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# PIONEER



Photo by Billy Adams

**Duotones:** Michael Jamanis explains the genius of Rachmaninoff and Gershwin as his wife Frances Veri prepares to play. The concert, the Jamanis Duo, was the last event in this year's Cultural Awareness Series. Contact the Cultural Programs and Community Development office at 682-7579 for information on next year's schedule of events.

## College authors, artists to be published in journal

By Shawn Bryant  
News Writing I Student

The time has come for outstanding authors and artists to showcase their talents through OKCCC's Absolute.

English professor Clay Randolph said the publication is a compilation of literary and artistic works. The journal has been published every year since 1973, shortly after the college opened its doors.

Absolute covers all aspects of literature with entire sections devoted to poetry, fiction and non-fiction, he said.

"Our student editors this year did an excellent job in selecting the items that we will publish."

—Clay Randolph  
OKCCC English Professor

Another section focuses on photography and artwork.

This year's short stories are: "A Sea Story" by Lisa Harrison, "Crushed and Confused" by James R. Forgue, "Salmon" by Morgan Felty, "The Diet" by Michael Robertson, "You Never Know" by Chris Bright, "Kids" by Amanda Vasquez and "Passing the Test" by John Mercer.

Three essays are being published. "It's Just a Little Hole" by Constance Burris, "Racing to Gdynia on the Kiev Express" by John W. Perry, and "Postcards from Mexico" by Emily Medley.

This year's Absolute will contain the following poems: "Pained City" by Torey

See "Absolute," page 12

## EMS program has seen many years of changes

By Caroline Ting  
Editor

OKCCC's Emergency Medical Services program is sending its 30th graduating class out the door this year. The program started when the college first opened in 1972.

EMS Director Romeo Opichka, and full-time professors Brent Stafford, Bruce Farris and Harvey Conner, all graduated from the program. All have taught at the college for most of their adult lives, and have seen how much has changed in the program and the profession.

"I believe I've taught everything there is to teach in the program," Stafford said. He's taught at the college for 12 years. He graduated around 1980.

Stafford said many of the things he felt were impossible to do back in the early days can actually be accomplished now.

For instance, he said, the machine the medical community is using now to treat the heart has more functions than the one used before. The newer machine has the pacemaker function, which is used to speed up the heartbeat when the heart is not beating at all or isn't beating fast enough.

Stafford said he's also seen other advancements in the field.

He said paramedics have the capability of performing surgeries on the neck and chest to allow the lung to expand so that patients can breathe.

Conner has taught at the college for 15 years. He graduated in the second EMS graduating class of 1975.

He said he is most impressed with the advanced technology that allows paramedics to save patients having heart attacks.

"[Back then] when a patient had a heart attack, they just lost part of their heart and died," Conner said. Now, he said, much more can be done to save lives.

Conner said his Oklahoma EMS license number is 002, which means he was the second EMS professional certified in the state. His national EMS license number is 577.

Conner said the college's EMS program has been in different campus locations in the last three decades.

He said the EMS class was first located in the underground area of the campus where the science lab is currently housed. On the far east side of the lab were classroom partitions of pinewood and carpet.

Now EMS can be found at the social sciences area next

See "EMS," page 7

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Return space to the disabled

Parking — the word that strikes terror in the hearts of college students everywhere, especially at OKCCC. Fortunately there are plans to add close to 300 parking spaces by fall. But for handicapped students, there isn't too much to celebrate, since only so many spaces can be reserved for handicap parking.

A few handicapped students have been complaining that it is difficult for them to find parking spaces close to the entrances that they need to go in.

The lack of parking, not only at OKCCC, but also at other colleges, stores and restaurants across Oklahoma, often lead many able-bodied drivers to make bad decisions.

Some people think they are going to be at a place for a few minutes so it would be OK to park in the handicap spot.

However, while they are there for that "few minutes," some person who actually needs that space, people who are disabled could be pulling up and finding it taken by a person who doesn't.

Others with even fewer morals have stooped so low as to place a handicapped placard on their vehicle when they are not disabled.

Recently two young men were witnessed pulling into a handicapped space. They had a placard on their vehicle, but when they got out of the car, they did not seem to be handicapped.

In the Oklahoma Disability Survey Report that was put together by the Office of Handicapped Concerns, many disabled citizens of Oklahoma voiced their opinions on subjects that concerned them. One of the issues mentioned, of course, was parking.

One disabled woman from the survey said parking is worse during bad weather and holidays. She said most places have handicap parking, but it is always far away or at the far end of the building.

A few wheelchair-bound students at the college also have noted that they must go out of their way to access ramps to the buildings that are near the handicap parking.

This can be more grueling during the winter when there is ice on the ground, or in a thunderstorm, when the ground is slippery, and you also are getting soaked.

Many also believe there is not enough law enforcement when it comes to handicap parking.

In the college policies it states that students without handicap placards in their vehicles will be fined \$50 for parking in a handicap space. The college also maintains the right to tow away vehicles that are parked in a handicapped space without proper registration.

People need to realize that handicapped means just that. That symbol on parking spaces, signs and placards isn't there for nothing. It is there to make life easier for those who really need it.

—Nicole Padilla  
Staff Writer

## Campus needs law enforcement

### To the editor:

An instance on a morning last month set me off again. I went out entry 8 and asked two students if they could or would move up by the smoking area and out of the doorway, explaining that I had serious respiratory problems and didn't need to be breathing their smoke, to which they replied, "If you don't want to breathe it, walk the other way, or go out another entrance."

This is the general attitude about most of the regulations on the campus, which don't get enforced. We spend money on making signs and painting parking spaces, and that alone is supposed to solve the problem.

Imagine the problems that would occur if I carried my concealed weapon to work. There are no signs on the doors informing us that we can't, even though it is against state law to carry a firearm on campus without explicit permission from the president of the college. I do have a Concealed Carry Permit, so I guess it would be OK. I know this is an exaggeration, but I use it to prove a point.

Every night I leave, there are cars blocking the

handicap exit from behind the pool. Most of them are employees' cars or students'.

I see hundreds of people each day huddle in the doorways of the entrances smoking, and they are both employees and students. I have almost died twice from pneumonia in the last few years since my stroke, and that to me is as serious as someone coming to class armed. I have a lot more chance of becoming ill from breathing cigarette smoke than I do of someone shooting me in class.

According to state law, it is illegal to smoke anywhere there is a child-study center or minor children. On the same morning, city school buses were unloading hundreds of small children for Wacky Water Days into second-hand smoke. Good move.

Let's endanger children that are being bussed in as well as the ones who reside here.

My opinion is that the college smoking regulations, as well as parking regulations are a joke.

I for one am getting tired of trying to enforce regulations that are in place to protect me as a disabled employee.

Give me the authority to

enforce these two regulations like the city has, and I will at least make a dent in the problem. Better yet, designate some of our disabled students as enforcement work-studies and give them the authority to issue citations.

After all, these are the folks at the greatest risk. Something needs to be done.

—Lloyd Kinsbury  
Health Lab Coordinator

## PIONEER

Vol. 32 No. 29

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Nicole Padilla.....Staff Writer  
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All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

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

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

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

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





## Comments and Reviews

# Equal rights for homosexuals

### To the editor:

I found Karen Cuellar's letter in last week's Pioneer disturbing. Christianity does not hold the patent on marriage. Marriage was an institution long before the advent of Christianity. Many people, generations before it, made commitments of love to each other and raised fine families to boot before Christianity.

Homosexuality is not wrong. It is about humans loving each other. I find it appalling that others do not think so. This is the 21st century and our country has chosen to run screaming back to conservatism in the hopes that all of this will go away.

Homosexuals deserve the right to marry. They also deserve the right to property, the right to be present when their partners pass away, the right to adopt children, the right not to be tied to a pole and beaten to death, and they deserve to

express their sexuality. All of these things are human rights, not just homosexual rights.

Somehow various individuals believe that homosexuals wanting the right to marry will make a mockery of marriage. Heterosexuals have made a mockery of marriage already. Heterosexual marriages have been used to attain citizenship, money, land and title.

Young girls have been forced (and are still being forced in some areas) to marry men far above their age and station all for the "sake" of their families' well being. It makes a mockery of marriage far more than any two women who get married to each other because they are in love.

This is supposed to be a free country. Yet somehow, this country has still decided to lock itself in the closet of intolerance and stay there. This is supposed to be some sort of melting

pot, yet people still want everyone to melt in their own pot.

Homosexuality is not wrong. It is a part of the spectrum of human sexuality. There have even been people who stated that gay marriages will lead to the spread of AIDS. AIDS is spreading faster among the heterosexual population in adolescents and young women. The cross-vector of people engaging in unprotected sexual behavior across sexual orientation lines is causing that to occur, not just within the homosexual community.

The attitude towards homosexuality varies across the world and racial boundaries. The shame needs to be taken away. Being homosexual is not wrong. Homosexuals deserve the right to marry without interference. Period.

—**Stormy Beasley**  
**Physical Science Lab**  
**Assistant**

# Learn to see the beauty in art

### To the editor:

I must reply to the closed minded, uneducated and unworldly cynics that have nothing better to do with their time than complain about artwork sitting in a display case.

Have you ever been to a museum? Have you ever seen a humanities, literature or mythology book? These books are all full of pictures, paintings and sculptures of nude bodies. Do you watch daytime TV? You see more smut on an afternoon soap opera than from any of the books mentioned above. How do you teach a doctor to be a doctor without viewing or without thorough examination

of a human body? This is true for art, mythology and humanities classes as well.

This is art. This is culture. It is beautiful. Visual Art professor Carolyn Farris was absolutely right when she described in the March 29 issue that the artist was very tasteful with her painting. The article also said the artist displayed the art at her church before bringing it to the college.

When Adam and Eve came into this world, they were not wearing designer clothes or Wal Mart clothes — they were nude.

I would like to see the artwork put back in the display case for us to admire

and reflect on a simpler time. I would also like to suggest to the individuals who had issues with the painting in the first place that we live in a country which embraces culture and you should try it. Life is beautiful. Enjoy and submerge yourself with learning. You too may learn to appreciate the arts. Before, only those who used the hallway in the Arts and Humanities building could appreciate the artwork. Now, everyone in OKCCC can appreciate it as it is on the front page of the March 29 issue of the Pioneer.

—**Shelly Tevis**  
**Secretary of Health**  
**Professions**

## Counselor's Corner

### Testing anxiety

Each semester, students come to our office terrified. They speak of losing sleep, of eating too much or too little, and of generally being afraid that they can't succeed in college. These students live in fear of...the "TEST."

From the time we begin our educational journey in this country, we are bombarded with tests. Students and their parents cringe in the shadow of the test, fearful that some unseen flaw will be revealed that will forever cast them into the realm of the underachiever. After a dozen or so years in the common school sector, it is not surprising that some students come to us anxious and fearful about this aspect of school.

The reality is that tests are a fact of life. They should be an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they know about a given subject at a given time. Within the proper context, a test can show you where you may have weaknesses that you need to address. They can give your teachers information both about how well students are prepared and learning, in addition to how well they may be delivering that information. A test can provide important feedback about adjustments that may need to be made on both sides of the academic desk.

But for students who live in the shadow of the "TEST," the fear of what might be far outweighs the reality. They may know information and be able to use it in other ways, but freeze up when they arrive to test. Or they second guess themselves and negate what they might have been successful on.

We in Student Development understand how devastating test anxiety can be, and we want you to know that we have ways to help you. By working with either a Student Development Counselor or with the Coordinator of Student Support Services, you can begin to learn ways to tame the beast and keep the "TEST" under control. There are a variety of relaxation strategies that can help control the feelings of panic that some of you experience. We can also assist with study skills and test-taking strategies that can help you save time and enjoy more benefits from the time you spend on your lessons. In most cases, spending a little time with one of us is all it takes to help you gain a sense of control and relief from your fears.

If you are one of the many individuals who lives in fear of the "TESTS," we encourage you to come to Student Development early in the semester so we can help you battle this problem. We have a variety of resources here to help with test anxiety and just about any other situation related to being successful in classes. By working with us early in the semester before you have to demonstrate what you've learned, you may be able to keep the "TEST" in perspective, and give yourself a chance to breathe.

—**Student Development**

### Quote of the Week:

"Facts are the enemy of truth."

—**Don Quixote**

## Comments and Reviews

# Criticisms of the Bush administration

**To the editor:**

In the tradition of debate, I thought I would send Lloyd Kingsbury my rebuttal. First of all, I would like to thank him for the laugh, actually laughs that he provided me.

On a more serious note, protesting a war that you fought in has nothing to do with throwing an award in someone's face. It is obviously an issue of relativity, and it would seem that someone who actually fought in a war would have more of a right to protest it than someone who did not.

I have talked to and read many comments from people who have spent time in Vietnam, and there are many, many negative reports on what happened there, most notably

history's judgment of what happened. It is important to understand that I am not saying I feel the soldiers who fought in Vietnam or who are fighting in Iraq are bad people, and I understand that they were or are serving with the duty that they pledged to give. What was in question with Vietnam and now with Iraq is the justification for the war and the basis for these wars.

If you have seen the news from Iraq in the past few days, things have gotten much worse and the death total for our troops is now at 623, a substantial number, especially since that's about 500 deaths since this great president of yours claimed "mission accomplished."

Regarding John Kerry's factories overseas, as far as I am concerned, that is a mute [sic] point. What is not, however, is that Kerry is willing to address the problem of outsourcing and the fact that this administration has seen greater job losses than any other in this nation's history.

If you want to speak of corruption, try looking at the ties this administration has with the likes a Halliburton. Try looking at Bush's failure to confront OPEC, which is the real reason why gas prices are so high. The real corruption is this administration's oil ties and promotion of inequality through tax breaks for the rich.

Also, it would probably be best to leave God out of this

whole debate because if you speak of God like you say you do, then maybe you can tell me what the good Lord's only son thought of war. If you try to use God as a justification for war, then that makes you no different then the people waging a Jihad for their God. It is fundamental foolishness.

If you want to vote for George Bush because you feel betrayed by Kerry, that is fine, but if you watch anything besides Fox News, you might see that George Bush is betraying this great country far more than Kerry ever did.

—**John Dell**  
OKCCC student

## Inaccurate information on Kerry's war record

**To the editor:**

Lloyd Kingsbury's letter in the April 5 issue contains several misrepresentations of Sen. John Kerry's record in Vietnam.

At the time Kerry was a junior officer in the U.S. Navy serving as the Commanding Officer on board a Swift boat, engaged in riverine operations in the Mekong delta in the Republic of Vietnam.

At the time of his service, this involved a 13-month tour of duty in country. Giving him two weeks to process in country, two weeks to process out country, and two weeks of R and R out of the country, Kerry would have spent 50 weeks involved in active operations.

Swift boats were out almost every day doing a variety of tasks from escorting convoys of landing craft to garrison's upriver to carrying combat teams involved in search and destroy operations. He would have seen a considerable

amount of combat. Swift boat units suffered some of the highest casualty rates of units involved in the Vietnam War.

Kerry has people who remember him. A Medal of Honor recipient who served with him was quoted as saying, "I'd ride the river with him anytime." Kerry was a volunteer during difficult times and carried out his service in a manner befitting the phrase "Duty, Honor, Country." To say otherwise is to diminish the service of all the Brown Water sailors who served on the Mekong River. That he came to disagree with the administration's policy toward Vietnam was and is his right as a citizen of this country.

As a retired Navy officer, I question neither his dedication to our country nor his patriotism. As a former registered Republican, I would be proud to cast my vote for him.

—**Jay A. Malmstrom**  
LCDR USNR (Ret)

## Misleading headline

**To the editor:**

I wish to correct a misconception caused by the headline for the article in last week's Pioneer about Dr. John W. Perry.

In his interview with news writing students, Dr. Perry made it clear that the plesiosaur was a marine rep-

tile. He never suggested that the creature was a dinosaur.

In fairness to the news writing students, it should be pointed out that they do not write the headlines for their stories.

—**Clay Randolph**  
Journalism professor

## Writer asks the college be friendly

**To the editor:**

According to Webster 1828 dictionary, the word 'character' is defined: "Those which are esteemed and respected," and the word 'defamation' is defined: "The uttering of slanderous words with a view to injure another's reputation."

These two words could definitely be used to describe the letters to the editor concerning Allison Foster's petition to remove the nude artwork displayed in this college. The points used in these letters sidestepped the issue and took on a personal attack to Foster and good common sense.

The true issue is: Are our rights being violated by asking this artwork be moved to a more appropriate place in the college?

Webster dictionary also says to censor is to "examine all manuscripts... and see that they contain nothing heretical or immoral." While we may all have different ideas of 'morality,' we

**"If we don't protect ourselves from the extremists who would promote everything to be permissible in the public arena, who's to say the next issue isn't full personal nudity, sexual harassment, drug use, carrying weapons or worse?"**

—Courtney Mount

Former OKCCC student and taxpayer

should have deference. "A yielding in opinion... hence, regard; respect" to others' views in public situations.

I personally can't influence you to keep nude artwork out of your homes. I can't ask that you stay out of the Chicago Museum of Art. I can't ask you not to view or enjoy this art form, but I can ask that you keep this out of public areas.

If we don't protect ourselves from the extremists who would promote everything to be permissible in the public arena, who's to say the next issue isn't full of personal nudity, sexual harassment, drug use, carrying weapons or worse?

If you don't think this is-

sue affects you, think again. This affects you if you work at or attend OKCCC, use the College for Kids, ever go into OKCCC or are a taxpayer in this community.

Finally, OKCCC is a public college and attended by people of all ages from the little children in the tumbling classes, to the high school kids taking prep classes, to the newly graduated young adults, to the returning to work crowd and to the senior citizens attending the swim classes.

Please help us keep this college friendly to all.

—**Courtney Mount**  
Former OKCCC student and taxpayer



# Have a heart and give blood

**By Casey McDermott**  
**News Writing I Student**

Break out the short sleeves, students. The Oklahoma Blood Institute is coming back for the second blood drive at OKCCC this semester.

The services will be provided between 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, April 21 and 22, in the college union.

Three lives can be saved by the donation of one unit of blood, Ghemelle Sims, OBI Mobile Supervisor.

OKCCC student Jenna Quigley plans to donate blood said.

"You can always give

blood," she said. "They never have enough."

Earlier this semester students from OKCCC and the OBI were able to exceed expectations, providing 67 units of blood.

OBI is hoping for an even greater turnout during this blood drive.

"We would love to see 50 donations each day," said Jennifer Hasel, OBI Blood Program consultant.

"The blood banks are critically low, and there has been a drop in the amount of people donating.

"[Donating blood] is a great community service and doesn't cost a dime," Hasel said.

For more information call Hasel at 297-5554.

# Profs and students rock the house

**By Lacey Lett**  
**Staff Writer**

OKCCC professors and students are planning to rock and roll together classical style at 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 30 in the wide hallway facing the courtyard.

The ensemble consists of English professors Michael PUNCHES and Jon Inglett, as well as student Daniel Amitin.

PUNCHES said none of this would have been possible without Terry Isaacs, guitar teacher, and also the Arts and Humanities Division for sponsoring it.

"It was [Isaac's] idea to start the ensemble. It was his idea to have a performance..."

Sara Litzner and Kevin O'Neal, students of Isaacs, will be joining the ensemble for a night, as well as performing solos, PUNCHES said.

He said there will be a variety of different classical music for solo and ensemble guitar.

PUNCHES has been playing the guitar for almost two years. Inglett has been playing for about a year and a half. "[Amitin] has been playing for a long time. He's definitely the best. He's a really talented classical guitar player," PUNCHES said.

The performance is free to the public, and everyone is welcome. He likes the fact that students and teachers interact on a social level. "It's kind of fun that faculty and students are involved in this together. "That really happens a lot at this school, and I think it's cool...that students and teacher do extracurricular [activities] together," he said.

For more information call PUNCHES at 682-1611, ext. 7637.

*Senior Staff Writer Lacey Lett can be reached at seniorwriter@okccc.edu.*

## Get your toes wet



Photo by Billy Adams

Justin Lorenzen works out in the college pool between classes. He swims laps with a couple of his fellow paramedic students.

# Dip in the gene pool on DNA Day

**By Lacey Lett**  
**Staff Writer**

Amber Nolen, state genetics education coordinator, will speak about genetic testing and bioethics at OKCCC for DNA Day.

National DNA Day "commemorates the completion of the Human Genome Project in April 2003," according to [www.genome.gov/dnaday](http://www.genome.gov/dnaday).

This college will be commemorating the historic feat from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 30, in room 1C7.

Charlotte Mulvihill, biotechnology program director, said the speaker will begin at 11 a.m., and is sponsored by the biotechnology club.

Nolen has a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University of Virginia and her master of science in genetic counseling from the University of California, Berkeley.

Nolen also is a board certified genetic counselor by the American Board of Genetic Counseling.

She hopes her words will have an affect on students.

"I hope that [the students] will become interested in the field of genetics and wish to pursue a career in the field," she said.

Starting at noon, there will be an open house in room 1C7 with displays and activities set up showcasing DNA.

Cake and punch will be served. Everyone is welcome.

"We are going to feature a webcast from the genome center [in Maryland]. It's called 'Life in the Lab,' she said.

It will be about the life of three young scientists and why they came into the field."

The DNA structure was discovered by Dr. James Watson, Francis Crick and Rosalind Franklin.

Their discovery showed how DNA information is copied and passed from one generation to the next, according to [www.number-10.gov.uk](http://www.number-10.gov.uk).

DNA has led to the capture of criminals. It also has led to more knowledge about diseases, the website reports.

For more information on DNA Day call Charlotte Mulvihill at 682-1611, ext. 7225.

*Senior Staff Writer Lacey Lett can be reached at seniorwriter@okccc.edu.*



# Deaf actress releases childhood angst on stage

**By Tim Sapp**  
News Writing I Student

Prominent deaf actress Terrylene Sachetti groped and molested herself in front of a crowd of around 100 people in the college theater Friday. With a combination of American Sign Language and pantomime, Sachetti performed her autobiographical play "In the Now."

Terrylene is an accomplished actress, appearing in feature such films as "Natural Born Killers" and "City of Angels." She also is a victim of child abuse by her stepfather.

"In the Now" centers around the molestation and rape Sachetti endured, and the devastating 24 years of emotional pain she suffered.

By sharing these very private subjects with an audience, Sachetti hopes to better educate the public, especially the hearing-impaired public, on issues of child abuse and incest.

By announcing the horrors of her childhood to the

world she also hopes to find peace for herself.

"The secret I was keeping inside of me was killing me," Sachetti said. "What was the opposite of a secret? To tell it.

"If I told the story, it would kill what was killing me: the secret," she said.

The fact that Sachetti was deaf only complicated matters. Sachetti depicted a San Antonio police depart-

**"You know the deaf community can be... very accusatory and, I didn't want them to accuse my mother."**

—Terrylene Sachetti  
Deaf actress

ment that was not quick to help victims who are deaf.

The support from the deaf community was not much better.

"You know how the deaf community can be," she said. "They can be very accusatory, and I didn't want them to accuse my mother."

The pressure was so significant that the actress contemplated staying quiet.

"I was conflicted for a long time. I felt like I was two-faced, like Jeekyll and Hyde."

Sachetti finally decided to



Photo by Billy Adams

**Pantomime in the now:** Actress Terrylene Sachetti performs her one-woman show "In the Now" in the college theater on April 9. Terrylene has performed in several plays but unlike the others, this play is autobiographical.

tell her story, which she said helped the healing process.

"Everybody heals in their own time," she said. "I suffered sexual abuse from the ages of 4 to 12. I kept the secret until I was 19, and I

don't think it really healed until 15 years later."

Now the deaf actress is hinting that the play might be in its final performances. A motion picture is on the horizon.

"I need to move on to the

rest of my life," she said. "We will be making a film in October so that it can be available to anybody." With that, Sachetti will finally be able to move past her pre-adolescent years, 24 years after her 12th birthday.

## Voting is simple, easy and crucial to America's future

**By Travis M. McMillan**  
News Writing I Student

Americans should start thinking now about what they will be doing Nov. 2. Since the planner page is probably blank, this would be a good time to write a reminder: vote.

According to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, in the 2000 election just 15 percent of Oklahomans, age 18 to 24 voted. This is below the national average of 21



percent. Over the past years, young people ages 18 to 24, have not been getting out to vote.

"Some people think it doesn't matter [if they vote], but it really does. It's very important," said Monica Perez, OKCCC student.

Political Science professor Rick Vollmer said because young people vote less than other groups,

their needs are rarely addressed.

"It is a catch-22 situation. Candidates have no particular incentive to pay attention to young voters because they do not vote."

During his years of teaching college students, Vollmer said he has observed the main reason most students are apathetic toward voting is that they do not see the issues affecting them, they do not "notice the relevance in their lives right now."

**"Some people think it doesn't matter [if they vote], but it really does."**

—Monica Perez  
OKCCC student

If young voters do not start to take some action, Vollmer thinks potentially by the time they realize the issues matter, it may be too late to fix the problems.

Registering is a simple process and takes an average of five minutes. People who are 18 years or older can register. A voter must be registered 25 days before

the election in order to participate.

One of the ways to register to vote is to go to RockTheVote.com and register online. Or you can drop by the Student Life office and get registered. People also can register at any public library or Department of Motor Vehicles office.

# College's EMS program to host Harvard prof

**By Trevor Rivera**  
Contributing Writer

OKCCC's Emergency Medical Services department steps into the Oklahoma spotlight, again.

The EMS department will host a statewide medical training course featuring a Harvard physician at 8:30 a.m. on April 27 in room 407. It is sponsored by Medtronic, a global medical technology company.

Dr. Baruch Krauss, an emergency medical physician in Boston and an assistant professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, will provide the two-hour capnography training.

Capnography is a tool used to measure the amount of carbon dioxide

a patient exhales while on respiratory support.

As a patient breathes, the levels of carbon dioxide exhaled is graphed.

Capnography can be used to help assess patients suffering from asthma, seizures, diabetes or even bioterrorism, according to [www.capnography.com](http://www.capnography.com).

"Capnography is becoming an evermore important part of patient assessment," said Dr. Jo Ann Cobble, OKCCC health professions division dean.

Capnography also can help save lives, said Romeo Opichka, program director of OKCCC's EMS department.

Anesthesiologists can use the monitor during surgery to see if their patient is breathing properly, Opich-

ka said.

This can prevent a patient from dying because of a lack of oxygen.

"This is a relatively new tool in the medical field," Opichka said.

Until last semester, he said, OKCCC didn't have a capnographer.

"I guess I first saw one of these things at a convention I went to a few years ago."

Opichka said he purchased a capnographer for the EMS department using funds he requested from a Carl Perkins Grant.

OKCCC's EMS department has received statewide attention in the past as being the only accredited EMS program in the state and for its new human patient simulator.

Now, the department will

receive even more attention.

"People from all over the state will be coming here to receive training on [capnography]," Opichka said.

Being thrust into the limelight will benefit OKCCC's EMS department.

"I think it's great publicity for the institution," Cobble said. "And I think it is wonderful to have it here at the school."

The training is open to

the public, Cobble said.

Students who are interested must call EMS professor Harvey Conner at 682-1611, ext. 7304, to reserve a seat. Others who want to attend the training should contact Todd Shire at 919-5493 for a seat.

Krauss has conducted more than 100 capnography trainings. Also, he has written more than 30 medical publications and two textbooks.

## EMS program graduates 30th class

"EMS,"

Cont. from page 1

to the Aquatic Center. EMS has been at this location since 1991, Conner said.

Location isn't all that's changed. Opichka said equipment used in the program also has improved dramatically.

"We have everything the ambulance services in this area use, [and] we teach [them]," Opichka said.

He pointed out one of the newest pieces of equipment — a \$174,000 human simulator — which he said will definitely spark a student's ability for critical thinking.

OKCCC is one of just two colleges in the state to have a patient simulator. The University of Oklahoma's School of Basic Sciences is the other.

Stafford said the drug list they have also is noteworthy. "The drug list that we started with [was about one quarter of what we have today]," Stafford said.

Currently, the program has 70 to 80 different drugs

available for EMS students to learn about, Opichka said.

Conner emphasized the importance of that.

"[Paramedics] interact with patients who are prescribed those medicines and we have to know how they work on the patients," Conner said. "Every drug class that a physician must be familiar with, a paramedic has to be familiar with too."

Farris, who has taught at the college for 25 years, said another area the program takes great pride in is the fact that many EMS professionals at supervisory levels in central Oklahoma are OKCCC graduates. Students have been able to gain first-hand knowledge before graduation as well.

On the day of the Oklahoma City federal building bombing, Farris said, OKCCC had about 40 EMS students at the scene as volunteers.

Stafford gathered a group of his students after the May 3 tornado to help in the Moore area.

"I would say a significant

historical [aspect] for our program is that we have assisted in disaster planning and training testing for multiple cities and agencies," Stafford said. Those include Will Rogers World Airport and Tinker Air Force Base.

In one of the EMS courses, students learn about different kinds of everyday emergency scenarios that could happen so they will have an opportunity to learn how to react in those situations.

Stafford said some of the scenarios are school shootings, airplane crashes, elevator explosions and tornado disasters.

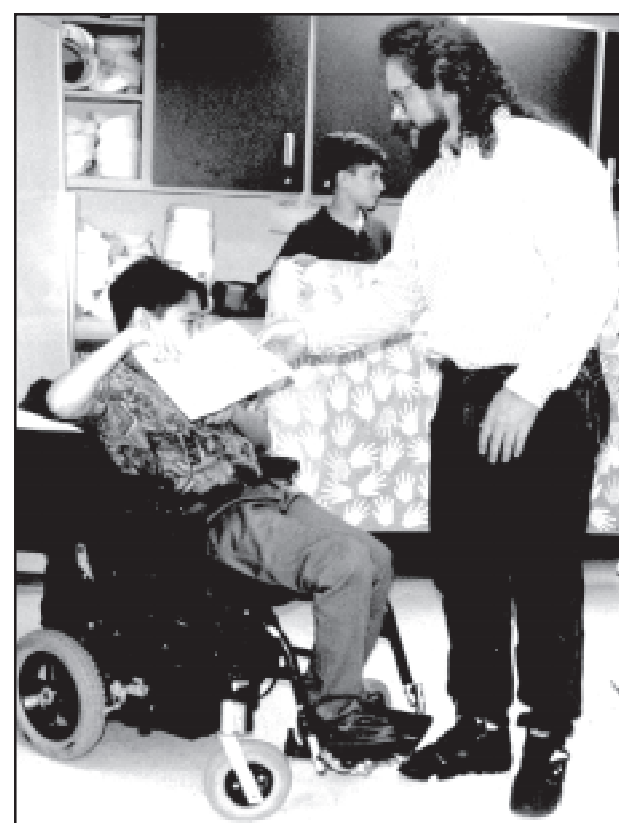
For those who may want to know more, Conner said, EMS Week 2004 is May 16 to 22.

The website for American College of Emergency Physicians reports that EMS Week is devoted to publicize safety and honor those who provide lifesaving services on the "front line" every day. To learn more visit [www.acep.org/emswk](http://www.acep.org/emswk).

Editor Caroline Ting can be reached at [editor@okccc.edu](mailto:editor@okccc.edu).



Romeo Opichka, director of the Emergency Medical Sciences, with the University of Oklahoma's Human Patient Simulator. OKCCC has its own simulator that will be used in the Division of Health Professions.



Brent Stafford receives a certificate from an Oklahoma City school student in this file photo from 1995. The certificate was in recognition of the EMS program's help after the Oklahoma City bombing



# Former Pioneer staffer chats with students at Q&A



Photo by Billy Adams

Kim Morava, reporter for the Shawnee News-Star, talks to students in the Pioneer office about the daily news grind and how much she loves her job. Morava is a former Pioneer staffer.

## 'Nurse Without Boundaries' tells students of adventures

**By David Kilcrease**  
**News Writing I**  
**Student**

Volunteer nurse Mary Lightfine said it took a war zone to make her realize how to solve simple social problems within her small hometown community of 77 people.

An audience of more than 60 people listened for an hour and a half as she shared her life-saving experiences in several Third World countries.

It was a serious speech, but Lightfine's great sense of humor often stole the attention of the students who attended.

She spoke of joining the Nobel Peace Prize winning group, Doctors without Borders in 1993; a humanitarian organization that

treats victims of war.

She said she flew to Africa to be a hospital nurse in Kenya.

"I expected to see something similar to the old movie 'Tarzan,' like untouched jungles and wildlife," she said. "But when I arrived I saw erected skyscrapers from the well-developed city of Nairobi. From there I traveled to the countryside."

Lightfine said she had to land in an airplane on a dirt road during her first assignment in Somalia.

She said she contracted dengue fever in Somalia, an illness resulting from mosquitoes.

"Most medical professionals flee in a time of war, so we had to train Somalis how to perform surgery and other medical procedures," she

said.

Lightfine nearly came to tears when she told a story of a Somali doctor she met during her time there.

Despite the fact that this doctor was not from an elite tribe, he was able to earn a medical degree.

This man was often discriminated against because of his tribe's stature, but he always chose to treat the victims of war who had discriminated against him.

"This doctor is a hero; not George Clooney from ER," Lightfine said.

Thirteen months in Somalia was not enough for her, so she traveled to Sri Lanka, an island off the coast of India.

"Local authorities searched the vehicle I was riding in before

**By Matthew Caban**  
**News Writing I Student**

Former Pioneer ad manager, Kim Morava, answered questions for students on April 9.

She spoke of the highs and lows of being a reporter at the Shawnee News-Star. Morava gave tips to aspiring journalists in the Pioneer office.

Morava graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1998. She began as the community reporter for the News-Star in December 1998, after completing her bachelor's degree.

She stressed that deadline pressure is constant in journalism. She linked this to responsibility when she told the group, "You have to earn your beat."

Morava said her favorite part of her job is the adrenaline rush. Be-

ing a journalist means knowing to get everything you need and talking to everyone, she said.

Her job often requires writing about gruesome crimes. Recently, she has written articles on prostitute slayings in Oklahoma and Texas. These included a dead woman found in Pottawatomie County and a Seminole County resident found dead in Texas.

Each day is busy for her because she writes three to six articles a day. In March, the theft of Shawnee's fire truck caused her to follow the speeding truck for three hours.

Morava stressed that sometimes journalists are required to fill in for someone else.

"Be open to cover anything," she said.

The next Q&A session features Joe Hight, managing editor of the Oklahoman, at 1 p.m. Friday, May 7, in the Pioneer office.

## Student Art Guild chalks it up at 'fest'

**By Christina Tran**  
**News Writing I**  
**Student**

The Student Art Guild participated in the University of Sciences and Arts of Oklahoma's Chalk Art Festival in Chickasha April 1. President Jeremy Williams, Vice-president Yvette Pena and Sponsor April Jackson represented the OKCCC Student Art Guild. Artists were charged \$10 and given a 6-

foot by 7-foot sidewalk square for their masterpieces.

Artists were advised to furnish their own chalk. USAO members were available to discuss programs offered at the college.

According to Williams, the group chalked a square with Michael Jackson, Martha Stewart and Saddam Hussein with blurbs.

"We had a late start, but it took nearly two hours to finish the chalking," Williams said.

Jackson hopes to

attend next year's festival as well.

"We will most definitely be attending again next year. I look forward to it," Jackson said.

The Student Art Guild is composed of students and anyone with a love for art. The group meets once a month for field trips, lectures, museums and demonstrations. For more information on the Student Art Guild, contact April Jackson at 682-1611, ext. 7462.

arriving at Sri Lanka. When I was asked what my tampons were, I replied, 'they are used for bullet hole wounds,'" she said.

Lightfine said she is currently trying to recruit volunteers to

travel to Mexico, in an effort to help the poor people of Chiapas.

"Since this place is so close to the United

States, it will probably be a lot more affordable for students and volunteers to travel there," she said.

**Have a story idea?**  
**Call 682-1611, ext. 7409**



# Vending machine food under scrutiny

By Jenni West  
News Writing I Student

Vending machine fare has recently been the target of proposed legislation. However, because colleges are not being targeted, OKCCC vending machines will not be affected said Linda McMurty, assistant director of finance.

The debate is over the issue of obesity. Currently, 56 percent of Oklahoma's adults are overweight and 21.9 percent are obese according to the State Health Department.

Health officials worry that school vending machines are contributing to the problem.

A popular candy machine snack is a Snickers bar weighing in at 14 grams of fat, 280 calories and 35 grams of carbs.

A low-fat alternative could be applesauce, which contains 0 grams of fat, only 50 calories and 13 grams of carbs.

The proposed solution to the problem is to take vending machines out of schools. Another idea is to replace the "junk food" with healthy alternatives.

McMurty said although she has

not been approached about the removal of vending machines from OKCCC, she would still like to see some changes.

"I have stressed to venders that I would like lower-calorie items, but until people really press for a change the venders will sell what they want."

The school has a contract with the current vender for two more years. At the end of the two years OKCCC will go out for bid again. McMurty said, at that time, school officials will then look at all the offers and choose the best new vender from those who place bids.

Students have mixed emotions when asked about the idea of removing vending machines from campus.

Allied Health major Micah Moeller said, "I think it would be a great idea, very beneficial, but should be replaced with dried fruit and trail mix."

Sean Ruark, arts and science major said folks should just make better choices.

"It's a choice," he said. "People don't have to buy it."

Students who would like to see healthier choices can contact McMurty at 682-1611, ext. 7258.



Photo by Billy Adams

Student Gabrielle Galbraith picks out a snack to keep her awake in class. State officials are rethinking vending machines in schools. They say much of the food contained in them contributes to obesity in the state.

## Regents to decide who, what goes where

By Travis Shaw  
News Writing I Student

OKCCC's Physical Plant is currently working to find a contractor to complete the main building's second- and third-floor classroom construction.

In the meantime, the OKCCC Regents are trying to decide how the classrooms, once built, will be used.

"Right now they are scheduled for general education classrooms," said Physical Plant Director J.B. Messer.

Messer said he hopes the remodel will be complete and occupancy approved by the Aug. 16 board meeting. If the board gives the go ahead on that day, then physical plant employees will have just four

days before the fall semester begins to set up classrooms and install multimedia equipment.

The remodel of the main building will open up 9,000 square feet of space for new classrooms and offices.

The area once housed the offices of finance, purchasing, human resources and planning, and institutional effectiveness and research, all of which were moved to the college's South Facility at 11935 S. I-44 Service Road.

Funding for this project will come from money that OKCCC receives annually from section 13 Offset Funds, which are for capital expenditure purposes only.

Physical plant employees currently are preparing the empty space for construction by removing obstructions, excess cabling, and electrical circuits, said Messer.

## Break-ins plague parking lots

By Nicole Padilla  
Staff Writer

Several incidences of vehicle break-ins have occurred recently on the OKCCC campus.

On Thursday, March 25, at 4:25 p.m., security received a call from student Jarrod Simmions whose pickup had been broken into.

The driver's side window had been broken into and a hunting knife, valued at \$30 was missing from the truck. Evidence of a screwdriver blade was found on the floorboard of the vehicle, officer John C. Hughes stated in a police report.

Two more similar incidents occurred on April 9, when around 10 a.m. officer Larry Lundy was notified of break-ins in parking lot D.

Michael J. Fox was on campus for a meeting in the college union when the driver's side window of his Ford Alpine pick up was broken out, the dash trim torn away and the stereo stolen. damage and contents were valued at \$600, stated Lundy in a police report.

A Chevy Silverado pickup also was broken into that same day. Rusty Sullins, also on campus for the meeting, was parked one row away from Fox in lot D. Once again, the driver's side window had been broken out, the dash torn away, and the stereo taken. In addition, a portable television also was missing. The missing items and driver's window were valued at \$800.

On Monday, April 12, student Ryan Taliaferro returned to his 1999 Honda in parking lot A to find his window broken. Nothing had been taken from the vehicle and no report was filed, said Lori Pace, community service officer in a police report.

Staff Writer/Club Reporter Nicole Padilla can be reached at StaffWrietr1@okccc.edu.



# Highlights

## Native American Student Association taco sale

The Native American Student Association will be taking orders for Indian tacos and fry bread from Monday, April 19 to Wednesday, April 28, in the Academic Division of Business office, due to the popularity of the event. The orders can then be picked up from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, inside the dining area. The tacos are \$4 each and the fry bread is \$2 each. Get your tickets early due to the limited number of items to be made. For more information contact sponsor Kristi Fields at 682-1611, ext. 7550.

## Abilities Galore meeting

Abilities Galore, a club for disabled students and anyone else interested, will have a meeting from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 20, in CU7. There will be free pizza so stop by, eat and discuss club plans. For more information contact sponsor Jenna Howard at 682-1611, ext. 7621.

## Phi Theta Kappa Induction and movie night

Induction of new members, and presentation of silver and gold memberships will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in the general dining area. At 7 p.m. on Friday, April 23, there will be a movie night. At both events members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items or childrens' books for Project Graduation. April 19 also is the last day to turn in silver and gold membership forms. For more information contact Richard Rouillard at 682-1611, ext. 7389.

## Silent Auction fund-raiser for young cancer victim

There will be a silent auction fund-raiser to raise money for Kaile Vanzant, the 2-year-old niece of Linda Fay, employment adviser. Kaile has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer and is in the process of undergoing further expensive treatments and a bone marrow transplant. The auction will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, at 231 Trade Center (behind McDonald's), off Highway 152, in Mustang. For more information or to give a donation contact Linda Fay at 682-1611, ext. 7683.

## Job Search Skills Seminar

"Why Should I Hire You," a job search skills seminar, will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, in CU3. Kristin Watterfield from Ostrowe and Associates will speak on various pre-employment topics including interviewing tips, career search methods, targeting companies and résumé development. Students are free to bring lunch. Time will be allowed following the presentation for individual résumés to be reviewed. For more information contact Employment Services at 682-1611, ext. 7519.

## University of Tulsa Native American Law workshop

On Friday, April 23, there will be a "Native American Pre-Law workshop." The day-long event will be free and located at 3120 E. Fourth Place in Tulsa. The workshop is for American Indian college and high school students and other Native Americans considering law. Register in advance by calling (918) 631-5604.

**Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday for publication in the next issue of the Pioneer. Forms are available in the Pioneer office, located in 2M6 of the main building or Highlights may be e-mailed to StaffWriter1@okccc.edu**



Photo by Billy Adams

**Do a little dance...** Sara Saenz and her little sister Toty do the chicken dance at the Spring Carnival April 10. The carnival involved several booths from different clubs and a live deejay to keep the party going.

## Student Occupational Therapy Association helps out community

**By Nicole Padilla  
Staff Writer**

Students from OKCCC will join hundreds of volunteers in Tulsa to work on the homes of disabled people who need renovations made.

The Student Occupational Therapy Association plans to celebrate Occupational Therapy Month this month. They will be joining the American Occupational Therapy Association and Rebuilding Together for "Skills for the Job of Living Day."

On this day, more than 500 volunteers will help people by making adaptations to homes to help accommodate the residents better.

For instance, they will help make homes wheelchair accessible or safer for the residents, said Tara

Cole, SOTA public relations representative.

Cole said anyone is welcome to help out at the event. Clubs and organizations can get together, or individuals can take part if they want.

Throughout the year, SOTA participates in various community service activities and attends many events, Cole said.

Recently, the organization attended the Legislative Day at the Capitol.

Along with the Oklahoma Occupational Therapy Association and occupational therapy associations from other schools like the University of Oklahoma, SOTA promoted occupational therapy and what they stand for.

Members got the chance to meet with senators and representatives and talk to them about what occupational therapy is all about, Cole said.

"Occupational therapy is a rehabilitative science that deals not only with the injury or disability but also with how the person's life is affected by it," Cole said.

Representative of Edmond, Wayne Pettigrew, spoke to the group on how easy it is to write to senators and representatives and become more involved.

"The event at the Capitol was a good opportunity to talk with senators and representatives about occupational therapy and to relay the importance of occupational therapy in the legislature," said Mindi Porter, SOTA member.

For more information on joining the event visit [www.tulsa.rebuildingtogether.org](http://www.tulsa.rebuildingtogether.org). For information on SOTA contact Tom Kraft at 682-1611, ext. 7227.

*Staff Writer/Club Reporter Nicole Padilla can be reached at [staffwriter1@okccc.edu](mailto:staffwriter1@okccc.edu).*





## Literary publication goes on sale

**"Absolute,"**  
Cont. from page 1

Butler, "Poetry and the Street" by Rachel Peeler, "Making the Grade" by Bertha L. Wise, "Storm (a Tanka)" by Nicole Padilla, "Disappearing Song" by John W. Perry, "Morning Walk" by Barbara Gwinn, "Half and Half" by Meika Yates, "Perfect" by Rena Gibson, "My Hands are Shaking as I Write This, Now" by Crystal Wellborn, "city" by Mark Dugger, and "The Flood" By Mark A. Bates.

The section devoted to art and photography houses

the following works: "Fairie" by Lisa Bryant, "Figure" by Brent Goddard, "Looking out the Window" by Jorge Martinez, "Alice's Vacation" by Emily Fine, "Martini" by Marnel Havard, "Girl Beside Herself" by Joshua McRae, "Flower" by Nicole Padilla, "Touk" by Teresa Randall, "Dragon Wheel" by Sandra Cizek, "Christ and Mary" by Rachel K. Dove, "All Hat" by Phil Corbett, "View From Below" by Stephen Cumberworth, "Building" by Nicole Padilla, and "Berlin Wall #3" by John W. Perry.

Randolph has been involved with the publication for more than 10 years as faculty editor and adviser.

The rest of the editorial board consists of April Jackson, graphic design specialist; Naomi Christofferson, copy editor; Mark Schneberger, Mary Punches, Vicki Newby, John Inglett and Carolyn Farris, associate editors. Meika Yates, Lisa Harrison and Rena Gibson, student editors.

"Our student editors this year did an excellent job in selecting the items that we will publish," Randolph said.

Absolute will be available for purchase April 29 in the student bookstore for \$5.

## OKCCC Calendar

### Academic Dates

#### •Through Apr. 23

Caps and gowns available

#### •April 28

Last day to withdraw from Fast-Track (Session 3) classes (no refund)

#### •April 30

Last day to withdraw from Second 8-Week (Mid-Spring) classes (no refund)

### Upcoming Events

#### •April 21 to 22

Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in CU3

#### •April 24

Habitat for Humanity Work Day, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call the Student Life Office: 682-1611, ext. 7523.

#### •April 30

Organizations Jubilee, 6 p.m., Library Room 407

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(405)286-0489

#### †SUNDAY MORNING

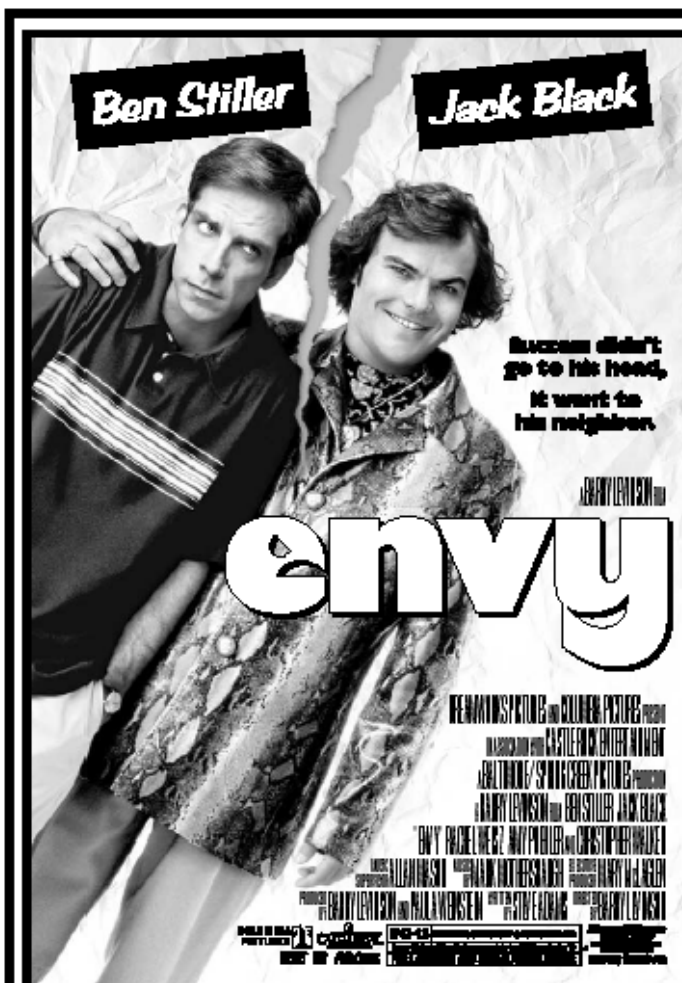
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 a.m.  
WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

#### †SUNDAY EVENING

TRAINING UNION 6:00 p.m.  
WORSHIP SERVICE 7:00 p.m.

#### †WEDNESDAY EVENING

WORSHIP SERVICE 7:00 p.m.



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**In Theatres April 30**