miles, a/c, very clean, excellent condition, \$3,900 OBO. Call 229-4279 or 605-0566.

FOR SALE: '90 Mazda 626, 5speed manual drive, alloy rims, tinted windows, CD, cruise, a/c. \$2,500, Call 359-8533.

FOR SALE: '90 Ford Taurus Wagon, auto, very reliable car, clean, 160K. \$1,800 OBO. Call 557-6738

FOR SALE: '89 Chevy S-10 Blazer, 4 wheel drive, 150K miles, new tires, CD, interior damage. \$1.500 OBO. Call 447-7542.

FOR SALE: '84 Honda Prelude, cute, sporty, sunroof, CD, new speakers. Runs well. \$1,500. Call 947-1577

FOR SALE: '75 Corvette, L-48, white, T-tops, a/c, power windows, many extras. \$8,000 OBO. Call 401-7930

ANIMALS

FREE KITTENS: To a good home, 3 males, 2 females. 8 weeks old. Weaned and litter trained. Call 793-7394.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: Electric wheelchair carrier, fits in trailer hitch, electric operated. Also has crank in case of carbattery failure, never hooked up. Paid \$1,100, will take \$800. Call Red at 634-9559.

FOR SALE: Kenwood CD player, MP3 files, flip up, and detachable face. Only used for two months. Originally \$374, asking \$250 OBO, Call 392-9714.

FORSALE: Sprint PCS Phone, Kvocera Qualcomm 3035. \$100 standard charger, car charger, and leather case. Still under 1-year warranty until 11/27/02. Buyer eligible for \$30 credit or \$10 cash. Call Nadia, 824-9509.

FOR SALE: 150-watt Crate 8channel P.A. head, \$350, and Star System speakers. One speaker for \$200; two for \$395. All in good condition. Call 324-0894 or 206-1049.

FOR SALE: Mid-80s Gibson Flying-V, yellow metal-flake with gold hardware, locking tremelo, & case, \$550; mid-80s Gibson Invader w/case, \$350; Carvin X-100-B. 100-watt tube amp. 2channel, EQ, reverb, foot switch, \$350; Carvin 4-12 cabinet, \$350; Peavey 50-wattamp. 2-12 combo phase shifter, reverb foot switch, \$250; Peavey 8-chan. board w/ case, \$150. Call Nelson at 793-2774

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Two-man bass boat with \$300 trolling motor for \$350 or \$250 without motor. Call Nate at 527-4442.

FOR SALE: Small standing case with collectors dolls. Asking \$100. Call Red at 634-9559.

WANTED: Female moving to Oklahoma from Texas wants female roommate with already established home to share expenses, Contact Kelly at 972-342-4702 or kellylei84@yahoo.com.

WANTED: Clean roommate to share current apartment within walking distance of OKCCC. Prefer non-smoking. Call 684-9432.

FOR SALE: White tubular bunk bed, bottom is full size, top twin. \$75 OBO. Call 324-1456.

FOR SALE: Fitness Master Ski Track machine for upper and lower weight-bearing exercise. Comes with owner's manual. FM340. \$60. Call 688-4304

BOOK FOR SALE: PSY-1103 Human Relations book. The Dynamics of Human Communication: A Laboratory Approach by Myers and Myers. \$35. Call Ruth at 942-3121.

FOR SALE: Metal office desk, black and wood laminate, two drawers, good condition. Will need truck to move. \$50 OBO. Call 604-2773 after 5 p.m.

WANTED: Roommate. or someone who has a house or an apartment to rent. I get paid biweekly. Would prefer non-smoking but not essential. Call 681-6130.

NOW HIRING: Employees to conduct surveys over the phone. Part time - mostly evening hours, 20+ hours a week—set your own schedule. Located in Moore. Questions: Please call Arnella of CHS and Assoc. at 415-3017.

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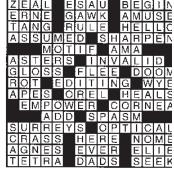
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- 57 Flying saucer: abbr.

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The Oklahoma City Community College Child Development Center announces its participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program. All participants in attendance will be offered the same meals at no separate charge with no physical segregation of, or other discrimination against anv participant because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap. The Child and Adult Care Food Program is an equal opportunity program. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap, write immediately to the State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Program, 2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4599 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250

> Oklahoma City Community College Child Development Center 7777 S. May Avenue Oklahoma City, OK 73159

This statement applied to the center listed below:

Sept. 14 Festival of Hope wellness fair open to general public

"Wellness," Cont. from page 1

coincidence that the festival is being held around the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"I believe this is real timely because they are commemorating 9/11 by having this on Sept. 14," said Moler.

"There are a lot of mental health issues that are always raised on the anniversary of any major catastrophe, just like the mental health issues that arise when there's an anniversary of the death of a family member," he said.

College campuses are always a hotbed of emotions and mental health issues, said Moler, which is why the campus of OKCCC is perfect to host the mental health festival.

"Today's society tends to put a lot of pressure on students, and sometimes they try and reach out, but people don't recognize the warning signals."

Moler said the fair will include lots of interactive booths, exhibits, giveaways and seminars.

Some seminar topics will include depression, sleep disorders, parenting skills, suicide and pet therapy.

Need help or an escort to your car? Call campus security at ext.7691

pioneer.okccc.edu

movie "Best in Show," pet therapy doesn't involve sending your pet to the psychiatrist.

It is a way for adults who have lost a spouse or are living alone to overcome being depressed or living alone by partnering them with a warm, loving pet.

"Pet therapy is one of those things where if you give them a pet, something they can take care of, it tends to give them a spark and something enjoyable to do because there's not always someone to talk to or be around," said Moler.

"Often times it increases their quality of life, and they don't spiral downward in a state of depression."

Positive mental health activities will also be presented during the fair, including sessions on meditation, relaxation therapy and back therapy.

Moler said three honorary co-chairpersons have been named to the event and will be present during the wellness fair.

Lt. Governor Mary Fallin, Mayor of Oklahoma City

Unlike the scene in the Kirk Humphreys and Heisman Memorial Trophy winner Steve Owens are the co-chairs that will be onhand for the wellness fair.

> Moler said he is seeking several student volunteers for the day before and the day the fair to help out. Anyone wishing to sign up may do so in the Recreation and Community Services

> Moler is also looking towards student organizations and clubs to help out and assist as well.

> "We are approaching each of the student clubs through Student Life to give them the opportunity to perform some community service," said Moler.

> Moler said the first two days of the festival will take place off campus. A recognition dinner dance will be held Sept. 12, and a continuing education seminar will be help Sept. 13. Both will be held at the Oklahoma City Marriott on NW Expressway.

> Before the wellness fair begins, a one-mile walk to raise funds will take place on Sept. 14. The walk will

"I believe this is real timely because they are commemorating 9/11 by having this on Sept. 14. There are a lot of mental health issues that are always raised on the anniversary of any major catastrophe, just like the mental health issues that arise when there's an anniversary of the death of a family member."

> -Chris Moler Recreation and Community Services Director

be held in the loop of OKCCC. Registration begins at 8 a.m., with the walk beginning at 8:45 a.m. For more information on

how to get involved in the fair or the walk, contact the Office of Recreation and Community Services at 682-7560.

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