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PIONEER



Photo by MB Doescher

Policy to promote creativity viewed

By Kate Brennan
Editor

Intellectual property now has value at OKCCC.

In an OKCCC Regents' meeting March 24, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Paul Sechrist, presented a proposal meant to promote innovation and invention.

The OKCCC Regents voted in a new intellectual property policy that guarantees students, faculty and staff will retain partial ownership of any material created by them that would have poten-

See "Property," page 12

Spring blossoms: Students enjoy the warm weather outside entry six between classes. The first days of spring brought a welcomed warm-up to campus and allowed students to get out and enjoy much of the new landscaping located around campus.

Support offered to troops, families

Local and online groups offer help and guidelines

By Kate Brennan
Editor

On Wednesday, March 19, President George W. Bush gave the order to begin Operation Iraqi freedom.

Now that the fighting has started, support groups and campaigns have formed to assist troops and their families with the reality of war.

Students and others can find ways to show gratitude and help ease a little loneliness for those in the military.

Letters and care packages are among the most common forms of support and correspondence.

However, due to security issues, all packages must be addressed to a specific person and must have a correct address. Any packages addressed "to the troops" will be destroyed.

Personal hygiene items, toiletries, newspapers from the troop's home city, games, aspirin and baby wipes are

among the items requested, according to Fresh Start Community Church. Perishable items and any items under pressure, such as aerosol cans, will not be accepted. Also needed are non-perishable foods such as microwave items with pop tops, tuna and lunch kits.

In addition, all items must be packaged tightly in a box no larger than 20x20x20 and be no heavier than 70 pounds. A customs form must be filled out at the post office detailing the contents of the package.

Another option is Operation Uplink, which gives the opportunity to buy varying dollar amounts of pre-paid calling cards so troops can call family and friends.

To donate or for more information visit www.operationuplink.org or call 1(800) 479-5228.

Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City

See "Support," page 6

Tuition changes may be in store for some

By Dustin Perkins
Staff Writer

If House Bill 1559 is passed, more students may have the opportunity to attend college.

The bill, authored by State Rep. Kevin Calvey, R-Del City, would make it possible for "undocumented" individuals to pay in-state tuition providing that certain requirements are met.

The requirements, targeted at non-nationals would counter the 1996 Illegal Immigration and Immigrant Responsibility Act passed by Congress which makes it difficult for states to charge in-state tuition for such people.

There are three basic requirements.

A student must have attended high school in Oklahoma for at least three years.

They must also have graduated or received the equivalent of a high school di-

ploma from an Oklahoma school and they must have resided in the state for the three years.

Calvey objects to the term "illegal aliens" being used to refer to students targeted by the legislation.

"We are talking about Oklahomans," he said. "They have grown up here like everyone else."

Other provisions in the bill would make it possible for people whose paperwork is still being processed by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. To be eligible for in-state tuition, this process can take an average of seven years, according to State Sen. Keith Leftwich D-Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma is not the only state taking steps to make things easier on "undocumented" individuals. Texas, Utah, New York, and California all have passed similar

See "Tuition," page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

The French and American power struggle

For the United States, it is a war against Iraq, but for France, it is a game about who plays the King of the World.

France is not simply opposed to America's decision to start the war with Iraq, but also it had been taking actions worldwide to stop the United States before the war started.

France even sent its foreign ministers to Africa especially to persuade three members of the U.N. Security Council to vote against the United States and ensure an American defeat.

Why was France doing this to the United States? There are two major reasons.

According to an essay published in TIME magazine, the first main reason is obvious: France has enormous oil contracts and unpaid Iraqi loans, which will vanish once the United States captures Saddam Hussein.

The second main reason is that France does not want the United States to be the world's most powerful nation.

The little power France yields, currently lies in the power to veto in the United Nations.

So the only strategy they could use was rallying support from other countries to let the United States fight on its own.

Even though France is quiet at the moment, it might start the game again while the war is taking place. It is a game they cannot resist playing.

Pierre Lellouche, a conservative Parliament member and former foreign-policy adviser to Jacques Chirac, the president of France, explained that the French opposition is not about Saddam Hussein or missiles and chemical weapons.

"It's about whether the United States is allowed to run world affairs," Lellouche said.

This political statement made by Lellouche sounds cruel and seems like France doesn't have any concerns about whether the United States is losing its soldiers out there on the battlefield.

By deciding to oppose the United States during the war with Iraq, it only makes the world an even more chaotic place than it already is.

Even if France continues its obsession over who gets to rule the world, they should lay it aside for a while.

Because right now what Americans need is the hope and confidence in believing their troops will make it back home safely someday soon.

—**Caroline Ting**
Staff Writer

pioneer.okccc.edu

Eligible for financial aid?

To the editor:

Financial aid recipients who are planning to attend summer classes and want their summer financial aid eligibility determined should submit a copy of their summer schedule to the Financial Aid Office as soon as they register.

Financial Aid Office staff will begin evaluating summer eligibility soon.

Students who have remaining eligibility for financial aid for the current year will be notified by an award letter prior to the start of summer classes if their schedule is submitted early.

Students who have remaining Pell Grant eligibility for the current year will have their summer tuition and fees covered up to the amount of remaining Pell eligibility.

After tuition and fees, any remaining Pell eligibility will

be available to charge books and supplies at the Bookstore.

If eligible, students may begin charging books and supplies one week before summer classes begin.

Students can still apply for federal student assistance for this year and should plan on filing soon for the next academic year. To file on line for either the current (2002-2003) year or next year (2003-2004) you can go online www.fafsa.ed.gov or use the paper FAFSA available in the Financial Aid Office.

Students choosing to file on line should first apply for a PIN number from the U.S. Department of Education.

A PIN serves as your electronic signature. You can obtain a PIN online at www.pin.ed.gov. Both students and parents of de-

pendent students will need a PIN since parents must also sign the FAFSA in addition to the student.

Students who have any specific questions should visit the Financial Aid office or call 682-7525.

—**Harold Case**
Dean of Financial Aid

All letters to the editor must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request

PIONEER

Vol. 31 No. 26

Kate Brennan.....Editor
Daniel Lapham.....Staff Writer
Caroline Ting.....Staff Writer
MB Doescher.....Photographer
Dustin Perkins.....Ad Manager
Melissa Guice.....Online Editor
Ronna Austin.....Lab Director
Sue Hinton.....Faculty Adviser

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

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

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@okccc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

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



Are you just bursting to be heard by people who can change things?

e-mail us at
editor@okccc.edu

GIBBLEGUTS.COM By Dan Gibson



Honey, I think the dog has worms again.

Comments and Reviews

War reporters go get 'em

To the Editor:

First of all, I want to commend all of our service men and women for the job they are doing in Iraq to secure the safety of America. Initially, I was not pro-war. If there could have been any other possible way to resolve the issues that needed resolving, I would have been thrilled. However, now that we are engaged in battle, I fully support our troops and I hope for a quick end to this war.

My purpose for this letter is to give recognition and credit to the journalists that are covering the unfolding events in Iraq 24 hours a day. Without these people,

it would not be possible for us to turn on the television, any time of the day or night, and get up-to-the-minute information on the progress our troops are making. I give my thanks to the anchors who sit behind the desks, tirelessly reporting on the events as they happen for hours on end. But I am especially proud of the journalists who are on assignment overseas, reporting from Kuwait, Jordan, even from the actual front lines of battle. As of this time, two journalists, one Australian and one British, have been killed while trying to bring their stories to the rest of the world.

Some may say they were crazy or stupid for even going over there, but I think they are anything but. As someone who wants to go into the field of journalism, I believe they showed great courage and strength for taking on those assignments. Courage and strength I'm not sure I possess, for I don't feel I would be brave enough to take the risks those men and women are taking.

While we are all thinking of and praying for our troops, we should all put one in there for the journalists as well.

—Ashley Martin
OKCCC Student

Accept reality, stop fighting and support the troops

To The Editor:

Recently people have either spent their time complaining about the war and why we are there, or the polar opposite saying that we are there for all the right reasons. This has caused many discussions and debates in offices, classes, or homes around the city.

I am here to say that we need to stop complaining and even fighting about why we are there, and start focusing on our troops. We are already there. Nothing can be done to stop it now, so what I am proposing is send letters, even one-sentence notes. Care packages can also be sent to someone if you have a name and an exact address. These men and women are there fighting so that we can have the luxuries that we have today.

On one last note, all I have to say about the people that are whining about why we are there is if you have a suggestion for a peaceful solution, send President Bush a letter telling him what you think will help. I am sure he would welcome it but if you don't have something constructive to say, then bite your tongue and move on with life! I am sure there are more productive things that can be done.

Marissa "Willow" Shirley
OKCCC Student

Rules protect students

To the Editor:

Here we are on the downhill slide of another semester. Plants are beginning to bloom, the sun is beginning to shine more, and we each seem to have some little task that causes us to say, "I just need to. . ." Often, the task really is little. And, often, it wouldn't take long if we could just take the most direct route from where we are to where we want to be. However, we can't always take that most direct route. This can be frustrating to us, especially if we don't know why the path curves rather than goes straight. After all, we just have this one little thing to do and it won't take long, so why would anyone get in our way and try to force rules on us?

I am referring to the Letter to the Editor from the March 24 issue of the Pioneer. A student attempted to use one of the labs on campus without an ID card. Is a student ID so special that another form of picture ID will not do? Actually, sometimes, the answer is yes. The student ID is designed to be scanned into the tracking systems of sev-

eral areas on campus.

A returning student is asked to scan his/her ID before coming into Student Development for advisement. Each lab requests that students scan their cards before entering for service. Other than the obvious joy we derive from bothering students and impeding their progress, why would we ask for an ID?

For one thing, it protects the student. Yes, I know this sounds a lot like the old, "Eat your vegetables because they are good for you" adage that we used to get from our moms (although that is true, too). But, the fact of the matter is that the student ID verifies that the person is indeed a student here. This helps insure that resources paid for by student fees AND by taxpayer dollars serve our students first. The tracking system, which uses the ID's, provides important information about who is using the resources, how frequently, peak times for use, and so forth. Such information is essential for those of us who have to plan budgets, especially in

tough economic times when we are asked to justify why one program is more deserving of funding than another.

OKCCC has always provided more services to our students than other state institutions have to theirs, and the commitment to continue this practice is strong, even in very bleak economic times. Students here get free student ID cards, free E-mail accounts, free parking, and even free printing in the labs. Surely, carrying one's card and using it for entry into the labs isn't asking too much, even of someone who "just needs to do this one little thing."

—Mary Turner
Coordinator of Student
Support Services

Write the troops

To the Editor:

In everyday life, we hear about how job-related stress is eased by contact with family and friends. Can you imagine how stressful those who are in the military are finding their jobs?

We are writing this letter to urge everyone with a friend, loved one, family member, or acquaintance in the military to write to them. Especially during this time they need to know that they are remembered and cared about. This does not mean that you have to write long letter. A short note or a joke will do. You just need to let them know you are there for them.

—Abilities Galore
Members

Quote of the Week:

"Know your limits, not so you can honor them, but so that you can smash them to pieces and reach for magnificence."

—Cherie Carter-Scott

Actress bones up on technique

By **Lori Poe**
News Writing I Student

Stacey LaGrange, 22-year-old journalism major, landed her first lead role at OKCCC in the play, "Sylvia." This is not your average play. The lead character happens to be a dog. A labradoodle, part lab, part poodle, is the role LaGrange was transformed to for the play.

She said her best instruction came from a friend at home.

"I have a dog that I love dearly," said LaGrange. She said she watched his mannerisms carefully to see how she should act.

LaGrange described the play as "young and fresh," although it is rated PG 13 due to language. It involves a man named Greg who discovers Sylvia (LaGrange) in a park. Bringing the dog home results in having almost a second woman in the household alongside his wife.

Theater professor Ruth Charnay, directed the play said, "[The play] just touches people." She said that she has been directing for 15 to 16 years. This is currently her second year at OKCCC and is completing her doctorate at Texas Tech University.

LaGrange said "Sylvia" has a fun script. "It is written beautifully. I am always willing to take risks." Playing the role of a dog is a risk but LaGrange said she loves every minute of her acting.

The drama department is always searching for new talent for each play. Students are not required to be drama majors. Students are advised to check the drama bulletin board to discover when play auditions will be held. LaGrange said that by participating in the play she has received a tuition-fee waiver to pay some of her OKCCC bills.

**Have a story idea?
Have a
complaint? Want to
share your opinion? Or
write a review? e-
mail the editor:
*editor@okccc.edu***

Bad doggy



Photo by MB Doescher

Stacey LeGrange, left, plays the lead role as a dog in the play Sylvia. Jessica Ball, right, plays the wife of the man who finds Sylvia in the park one day. This hilarious play revolves around Sylvia's relationship with her master and her master's wife.

Textbook profits support activities

By **Chelsie Taylor**
News Writing I Student

Students often wonder why textbooks cost so much to buy, yet bring so little when they are re-sold at the end of the semester. Bookstore director Kathy Reed explained that book prices are set by publishers, with the college adding a routine mark-up.

A new geography book costs \$92.85 while a used geography book costs \$69.85. This is a difference of \$23.00. A new English Composition Book costs \$62.50 while a used one is only 44.25. This is a difference of \$18.25. If the wholesale price of a book were \$50 students would pay \$63.25.

The prices of books are determined by taking the wholesale price and adding a 26.5 percent standard markup. Which give the college a general 21 percent profit margin.

Students hate trying to sell a book back only to hear: "Sorry, we have new books for next semester." Again, the bookstore is not to blame,

Reed said. "It is up to the faculty to determine how long they want to keep an old book before getting a new one", said Cathy Reed, bookstore director.

Books are usually updated every three to four years. The bookstore buys back as many books as they need for the next semester. They also take into consideration how worn the book is, said Lanita Haynes, bookstore buyer assistant.

A student may receive up to 50 percent of the original cost of the book when selling it back, said Reed. She said that there are many factors that are considered when determining the cost the book will be bought back for, including how many semesters the book has been in use, the type of book (workbook or hard-back book) and its condition.

Some students are happy with book buy back. "I've been here for two years and have had pretty good luck selling back my books", said Lindsay Ewing, education major.

When books aren't needed anymore, the bookstore gives them to the publisher or has a sale table set up for students to buy them at a cheap price.

Telecourses to be offered on the Internet

**By Kristin Ball
News Writing I
Student**

Telecourses will soon be accessible to any student with an Internet connection. By taking a telecourse, students aren't bound to traditional on campus courses, but can take a class anytime, anywhere.

Beginning this summer, students will be able to view lessons through a new option called streaming video. This will allow students to view lessons through any high-speed Internet access including broadband, DSL, or cable modem, explained Glenda Prince, coordinator of telelearning.

The new option will allow students not to be time or place bound.

Students can get on the Internet at anytime and watch their video lessons with the click of a button, Prince said.

Currently students can only view video lessons in the college library, Oklahoma City Cox cable, or a local OETA channel.

Telecourse providers across the nation are beginning to offer streaming video because of its accessibility. OKCCC will be the second provider of any Oklahoma college.

Distance education offers a student the flexibility of taking tests at any approved proctor site.

One OKCCC student even took a test in a different country, Prince said.

"I'm really proud of this college," she said. "We've always been a leader in distance education and progressive in our delivery methods."

Last year OKCCC had 2,000 telecourse students, the second largest telecourse enrollment in the

state. Prince hopes that streaming video will increase telecourse enrollment and also allow telecourses to be provided for the eight-week, mid-spring and mid-fall sessions.

Prince hopes that in the future students will be able to view their orientation and review sessions through streaming video as well.

For more information on telecourses please contact the office of telelearning at 682-7838 or see the website at www.okccc.edu/telelearning.



Photo by MB Doescher

It's spring: Carolyn Farris' figure drawing class enjoys the nice spring weather outside entry 4 on Wednesday the 26. The class is sketching the face of the gentleman wearing a hat on the right side of the picture. Farris stated this was a way for her class to celebrate the arrival of spring.

Job fair for health profession students

In response to the high demand for health care workers, Oklahoma City Community College will host its first annual job fair for health profession students and graduates on April 1 and 2 at the college, 7777 S. May Ave.

Recruiters from various companies will be available to answer questions about job openings and employment opportunities.

Students should bring résumés for those employers interested in conducting on-site interviews.

Staci McPhearson, director of employment services, said employers will be targeting students and graduates from a variety of health professions including: nursing, EMS, occupational therapy assistant, physical therapy assistant, surgical technician, medical assistant, respiratory care, and orthotics and prosthetics.

"There is such an enormous demand for health care professionals right now. We thought it would be a good idea to showcase those students separately," said McPhearson.

"This opportunity will also allow them to speak to recruiters in their area of interest," she said.

The job fair will be held April 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. and on April 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the College Union in rooms 1, 2 and 3.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call McPhearson at 682-1611 Ext. 7683.

Volunteers needed for Festival of the Arts downtown

**By Jennifer Miller-Lavin
News Writing I Student**

Volunteers are needed to help assist with workshops from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. during the "Festival of the Arts," held in downtown Oklahoma City April 23 through 25.

GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) and the Oklahoma City Arts Council are teaming up to host the "Festival of the Arts," that will be located downtown OKC at Hudson and Sheridan.

Students majoring in or taking classes in subjects such as dance, music, theater, art administration, visual arts, or film are encouraged to volunteer. Free parking and lunch will be provided to volunteers. OKCCC professors that have already volunteered to participate and to promote their programs are John Helton, Carolyn Farris and Mary Ann Moore.

Those interested in more information contact De Ann Campbell, GEAR UP Partner Coordinator at 686-1611, ext. 7654.

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Pioneer online
at okccc.edu**



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security at
ext.7691**

Students outspoken about Iraqi war

By Daniel Lapham
Staff Writer

OKCCC students perceive the war in Iraq in different ways. Some agree with it, some don't.

Seth Kane, commercial art major, is one student who thinks the United States should be at war.

"We can't let people push us around, because if we give in to [Saddam], others will follow," Kane said.

Kane said he is directly affected by the war.

"My friend Daniel Williams, who I grew up with, is a medic in Iraq right now," he said. "He is over there protecting our country. It makes me realize that one person can make a difference."

Jeff Young, multimedia and film major, also said the war is necessary, although he wishes it weren't.

"I'm not happy about the war but I think it is necessary because I do not think Saddam would have stopped with taking over Kuwait," Young said.

"I believe [the U.S.] will find weapons of mass destruction. This concerns me because this seems to cast a bad light on the United Nations' ability to resolve the issue."

Young said the U.N. had already set the

ultimatum for Saddam during the first war but the Iraqi leader has been "playing a cat-and-mouse game" for 12 years.

"I do not like violence or war," he said. "My heart cries each time I hear of one of our soldiers dying. Unfortunately, standing up for what is right always involves some kind of sacrifice."

Dionne Millings, pharmacy tech freshman, said the United States should take care of its own problems before worrying about things happening overseas.

"There are enough problems here in the United States," she said.

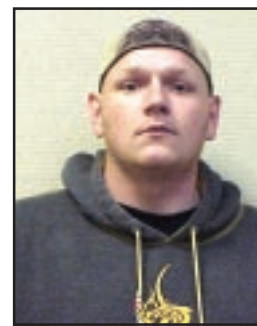
"We need to solve our problems before going overseas and telling others how to solve their problems. Also, too much money is being spent on the war when we need to feed people here."

David Ruth, marketing and management double major, said he tries to not place too much focus on news of the war because it affects his well-being.

"I try not to pay attention to [the war] because it makes you think [of] the wrong things like violence..." Ruth said.

Kane said, regardless of a person's feelings about the war, the troops should be treated with respect.

"I believe people should say what they feel, but in the same place, if you feel that the war is unjust you should still support those who have to fight in it for your freedom."



"We can't let people push us around, because if we give in to [Saddam], others will follow,"

—Seth Kane



"We need to solve our problems before going overseas and telling others how to solve their problems."

—Dionne Millings



"I'm not happy about the war but I think it is necessary."

—Jeff Young



"I try not to pay attention to [the war] because it makes you think [of] the wrong things like violence..."

—David Ruth

Support available to military, their families

"Support,"

Cont. from page 1

is accepting monetary donations to be used for perishable food and emergency grants for immediate needs, according to NewsOK.com.

All checks can be sent to Tinker Air Force Base, 3420 D Ave., Room 105B, Midwest City, OK 73145.

On the homefront, support is needed as well. Numerous groups offer emotional support as well as guidance to family and friends of military men and women.

Lynn Clifton is an Oklahoman and an Air Force mom.

She started a local chapter of Mothers of Military

after 9/11, thinking that war would be eminent.

There are 11 current members of this MOM chapter.

They welcome new members and also encourage girlfriends, wives, sisters and aunts to join as well. The group meets once a month and welcomes those from all branches of the military.

More information about the MOM chapter can be obtained by visiting the national website, located at www.mothersofthemilitary.com.

If attending a meeting is not your style, the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center has set up a toll-free Family Assistance Hotline at (800) 833-6622 where families can get information about



"To all of the men and women of the United States Armed Forces now in the Middle East, the peace of a troubled world and the hopes of an oppressed people now depend on you. That trust is well placed."

"Now that conflict has come, the only way to limit its duration is to apply decisive force. And I assure you, this will not be a campaign of half measures, and we will accept no outcome but victory."

—President George W. Bush
in a statement March 19

A March 24 report on the New York Times website states: A new poll from the Pew Research Center reflected worries about the war's progress — 38 percent said the conflict was going well on [March 24], down from 71 percent [March 21]. Still, overall support for the war and President Bush's stewardship remained high at 70 percent.

a variety of military issues.

Also, several groups offer support via online message boards.

One such group is Air Force parents and Spouses, a message board for families and members of the U.S. Air Force.

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AirForceParentsandSpouses>

to request membership in the group.

Another Yahoo group offers support to all branches of the military, and their family and friends. The message board 4Military-Families is located at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/4MilitaryFamilies>.

The Navy's website offers access to a group called

LIFELines Services network. At their site, there are articles on coping with fears of a parent going to war, coping with anxiety when a loved one is deployed, and a variety of other helpful links and phone numbers for all branches of the military.

They are located at www.lifelines200.org.



The dive tower at the aquatic center has platforms 5-meters, 7-meters and 10-meters above the surface of the water. Ten meters is equivalent to 32.81 feet.



Fans from the University of Arizona applaud after a successful dive attempt by one of their athletes.

Olympian dives at aquatic center

Blythe Hartley, born in Edmonton, Canada, swept the women's events at the aquatic center winning the 1-meter springboard, 3-meter springboard and platform diving championships. Hartley, an Olympian at the 2000 summer games in Sydney, blew away the competition. Hartley won each event by more than 20 points, which is like winning a NASCAR race by more than a mile.

The 2003 Zone E diving championships were held at the OKCCC aquatic center, from March 13 through 15. Men and women from over ten schools competed for spots in the NCAA Championships that were held March 20-22 at the James E. Martin Aquatics Center on the campus of Auburn University in Georgia.

Hartley, a highly decorated junior diver in Canada, is well on her way to appearing in the upcoming Olympic games in Athens, Greece.

At the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Hartley placed tenth overall in the 3-meter springboard competition. She won her first world championship one-year later at the 2001 world championships in Fukuoka, Japan, receiving the gold medal for her performance on the 1-meter springboard.

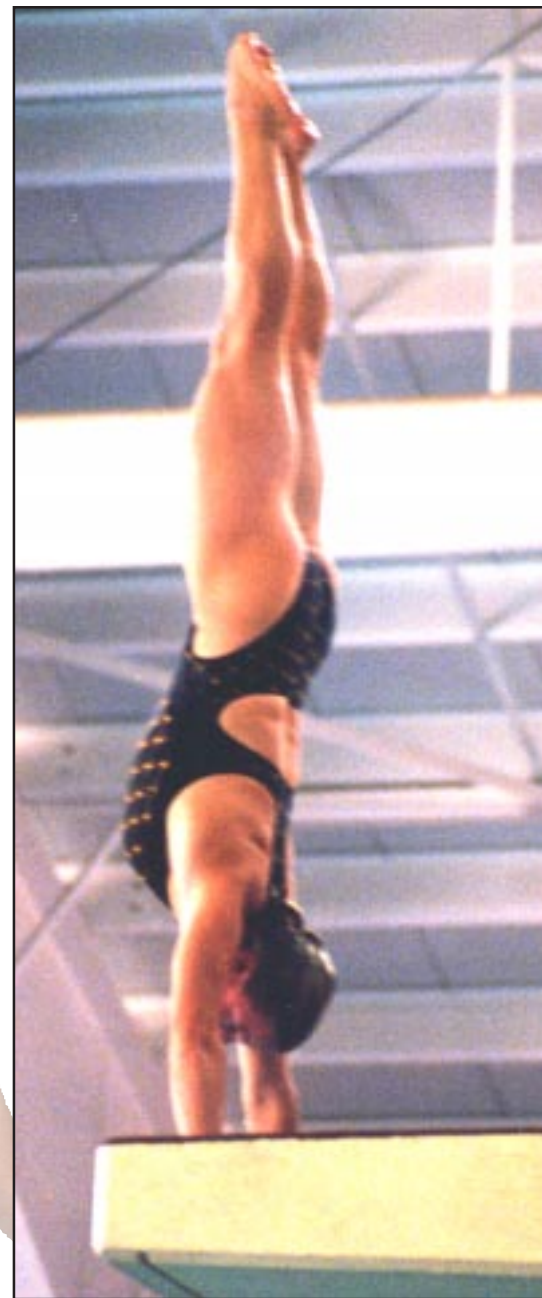
At the 2002 Commonwealth Games in England, Hartley had her most well-rounded showing yet. She placed second on the 1-meter springboard, fourth on the 3-meter springboard and third in the platform diving competition.

After sweeping the Zone E competition here at the college and helping her school, the University of Southern California, to place third overall, Hartley advanced to the NCAA Championships at Auburn University.

Hartley did well at the championships, winning third on the 1-meter, second on the 3-meter, and second on the platform. After completing the competition Hartley stated: "I'm pleased even though this wasn't the best performance I could have turned in."

Even though she didn't do as well as she thought she should have, Hartley was the most consistent diver on the women's side as she was the only diver to place in the top three in every event.

The University of Auburn won the NCAA National team swimming and diving championships in their home pool.



Blythe Hartley, of the University of Southern California performs a somersault that started as a handstand during the platform diving competition. Hartley performed the handstand on the 10-meter platform.



Maggie Roberts focuses before a dive in the 1-meter springboard finals. Roberts was the lone diving representative from the University of Hawaii.

Photos and Text by MB Doescher

Computer science enrollment drops two years in a row

By Billy Adams
News Writing I Student

Sitting in a normally uncomfortable chair, hands placed in an otherwise uncomfortable position, eyes hurting from staring at a blinking, bright electronic screen. This is how the average student can be found at various times during the day.

Before school, during lunch, after school or late at night, students often use computers to check e-mail, grades or surf the web.

Despite the obvious and growing interest in technology and the rate at which technology is advancing, enrollment in the computer field has dropped.

"During an economic downturn, people turn to general education classes rather than lock into a specific area," said Doug Gregory, computer-aided design professor.

What this means to the Information Technology department is that many students are starting to question whether the computer industry is still offering the same chances for success that it has before he said.

According to OKCCC statistics, the enrollment in the computer science division has dropped 22 percent since fall 2000. It has dropped more than 10 percent in the last year alone.

Al Heitkamper, acting dean of IT, said the figures are striking, considering that "150,000 jobs are still available [nationwide] in information technology."

He said many students are turned off from IT because they see the economic drop that began with the dot com crash and are scared there won't be jobs for them in that field.

Of the students who are still entering the computer science division, some have never considered the economic implications of that field, only the satisfaction of the work.

"The economy was never a big factor," said Jake Behrens, computer science sophomore. "Taking black-and-white text, and turning it into something visual, is incredibly gratifying."

Heitkamper said many people seek training in order to stay up to date in the job market and because they didn't get computer training in their original undergraduate work.

Free shots offered

The college's Child Development center will offer free immunizations from 2 to 5 p.m. April 16 when the Caring Van, a traveling immunization van, makes a stop.

Child Development Center director Charlotte Wood-Wilson encourages parents to bring their children and their shot records.

"This is just one of the important services we offer to the community."

According to the Oklahoma Caring Foundation website, the Oklahoma Caring Van program is designed to help Oklahoma children receive the immunizations they need to stay healthy. The vans are staffed by registered nurses who administer free vaccinations to children at child care centers and licensed child care homes.

Call Wood-Wilson at 682-1611, ext. 7612, for more information.

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Flag football league to start play April 3

OKCCC Intramural Flag Football league is scheduled to start soon. League play begins at 3 p.m. Thursday, April 3. Games will be played from 3 to 5 p.m. each Thursday on the OKCCC campus.

Those who don't have a team may sign-up as a free agent said Sports and Recreation Specialist Karen Hartline.

"We'll put you on a team."

Sign-up is at the Wellness Center desk. For more information, call Hartline at 682-1611, ext. 7786.

Classified Ads FREE to students, faculty, & staff. Go by the Pioneer office (2M6) and fill out a classified form by 5 p.m. Tuesday for the next issue.

Contact the editor!!!
Call 682-1611, ext. 7675
or editor@okccc.edu

College introduces high school students to biotechnology

**By Jennie Keeling
News Writing I Student**

The biotechnology program at OKCCC is teaming up with area high schools to give the students an opportunity to be exposed to serious science at an early age, says Dr. Charlotte Mulvihill, professor of Biotechnology at OKCCC.

Biotechnology has been listed as one of Oklahoma's top priorities for growth and development, yet there are too few skilled biotechnicians to meet local demand in this field, Mulvihill said.

This shortage is partly because high school students don't know about biotechnology, which involves integrating biology and chemistry into a lab setting.

Teachers from Oklahoma City Public schools attend workshops hosted by OKCCC where they focus on how to run the labs and teach the concepts and materials of biotechnology in the classrooms.

"This program gives the students some interesting and fun experiments to participate in," said Mulvihill.

"Working with the high schools hopefully will bring new students into the program.

If they don't know what biotechnology is, then they won't be open to its available opportunities."

This program is a good chance to recruit students into the biotechnology program at OKCCC while allowing the community college to do something for the community by training the teachers, Mulvihill said.

All biotechnology students who have graduated and want jobs have been placed in jobs in their field, she said. Some graduates further their education beyond an associate degree.

"This program will prepare students for a good job if they enjoy science," she said.

"It's a very exciting and growing field.

"In the program they get to work with the best equipment and get to spend lots of time in the lab. They become very comfortable with it."

The Biotechnology Program at OKCCC is designed to train students to be skilled biotechnology technicians.

Students are educated in the fundamentals of biology and chemistry with special emphasis on molecular biology and its use in separation techniques, gene splicing, recombinant DNA, fermentation and cell development and production processes in many areas, according to the college catalog.

Biology prof likes technology

**By Kelly Mitchell
News Writing I Student**

After serving nine years as an adjunct professor of biology, Roger Choate is now a full-time professor. He left his teaching post at Bethany High School to join the OKCCC staff in August.

Choate teaches general biology, zoology and physiology.

He said he decided to take this position as full-time professor because it came with less paperwork and more money.

"Full-time [college] teaching gives me a chance to stay current in my field," Choate said.

No more teaching at night is the



Photo by MB Doescher

Bounce it Ya'll wins 5-on-5 title game

**By MB Doescher
Staff Writer**

The five-on-five basketball league crowned its champion March 27.

Least Unexpected was the Cinderella of the tournament. They were the eighth seed entering the tournament yet advanced to the title game to face Bounce it Ya'll, the number two seed in the tournament. Unfortunately, the glass slipper didn't fit Cinderella as Least Unexpected lost 73-46 in the tournament finale.

Eight teams competed in the season ending tournament whose seeds were determined through the course of the season. The league played its games every Tuesday and Thursday.

Competition was fierce during the season, with more than one verbal fight breaking out during the course of some games.

Overall, Karen Hartline said, "I like seeing the students interact with each other and meeting new people. This was a competitive league that we did our best to keep fun.

Up next for the Intramural department is Flag Football, whose games begin Thursday April 3rd.



Photo by MB Doescher

Eric Lavasque, left, and Joe Day, right of the Ninja Turtles try to stop Dominic Smith, center, of Least Unexpected from scoring in the 5-on-5 basketball tournament. Least Unexpected won the game and advanced to the finals where they eventually lost to Bounce it Ya'll 73-46.

best part about going full-time at OKCCC, he said.

"I really enjoy the world around us and want to understand why it is the way it is," Choate said. "By teaching biological sciences I get to discuss those very things, and hopefully spark a curiosity and an enjoyment of the world. "Good teachers love the subject they teach, and want to see students achieve what they want to achieve."

He is looking forward to some changes in his class this year.

His improvements include doing more electronic lectures, notes, and PowerPoint presentations, instead of the traditional blackboard style. He feels these tools can make a lecture more animated, colorful and interest-

ing, because most students grew up with Nintendo, Sega and various video games and can relate to this technique.

"When we come to a better appreciation and understanding of our world, we come to a better appreciation of ourselves," said Choate.

**Voice your
opinion.
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Highlights

Health Care Job Fair

OKCCC will host its first annual job fair for health profession students and graduates from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 1, and from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2, in CU 1, 2 and 3. Students should bring their résumés for possible on-site interviews. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Staci McPhearson at 682-1611, ext. 7683.

Free immunizations

The caring van that offers free immunizations will be in the Child Development Center parking lot from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 16. Parents should bring their children along with their shot records to receive any needed immunizations. Immunizations are free of charge. For more information, stop by the Child Development Center office located south of the OKCCC campus facing May Avenue.

Learn to Swim program

OKCCC is enrolling children in the Learn to Swim program. Classes will meet at 9 a.m. Saturdays beginning on March 29 for four weeks. Cost is \$19. Children age 18 months to 3 years may enroll in the Parent/Tot class, and at least one parent must be in the water with a child. A variety of classes for different ages and skill levels are also offered. Payment is required to reserve a spot at the time of enrollment at the Recreation and Community Services office. Financial assistance may be available to those who qualify. For more information, call Amanda Hendricks at 682-1611, ext. 7442 or e-mail at ahendricks@okccc.edu.

Deadly dieting

Phi Theta Kappa is inviting a health consultant, Beverly Amos, to speak to the club about eating disorders. The speech will be from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, April 7, in CU1. For more information, call Richard Rouillard at 682-1611, ext. 7389.

Easter Fund-raiser and final meeting

The Abilities Galore will have a fund-raiser from Thursday, April 10 to Friday, April 18, leaving the weekend. The club will give away scholarships to club members who have been active and achieved a GPA of 2.0 or higher. Application forms will be available in the Services to Students with Disabilities office. The deadline is Friday, May 2. Announcements will be made during the final meeting at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 6. Locations for the fund-raiser and the final meeting will be posted on the Organizations Board. For more information, call Meredith Dunkeson at 631-3965 or Jenna Howard at 682-1611, ext. 7621.

OU Health Sciences Center Tour

The Health Professions Club will be touring the College of Medicine, College of Pharmacy and the College of Allied Health from 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday, April 4. Transportation will be provided and the club will be leaving from OKCCC at 12:30 p.m. For more information, call April Brewer at 354-9667.

Friday Night Fever

An evening of fun and games for children will be from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Friday, March 28, at OKCCC. Children ages 6 to 15 can attend for \$15. Pizza, drinks, swimming, games and a movie will be included. Children need to bring a swimsuit, towel, snack and/or money for a snack. Space is limited to 25. Payment is required to reserve a spot. To register, call Karen Hartline at 682-7860.



Photo by MB Doescher

Future plans for engineers: Traci Hartman, standing left, and Eric Soza, standing right, speak to the engineering club about the degree plan in industrial engineering offered at the University of Oklahoma. Around thirty members of the engineering club listened to Hartmann and Soza discuss curriculum, professors, and job opportunities.

Students help build houses

By Caroline Ting
Staff Writer

A total of 48 students signed up for the first Habitat for Humanity project, which was an unexpected response for Student Life.

There were some extra entries besides the 48 volunteers but they will have to wait for the next project, said Liz Largent, director of Student Life.

According to Largent, Habitat for Humanity is an organization that helps limited income families build their houses.

Largent also said students should contribute more to the community to continue creating the better quality of life, mainly because of what is going on in the world right now.

This is the first year that Student Life is sponsoring a project in such nature, Largent said.

"It was very hard to judge what the [student] interest would be," Largent said. "But we really have been

overwhelmed with the number of people that have shown interest in [the project]."

Largent said Student Life will definitely organize another Habitat for Humanity project next semester, and they might even have two sites or two consecutive weekends so that more students can participate.

Most of the students who signed up this time are from different clubs and organizations on campus but the event is open to any OKCCC student who is 16 or older.

Largent said no specific skills are necessary for the project because there will be lots of other jobs to do, which don't require any knowledge or information about how-to.

For the project, students should wear clothing that they don't mind getting very dirty and also wear closed-toe shoes.

Students who are interested in joining the next Habitat for Humanity project should be aware of the related information

given out during club meetings, fliers around campus and highlights in the Pioneer.

Student Life won't be notified by the Central Oklahoma Habitat for Humanity about which house in the Oklahoma City area students will be building until the last day before the project.

Volunteered students will be participating in the project from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 5.

For questions or additional information, contact Liz Largent at 682-1611, ext. 7596.

Got club news?

**Call Caroline
at 682-1611,
ext. 7676
with the
details.
Thanks!!**

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: '02 Pontiac Sunfire. 2-door, 60K miles. GC. \$8,000. Call 756-2860 or 756-6207.

FOR SALE: '97 Mazda 626 LX, fully loaded, green, excellent condition, non-smoker. \$3,750. Call 408-2753.

FOR SALE: '96 Honda Civic EX. Black, gray interior, 2-door, power windows, locks & mirrors. Sunroof, spoiler, multi-disc changer, automatic, new timing belts & tires. In good condition, perfect mechanical condition. \$7,000 OBO. Call 816-4338.

FOR SALE: '95 Ford Taurus Sedan, white, 3.0 Liter V6, a/c, power seats & windows. \$2,800 OBO. Call Eddie at 246-2361.

FOR SALE: '95 Mitsubishi Eclipse, red, 5-speed, a/c, CD player, sunroof, alarm, good condition. 123K miles. \$4,200 OBO. Call 206-2773.

FOR SALE: '94 Isuzu pickup. 2.3 liter. Heat, custom wheels, tinted windows. Wrecked at front. Call George at 359-8533.

FOR SALE: '92 Honda Civic Hatchback, 2nd owner, 117k miles, black, 5 speed, has new Sprint Springs and Altezza lights, vinyl seats. Very clean. Excellent condition. \$3,500. Call 229-3683 or 605-0566.

FOR SALE: '92 Cougar. White exterior, interior, power steering, power windows and seats, 17" chrome wheels. Great car. Asking \$2,900 OBO Call Rick at 528-9663.

FOR SALE: '88 Honda Accord. Power windows/locks. Automatic. Tan on tan. \$900 OBO. For more information call Star at 427-0399.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: Roommate to share 2-bed apartment on North side OKC. Bills included in cost of rent. Call Marissa at 755-1867.

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FOR SALE: For all your flooring needs contact fellow student Taey Stevenson. Measurements and estimates are free. Call 635-8222.

FOR SALE: Beauty cosmetics and make-up at cost. Full size couch in good condition. Call 912-0890. Please leave message.

FOR SALE: Sauder computer desk with built-in hutch. \$100. Please call 359-8190.

FOR SALE: 1998 GMC gray tweed truck seat. Has both headrests. Nice condition. Asking \$150. Call 229-8385.

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FOR SALE: Beautiful black lacquer dresser with gold trim. Includes large mirror. \$150. Call Trisha at 632-7750.

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NEEDED: PT instructors. Non-profit seeking current CPR/first aid instructors or training experience preferred. Individual needs to be flexible, good communicator and available weekdays/evenings. Spanish speaking a plus. HS diploma and 18 years of age required. Send resumes to: 601 NE 6th st. OKC, OK 73104 or call 232-7121 x 131 for an application.

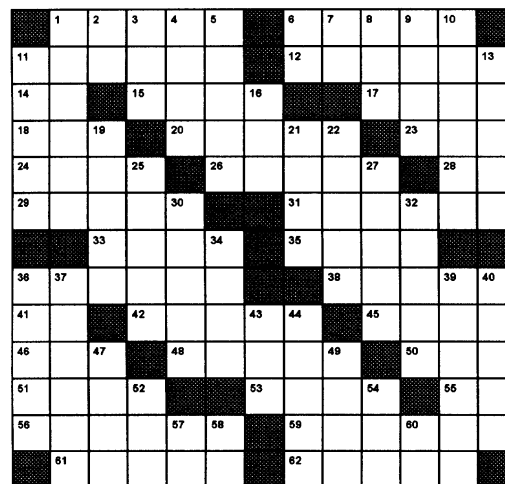
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weekly crossword

puzz116

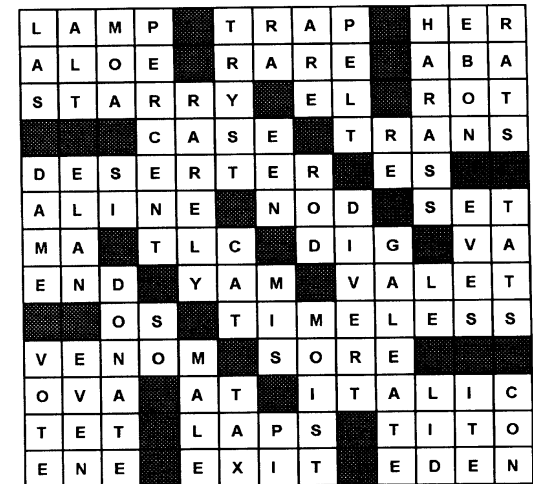


ACROSS
1 Boutique
6 Contest area
11 Age
12 Vow
14 Impersonal pronoun
15 Donated
17 Unknown (abbr.)
18 Bill
20 Pry
23 Having the quality of (suf.)
24 Solo vocal piece
26 Evaluates
28 Argon symbol (abbr.)
29 Fish hook leader
31 To an excessive degree
33 Variant of scion
35 Upper part of glacier
36 Edam
38 Fr. painter Fernand
41 Male pronoun
42 Transmits sensory stimuli
45 Rattling throat sound
46 Dine

48 Horses
50 Rent
51 Same
53 Mexican food
55 Southern state (abbr.)
56 Races
59 Outdoors person
61 Desires
62 Coach

DOWN
1 Planet
2 Near
3 Drag; haul
4 Speak
5 No
6 Public announcement (abbr.)
7 Football position (abbr.)
8 Extravehicular activity (abbr.)
9 No one
10 Lacking tone
11 King of golden touch
13 Passage or opening
16 A Gabor

puzz115



19 My sister's daughter
21 Jacket (England)
22 Take pleasure in
25 Strange
27 Cut
30 Not a winner
32 Royal
34 Roman emperor
36 Shout of approval
37 Firmament
39 Number
40 Repave
43 Large vessel; tub
44 Decree by legislation
47 Distance (pref.)
49 Blemish
52 No (Scot.)
54 Indicates tumor (suf.)
57 Three feet (abbr.)
58 Steamship (abbr.)
60 3.14159

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OKCCC encourages creativity

"Property,"
Cont. from page 1

tial marketability for commercial use.

Faculty, staff and students will be able to enter into an intellectual property agreement and use the college to create or invent a product for a minimum fee of 50 percent of all the profits, if the product is used commercially, according to the new policy.

The remaining 50 percent would be split into two funds. Half would go to a development fund that would encourage the creation of intellectual property by allowing faculty and staff to petition for a research grant, said Fritz Kiersch, professor of film and video production who served on the intellectual property committee.

The other share would go to the college operating budget.

Sechrist said he realized the policy was needed because of the growth and creativity of both the students and the faculty.

"We want to encourage a 'Blair Witch Project' on campus," he said referring to the rapidly growing film and video department.

Kiersch said, in a film

class, it is much better to teach through experience than through lecture and book work.

"Film is a by-product of the learning process and that film is a potentially revenue generating property," he said. "We have to make it clear how that property is divided or shared."

President Bob Todd thinks faculty and staff will look at the new policy as a step in the right direction.

"It's not perfect, but no policy is," he said.

Todd said he believes the policy will be accepted in the manner that was intended — innovation.

The old policy gave no ownership to the creator and gave 100 percent of all rights to the OKCCC Board of Regents.

The revised policy refers to all who use the college to create a saleable product, and applies equally to students, faculty and staff.

Kiersch believes the policy will promote creative pursuits for staff, faculty and students wanting to take advantage of the materials available at OKCCC.

"It's a pretty aggressive policy when compared to other schools," Kiersch said.

"I'm sure it will motivate my [film] students."

Tuition bill goes to Senate

"Tuition,"
Cont. from page 1

bills.

Many OKCCC students could benefit from the passing of the bill.

Dean of Admissions Gloria Cárdenas Barton said the bill may encourage some students to attend college.

"I would imagine there are students who never even try to apply for admission because of their family's immigration status," she said. "We always ask foreign-born students for verification of their residency status before we admit them. It is likely [some of them] leave and never return if such verification does not exist."

Leftwich said the bill is about giving people the opportunity to make some-

thing of themselves.

"We are about 100,000 degreed professionals short here in Oklahoma of what we need to be competitive economically across the country and the world for that matter," he said.

"This is in the interest really of every Oklahoman to expand the frontiers of opportunity to these young people."

Not all politicians are as supportive though.

State Rep. Lance Cargill, R-Harra, said, making life in Oklahoma more attractive would draw more illegal aliens.

State Rep. Bill Graves, R-Oklahoma City, who also is a critic of HB 1559, said lax laws concerning immigration contributed to the 2001 terrorist attacks.

The bill passed the house 81-18 Feb. 20. It is now in Senate committee and, if unamended, will continue to a vote of the Senate.



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