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# PIONEER

## Flu virus hitting state full force

Oklahoma rating is 'widespread' officials say

By Lacey Lett  
Staff Writer

The flu season has hit early this year — and with a vengeance.

The Centers for Disease Control reports an estimated 36,000 people die from the flu every year, most often elderly people 65 years or older. This year, it's anticipated those numbers will rise.

And, worse, no one anticipated the increase or severity so there is a shortage of flu vaccinations.

That's bad news for places like Oklahoma where the flu is considered widespread as of Dec. 5, said Ken Caderat, nursing manager for the immunization department at the Oklahoma Department of Health.

Caderat said that is the highest rating an area can receive.

The rating is determined by the number of institutionalized outbreaks, [meaning hospitalized patients] with the flu, Caderat said.

He said officials believe the reason the flu virus is so widespread is because the flu season started earlier than usual. He said health officials usually start seeing flu cases in January and February,

but this year cases were being reported as early as October.

The Midwest has been hit hardest. Oklahoma has seen six flu-related deaths — three elderly victims, a 14-month-old, a 13-year-old and a 28-year-old, channel oklahoma.com reported.

Caderat said people under the age of 3 and those over 50 are at a high risk and should get a flu shot.

Beverly Wood, assistant at the Children's Hospital in downtown Oklahoma City and OKCCC student, said she also feels it's imperative everyone get a flu shot, but especially young children.

"It's very serious," she said.

She said she is seeing about six children checked into the hospital each week because of the flu, some as young as 6 months old.

She said, during this season, the hospital usually worries about RSV, a respiratory infection common in young kids, but this year they have only seen one case of it. Instead, the staff has been keeping busy treating flu patients.

She said Children's Hospital personnel are recommending people as young as 6 months old get a shot

See "Flu," page 12



Photo by Ronna Austin

**Future recycler:** Darien Hicks, 4, poses by a car made of recycled materials Wednesday in the student union. Preschoolers from the Child Development Center and Lab School showed passersby creations they had made from cardboard, paper and plastic.

## State hiring freeze being re-examined, updated

By Daniel Lapham  
Editor

A slight change in a continuing state hiring freeze could add to the red tape when hiring adjunct professors and other part-time and full-time positions.

Gov. Brad Henry filed an Executive Order on Nov. 10 continuing the statewide hiring freeze that has been in effect since the early '90s when it was enacted under former

Gov. David Walters, said Paul Sund, Henry's press secretary.

Although not new, the hiring freeze affects all state agencies, including colleges and universities. But, Sund said, it has changed slightly in that Henry wants to know more about where state funds are going and how they are being spent.

According to Executive Order 2003-27, the employment freeze is in place continually. However, there are exceptions to this order and the appropriate authorities

must approve these exceptions.

OKCCC President Bob Todd said in the past, the chief administrative officer, (which for OKCCC is Todd), has been able to approve exceptions to this freeze.

"The implementation of the Executive Order has been that individual agency heads were authorized to approve exceptions," Todd said.

"In the current Executive Order, I think the only slight difference is that now the exception must be approved by the Cabinet Secretary or

the Secretary of State."

Because of this, the amount of paperwork involved in hiring adjunct professors and part-time positions has increased considerably, Todd said.

Todd explained that the result of this could cause considerable delays in filling necessary positions at the college.

He said a contributing factor to

See "Freeze," page 12



## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

# Workers wait for long dry spell to end

It is no secret that the economy has been suffering severely since 9/11. It is also no secret that the education system has felt great pains in its funding due to the shortages in the state budget.

In the Sunday, Dec. 7, issue of The Oklahoman, a headline read "Higher ed employees to receive bonuses."

The story, in short, states that all employees in the higher education's state office will receive a \$600 one-time bonus, and employees of the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University will receive a one-time \$500 bonus.

This is due, according to the article, to the fact that higher education employees have not received a raise in three years.

Many OKCCC employees have expressed frustration because they have not yet been included in this bonus. Although a bonus is not a raise, nor does it necessarily add to the stability of an individual's income, it can and does provide a certain element of comfort, especially when the holiday season is upon us.

An example of this that most people can relate to is the tax refund President Bush gave to Americans last year. Although this money had no real bearing on the overall income of an individual, it was a nice breath of fresh air.

It has been argued that giving a bonus to higher education employees during this time of budget crisis is comparable to putting a band aid on an arterial bleed. The argument for this comes from the thought that giving someone a bonus really does nothing for their economic well being except fool them into thinking they have more money than they actually do.

Furthermore, even though a bonus does not have the same monetary and economical value of an across-the-board raise, in a time when finances are tight anyway, during the holiday season, any kind of monetary gain is definitely appreciated.

We all know that our Board of Regents truly cares about the well being and morale of the employees of OKCCC. This would be an opportune time for them to show their appreciation to the faculty and staff of the college in the form of a bonus. This could be a much needed and welcomed boost for many college employees.

—Daniel Lapham  
Editor

# Plot sticks, new film a hit

I go to the movies for entertainment. Entertainment means involvement, in the story, with the characters, with the setting. Entertainment allows me to forget where I am and to wrap up in the story, to be at least empathetic, and to not be conscious of the time passing.

One movie I went to a month ago left me uninvolved, cold and aware that the ending would not come soon enough. Some very excellent actors were in that movie, but it didn't make any difference. The violence was graphic, but the storyline was unmoving, not at all credible.

What's my point?

I went to the preview of "House of Sand and Fog" and something about the movie has invaded my mind every chance it gets since that evening. Some preview reviews I read on the Internet Movie Data Base suggested the screenplay is unbelievable and fraught with inconsistency, yet I have not stopped wondering how the characters allowed themselves to get so far into chaos without realizing what was happening to them.

I know this happens. For example, early in the film we learn that Kathy hasn't opened her mail for weeks,

perhaps months. Incredible? No. My experience tells me that people who are hurting frequently don't open their mail, or make arrangements to have leaks fixed, or pay bills even when there is plenty of money and checks.

As the film started, I kept thinking we were headed to another "Pacific Heights" starring Michael Keaton, Matthew Modine and Melanie Griffith. That was a film I still love to hate. It was so intense, so.... It just made me so mad.

I thought as I watched through the exposition of "House of Sand and Fog," "I am not going to like this; it reminds me too much of 'Pacific Heights'." But then, Kathy (Jennifer Connelly), Behrani (Sir Ben Kinsley) and Lester (Ron Eldar) began to explore possibilities, to expand the complication.

I forgot about "Pacific Heights" and all of the tension I experience watching it. Viewing "House of Sand and Fog" brought up new emotions. I was willing to, as we say in literature classes, "suspend my disbelief" and become a part of the story.

Not everybody who goes to see "House of Sand and Fog" will like it. The acting is superb. The story doesn't stray far from what my ex-

periences tell me is plausible and probable. But, the bottom line for me is that when I left the theater, I knew I had been moved, had been drained of some of my emotional energy. I knew I had experienced the film, unconscious of how long it took to tell the story. I knew "House of Sand and Fog" had entertained me and I will very likely watch it again.

—Richard Rouillard  
English Professor

## PIONEER

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

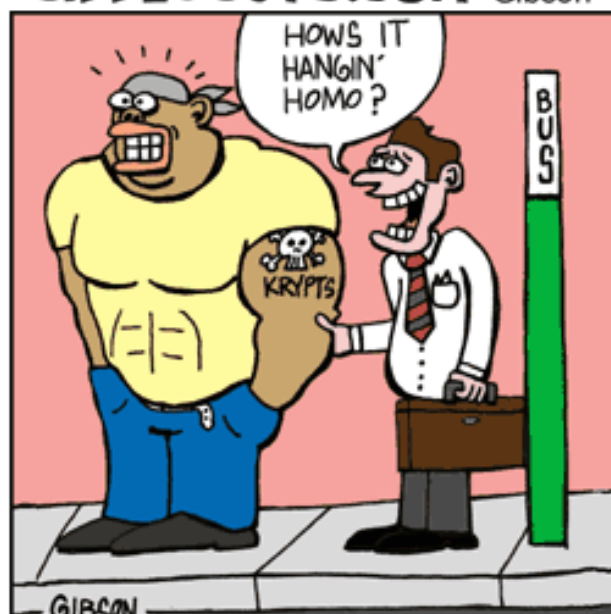
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Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@okccc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

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



GIBBLEGUTS.COM By Dan Gibson



It was in the emergency room that Chaz learned that the correct street term for friend is 'Homey'.

ARE YOU A CARTOONIST? THIS COULD BE YOUR COMIC. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL DANIEL AT 682-1611, EXT. 7675.

## Comments and Reviews

### 'Jars of Clay' offer great show

A venue change from an 8,000-seat stadium to a 1,000-seat church auditorium did little to dampen the spirits of concert-goers last Friday night as Steven Delopoulos, Caedmon's Call and Jars of Clay took the stage at Norman's Journey Church.

While many ticket holders were upset at the last-minute change of venue, they enjoyed the intimate setting the auditorium allowed. The new setting for the concert proved to be well worth the \$22 charged for admission.

The first man to take the stage was former Burlap to Cashmere front man Steven Delopoulos. With his edgy blend of blues, jazz and folk, he drew the audience in and then wowed them with his downright amazing guitar playing.

The first song he sang was called "Another Day." It featured his blinding finger picking that utilized all five fingers. For the end of his set he played an untitled blues riff that was

very reminiscent of Stevie Ray Vaughn and B.B. King. He was definitely a hit with the crowd.

Caedmon's Call was next to take the stage. Usually known for its great stage presence and wonderful blending of new material with the old, the band was decidedly off that night. This was probably because the lead singer Cliff Young was ill. The highlight of the set was the performance of self-termed "new guy," Andrew Osenga.

Osenga is on the tour as the replacement guitarist and vocalist for former member Derek Webb. Webb was one of the principal songwriters and vocalists in the band and is now touring in support of his own solo album. The band's seemingly flawed performance may have been due in part to the fact that they still haven't found their groove after losing such an integral part of the band.

The best part of the night was when Jars of Clay took the stage. They played

through many of their biggest hits, starting with the song that brought them the most widespread success, "Flood." They played a good mix from all five of their albums and did a wonderful job of getting the crowd involved.

At one point in the set, the lead singer, Dan Haseltine, pulled out a homemade Jars of Clay beanie that had strips of paper in it with song names. He had a few people pick out songs for part of the set. This was a nice touch considering that in most concerts, though fans may shout out song names, they have little effect on what is played.

Jars finished their set with a wonderful version of an old classic hymn, "I'll Fly Away."

Steven Delopoulos also came back on stage to help with this song. It proved to be a hit as the entire crowd joined in and sang with the band.

—**Billy Adams**  
**News Writing I Student**

### Get the 'Honey' without the bee

Honey's got the Love! Well, the movie does.

I originally went to see the movie because I wanted to see some dancing. I presumed it to be a horrific movie, but was surprised when watching it. Jessica Alba is a good actress and "she's hot" as most guys would say.

Honey (Alba) works at a bar by night and teaches a dance class by day. On the side she auditions for numerous music videos, never getting her shot.

But, little did she know her dream of becoming a dance star was just around the corner — of a bar top that is. While at the club she "shakes her groove thang" with her girlfriends and is then seen by famous

music video director, Michael Ellis (David Moscow).

Her dream of being in a video is about to become a reality. She ends up being in big hip-hop stars' videos such as Genuine, Tweet and Jadakiss, and is then bumped up to being a choreographer for the stars, for what she thinks is solely because of her talent.

As all of this is going on, she tries to help out two little boys, Raymond (Zachary Isiah Williams) and Benny (Lil' Romeo) who are neglected and abused by their mother.

She realizes the only way to make them truly happy is through dancing so she teaches them dance and ends up teaching more

than that — she teaches them love and caring.

The beginning of the story was pretty corny, I thought. There was some sappy acting, and it seemed very commercialized.

Big names like Missy Elliot and Lil' Romeo made guest appearances. Some of the dance moves were awesome, especially the break-dancing. If you are a dancer, you will definitely enjoy it, even if only for the dancing. It turned good toward the end, where it finished on a good note.

The movie is rated PG-13 for drug content and sexual references.

It's out in theaters now. From 1 to 10, I give it a 7.

—**Lacey Lett**  
**Staff writer**

## Counselor's Corner

### Life goes on

As the last few days of 2003 pass by us, many Americans find it hard to relax and enjoy the holiday season because the government and media keep us on edge with warnings of possible terrorist attacks and heightened security alerts. Many people still will not travel and cannot relax because of the events of September 11, 2001. This sense of not being OK hangs over some year round. While those terrorist attacks were horrendous, keep in mind that all life ultimately ends in death, and ordinary individuals are missed and mourned just as much as are the victims of those attacks. Here are some 2001 statistics to help put the September 11 tragedy into perspective:

2,870 — those who died in 9-11.

2,937 — the number of children under the age of 20 who died from firearms related incidences (homicide, suicide, and accidents).

42,116 — the number of people who died in automobile crashes (these are real weapons of mass destruction).

4,901 — the number of pedestrians who challenged a motor vehicle and lost.

62,034 — the number of people who died from the flu or pneumonia (wash your hands!)

440,000 — those who died from diseases linked to cigarette smoking (surpassed only by the number of deaths from heart disease — 700,000)

27,568 — babies who died at birth or soon after

36 million — Americans who do not get enough to eat (includes 14 million children; 20 percent of American children have to miss at least one meal every day).

On the brighter side, 4,025,933 babies were born in 2001 and dozens of new species of plants and animals were discovered worldwide.

The Earth is still tilted on its axis and spins around about every 24 hours. It has traveled around the sun about two times. Babies have taken their first steps to the delight of their parents. Teenaged girls have spent a tremendous amount of time locked in bathrooms putting on makeup for teenaged boys who can see nothing above the neck.

All in all, life goes on because that is what life does. All living things will die at some point in their cycle, but other living things will be there to take their place. There is nothing we can do to change that. Worrying about things you cannot control will have no effect on those things. It will only make you crazy. Live the best life you can live. If you have been estranged from a family member or friend, forgive and make amends (forgiveness frees your heart to heal; it doesn't absolve the other person of any wrongdoing). Play your music a little too loud. Stay in bed and read a good book. Eat dessert first. Smile at people for no good reason other than you can.

We in Student Development, Counseling, Student Support Services, and Testing and Assessment, wish each of you a season of happiness and good cheer. Peace.

—**Student Development**

### Quote of the Week:

"Do, or do not. There is no try."

—**Yoda**



# Book buy back days run from Dec. 15 through 19

**By Caroline Ting  
Staff Writer**

The time for selling textbooks back to the OKCCC bookstore is here now. Take the books and get in line between 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 15; 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16 to Thursday, Dec. 18 and 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, in College Union Room 7.

Even though Dec. 15 through 19 are the scheduled buy back days, students who needed their books for Friday and Sat-

urday classes may still sell the books back on Monday, Dec. 22, said Brenda Reinke, bookstore director.

Reinke also said, unlike a refund during the first three weeks of the semester, student will not need their receipts when selling books back to the bookstore.

All textbooks must be in good condition, Reinke said. If the instructor decided to use a different text next semester, the bookstore won't buy the current textbook.

Reinke also said the bookstore will not buy back the books that come pack-

aged with CDs and or other types of medium material, because they can't guarantee the quality of those when they sell them used to other students the next semester.

Also, the bookstore won't take workbooks that have pages which students can tear out, but they may buy a limited number of textbooks if their editions are going to be changed next semester.

However, Reinke explained, there is a wholesale company that sometimes buys books for another colleges in the country, but they usually pay

much less than the bookstore. And the prices that students will get for their textbooks are usually 50 percent of the original prices.

Reinke said students should feel free to highlight or underline in their textbooks as long as the text is still clear and readable. "Use your books, that's what you buy them for."

If students are confused about whether some of their books will be purchased, Reinke encourages them to take the books with them to the buy back and find out.

"Just come down there,

bring the books, whatever you've got, if you're in doubt. Bring it with you, and we will look them up," Reinke said.

Two other options to sell used books on campus are to put up a pink slip on the bulletin board located right outside of Student Life Office, or place a classified ad in the Pioneer newspaper.

To put a pink slip on the board next to Student Life's office, students need to pick up a pink slip on the table in the office.

To place an ad in the Pioneer call 682-1611, ext. 7674 or e-mail ADMAN@okccc.edu.

## Reserve a spot for your next party at the Olympic pool

**By Beth Stanley  
News Writing I Student**

Planning for a birthday party or a gathering can be a hassle when it comes to looking for a location. Good news is that the OKCCC Aquatic Center has a solution to this problem.

The college offers parties for people of all ages, young and old. You can plan birthday parties for your children or just plan a get together with a couple of friends; either way everyone will love it and have a great time.

The Aquatic Center offers

a full size Olympic pool which is plenty of room for any size party you plan to have. For \$50 you can invite 11 people to your party, but don't worry if you're planning on having a larger group. Each person after the 11<sup>th</sup> one costs just \$2.

All you have to do to be included in this exciting program is go to the college's Aquatic Center to reserve your spot and time you would like to have your event. On the day of your party, you get to decorate the pool area in your child's favorite theme. Just make sure to clean up afterwards.

"Roughly, around 1,000

people participate in these parties yearly," said Stephanie Scott, aquatics, health and safety training specialist.

Scott also said the parties are one of the most fun and exciting events they offer. "It is so fun to inter-

act with the children and make sure that they are having one of the best birthday parties they have ever had," Scott said.

"I especially like to see how much fun the children have when they get to help decorate, and they get to

become part of the planning of their own party."

For more information or to reserve your spot, please call Recreation and Community Services at 682-7560, or visit them at the first door to the right inside of Entry 7 off parking lot E.

## Put kids in college, for fun

OKCCC offers great classes for children in spring

**By Beth Stanley  
News Writing I Student**

Parents are always trying to come up with ideas to keep their children occupied, but many of them find that most programs for children are useless because the kids do not learn anything. The College for Kids program will come to the rescue.

The Aquatic Center at OKCCC offers a great program for most kids who are looking to learn and have fun at the same time.

The college offers the College for Kids Program for children who are between the ages of 3 and 16 years old.

The college is offering spring classes for \$35 per class. The program lasts four weeks and meets at the college one day a week on Saturdays.

The program is not only fun, but also very educational. The college offers many diverse classes for all children to enjoy. Some classes include guitar, tumbling, ballet, math, reading, and art classes.

"Kids love this program because it is a fun way to learn," said Stephanie Scott,

**"The College for Kids Program never gets boring because the Aquatic Center is always adding new and improved classes."**

—Stephanie Scott  
Aquatics, Health and Safety  
Training Specialist

aquatics, health and safety training specialist.

"The College 4 Kids Program never gets boring because the Aquatic Center is always adding new and improved classes."

"The Aquatic Center loves this program because kids get to meet other kids that are interested in the same activities they are."

For more information about the College for Kids program or to reserve your spot call Recreation and Community Services at 682-7560, or visit them at the first door to the right inside of Entry 7 off parking lot E.

### Testing Center's hours during finals week

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**8 a.m.— 9:30 p.m.  
Monday — Thursday  
8 a.m. — 5 p.m.  
Friday — Saturday**

**The Testing Center will be closed for Christmas and will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5, 2004.**



# An Evening of Sweet Dreams

The OKCCC Department of Music presented "An Evening of Sweet Dreams" musical theater production Dec. 6, in the college union.

The OKCCC Chamber Singers, directed by Music Professor Jonathan Stewart, performed a musical arranged by John Rutter, "The Reluctant Dragon." The crowd responded warmly.

The evening began with classical guitarist Paul Schwartz, playing ballads from the likes of Bach, Carcassi, Britten and more.

Stewart accompanied Schwartz in the performance of ballads entitled "Paul Bunyan," telling the mythical tale of the amazing lumberjack.

Next, the chamber singers performed rounds to entertain the crowd with compositions from Mozart, Ravenscroft and Kickstat.

After a 5-minute intermission to allow the approximately 100 guests to refill on hot cocoa and cookies, the main event began.

"Although The Reluctant Dragon is a fairytale that appears to be directed toward children, it is actually an allegory written to adults targeting racism in the 1800s," Stewart said.

He said the original story was written by Kenneth Graham as his way to fight prejudice.

Stewart said he was very pleased with the Chamber Singers.

"We have been practicing the production since the beginning of the semester," Stewart said. "The students have done an excellent job and should be proud."

Ray Holt, OKCCC student, said he has been photographically documenting the entire event. He said the singers have done shortened productions at five elementary schools and one retirement home. Holt said he also is very proud of the Chamber Singers.



PHOTOS AND TEXT  
BY DANIEL LAPHAM

**Singers:** (from left) Chelsea McDonald, Elliot Audres, Cecilia Teran, Zuzana Novakova, Kristen Stehr, Casey McCarty, Dru Baker, Grant Brooks, Daisy Hicks, Jonathan Stewart, Linda Boatright and Jeremy Webb



**The Cast:** (back row) Chelsea McDonald, Zuzana Novakova, Elliot Audres, Casey McCarty, Jarrad Hacker, Jeremy Webb, Jonathan Stewart, (second row) Cecilia Teran, Kristen Stehr, Daisy Hicks, Dru Baker, Kristin Epperson, Linda Boatright, Yoshi Isoda, (front row) Gavin Beck, Tracy Peters, Bonnie Montgomery and Grant Brooks.



Bonnie Montgomery, Jonathan Stewart, Jeremy Webb, Linda Boatright and Yoshi Isoda, act out a scene in the second half of the play.



The dragon, played by Tracy Peters, pretends to have been killed by the Boy, Bonnie Montgomery and St. George, Gavin Beck, (not shown). The death was necessary to settle the fears of the villagers, but because the boy befriended the dragon, they staged the death.





# December graduates ready to face world

The following students have applied for December graduation. Diplomas will be granted after credentials are completed and degree requirements are met. Students who have fulfilled degree requirements can participate in the May 14 commencement ceremony.

## Associate of Arts

Gary Amen, Christian Anderson, Janice Armstrong, Douglas Ball, Rozella Baumann, Scott Beard, Rashelle Borsellino, Robin Bowen, Gloria Bradley, Dawn Capps.

Kristen Carey, Jerry Chapman, Lorraine Childers, Hannah Chorost, Heather Condict, Belinda Courtney, Hannah Curry, Kallie Darrow, Junita Davis, Stephanie Davis, Daniel Dixon, Gloria Duni-  
van, Ralph Ellis.

Troy Fite, Valerie Frost, Roxanna Germany, Annette Gonzales, Joe Hackney, Ashley Hall, Ravin Harrison, Tiffany Hart, Diana Hayden, Sheryl Hembree, Jarrett Henderson, William Hicks.

Jennifer Hill, John Hogard, Tara Holt, Angela Hoofard, Kristin Hufsteler, Elmer Humphreys, Melissa Huston, Joni Johnson, Amanda Jolly, Kimberly King, Daniel Lapham, Christian Lasiter.

Jennifer Lavin, Jor Lawson III, Camilla Lemons, Stanford Lester, Kristina Lowder, Pathmini May-  
andie, Joyce McCall, Amber McCool, Michelle Mike-sell, Tiffany Monroe, James Munkres, Leona Newton, Laura Nichols, Laura Pinto.

Christopher Pitts, Mike Post, Melissa Reed, Monica Roundtree, Ronnie Rowley, Paul Schwartz, Shameana Sloan, Tamieka Smith, Brian Sneed, Hillary Sneed, Kristin Stilwell, Lori Sublett, Cathy Swab.

David Tarver, Cheryl Thompson, Elizabeth Tinsley, Kimberlee Tran, Tevis Troxel, Katy Tucker, Jim Tufts, Tara Tyler, Daniel

Vollmer, Vu Vu, Stephen Waggoner, Natalie Wells, Matthew Whitmarsh, John Wilkerson, Melissa Wilkins, Ashley Winkle, Jessica Wood, Halacka Wood, Ashley Zahrai.

## Associate of Science

Selam Abebe, Mark Adams, Sana Ali, Alberta Amoah, Matthew Anderson, Tara Anderson, Tammy Ash, Kimberly Barnett, Charles Beavers, Dustin Beck, Donny Beecham, El Belkas, Michelle Belote.

Harriet Bennett, Linda Bett, Sherry Bowen, Shamon Brannon, Robyn Brunts, Andrea Cabra, Luis Carrasquel, Wilson Cendales, Eric Choat, Cynthia Collins, Ben Corbell, Natasha Crawford, Tam Dang, Christopher Dawson, Genny Deer, Andrea Delheimer.

April Douglas, Amber English, Anneliese Jugo-Esser, Cheryl Fancher, Laurie Farmer, Martha Freeman, Alison Garvey, Tzvetelin Gospodinob, Ann Griffith, Riley Grinnell.

Audra Grubb, Michael Grubbs, Bethany Guffey, Jaclyn Harris, Jessica Harrison, Shylyn Hayes, Angela Haynes, Alan Heltzel, Robert Hendricks, Ashley Herron, Stuart Hoagland, Michelle Hoang, Jeffrey Holt, Jami Hunley, John Imoe, Crista Jones.

John Jones, Melissa Jones, Mindy Jordan, Nauman Khan, Nancy Kienka, Naomi Kinoshita, Taehyung Ko, Herbert Kramer, Jessica Lee, Dennece Leist, Teresa Lenox, Jerry Leonard, Andria Linn, Chang Lo, Pamela Logan, Elaine Long, Lyndse Lowman, Julie Maguffee, Maurine Marrs, Jarod Martin.

Jeffrey Martin, Shaunta Martina, Matthew McGill, Casey McGuire, Bianca Mejia-Lagunes, Gabrielle Miller, Jenny Mitchell, Mitchell, Steven Morris, Janaina Murakami, Cheyenne Murphy, Tabettha Newman, Duc Ngo, Nhu Ngo, Hai-Yen Nguyen, Ken Nguyen, Trinh

Nguyen, Carri Oates.

Anna Orłowska, Paola Ortiz, Laura Payne, Brandon Penick, Maria Pineda, Uintah Pitts, Laura Pospisil, Jason Pound, Cynthia Price, Farjana Rahman, Raymond Ramper-sad, Alecia Rankin, Abdul Rehman, Stephanie Reynolds, Jeanette Ritchie.

Celeste Rogers, Ryan Roggow, Paul Romero, Barbara Rumble, Veronica Saucedo, Douglas Scott, Anne Scudder, Simran Singh, Tracey Sonka, Lisa Stanberry, Chelsea Staudinger, John Stevens, Joseph Stinnett, Guy Strickland, Raheem Taeibi-Rahni, David Taylor.

Lindsay Thomas, Valerie Thomas, Kristie Thompson, Linh Tran, Tessa Traxler, Daniel Trei, Velko Tsvetkov, Mildred Twum, Amber Vaughn, Edward Walker, Brooke Walley, Mike Walters, JoAnn Ward, Mark Ward, David Watson, Anastasia Wilkerson, Jerry Wood Jr., Xiaowei Zhuahg.

## Associate of Applied Science

Farid Ahmed, Victoria Alley, Andrea Appleseth, Curtis Avant, Mandy Bain, Karen Bandy, Kristy Bateman, Gale Baxter, Alice Bengé, Carla Berrada, Gina Blake, Glenda Blakley, Andy Blood, Kelly Boyd.

Tiffany Brown, Uyen Bui, Kimberly Cagle, Teddi Car-

ter, Mark Claravall, Joshua Clement, Brandi Dean, Angela Deneen, Anthony Dyke, Kimberly Elliott, Angela Ellison, Kenneth Elwell, Carl Flippin.

Russ Friday, Sherry Fuller, Sherry Geisler, Joshua Grillo, Dorothy Grupe, Joely Gwin, John Hale, Tara Handshy, Sinda Hembree, Bobby Hewitt, Teresa Hites, LaRena Houck, Jay Hovarter, Rikki Hurst, Jerrod Idleman.

Jo Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Stephen Johnson, Teddy Johnson, Jamila Jones, Belinda Jump, William Kasper, Kevin Kester, Donna Kettlekamp, Cassandra Kirk, Patrick Kirk, Dawnmarie Kroft, Darrell Lee, Johnni Lee, Wendy Leisher-Miner.

Chad Lowe, Russell Macway, Teresa Manek, Jeff Marsden, Karla Martin, Blake McJunkin, Tanya McLearn, Leo Mendus II, Gina Mincey, Patricia Minick, Jerry Moore, Julie Morton, George Nganga, Michael Nicholas, Neomah Nickell, Leann Noguera, Jayme Nurse, Mary O'Brien, Robert O'Rear, Thomas Parker, James Pearson.

Brenna Penrod, Melissa Prange, Lavonda Prather, Vanessa Rawlings, Cale Roby, Elizabeth Rogers, Keah Roggow, Katheryne Schaffer, Iarrah Schreiner, Kari Shearer, Robert Siders, Carolyn Siler, Amanda Smith, Christopher

Sneed, Justin Sprouse, Tamitha Staggs.

Gregory Stevens Jr., Mindy Stice, Clinton Sturdevant, Staci Sudberry, Kehmi Swehla, Carla Tannehill, Dezarae Tate, Sidney Tomlinson, Jessica Viner, Sean Waterhouse, Karla Wells, Philip West, Audrey White, Cathy Widener, Brittany Wolf, Scott Womack, Pamela Workman, Cassandra Wright, Aytek Yener.

## Certificate of Mastery

Nancy Abbas, Ella Bird, Jessica Burt, Hanan Chakron, Lidiya Delaney, Angela Dutton, Christy Fletcher, John Hicks, Victor Landron, Karen McNeil, Quinen Myers, Cuong Nguyen, John Nguyen, Carry O'Connor, Yupamas Peetanee-lapalin, Heather Perry, Ranwick Pierre, Chastity Robinson, Mary Souza, Danielle Stickney, Katherine Trent, Juan Valdez, Tina Wainscott.

**Don't see your name here? If you believe you will be graduating, but your name is not listed call 682-1611, ext. 7514 to check your graduation status. Students who have applied late may not have made the published list. Congratulations to all OKCCC graduates!**

**"I congratulate our December graduates for achieving this major milestone in their lives and encourage them to continue their education to the next level."**

**—Dr. Bob Todd  
OKCCC President**



# Holiday lights add sparkle to evening

**By Lacey Lett  
Staff Writer**

Christmas lights are everywhere and shining brightly for all to gawk at.

Where, you ask. Your local neighborhood for starters. Some additions that have really outshone themselves this year are:

- Westbury addition south of I-40 on Morgan Rd. in Mustang.

- The Mayfield and Rivendell housing additions at S.W. 119th and May.

- Brookhaven addition east of 48th St. on Robinson Ave. in Norman.

Seeking a romantic night? OG&E is hosting Garden Lights at the Crystal Bridge. The event is open from 6 to 9 p.m. every Sunday in December and admission is free.

Those willing to make the short drive can experience

a spectacular get-out-of-the-car viewing in Chickasha at the annual Festival of Lights open 6 to 11 p.m. from now until Christmas Eve.

A look at things from a different view for the whole family might include a helicopter ride to look at lights around the city for \$85 an hour, courtesy of Henderson Pilot Services at Westheimer Air Park in Norman. The number is 821-7071.

Other places to look at lights around the state include.

- The Festival of Lights in Ardmore, open Dec. 1 through 30.

- Christmas Wonderland in Bethany, open Nov. 22 through Dec. 26.

- Holiday Lights Spectacular in Midwest City, open Nov. 21 through Dec. 30.

- Festival of Angels in Ponca City open Nov. 26

through Dec. 30.

- Christmas in the Park in Yukon is open Nov. 22 through Dec. 31.

For more information on these or any other holiday events, stop by the Academic Division of Business located on the second floor in the main building and pick up a "Downtown in December" brochure. Information also is available at [www.travel.ok.com/xmas/index.asp](http://www.travel.ok.com/xmas/index.asp).



## Students get creative when faced with a budget

**By Keah Roggow & Lacey Lett  
Staff Writers**

College students usually have little money to spare, so when it comes to holiday shopping, they search high and low to find the best gifts for the least price.

One student saves money by making handmade gifts.

"I go to Hobby Lobby and buy frames and matting supplies," said Rachel Dove, literature major.

"I usually develop photos. When you're going to college and don't have a job it's a good way to go."

Those who have a credit card and access to the Internet may consider shopping online for the best prices.

"I did my shopping on eBay and at the mall," said student Summer Moore. "I am done with my shopping."

Favorite department stores often have online savings when it comes to shopping and ordering. While the prices might be cheaper, be certain to watch those shipping costs.

Jessica Hunsicker, second-year student, said she just watches her budget so she can get what she wants for others when Christmas rolls around.

"This year I saved up all throughout the year for Christmas."

Student Michelle Keeton has found an affordable way to make all of her family members happy.

"I usually make a ton of fudge for all across America," she said. "I have a big family. It usually takes about 6 hours [to make] 24 pounds of fudge."

Freshman Brandon Bales employs the help of a sibling to make Christmas affordable. "Me and my sister are splitting the cost of something nice for our mom."

Other students take advantage of the extra time at Christmas break to make some extra spending cash.

"I'm picking up extra shifts at Olive Garden," said Jason Hanan.

Rocky Chavez also is burning the midnight oil. On a tight budget this year with a speeding ticket and a trip to Chicago to pay for, he said.

"I like to work as little as possible, but am having to work extra hours."



**Track Santa's progress on  
Christmas Eve at  
[www.noradsanta.org](http://www.noradsanta.org)**

## 'Tis the season of giving, sharing

**By Brent Hodges  
Staff Writer**

Several Oklahoma City area churches are offering programs to help people in the holiday season, through such things as food drives and helping others decorate their houses for Christmas.

Inner-City Church is still needing folks who want to sponsor a family this Christmas. You can sponsor gifts or a Christmas dinner. Call Robert Burke at 634-2615.

Shelters also are looking for volunteers this holiday season. City Rescue Mission needs people to help with lunch and passing out Christmas gifts. They also need people to donate gifts for children, men and women.

"We really need hats gloves and scarves," said contact Amy Hampton. Call 232-2709 for more information.

The Salvation Army is taking monetary donations at area malls or via the Internet at [www.salvationarmy.org](http://www.salvationarmy.org). Also, their angel tree program gives folks the chance to donate a gift. For more information on either program, call Louise Larkin at 246-1101.

Toys for Tots is also looking for donations of toys and money. Log onto [toysfortots.org](http://toysfortots.org) and purchase a gift or drop off your gift at one of the many places in the metro area listed at the website.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM THE PIONEER**

**THIS IS OUR LAST ISSUE FOR THE FALL.  
WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT SEMESTER!**



# GM training session at college

**By Caroline Ting**  
**Staff Writer**

General Motors has chosen OKCCC as one of the regional training center locations for GM technicians, as well as the students.

"We have five regions across the United States for General Motors training," Larry Grummer, professor of Automotive Technology and director of OKCCC's Transportation Program, said.

"Dallas is the headquarters of the United States, and the primary training center for the south central region."

Other training locations in the south central region include Kansas City, St. Louis, New Orleans, Houston and St. Antonio, according to Joe Rakoczy, manager of General Motors Training of the south central region from the Dallas GM Training Center.

Rakoczy said the large number of GM technicians

was the initial cause for selecting a center here in Oklahoma City.

"Technician density is what creates this location," Rakoczy said.

"Within 150 miles radius of Oklahoma City, there are over 1000 GM technicians."

With the increasing demand, Rakoczy and Grummer decided to hold a pilot training session in an automotive class Nov. 19. GM brought in their trainers as well as tools, equipment and models to train the technicians on. The session went great according to the feedback, Grummer said.

In future sessions, Grummer said, the training will focus on new product training, which will be based on the 2004 models before they're even released.

The prerequisite for taking the training classes is the participants or students must take Interactive Distance Learning courses, which will be partly taught on the Internet, to prepare individuals for more in-

depth and hands-on training, Grummer added.

The next training sessions are scheduled to be held during the last two weeks of each month of the first quarter of next year, Rakoczy said.

"Classes are running on a limited basis at the moment until we get all the vehicles, tools and equipment required to run on a daily basis," Grummer said.

Grummer said that the greatest thing about having a training center on campus is that the instructors will be able to stay current with the latest technologies and share the resources with students, and the site will be known throughout the state.

The training center in Oklahoma City will serve primarily Oklahoma, parts of Arkansas, parts of Kansas and parts of Texas, Grummer said.

For more information about the GM training center at OKCCC contact Grummer at 682-7581.

## Exchange professor enjoys America

**By Stephanie Conduff**  
**News Writing I Student**

Professor Dorota Grudzinska doesn't like air conditioners.

For the native of Poland, warm weather is a luxury. Holiday time is the only time for her family to escape the Minnesota-style winters and enjoy the heat of more southerly climates, she told a group of students in a speech on campus Dec. 4.

Grudzinska is now enjoying the mild humidity and snow-free streets of Oklahoma.

After receiving a Fulbright Exchange Professorship, Grudzinska has traded places with Brenda Breeding, biology professor at OKCCC. Grudzinska is teaching earth science, physical science and world regional geography at OKCCC.

At her home school, International Baccalaureate Diploma School and Bilingual High School, she instructed students using the English language.

She said the majority of students were Polish. She said it is challenging to teach complex principles at OKCCC without using her native language.

"Nobody speaks English in Poland," Grudzinska said. "It is good for me to be here and teach. When I go back, I will share what I have learned with the teachers and students."

Grudzinska had planned to participate in the program years before, but the demands of motherhood kept her from traveling abroad.

Leaving behind her city of Gdynia and her husband Richard, a military officer in the Polish Navy, Grudzinska has relocated to Oklahoma City for a year.

"I miss my husband," she said. "With a seven-hour time difference, it is hard to communicate with the people in Poland."

She said the experience of studying abroad is shaping her two children's thinking. Her son, Richard, 14, attends Westmoore High School. Her daughter, Alexandria, 9, has a best friend who is Vietnamese and can sympathize with her daughter's adaptation process in the United States.

"[My children] are becoming open to different cultures," Grudzinska said. "They are learning how to respect minorities and people of different ethnicities."

## OKCCC offering aviation in spring

**By Caroline Ting**  
**Staff Writer**

OKCCC is offering a restructured Aviation Management Program starting in January 2004, according to Larry Grummer, professor of automotive technology and director of OKCCC's Transportation Program.

Luther Trent, director of airports for the city of Oklahoma City, will be teaching three classes in the program including Introduction to Aviation, Airport History and Aviation Management.

Trent said students who take the beginning courses of aviation management will have a good idea of whether they see aviation in their future career plan. He

**"I hope to see a growth of [aviation] majors at OKCCC."**

—Luther Trent  
director of airports  
for the city of Oklahoma City

said there are lots of job opportunities for aviation management students.

"Aviation is a rapidly growing field with not only the air carrier airports, but also general aviation airports around the state and around the country," Trent said. "All of those airports are in need of management talents as people retire or get promoted."

"And it's going to leave a lot of opportunities in the coming years (for students) to get into the aviation field and to advance the aviation field."

In the country, Trent

said, there are about 200 to 250 very good sized airports will have a number of management positions on their staff. Another 150 smaller air carrier airports also will have a need for managers and various staff members.

"So it's a field that provides a lot of opportunities in the future for both Oklahoma and around the country," he added.

Doing some course work related to aviation management also will be helpful to business majors, Trent said, because they'll be able to use their business skills

in the aviation field if that's their goal.

"Obviously, we're also looking for aviation majors to major in that as a business field of its own, so it can benefit a business major who may use their talent in airports," Trent said.

The aviation courses which will be offered at OKCCC are intended to transfer to any four-year college that offer aviation course work, Trent said.

"I hope to see a growth of [aviation] majors at OKCCC," Trent said.

Aviation History is the only aviation class that will be offered in the spring of 2004. The department will be working on developing additional classes for the fall semester.

For more information or questions about the Aviation Management program contact Grummer at 682-7581.



# Dreams do come true, when you have faith and pray

**By Daniel Lapham  
Editor**

One OKCCC sophomore is following her dreams of being an actress in New York City.

Torrie Close, 19, business major, is finishing her last semester at OKCCC. Close said she is moving to New York in January to attend the New York Film Academy.

Close returned last week from New York, where she was filmed for a role in a nationwide commercial spot for a leading cosmetics company. Due to legal restrictions the name of the company could not be released as of publication date.

Close said she began business classes at OKCCC to gain the education needed to open her own fashion boutique. She said she had been a model and actress starting at age 4, but during high school she put those dreams aside to focus on her education.

Close said she had a few minor parts in some plays while being home schooled, but didn't take it too seriously.

She said she decided to pick up where she left off many years ago after going to see a friend of hers act in a play during her freshman year



**Torrie Close**

directing workshops."

She got accepted to their summer workshop and fell in love with acting again. Close said she was able to make contacts with the right people while she was at the workshops to enable her to land her first job in a local shampoo commercial in New York.

"I really don't like New York, but the opportunity is there," Close said. She also said she was able to make contact with an agent while at the workshop in New York.

Earlier this fall Close said she went back to New York to audition for a large commercial spot, but did not get it. "I was really devastated

at OKCCC.

"I saw the play, and I realized how much I missed it. It almost made me cry," Close said.

"Then I decided to find out what I could do. I wrote a screenplay and I sent it to the New York Film Academy, because you have to in order to get into their screenwriter, acting and di-

recting workshops," Close said. "Then two weeks later I cut my hair and dyed it and got new headshots."

Close said she moved back in with her mom after staying with her father for some time. She said her mother is a very devout Christian and is a source of much inspiration to her.

After the high of her summer, she was discouraged.

"Everything was going downhill," Close said. "I tried out for a school play and did horrible. Then I did the first project in Acting for the Camera and failed miserably.

"Everything I was doing I was having a hard time doing."

She said she couldn't figure out what was wrong. She said the harder she tried, the worse she was doing.

"When I finally said to God, 'I can't do it. Help me.' He did. I truly believe that the Holy Spirit is the reason for my success," Close said.

"Two days after I gave everything to God, I got a call from my agent saying, 'You got the part. They got your new headshots, and they loved them. I don't know what happened, but you got the part.' I believe it was all God."

Close said the advice she gives to anyone who has a dream and is not sure how to make it a reality is to pray and seek the guidance of God.

## Nursing program shows diversity between male and female

**By Chris Vasquez  
News Writing I Student**

Out of the 216 students enrolled in the OKCCC registered nurse program this semester, 27 are male. Of those 27 male students, only one is enrolled in the program simultaneously with his wife.

Justin Bell, first year nursing student, chose to go into nursing after 10 years in the graphic arts industry. He said he wants to provide better financially for his family.

"I [also] wanted a more rewarding career," said Bell. "Besides that, I was burned out on sitting at a computer most of the day and wanted to work more directly with people."

Aside from being in the "male minority" of nursing, Bell and his wife Megan are the only married couple enrolled in the nursing program together.

"It is just like going to school with my best friend," said Justin Bell. "I think overall it has made [nursing school] easier.

Are there any disadvantages to going through the nursing program with one's spouse?

"It is expensive," said Bell.

Megan Bell, Justin's wife, said another disadvantage is equal fatigue.

"We are both equally stressed out, tired and have to spend so much of our time studying," said Bell.

The Bells, both 27, have no children. They have been married for almost four years.

The majority of students in the RN program are white females between the ages of 30 and 40, that age bracket making up 32 percent of total program enrollment.

Lea Ann Loftis, nursing program

director, said nursing has always been a female profession. "Now more and more men are getting into the [nursing] profession because it's so stable."

A beginning RN salary can range from \$30,000 to \$40,000 yearly, but experienced RN's make considerably more, she said.

The men who are involved in nursing usually prefer "high excitement" areas such as intensive care units and emergency rooms, said Loftis.

"But it's traditionally a very nurturing, very caring, very female type of profession," she said.

Justin Bell said having more men in the nursing industry should bring a unique perspective to nursing.

"I'm glad more men like me are considering nursing," he said.

"I think that the diverse patient load in our community needs a more diverse group of nurses to meet their needs."

Twenty-eight percent of enrolled nursing students are under the age of 25, making up the second largest age group.

The OKCCC nursing program graduated 99 students in academic year 2002-2003, said Loftis.

## Debbe Leftwich, new elected senator

**By Daniel Lapham  
Editor**

Keith Leftwich's widow will fill her husband's vacant Senate seat after District 44 voters chose her Dec. 9.

Senator-Elect Debbe Leftwich expressed her gratitude and humility.

"I am so very honored and humbled by this experience," Leftwich said. "I want to thank the

voters of District 44 for giving me their confidence to carry out Keith's last term in office and the work he began last year."

Debbe Leftwich said OKCCC will continue to be a major focus of the district. She said she will do everything in her power to support the college and its function in the community.

"I intend to be involved with the college in any and every way that they need me," Leftwich said. "I will be attending the holiday luncheon at the college next Tuesday after-

noon to show my support.

"The college is a very important thing to have in any district and we are very proud to have it in our district."

She said the first issue she plans to tackle as senator is property taxes.

**Read the Pioneer  
online!!  
[pioneer.okccc.edu](http://pioneer.okccc.edu)**



# Highlights

## Math lab needs calculators back

Those students who have leased calculators need to return them as soon as possible. For more information call Sharon Coffman at 682-1611, ext. 7291.

## Nursing Student Association gives pizza cards

The Nursing Student Association is offering discount Pizza Hut cards that allow you to receive a free medium pizza with the purchase of a large pizza. This discount card contains 20 stamps that offer this free pizza deal. They are only \$10 each and have no expiration date. To buy one see an NSA member or contact nursing professor Connie Kuebeck at (405) 682-1611, ext. 7370.

## New guitar teacher ready for students

New faculty member, Terry Evans, will be teaching guitar on Fridays starting in January. If you are interested in learning classical, jazz or acoustic (folk, country, rock), you can contact Evans at 292-0223 or online at tevans28@cox.net.

## Donation for toys for kids

Baptist Collegiate Ministry is giving toys to children in need at the "All-You-Can-Eat Frozen Custard Party." It will be at Bodensee Frozen Custard Shop at 8860 S. Western 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18. It's only one dollar or a donated gift to attend and eat. If you want to help, bring unwrapped toys, new or nearly new, to the toy collection box at OKCCC Student Life Office. For more information call BCM Director, Mike Barnett, at 636-8858.

## Veterans should apply for books

Veterans Chapter 31 eligible students should contact the Veteran's Certification Office before the close of the fall semester to receive new information on procedures for obtaining books and supplies effective for spring semester 2004.

## Wide range of musical instruction available

The music department offers a full range of instrumental and vocal instruction Monday through Friday to give students flexibility with their schedules. For more information call Arts and Humanities Division at 682-1611, ext. 7464.

## OKCCC classified ad board

A new classified ad board is located in the Science and Math connection hallway near 1A2. Items need to be dated, and will be removed 30 days after the posting date. Any inappropriate items will be removed as well as items for sale placed on other boards. All used books need to be placed on the board next to the Student Life Office and all job postings need to be submitted to the Student Life Employment Services Department.

## Power wheelchairs available

Miracle on Wheels makes power wheelchairs available to non-ambulatory Senior Citizens over the age of 65 with no out-of-pocket expense for those who qualify. The wheelchairs are provided to those who cannot walk and cannot self-propel a manual wheelchair. For more information call 1-800-749-8778 or visit the website at [www.durablemedical.com](http://www.durablemedical.com).

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



Photo by Keah Roggow

**Light 'em up:** Jim Sellers with Sellers Catering Service, smells one of the many candles that Thomas Ha, pharmacy major, David Anderson, engineering major, and Craig Hunter, pre-med. major, are selling for the Scholars League to raise money for the club.

# BSA looking for club members

**By Camilla Lemons  
News Writing I Student**

College is not just about academics, it's also about organizations, said Claire Echols, adviser in Student Development, and also Black Student Association sponsor.

Echols wants students to join in on the fun and become members of BSA.

Echols and fellow Student Development Advisor Ed Williams, started BSA in 1991 to serve as a foundation of unity for African-American students on campus. Since then the club continues to struggle in keeping its organization active.

BSA has a lot of great ideas and upcoming events that they would like to participate in, but they need more members to help achieve these things.

Echols has many things

planned for the spring semester. She wants to do fund-raisers like a soul food bake sale, where students could purchase a slice of home-cooked desserts like sweet potato pie, pecan pie, or banana pudding.

She said she also received permission to have a fundraiser to provide scholarships in the community, and a talent scholarship pageant is in the works for that fund-raiser.

Black Heritage Month is coming up in the spring and Echols has huge plans for that.

She would like to have some guest speakers, a style show and possibly have some local talent perform a concert here.

African American students on campus had some opinions on how they could be encouraged to join a campus club.

Administrative Office Technology major, Rolonda Robinson, said that some

clubs need more publications and activities if they want more members.

Ashley Neal said, "I did not know about the Black Student Association, but if I did I probably would have been very interested."

Evening Intake Assistant for Student Development and also a former BSA President for Rose State College, Zakee King said, "I would like to see OKCCC's BSA club become a foundation where people of color can network and become support systems for each other."

Echols said she wants as many members as she can get to join BSA.

Meetings are usually held on Monday at 1 p.m. in room CU8.

**•OKCCC PIONEER•  
SAVE TIME!  
FAX YOUR AD!  
(405)682-7568**



# 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:** '01 Suzuki GSXR 750 Motorcycle. White/blue. Front and rear stands, \$6,000. Call 823-0737.

**FOR SALE:** '03 Suzuki GSXR1000 Blue/White. \$8,000 or OBO. Call 823-0737.

**FOR SALE:** '01 Chevrolet Z71-extended cab. 4 door, V-8, 4x4, security system, A/C, power steering, leather interior. Call 354-9667.

**FOR SALE:** '01 Ford Explorer Sport, V6, 4.0 liter, new tires, 76k Asking \$8,900. Call 282-9499.

**FOR SALE:** '00 Ford Focus 43k. Asking \$6,500. Call 691-3439.

**FOR SALE:** '99 Mercury Mystique, very neat and clean. 55k. Asking \$5,500. Call 326-5392 for info.

**FOR SALE:** '99 Subaru Forrester AWD. New tires and brakes. CD, cruise, automatic. 92k, one owner. \$12,000 OBO. Call 821-5354.

**FOR SALE:** '98 Mercury Grand Marque. 69k. Asking \$7,950. Call 632-7750.

**FOR SALE:** '98 Ford Ranger, very clean and nice, low miles. Asking \$3,500. Call 682-2276.

**FOR SALE:** '98 Ford Windstar cargo van. 3.0L, V6, automatic A/C. Asking \$4,000. Call 354-9667.

**FOR SALE:** '98 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer, leather, sunroof, fully loaded, black exterior, tan interior. Very good condition. \$8,650 OBO. Call 642-2412.

**FOR SALE:** '97 Nissan 240sx, 28k, white, auto, runs great. Asking \$8,500. Call 615-7324.

**FOR SALE:** '96 Nissan Quest Minivan. Well kept, teal, fully-loaded, 174k. \$6,500 OBO. Call 210-7245.

**FOR SALE:** '96 Chevrolet van. Runs great. Asking \$3,500. For more info. Call 682-2276.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Nissan 300zx. 73k, great condition. \$9,500 OBO. Call 794-2078.

**FOR SALE:** '95 Eagle Talon. Red and sporty with lots of extras. \$4,750 OBO. Call 412-0206.

**FOR SALE:** '94 Acura Integra. 105k. Brand new tires. Runs perfect, sunroof. Asking \$5,200. Call 317-5111.

**FOR SALE:** '93 Mazda MX6, automatic, 2 doors. 152k. Asking \$1,900 cash, Call 721-4284.

**FOR SALE:** '90 Chevy Lumina euro. Black, 4 doors. Asking \$300. Call 631-0659.

**FOR SALE:** '90 Nissan 300 GS 2x2, T-tops, 5-speed manual, V-6, 3.0 liter, spoiler, black, 142k. All power, 16" alloy wheels, w/ new tires. Asking \$3,900 OBO. Call 229-3683.

**FOR SALE:** '89 Buick Century, good condition. Asking \$1,500 OBO. Call 794-0561.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Chevy Caprice, 4-door Sedan. Asking \$1,400 OBO. Call 314-8145.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Plymouth Grand Voyager, silver, new A/C. New transmission. Call 245-9954.

**FOR SALE:** '76 Ford Econoline, heavy duty everything. Rebuilt engine, 125k. \$1,150. Call 210-7245.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE:** Dining room suite and chairs. \$40. Vintage upholstered '70s chair. Call 794-2078.

**FOR SALE:** 2-year-old female, gray, lop-eared rabbit. Cage, water bottle and food dish included. Call 745-2483.

**FOR SALE:** 2 parakeets and large cage \$65. Free arrow sign, come and get. Call 794-2078.

**FOR SALE:** Twin size frame and mattresses, good condition. Asking \$25. Please call 304-1283.

**FOR SALE:** Beautiful blue floral sofa. Slightly worn. \$75 OBO. Call 692-0177.

**FOR SALE:** Ethan Allen sofa. \$300. Pulaski solid oak dresser w/ mirror \$300. Gate leg dropleaf table \$125. Call 682-1611, ext. 7263.

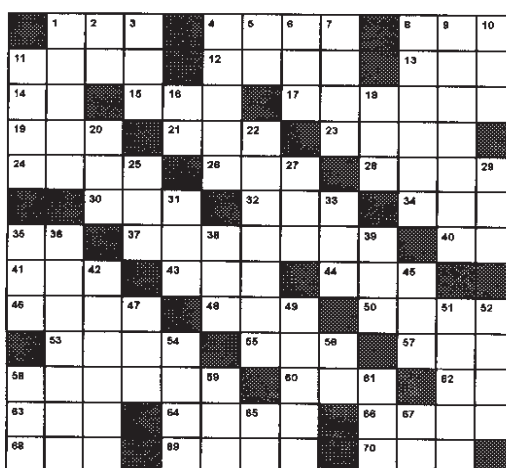
**FOR SALE:** Full-size sofa and microwave oven with stand and rollers on it. Both in good condition. Cash only. Call 912-0890.

**FOR SALE:** Child's Cosco car seat \$10. Girl "Cry Baby" doll \$15, wood bar stools, 29 inches high, \$10 each. Call 632-7750.

**FOR SALE:** Couch for sale in-

## Weekly crossword

puzz147



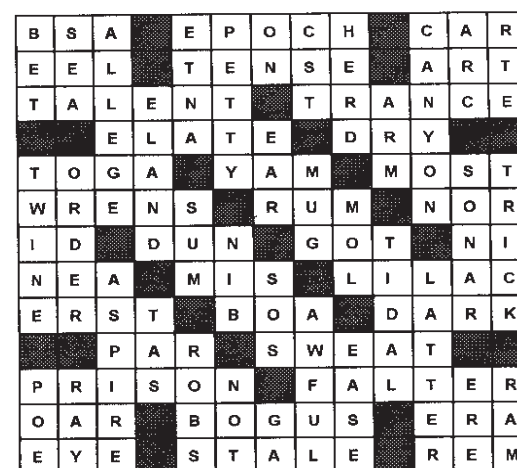
ACROSS

1 Is (plural)  
4 Bottom  
8 Conditions  
11 Male deer  
12 Among  
13 Rifle group (abbr.)  
14 Near  
15 Man (slang)  
17 Removed soap  
19 Girl (slang)  
21 Hawaiian dish  
23 Carry  
24 SW state (abbr.)  
26 America (abbr.)  
28 Press release  
30 Clothes (informal)  
32 Poem  
34 Tap  
35 Preposition  
37 Egg specialties  
40 You (arch.)  
41 Village (abbr.)  
43 Accountant (abbr.)  
44 Goal  
46 Not on our side (2 wds.)  
48 Dined  
50 Urge

DOWN

53 Revealed  
55 Before (poetic)  
57 Fuss  
58 Do over  
60 African antelope  
62 Over  
63 Prepare golf ball  
64 Edible root  
66 Fee  
68 Terminate  
69 One NY ballplayer  
70 Unit  
1 Floral perfume  
2 Egyptian sun god  
3 Breakfast food  
4 Stagnant creek  
5 Morning (abbr.)  
6 Male title  
7 Blue pencil  
8 Bottom of foot  
9 CA highway  
10 Unhappy  
11 Ancient story  
16 Higher position  
18 Not (pref.)  
20 Shone

puzz146



22 Alone

25 Animal's home  
27 Summer drink  
29 Female saint (abbr.)  
31 Auto makers (abbr.)  
33 7th Greek letter  
35 Eggs  
36 Mid-teens  
38 Government agency (abbr.)  
39 Signature (slang)  
42 Circled  
45 Flightless bird  
47 Building extension  
49 Rye disease  
51 Love  
52 Finished  
54 Information  
56 Into (pref.)  
58 Route (abbr.)  
59 Sweet potato  
61 Alien spacecraft (abbr.)  
65 With reference to  
67 Article

cluding matching chair and ottoman. The color is light beige. Asking \$60. Call Lacey at 740-1073.

**FOR SALE:** Christmas tree 6 1/2 foot. In good condition. With lights and skirt included. \$50, cash only. Call 912-0890.

**FOR SALE:** Nitro 143 Snowboard in great condition. Must sell. Asking \$400 or OBO. Please call 474-6630.

**FOR SALE:** MAC oversized tool box and bottom loaded with tools. MAC, Snap On and Craftsman tools. Asking \$5,500 OBO. Call 823-0737.

**FOR SALE:** 4 Rockford Fosgate BD 1,001 amps, \$450 each. 4 kicker L7 15" solo barics subs, \$325 each. 2 Rockford Fosgate 12" subs \$100 each. 4

Optima Red Top Gel batteries, \$100 each. Two kicker L5 solo barics 10" subs \$150 each. Call at 830-3308 after 2 p.m. or 440-1885.

**FOR SALE:** White and blue plaid couch \$30. CD player and stereo \$25. Queen bed, includes mattress and railing \$20. Call 740-1073.

**FOR SALE:** Siberian huskies for sale. Great Christmas gift. \$150. Call Elton at 610-6481.

**FOR SALE:** Full mattress set \$80. Small dressing table with chair \$40. Small dining room table with 4 chairs \$80. Small coffee table \$5. 19" TV, \$80. Love seat and sofa \$300. Computer for sale still new. good deal, computer pentium 4. Has windows and a 17" screen with printer. Asking \$860. Call 721-4284.

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**Roommate Wanted:** 2-story duplex in N.W. OKC. 2 BR/1.5 BA, HWF, W/D, DW. No smoking or pets. \$400 mo. and \$250 deposit. Call 503-1234.

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# Tenacity may still pay off when looking for flu vaccine

"Flu,"

Cont. from page 1

this year. Usually, she said, it's recommended for kids ages 5 and above.

At this point, the problem is finding somewhere that still offers the vaccine. Caderat said there are flu vaccines still available — but barely.

He said the problem wasn't poor planning. It's just that this year more people got flu shots.

"There are actually more [doses of] vaccines out there this year than last year," he said.

Caderat said folks just need to call around and see who may still have some of the vaccines available. Folks may have better luck finding those through their private physicians.

"We here at the state health department are distributing to county health departments in a very equitable way," he said.

However, he said, he doesn't know when another shipment would arrive.

"We'll be lucky to get one in the future, but right now there are none scheduled to come in."

At least one OKCCC student isn't concerned about the shortage.

Brandon Smith, marketing major, had the flu a couple of weeks ago. He said, in the past when he got a flu shot, he would feel worse than when he got the virus.

"I'd rather have the flu and get it over with because you can't get the same flu twice," Smith said.

Smith is right about not

being able to get the same flu twice, but right now there is more than one type of flu circulating.

Biology Professor Ron Scribner explained the differences and how health officials determine what is prevalent.

"Every year when the vaccine is formulated, which has to be no later than early March to get ready for the November flu season, they choose three strains of the flu, two of which are the A strains."

He said the A strain is most likely to cause epidemics while the B strain causes more sporadic illnesses. The choice is made based upon flu activity around the world, he said.

"When it's summer here, it's winter in Australia so they're in the flu season."

He said the Centers for Disease Control monitor the flu activity and make the call as to which strains seem to be circulating each year. But, in the end, he said, it's really just an educated guess.

However, Scribner said, they have been right on the mark regarding what vaccine to use for the past several years.

"This year it appears that the predominant strain is not exactly the one that's in

the vaccine, but [the vaccine] does help."

This year's main flu strain is A/Panama (H3N2). The strain circulating the most is called A/Fujian (H3N2).

"The fact that they are the same type means that the vaccine is going to help," Scribner said.

He said getting the vaccine will lessen the chances of getting the flu and the severity of the symptoms for those who do.

There also is an alternative to the flu vaccine that may help those age 5 and above who can't find available vaccines or for those who hate needles — Tamiflu and Amantadine which are gel capsules.

A local pharmacist said they are both used to help lessen the severity of flu symptoms. She said the medications have to be taken at the early stages of the flu.

The downside of Tamiflu, she said, is that some of the pharmacies are limiting customers to six packages a day because of the lack of supply and because it is very costly. It's around \$75 for 5 days worth of doses. Amantadine is about half that price.

Scribner said the capsules may offer too little,

too late.

"Once you develop symptoms of the flu, [the medicine] doesn't help very well," he said. It may shorten the duration a little bit. But it really doesn't help much."

The flu season lasts until at least late February so there's still time to protect against it — if vaccines can be found. And, anyone can get the flu shot, even those who are pregnant.

Some doctors were still offering flu vaccines as of press time. They include:

•Medplus family medicine clinic at 7378 S. Walker for \$20. The phone number is 636-0767.

• Louie Wall at 8600 S. Penn for \$30. The number is 682-1060.

•Clinton A. Winslow at 4300 S. Shields Blvd. for \$18. The number is 632-6681.

•Nancy Paulger at 931 S.W. 74th St. for \$15. The number is 632-5800.

•OU's Goddard Health Center is offering free flu shots to students from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday with a valid OU student ID. Shots are \$15 for faculty and staff.

For those who already have the flu — doctors recommend getting plenty of rest, drinking lots of fluids and eating healthy food.

## State hiring freeze won't affect college hiring

"Freeze,"

Cont. from page 1

this is that there is not currently a Secretary of Education. As a result all exceptions must now go through the Secretary of State.

Ben Hardcastle, media relations contact for Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, said

Chancellor Paul Risser and Governor Henry are currently talking about how to simplify the process.

Todd said he will continue to ensure that all requirements of the order are being met.

"When we receive clarification as to the process of hiring for vacant positions, we will use the process," Todd said.

"We are going to continue to effectively operate."

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