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PIONEER

Stress buster tips offered

OKCCC counselor says keeping daily routine is important

By Richard Hall
Editor

Stress levels are rising, final exams are looming. That can only mean one thing: the semester is coming to an end.

To battle stress and end-of-the-semester fatigue, Mary Turner, Student Development counselor, said students should remember to maintain their daily routines.

Turner said not maintaining a routine can compound problems a student may have, such as high stress levels and poor appetite.

"It's important to keep from making things more stressful on yourselves," Turner said.

She said participating in physical activity is one way a student can cut down stress in this last week of school.

"Even if it's just for a walk around campus," Turner said, "physical activity will help burn adrenaline which reduces stress."

Nursing freshman Angela Bryant said she isn't really stressed because she's kept a steady pace all semester.

"I've kept up with my studies, stayed prepared and did what I had to do," Bryant said.

Turner also said calling in favors from friends and family will give students more time for studying, which also helps reduce stress.

"Students should remember to try not to be super human," she said. "Things like having a family member watch your children will prove to be beneficial."

Students also should study in small blocks of time rather than cramming it all end at the last minute, Turner said.

She said cramming isn't beneficial and will hurt a student more than it will help.

Turner said eating well is another thing students should stay aware of.

She said maintaining a steady and healthy diet during these stressful times will make students more aware, alert and ready.

"The more junk food you eat, the more sick and sluggish you become," Turner said.

Another tip Turner had for students was to visualize themselves doing well.

See "Stress," page 16



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Relax: Tara Cheatham, Harrah High School sophomore, and Ryan Jordan, Catoosa High School junior, practice a life-saving vice grip move during lifeguard training at the Aquatic Center on April 29. The Aquatic Center is currently enrolling for the next lifeguard training session which begins May 16. The class goes from Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$120.

Support offered to students

By Christiana Kostura
Staff Writer

OKCCC is spending \$1,092,590 to create a Student Support Services department in hopes of increasing retention, graduation and transfer rates for at-risk students.

The project is being funded by the U.S. Department of Education TRIO Programs. TRIO refers to three federal education special programs — Upward Bound, Talent Search and Student Support Services.

The college will receive the first of five annual installments of \$218,590 in September, said Marion Paden, Student Services vice president. The new department creates several new jobs including a director, adviser, administrative assistant and tutors.

"The tutors and the mentors will be college students for the most part," Paden said.

One hundred sixty at-risk students will benefit from the program each year, she said.

"They are individual students that meet very similar criteria that are in need of some special support in order to be successful in col-

lege," Paden said.

Two-thirds of the students will have two risk factors to be a part of the program, Paden said. The other third will only have one.

Risk factors include having a low income, disability or being a first-generation student, Paden said. A first-generation student is one whose parents did not graduate from college.

Students may be self-referred, or referred by Student Development counselors, faculty, Financial Aid, Services to Students with Disabilities and other OKCCC departments, she said.

The Support Services Department will provide individual and group tutoring sessions, field trips, counseling and study skills development amongst other services, Paden said.

To receive the money after the first year, the college will have to meet certain criteria within the program.

Some of the criteria includes at least 55 percent of participants in remedial classes must pass, 30 percent of each year's group must transfer to a four-year college within three years

See "TRIO," page 16

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

The fight for free speech

Recent events have caused racial tensions to resurface with a vengeance. Larry Cochell, head coach of the University of Oklahoma's baseball team, ended his tenure May 1.

Cochell's resignation came as a result of two off-camera interviews in which Cochell allegedly made racial remarks about a player on his team.

Cochell allegedly referred to a black player on his team by saying "There's no nigger in him."

Gary Thorne, an ESPN play-by-play announcer, went public with Cochell's comments after finding out about other instances in which Cochell spoke inappropriately.

Racism is an evil and ugly problem that has detrimental effects on the progression of society.

It should in no way be condoned, but the question that has to be asked, no matter who it offends, is whether Cochell's comments were strong enough to warrant his resignation.

The comments were inappropriate and offensive, but were they illegal? The first amendment grants every American the right to freedom of speech. Nowhere in the amendment does it require speech to be either polite or politically correct.

No matter how despairing his remarks may have been, Cochell, as an American, is still entitled to make them. Cochell's right to free speech has been infringed upon simply because others don't agree with what he is saying.

It is perfectly understandable for the black community to be offended, but is it truly necessary for them to campaign for the ousting of a perfectly capable and qualified baseball coach, simply because his ideals are outdated?

Cochell claims he felt resigning was the right thing to do. With all the heat the university is receiving, Cochell's resignation comes as no surprise.

But it doesn't accomplish anything. If Cochell is a racist, allowing him to resign isn't going to change the way he believes, just the way he earns his paycheck.

Getting rid of Cochell isn't going to change the fact that racism still exists. If anything, it will increase the tension between races.

Joe Dunigan III, the player who was insulted, said he didn't feel Cochell's actions were serious enough for Cochell to resign.

America has a terrible double standard when it comes to racism. A black man can call another black man "nigga" until he runs out of breath and no one but Bill Cosby seems to take offense.

Black comics make racially-demeaning remarks toward Caucasians all the time and are never called racists. However, a white man makes a comment that didn't even offend the person it concerned and he is no longer fit to coach.

Until America abandons this double standard and learns to accept other peoples' opinions, no matter how much you disagree, racism will always exist.

—Shawn Bryant
Staff Writer

Student says warm goodbye

To the editor:

On May 13, I will graduate from OKCCC and leave behind many memories that are precious to me.

Through this college I found my way and have gained more than just an associate's degree.

I will miss traveling through the hallways and seeing the smiling faces of the students and staff.

This is not a letter of sorrow but a letter full of tears. To some, this school may just be a building, but to me it has been much more.

I have found a job here when no one else would hire

"The smartest thing I have ever done was walk through the college doors."

—Angel Armstrong
OKCCC Student

me. I have found friends when the world seemed to have turned its back on me.

But most of all, I found a professor who cared — Lisa Adkins. I would like to thank Adkins, and all my other professors as well, for being there for me, taking time to make sure I fully understood what I was doing.

I now possess the confidence I need to go out into the working world and succeed. My life is forever changed by the time I spent at OKCCC.

The smartest thing I have ever done was walk through the college doors.

Goodbye, OKCCC.

—Angel Armstrong
OKCCC Student

PIONEER

Vol. 33 No. 32

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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 682-7818.

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: www.okccc.edu/pioneer.



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comments, opinions
and story ideas!

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newspaper.

Call us at 682-1611, ext.
7409 or e-mail
editor@okccc.edu.

THE JOKE'S ON YOU

by Phil Ryder & YOU



"Ooops! I just ran out of forgiveness."

— Amy Sherman • Glen Ellyn, IL

Comments and Reviews

Apparently older is better

To the editor:

Changing the legal driving age has nothing to do with driving experience.

The age change is due to the changes that take place emotionally and cognitively as we age. An 18-year-old has more self-control (not much more) than a 16-year-old and has a more stable mental capacity for decision making.

In my opinion, the age should be even higher than 18. Really, a young adult (in the 20s) has a more de-

veloped sense of right and wrong than either a 16- or an 18-year-old.

You can educate a 16-, 18- and a 22-year-old about driving regulations until you are blue in the face, and I guarantee their rates of accidents and death will be correlated with their age.

The younger the age, the higher the incident, regardless of education.

I know some young drivers, like the student who wrote the letter in the May 2 issue of the Pioneer con-

cerning license age limits, might avoid the city bus like the plague, but it is a convenient mode of transportation, however uncool.

Plus, if more young drivers were forced onto the bus instead of the Mustang daddy bought them, then maybe we would have more respectful and responsible young adults, and cleaner air, in the coming years.

—Laurie

**Rosenbaum-Thornton
Psychology Major/
Admissions Clerk**

'Kingdom of Heaven' is heavensent

"Kingdom of Heaven," directed by Ridley Scott, is without question the best film 2005 has yet offered.

This beautifully brutal war epic concerns the Kingdom of Jerusalem during the crusades.

It follows an exiled murderer as he rises to greatness and attempts to achieve atonement.

Every element of this film is in nearly perfect form.

"Kingdom of Heaven" boasts a talented cast that possesses a formidable amount of star power.

Rising star Orlando Bloom, from "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy, performs exceptionally well in the lead role.

Bloom doesn't overact nearly as much as in previous films, such as "Troy," and interacts flawlessly with the rest of this outstanding cast.

Liam Neeson plays an integral role that is both interesting and enjoyable.

Brenden Gleeson, from "Gangs of New York" and "Braveheart," also has a very intriguing role as the



villain of this film.

Since just about everyone involved in "Kingdom of Heaven" is so talented, the list of noteworthy performances could go on for miles.

The most notable performance was that given by David Thewlis, from "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban."

Thewlis shines onscreen with a powerful performance that is likely to catapult him to new heights in Hollywood.

The battle scenes, which are shot up close to increase realism, are gorgeous, but grotesque.

Since the action seems to occur in such close proximity, some sequences are pretty intense.

This is a solid film that has set the bar fairly high for other films this year.

With all the action and emotion, Scott's "Kingdom of Heaven" is certainly worth seven bucks.

—Shawn Bryant
Staff Writer

YOU asked FOR IT

Q: What happened to the international flags?

A: We took them down for use in the commencement exercises. They need longer poles for use in commencement. Sometime during the summer the flags will be replaced.

—Jon Horinek

Community Engagement Coordinator

Q: When will the potholes in parking lot G be fixed?

A: Under the parking lot C expansion package, all potholes on campus will be fixed by completion on June 30.

—Chris Snow

Physical Plant Assistant Director

Q: Why do you have to have your ID for the Communications Lab? Why can't they just look you up?

A: The computers aren't set up that way. If a student does not have their ID with them for any reason, they may go to the information desk to get proof of their enrollment to use the lab for the day.

—Alice Tillinghast

Communications Lab Supervisor

Q: Why won't the Communications Lab help students with papers for non-OKCCC classes?

A: Whatever we do needs to go to a professor. We like professors to know what's going on. The main function of our lab is to support classroom activities and our goal is to create a learning experience.

—Alice Tillinghast

Communications Lab Supervisor

Q: Why is there a hole in the ceiling of the men's bathroom by the Arts and Humanities Department?

A: [The Physical Plant] currently is working with a roofing contractor to repair the roof leakage. After that is completed [the Physical Plant] will repair that part of the ceiling.

—Chris Snow

Physical Plant Assistant Director

**Have a question you don't have
the answer for?**

**The Pioneer can help!
Give us the question and we will
find the answer for you.
e-mail editor@okccc.edu
or call 682-1611, ext. 7409.**

Quote of the Week:

"If life gives you lemons,
make some kind of fruity juice."

—Conan O'Brien

Comments and Reviews

Sixteenth century China was never so fun

Game developer BioWare is back and has brought 16th century China with them in "Jade Empire." The stunning visuals and an in-depth story will have you kicking like Jet Li.

It has been nearly two years since BioWare came out with its revolutionary action/role-playing game "Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic."

BioWare has now combined the game play features of "KOTOR" into a new game that deals with mystical China.

In "Jade Empire," more than eight characters help you along the way in your quest.

The game allows you to choose who you want to come with you on your

journeys.

Some characters have certain skills that will help you more than others.

Throughout the game you will travel to distant regions and encounter many different enemies.

Ogres, bandits, and other spiritual demons and villains try to stop you along the way.

By the end of the game, you will travel and explore more than seven different regions and meet followers in each of these towns.

Unlike "KOTOR," this game is much more linear. In "KOTOR" you are able to



choose which planet you will visit. This is not the case in "Jade Empire" — you complete chapters in order.

Fighting techniques in "Jade Empire" range from different styles of Kung Fu, magic and weapons.

The battle engine is one major difference from this game and BioWare's previous endeavours.

While "KOTOR" had its own mix of turn-based action elements, "Jade Empire" is an action/RPG game only.

You're allowed to move around freely and decide which at-

tacks to use in real-time battle.

Conceptually, it was a great idea and I was amazed at some of the as-

pects of the game, most importantly, the depth.

There are more than eight playable styles of fighting to choose from, and more than six different kinds of magical powers to learn, plus a handful of cool weapons like staffs and swords. This game is nicely put together and has a nice story that kept me engaged.

The graphics were mind blowing and backgrounds looked crystal clear and full, and the game play was excellent.

"Jade Empire" certainly lived up to its potential and hype. I look forward to the sequel.

I rate this game a 9.75 out of 10.

—John Savage
Staff Writer

Fonda, J-Lo share the silver screen in entertaining flick

A movie about the world's most beloved creature hits the big screen May 13.

"Monster-in-Law" exaggerates, hopefully by a lot, the stereotype of the evil mother-in-law.

Jane Fonda plays the mother, Viola Fields, and after her claws come out, she makes the evil step-mother in "Cinderella" seem like a kitten.

Fonda was well chosen for the role, considering many people hate her already.

Viola has recently been fired from her lifelong job as a celebrity reporter. Being replaced by a young up-and-coming reporter pushes her over the edge of sanity and gives her plenty of time to spend with her son — time she never had before.

Jennifer Lopez as Charlie, the bride-to-be, is not a far cry from her own tabloid life, making her a decent choice for the part.

After Charlie keeps bumping into Kevin Fields, a surgeon played by Michael Vartan, they start dating. Their relationship

progresses quickly and Charlie moves in with Kevin.

Unfortunately for Charlie, Viola (Kevin's mother) is not as pleased with the progress of her son's relationship. She is not ready to share her son with another woman.

Viola sets out to destroy the couple's relationship by attacking Charlie, in the most subtle ways, of course.

Having a daughter-in-law who does odd jobs for a living just is not in Viola's plans for her son.

Although many of the

parts are predictable, Wanda Sykes (Viola's assistant, Ruby) brightens the movie with her hilarious personality.

Without Sykes, the movie would flop. This lively comedian is the only thing saving the film.

If you're single, go see this

before deciding to date someone. If you are already trapped, go see the film anyway.

At least then you will know your mother-in-law (or soon to be) is not as bad as you thought.

—Christiana Kostura
Staff Writer

Weezer keeps missing the musical mark

"Make Believe," Weezer's newest release, is a few bucks short on buying me in. Worst than "Maladroit," this album is easily the worst Weezer has ever put out.

For months now people have been looking forward to "Make Believe," which was promised to be more like "Pinkerton" and less like junk. I, for one, was duped.

This album is redundant, uninventive and insanely boring, and will be a huge let-down for lifelong Weezer fans.

The music is a mix of new-wave inspired melodies and rock, which isn't too bad, but it doesn't ex-



actly scream Weezer. Nor is it "Pinkerton" or even the "Green Album" caliber, which is saying a lot.

The lyrics are so-so, although most lines are very cheesy and sore-sounding, meaning they end either with weird vocals or unusual words which don't rhyme or even sound good

to begin with.

Many of the choruses also are repetative and ho-hum. When half of any given song consists of a repetition of "woahs," you know you're in for a long ride.

Songs like "We Are All On Drugs" and "This Is Such A Pity" attempt to address the problems in the nation today but fails horribly.

Hearing Rivers Cuomo sing about war and drugs is like hearing Iggy Pop sing about his love for the government — it just shouldn't happen, and if it did, it would be more perplexing than enticing.

Of the dozen songs on "Make Believe," only two are worth a listen and actually

hold true to Weezer's past.

"Perfect Situation" and "The Damage In Your Heart" highly resemble the guitar hooks and vocal melodies that made the "Blue Album" and "Pinkerton" so enjoyable and memorable.

But even those two great songs aren't nearly enough to pull "Make Believe" out of the dirt — it's dug itself 6-feet deep.

Although I wish I could just make believe "Make Believe" is any good, I just can't. When "Maladroit" seems like gold compared to this, there's something wrong, very wrong.

Rating: 1/5

—Richard Hall
Editor

Lights, camera, action



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Travis Palmer, video production sophomore, directs the camera during the filming of "Double Edge Ledge," in front of the elevators in the main lobby. The film took two days to shoot and involved 22 OKCCC video and film production students. Keith Bourque, Safety and Security coordinator, said complaints were made because the filming crew was blocking the elevator.

Drink to your health

By Tyler Wood
News Writing Student

With summer approaching, drinking water frequently will become more important to prevent dehydration.

"Estimates are that nearly 80 percent of the people in this country are walking around with some degree of dehydration," said Peggy Turner, adjunct professor at OKCCC who holds a master's Degree in Nutrition.

Turner said dehydration can cause a myriad of problems with one's body.

"The effect of walking around [dehydrated] is that your blood literally becomes thicker and your body has to work harder to circulate," Turner said. "Bottom line is, your body feels fatigued and you have less energy."

Some warning signs of dehydration are dark yellow urine, increase in body temperature, overall aches and pains, a flushed face

and warm, dry skin.

"The human body is made up of approximately 60 to 80 percent water," Turner said. "Since water is not stored in the body, drinking water daily ensures that normal body processes can occur."

Water is crucial for all major body functions so water lost during the course of the day needs to be replenished by drinking more, said Turner.

"Drinking water daily helps supply fluids that are lost daily through normal metabolism of the lungs, skin and urine."

She said bottled water has become a popular trend in the last decade and soon will replace coffee as the number-two preferred beverage in America.

"Water is a better choice than soft drinks and coffee for several reasons," she said. "It's free, it has no calories, it's always available, it is a nutrient the body will utilize, and it will quench your thirst while other [drinks] won't."

The American Dental As-

sociation warns that bottled water, while tastier than some tap water, lacks the fluoride of tap water.

Fluoride helps protect the teeth against decay and is found in 66 percent of all public water.

Turner agreed.

"People who have grown up with fluoride water generally have less [tooth decay]," she said. "Fluoride also prevents demineralization of other calcified tissues such as bones."

Turner said, the water a person intakes does not only have to come from bottles or cups — it can come from what he or she eats as well.

"Lettuce is 96 percent water, an orange is 86 percent water, strawberries are 90 percent water and a watermelon also is 90 percent water," Turner said.

"The higher water content of certain foods, like fruits and vegetables, helps provide for a lower energy density."

Lower energy density foods help reduce calories and still fill you up."

Vets remembered on Memorial Day

By Shawn Bryant
Staff Writer

As you and your family load up to head to the lake for your three-day weekend, bear in mind that May 30 is much more than just another day off of work and school.

Memorial Day has roots dating back to the Civil War.

In May 1868, General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, proclaimed the first Memorial Day would be held May 30.

Memorial Day was officially observed May 30 as graves in Arlington Cemetery were decorated in remembrance of the sacrifices their owner's made,

according to www.usmemorialday.org.

By 1873, the state of New York designated Memorial Day as an official holiday.

According to www.dictionary.com, May 30 is observed in the United States in commemoration of those members of the armed forces killed in war.

Memorial Day is officially observed on the last Monday in May and also is known as Decoration Day.

•Resthaven Memorial Park, located at 44901 Highway 3, will be hosting a Memorial Day Celebration.

The time has not yet been scheduled. For more information, contact Donna Heintz, administrative assistant to the funeral director, at 273-3345.

•Fort Gibson National

Cemetery in Muskogee will play host to a Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony May 30, according to www.cityofmuskogee.com. For more information about the ceremony, call (918) 478-2334.

•Celebration Station, located at 509 Westline Drive, will open at 10 a.m. and will have a barbecue grill set up in the plaza. Play passes will cost \$15.99 and the first 100 guests will receive a 2005 Memorial Day T-shirt. For more information, call 942-7888.

•There will be a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Pawnee County Courthouse Square Veteran's Memorial located at 500 Harrison, at 10 a.m.

Senior Writer Shawn Bryant can be reached at SeniorWriter@okccc.edu.



DRUNK DRIVING DOESN'T JUST KILL DRUNK DRIVERS.

Hannah and Sarah Fogleman, killed Dec. 12, 1989 at 2:22 pm on I-95 South, Brunswick, GA.

Outstanding Talent



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Charles Jaronek, math professor, offers one-on-one algebra tutoring to Margaret Carney, OKCCC psychology sophomore, after class. Jaronek met Carney in the main building so she didn't have to walk to his office because of health problems. He said he tutors her to ensure she passes the class.

New bioinformatics website simplifies info

By Andrea Stanfield
News Writing Student

One of the tools being implemented in the bioinformatics program is a simplified website.

John McMurray, Bioinformatics director, said, when it comes to designing the bioinformatics courses and webpages, he takes his advice from Henry David Thoreau who said, "Simplify, simplify, simplify."

McMurray said he has realized the field of bioinformatics is so broad and encompasses so many different elements that it is easy to overwhelm students with too much information.

Many websites discuss some aspects of bioinformatics, but not all of the sites are friendly to people who are new to these fields. Many sites are difficult to navigate or are poorly designed, McMurray said.

McMurray's website will have information describing the program. The new source also will serve as a resource to students by incorporating lecture notes, homework assignments, and Power Point presentations.

The site will offer numerous links to other bioinformatics websites and various data bases students need to access as part of their course work, McMurray said.

The OKCCC Bioinformatics Website is at www.okccc.edu/bino/index. Anyone can access the home page and links, but only registered students will can access the lecture notes, homework assignments and PowerPoint presentations.

Biotech director has high hopes

By Andrea Stanfield
News Writing Student

OKCCC is working on developing and promoting the bioinformatics program by bringing in John McMurray, bioinformatics director.

McMurray said bioinformatics is difficult to define, but a brief and broad definition of bioinformatics is: the application of computers to answer biological questions. However, a more

restricted and useful description is using computers to analyze molecular data such as DNA or identifying genes, he said. McMurray said one of the reasons the field is difficult to define is due to its synthetic nature. A bioinformatics researcher needs to be well versed in a number of different disciplines like biology, biochemistry and biotechnology, he said.

McMurray said, as far as he knows, OKCCC is the first higher education institution in Oklahoma to of-

fer a degree in bioinformatics. While the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University offer many bioinformatics related courses, there is no degree program per se, McMurray said.

Anyone interested in biology and computer science can do this program, McMurray said. The program is designed to get students up to speed in mathematics, biology, biotechnology and computer science.

The prospects for a career

in bioinformatics are positive, McMurray said.

For more than 10 years, many private and government-funded laboratories have been collecting molecular data, namely DNA sequence data. Detail analysis of this data has lagged far behind. A bio-

informatician would not be so concerned about the data collection, but rather extracting useful and hidden information that may have some practical applications, most obviously in medicine, McMurray said.

"The sky's the limit," McMurray said.

Parking project adds 195 more student spaces

By John Savage
Staff Writer

This fall, OKCCC students will have 195 new parking spaces to choose from in parking lot C.

The construction in parking lot C began April 22 and is scheduled to be completed by June 30.

"We started the design

phase for the expanded parking lot in October or September 2004," said Chris Snow, Physical Plant assistant director.

"The greatest benefit will be for the expansion of 195 additional parking places for students," Snow said.

"If you look at it when we have overflow of parking, in actuality, the students that use the overflow parking actually park on the out-

side of the loop where 195 spots will be placed," said J.B. Messer, Physical Plant director.

The closer parking spaces will save students some time compared to the overflow parking.

"The project will be completed by June 30 of this year," Snow said. "It will be ready for the fall semester."

There will be no specialty parking in this lot, Snow

said.

"No handicapped or teachers' parking will be modified."

The total cost for the project is \$334,244, Snow said. The construction of the parking spots was \$203,997, and the resurfacing and re-striping of pre-existing spaces ran \$106,785.

Crack and hole repair all throughout the parking lot

will cost \$17,162.

Drainage improvement in lot C will cost \$6,300, Snow said.

One student said she likes the idea of more parking choices.

"If I am working here next semester, I will use them," said Jaci Dake, sophomore English student.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at StaffWriter1@okccc.edu.

Absolute hot off press

By Chase Carabjal
News Writing Student

A crowd of OKCCC students and faculty gathered in the college union May 26 to celebrate the publication of Absolute 2005.

Absolute is an anthology of poems, stories, essays, photography and artwork by OKCCC students, staff and community members. Editors Heather Irwin and Shannon Hoverson se-

lected the items in this year's publication.

Clay Randolph, longtime faculty advisor for the Absolute, said he feels the Absolute is a rewarding project.

"The Absolute is especially important to me," Randolph said. "It is good to see the students create something as polished as Absolute."

The Absolute has been a staple of OKCCC's Arts and Humanities Department for nearly 30 years.

This year's edition of the Absolute was the first containing color artwork thanks to a generous grant from the OKCCC Development Foundation.

Items for the next Absolute may be submitted to Randolph until Dec. 1. Submission forms are available in the Arts and Humanities office.

Copies of the Absolute are \$5 in the college bookstore.

For more information, contact Randolph at 682-1611, ext. 7238.



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Gary Bramlett, author of essay titled "River Rat," and Brandi Paschal, author of the poem titled "Ride," hold their Critic's Choice awards after a ceremony honoring the 2005 Absolute winners April 28. The Absolute is a collection of writing and artwork published annually. Entries are being accepted for Absolute 2006 through Dec. 1. For more information, contact Clay Randolph at 682-1611, ext. 7238.

Students win awards for literary and visual artwork

By Lindsay Carver
News Writing Student

The winners are in for the literary magazine Absolute.

On Thursday, April 27, a few of the winners read their pieces aloud, while everyone who was published in the magazine sat in the audience.

The short story winner was James Miller for "Star Crossed." The Essay winner was Gary Bramlett who won for "River Rat." Poem winner was Brandi Paschal for "Ride." Photography winners were Shathar Tenpenny for "Tracking the Fall" and Misty Perry for "Line Drawing."

Award winners and non-winners alike were pub-

lished in this year's Absolute, OKCCC's annual anthology of poetry, photography, stories and essays.

Kathy Timberman, Duane Beck, Michael Sneed, Heather Erwin and James Forgue published short stories.

Essays were by Enos Standridge, Elissa Crocker, Dennis Eckhout, Michelle Pexa, Thomas LaPlant and

Sherry Richardson.

Vicki Newby, Sonja Olson, Jennifer Richardson, Rebecca Seaton, Jon Inglett, David Charlson, Bertha Wise, Leon Whitesell, D. High, John Perry, Rashida Hobbs, Nicole Quigley and Erin Lynn Stelter

had poems published.

Nina Reaves, April Jackson, LaWanda LaVarnway, John Perry, Samantha Olson, Teresa Randall, Allison Foster, JanDe Eppers, Laura Kiernan Brink and Sunshine Garner published photography and art.

Learning Spanish may increase success

By Meg McCurdy
News Writing Student

With the United States changing at a rapid pace, one may consider learning Spanish as a second language to improve his or her job opportunities and salary potential.

This also may increase the likelihood of acceptance into a university or graduate school.

About 10.5 percent of the people living in the United States are Hispanic. They are expected to be the largest minority in the United States by the year 2010, according to Woodes and Pole Economics.

Many businesses have recognized the importance

of the Hispanic buyer and are increasingly looking for employees who can communicate well with Hispanic consumers.

"Since the job market is very competitive, it helps if you have something that distinguishes you, such as another language," said Kristin Rosete, Community Outreach coordinator for OKCCC's Enrollment Management department.

"People will find that in jobs such as law enforcement, the medical field and teaching, you will be more of a target market than those with no Spanish skills.

"There are many benefits in hiring someone in the medical field that can speak Spanish," said Richard Campbell, family prac-

tice physician.

"An employee who can speak another language can communicate one-on-one with the patient and not have to rely on an interpreter to convey messages," Campbell said.

"Therefore, there is a less likely chance for misrepresentation of the facts related to the client's illness or needs."

"Another great thing about employees who speak another language is that it builds our clientele base," Campbell said.

Not only can learning Spanish help with job opportunities, it can develop intercultural sensitivity.

"Anything that enriches your language skills and cultural awareness of something that is foreign to

you has to be beneficial," said Dianne Broyles, modern languages professor.

Being able to connect with someone who does not speak English also is a plus.

"Many students I have worked with have found if they are bilingual or have somewhat of a foundation of Spanish, they can relate well with others around them," Rosete said.

Some may take Spanish

to improve their job opportunities or to strengthen their cultural awareness.

"There are four Spanish classes taught at OKCCC: Conversational Spanish I and II, Elementary Spanish I and Intermediate Spanish I," Rosete said.

"Learning a second language or having language skills can open so many doors you would never have thought possible," she said.

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Earth Share

Farris says farewell to OKCCC

By Jeremy Lee
News Writing Student

Art professor Carolyn Farris will retire from OKCCC this month. This will mark the end of 24 years at OKCCC.

Farris has had her hands in every part of the Visual Arts program from her early days as an adjunct professor to her present position as head of the Visual Arts department.

Farris said she feels blessed with a rich life, thanks to the friends she has gained through continuing her education at OKCCC and at the University of Oklahoma.

She said her colleagues helped her enjoy the time she has spent on campus during her career.

In her years here, Farris said she has seen many talented students come through her classes and continue on to achieve great things.

She said one student now edits an entertainment magazine. Another works as a commissioned artist in many different medias.



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Carolyn Farris stands in front of her baskets of gifts presented to her by her art students after the Student Art and Design Show Awards Ceremony April 26.

She said some of her students have continued on to study at highly accredited art schools such as

Juilliard in New York.

Farris said she lives and teaches by a quote from Marc Chagall, a 19th cen-

tury Russian-born, French painter.

"If I create from the heart, almost everything works," Chagall said. "If I create from the head, almost nothing."

Farris said she believes most people look at art through a narrow scope which inhibits them from seeing the many facets art has to offer.

Whether a person's participation in art is through fashion photography, furniture design, glass blowing or illustrating greeting cards, visual art has many veins for one to flow through, Farris said.

After her retirement from the college, Farris said she plans to focus her time and creativity on her own works of art.

Farris said she has been creating art pieces at the Los Milagros Print Studio in Oklahoma City. Her work is on sale at the Hahn Ross Gallery in Santa Fe.

Farris said she uses many mediums but her main interest is in encaustic, a process using molten waxes to create a painted portrait.

Farris also has been cho-

"I enjoy teaching as much as I love learning from my students, some of whom are up to 90 years old. The gratification I receive from seeing my students' ideas and talents become reality through their art is what makes me love to teach."

—Carolyn Farris
Visual Arts Professor

sen to be the design artist for the Centennial Mosaics project that will be installed in downtown Oklahoma City in 2007.

Farris said she would miss the interaction with her students the most.

"I enjoy teaching as much as I love learning from my students, some of whom are up to 90 years old," she said.

"The gratification I receive from seeing my students' ideas and talents become reality through their art is what makes me love to teach."

Wireless Internet free on campus to current students



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Scott Manuel, Business Management freshman, sits in one of three places on campus where OKCCC's wireless Internet connection may be used to browse the web. Receivers are in the main building atrium, college union and library.

By Chris Allen
News Writing Student

Currently-enrolled students at OKCCC can log on to the Internet via their personal laptops, no wires attached, for free.

"The service has actually been on campus for a while, but it's gone unnoticed by many," said David Anderson, OKCCC's Telecommunications director.

"In fact, all of the computers located in the atrium of the main building are wireless."

Although the college has offered wireless Internet for a while, most students

"I get a lot of students asking me 'When are we going to get wireless?' They're always surprised to learn that we already have it."

—Lisa Davis
Network Administration Director

don't realize it's available.

"I get a lot of students asking me 'When are we going to get wireless'?" said Lisa Davis, Network Administration director.

"They're always surprised to learn that we already have it."

Joey Ware, network specialist, said there are three places on campus where students can log on wirelessly.

"Currently, we have one receiver in the front atrium, two in the college union area and one on the fourth floor of the library," he said.

"Each unit can reach about 300 feet and can send a signal through several concrete walls."

The service is free. All it requires is a laptop with wireless capability, Ware said.

For more information about the wireless Internet service offered on campus, call Anderson at 682-1611, ext. 7799.

Departments disagree on credit card policies

By Mark McDevitt
News Writing Student

Two OKCCC departments have decided to take different positions when it comes to accepting a credit card number without the actual card being presented.

The OKCCC bookstore doesn't require a student to have a credit card in hand when making a purchase. The bursar's office, however, does require a student to present a credit card when paying for classes.

"It is up to the retailer as to whether or not they will accept a credit card number without the card in hand or not," said Deidre Washington, a MasterCard representative.

Even though the bookstore will accept a credit card number without the card, there are still rules a person needs to follow. First, the cashier will check the student's ID card. Second, the student is required to fill out a form with billing information on it. So

actually, the student is signing for the payment anyway.

Kim White, assistant director of the OKCCC bookstore, said the reason they do this is for the convenience of students who may be making textbook purchases with the credit card of a parent or another family member.

"There is a lot of call for it," she said. The bookstore will continue to maintain this policy.

"There has never been a problem

The bursar's office has interpreted the credit card company's rules differently. That office will not accept payment without an actual credit card in hand.

Brandi Johnson-Henson, OKCCC bursar, said she has chosen to interpret Visa and MasterCard standards strictly.

If there is a fraudulent charge, then a credit card company does a chargeback and will bill the school for the amount of the transaction, Johnson-Henson said.

"I've had experiences with chargebacks in the past."

If a retailer receives too many chargebacks, the credit card company can elect to prohibit the retailer from accepting their card.

"If this were to happen, OKCCC students would no longer be able to pay their bills online," Johnson-Henson said.

Students who can't bring in their credit cards to make payments can always make the payments online, Johnson-Henson said.



with it in the past," White said.

Jamie Larson, business major, agrees with the bookstore's policy.

"I think it's good since a lot of parents give students their credit cards to use," Larson said. "My mom gives me her credit card number."

Computer Science Department to launch new language course

By Kate Mauldin
News Writing Student

OKCCC's Computer Science department has identified a need to offer a course in Structured Query Language.

The new class, SQL CS2003, will be taught by Sara Mathew, computer science professor, and will begin next fall.

"All computer science majors, especially programming majors, are encouraged to take this course, as

knowledge from this course will help them be more marketable," Mathew said.

The website, www.w3schools.com, stated mastery of this language allows manipulation of data regardless of the database software used.

It also stated the American National Standards Institute recognizes SQL as a standard computer language.

Databases are common, necessary and critical, especially for businesses, said Timothy Robinson, Common Sense Software

president and computer science professor at Tulsa Community College.

SQL is a specialized language that can select, insert, update, delete, retrieve data, send queries and many other necessary tasks, Robinson said.

"It can be used to access and manipulate database systems such as Oracle, Microsoft Access, Informix, Sybase, DB2 and many others," Robinson said.

For more information about this class, contact Mathew at smathew@okccc.edu.

Counselor named national advising chair

By Lindsay Carver
News Writing Student

The National Academic Advising Association has elected Student Development Counselor Peggy Jordan as its new chair.

Jordan said she will serve as the association's chair for two years. She will be attending conferences and other programs to better help OKCCC and its students.

"The NACADA consists of colleges countrywide which all get together to share their experiences and how they are trying to improve their school system to better help the staff and students," said Jordan.

"The workshops that NACADA holds consist of different schools' presentations which allow other schools to see how different things work there," Jordan said. "We (OKCCC) used a workbook from North Harris College in Missouri to get new ideas."

Jordan has been a counselor at OKCCC for six years. She first heard about NACADA from other counselors and Dean Rusty Fox at the time when she first started working here.

"It's a great organization to be involved in," she said.



Photo by Ana Rodriguez
Peggy Jordan

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Speaker shares thoughts on helping others

By Christiana Kostura
Staff Writer

"Help your neighbors," said Natalie Elwell, program associate for action learning communication and gender of World Neighbors.

Elwell spoke to an audience of more than 100 people on April 28 at OKCCC.

"World Neighbors is a not-for-profit community development organization working in partnership with the rural poor in hundreds of villages throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America," according to their brochure.

Elwell said she has traveled to about 20 different countries, helping educate members of these communities.

World Neighbors looks at long-term living conditions, Elwell said.

She said that includes anything from helping communities find a source of income, building structures, to teaching child care, reproductive health and gender equity.

The connection with the field support is Elwell's favorite part of her job.

She said she enjoys being a part of a program that helps others.

One of the hardest parts of the job is being away from her family, Elwell said. She lives in Oklahoma City, while her family is in Ohio.

Elwell said she is away from her home here for two to four weeks at a time, which can make it difficult to maintain friendships.

When Elwell is home, she said she has her cat, Luica (Moonshine), to keep her company.

For students interested in a job in development, Elwell said networking and researching are the two most important things to consider.

She said more information might be found at www.devzone.org/jobs or www.idealists.org.

For more information about World Neighbors, visit www.wn.org.

Staff Writer Christiana Kostura can be reached at StaffWriter3@okccc.edu.

Finally Finished



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Mary Ann Moore stands in front of the large mosaic in the OKCCC courtyard which took 20 years for Moore, students and the community to complete. Moore's next big project will be a 1,150 square foot mosaic mural on the Bricktown Canal. For more information or to volunteer for the mosaic project, contact Moore at 682-1611, ext. 7255.

Regents agree on construction

By Pamela Jaronek
News Writing Student

Improvements to the Health and Technology center are on the way.

The OKCCC Board of Regents agreed to authorize the construction of a glass storefront system in the

Health Technology Center at a meeting held April 18.

The construction will take place in the east hallway of the Health Technology Center.

The purpose of the wall is to provide more effective control over the students and those within the Aquatic Center.

The cost of construction

is not to exceed a total of \$14,325.

The wall will be built in the area spanning from the entrance of the Aquatic Center to the entrance of the main door of the Health Technology Center.

Included in the project is the construction of a glass door as well as a paved tile entrance.

The agenda item was approved by the regents and will begin construction after this semester.

Eddie Cox, OKCCC project manager, hopes to begin paving during intercessions since the number of students will be lower.

Cox said the purpose of the glass wall is for "people on weekends to not go into the carpeted area and to soak up the water from the students tracking it out from the pool."

He also said the glass wall was being built for "security purposes."

College Consortium revamps schedule

By Whitney Reading
News Writing Student

The Downtown Consortium is beginning to wrap up the spring semester, while already working on turning out a new schedule for the summer semester.

Gary Davidson, Downtown Consortium Director, said three classes will be of-

fered this summer for credit, as well as four other non-credit classes.

Amongst the non-credit classes offered is an Entertainment Writing class.

Dino Lalli, who works for KFOR in Oklahoma City, has agreed to teach the class.

Redlands Community College will offer all of the classes this summer, including a Criminal Procedures for Computer Crime

class beginning June 6 and ending July 29.

A Network Technologies class and an Emergency Response to Terrorism class also will be offered.

The Emergency Response to Terrorism class is a two-day seminar beginning on July 14 and ending on July 15.

One hour of credit can be earned upon completion of the course.

As for non-credit classes,

the Downtown Consortium also will be offering a Yoga class, a Conversational French class and a Tai Chi class.

All of the classes are open to anyone for enrollment. The cost is \$80 per credit hour which also includes fees.

For more information regarding the summer classes offered at the Downtown Consortium, contact Gary Davidson at 232-3382.

Pathways school holds first graduation

**By Ashleigh Branch
News Writing Student**

Seven seniors comprise the first graduating class from Pathways Middle College since the school began in 2001. Their graduation will take place at 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 1, at Oklahoma City University.

The students: Jose Gonzalez, Jennifer Lundy, Vincent Peoples, Jennifer Rusche, Chris Gannaway, Holly Tiller and Nicole Dawson, are graduates with plans for the future.

Gonzalez is the class valedictorian. He has attended Pathways since eighth grade and has been accepted into Oklahoma City University where he will begin in the fall.

Gonzalez said he plans to major in business and then, get a degree in corporate law.

The National Honors Society member will enter OCU with 15 college credit hours.

"I believe that when we have the chance to educate ourselves, we should always do it and keep our head up," he said.

Gonzalez is the first in his family to graduate from high school and attend college. Gonzalez said the main reason he wants to attend college is to be able to give back to the Hispanic community.

He also wants to make his parents and grandparents proud of him.

"I wanted to change and make a name in my family, to set an example, to set goals," Gonzalez said.

Lundy entered Pathways in the ninth grade from Roosevelt Middle School. Lundy will graduate with 27 hours of college credit complete.

"Pathways has been good for me because I have been able to prepare for college," she said.

Lundy is a member of the National Honor Society and Chairman of the graduation

committee, where she will help organize graduation and baccalaureate. She also took part in the organization of Pathways' first prom last month.

After graduation, Lundy will major in nursing at OKCCC. From there, she'll transfer to Ozark Christian College, where she plans to double major in Bible and Deaf ministry.

Vincent Peoples has attended Pathways since his eighth-grade year.

"I am excited about being part of the first graduating class at Pathways," he said. Peoples also is a member of the National Honors Society and on the prom committee.

"Sometimes I wish I could have seen what real high school was like," said Peoples, who wanted to get involved in sports which Pathways doesn't offer. Peoples said he hopes to attend OKCCC or OCU in the fall after graduation.

Rusche has been a student at Pathways since her freshman year, when she was accepted from Roosevelt Middle School. "I like that we get to experience the college atmosphere at Pathways," said Rusche.

Rusche also is involved with prom committee activities.

She hopes to become an artist but hasn't decided which school she'll attend.

Gannaway began Pathways as a freshman.

Gannaway participates in helping with fund-raisers organized through the school. He also volunteers at Sellers Park in Oklahoma City.

"Graduation is going to be kind of exciting," he said. Gannaway wants to attend OKCCC or OCU to receive a degree in business.

Tiller is anxious to return sometime down the road and see how her alma mater has grown.

"I would like to visit Pathways in about 10 years to see the expansion and how much the school has grown since I graduated," she

said.

Tiller is a member of the National Honors Society. Tiller also helped plan Pathways' prom.

During her five years at Pathways, Tiller participated in many community service activities.

She helped with a trash clean-up project and with the Wee Wacky Water Wahoo, a children's activity the college holds each year.

This fall Tiller will attend OCU. There, she plans to double major in Religious and Secondary education.

"I am very anxious to see how graduation turns out, because we have always been the first to experience everything," she said.

"We are like Guinea pigs," Dawson also will be one of the first students to graduate from Pathways.

Dawson began Pathways as a sophomore, coming from Northwest Classen High School in Oklahoma City.

Upward Bound students learn leadership skills

**Dylan Cox
News Writing Student**

High school and college students from the OKCCC Upward Bound program spent March 25 and 26 at a leadership conference at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Oklahoma City.

The theme of the conference was Rising Stars.

The purpose was to enhance Upward Bound students' leadership abilities, according to Carmela Pyle, Upward Bound director.

Upward Bound is part of the federal Trio programs, one of seven assistance programs funded by the United States Department of Education according to an Upward Bound pamphlet.

Adilene Valencuela, Pathways High School



Photo by Christiana Kostura

From left, Jennifer Rusche, Chris Gannaway, Jennifer Lundy, Jose Gonzales, and front, Holly Tiller. These students, along with Vincent Peoples and Nicole Dawson (not pictured), are the first-ever graduates from Pathways Middle College, located within the halls of OKCCC. Graduation date is set for 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 at Oklahoma City University. Pathways Middle College became a part of the OKCCC campus in 2001.

sophomore, spoke about her experience at the conference.

"At the dinner, there were several speeches from all the different [representatives] of Trio programs that were in attendance," she said. "They talked about how this program is important to us and that we are the future of this country."

Valencuela is one of many students who attends Pathways High School, an on-campus high school housed at OKCCC, comprised of grades eight through twelve.

Jenny Alan, a junior at Moore High School, said she had fun at the conference.

"We participated in several group activities that helped us be more comfortable speaking around strangers," Alan said.

"I learned a lot from this

conference."

Upward Bound aims to help students get the skills and motivation to succeed in high school and in higher education, according to an Upward Bound flier.

Thirteen Upward Bound programs from around the state participated in the leadership conference, with a total of 159 students and 34 Upward Bound staff members.

A dance also was held in the hotel ballroom the last day of the conference.

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Sports

UPCOMING

SOCCER

•**June 4-5:** The Oklahoma Soccer Association State Cup in Oklahoma City. The University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma will represent the Oklahoma College Club Soccer League. OKCCC's team did not qualify for the event.

All adult leagues in Oklahoma send teams to this annual event. For more information, contact Jalal Daneshfar at 974-2377.

YOUTH SPORTS

•**May 26:** OKCCC, along with other schools, will host the 9th Annual Wacky Water Wahoo at Whitewater Bay. This event is an award-winning interactive water safety fair. It recently received the Award of Merit from the National Water Safety Congress.

More than 1,500 grade-school children are expected to participate in this year's event.

For more information, contact Recreation and Community Services at 682-1611, ext. 7860.

AQUATIC CENTER

•**Employment:** Recreation and Community Services is now hiring lifeguards and water safety instructors for the spring and summer.

Recreation and Community Services works with college schedules and has several different shifts available.

Lifeguard training also is available. A list of classes is available at www.okccc.edu/rcs.

For more information, contact Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist Stephanie Scott at 682-1611, ext. 7662.

Water polo tournament makes debut

Annual event and high school league could find home in Aquatic Center

By Matthew Caban
Staff Writer

A water sport without a home could benefit OKCCC's Aquatic Center.

High school water polo is not currently organized in Oklahoma City or Tulsa, said Aquatics and Safety Training Coordinator Roxanna Butler.

Butler said some local swimming coaches have contacted her about hosting a water polo league at OKCCC in the future.

"Next fall or spring, we hope to start and run a high school league, and have this tournament again," she said.

A small taste of water polo action came to the Aquatic Center on April 30 with the first Shoot Out at the OK Corral.

The tournament featured nine teams from across Oklahoma.

Five of the teams were comprised of males from Norman, Jenks and Stillwater.

Students flex muscles for bench press glory

By Ivo Lupov
Contributing Writer

Hollywood may have "Heavyweights" and California may have the "Governator," but for one afternoon, OKCCC had its own men of steel.

On April 29, Patrick Hunter and Joe Perez became champions at the first intramural bench press contest at OKCCC.

With their victories, Hunter and Perez will be added to the Wall of Fame.

Hunter lifted 350 pounds and Perez lifted 315.

Organized by Recreation and Community Services, the competition took place



Photo by Ana Rodriguez

Ellie Martin takes a shot for the Norman team during a water polo tournament on April 30. Nine teams from Norman, Jenks and Stillwater competed.

The other four teams were female teams also from Norman, Jenks and Stillwater.

Teams included high school and college students.

in response to a student's request, said Eric Watson, Community Education and Health specialist.

Besides recognition on the Wall of Fame, both students received T-shirts bearing their names and winning weights.

At the beginning of the competition, 12 students had signed up.

Competitors were divided into two categories—more than 166 pounds and 165 pounds or less.

Each contestant had three attempts and their lifting style was taken into account, Watson said.

With two spotters, every competitor was judged by the Schwartz formula, Watson said.

In the men's bracket, Jenks "A" won all of its games to finish first.

Norman "A" came in second in the men's bracket, followed by Norman "B" in third.

Based on body weight, converted into kilograms, every contestant received a specific coefficient from the Schwartz chart, which was multiplied by their total lifted weight, he said.

Intramural employees will try to bring in the bench press contest as an annual event, Watson said.

Some students were not satisfied with the contest.

Steven Proto, sophomore Health and Sport Science major, took third in the more than 166 pounds category.

Proto said the rules were not announced before the competition and were not clear to him.

"I felt cheated," he said. In other weightlifting

Stillwater finished in fourth place and Jenks' "B" came in fifth place.

The women's bracket held a similar story with Jenks' only female team winning first place.

Norman "B" came in second place and Norman "A" finished in third place. Stillwater came in fourth place.

Butler said the tournament was a success. More teams will be invited to next year's event, she said.

She said water polo offers benefits both in and out of the pool.

"For high school swimmers, it is something that keeps them in the water and in shape between seasons," Butler said.

"It also provides another avenue for scholarships for high school athletes."

Butler said before the league starts, the Aquatic Center may host a water polo seminar on August 20 and 21 with a yet to be determined water polo coach.

Staff Writer Matthew Caban can be reached at StaffWriter2@okccc.edu.

news, a new policy will be enforced this summer.

"There will be some changes that the students need to be prepared for," said Traci Wheeler, Recreation and Community Services director.

Starting this summer, students need to be enrolled for summer classes to have free access to the weights room, she said.

Wheeler said if students are not attending classes during the summer a small fee per visit will be added.

She said the fee is a \$25 punch card for 20 visits.

"I am trying to protect the students who pay to use the Wellness Center and giving others the best deal I can," Wheeler said.

Beat bookstore by selling back used textbooks

**By Lindsey Oswalt
News Writing Student**

It is no secret that college textbooks are expensive and most students would like to get the most for their money when they sell them.

The OKCCC bookstore will begin buying back textbooks on May 9 and will continue through May 14.

Students are more likely to receive the best price at the official buy back time, said Brenda Reinke, bookstore director.

"Students can resell either their new or used textbooks to the bookstore and, in most cases, receive up to 50 percent of the price they paid for the book," Reinke said.

If pages are highlighted, but the book is still in good condition, with no pages missing, the bookstore will still buy back the book.

Books can be sold back to the bookstore anytime, except during the opening weeks of the semester, at a price determined by a wholesale book company.

"These prices are normally less than what a student might receive if he or she waited until the official buy back date," Reinke said.

Some students plan ahead to sell their books back to the bookstore.

"Since I pay for my own books, I always sell them back to the bookstore as soon as possible," said student Ashley Armstrong.

"Why not get as much money as you can if you are never going to use the book again?"

In the past year and a half, the college has doubled the number of used books it buys, Reinke said.

At the beginning of a semester, some students

struggle with the decision of purchasing new textbooks or used textbooks.

Reinke said more students now than before are opting for used books.

Thirty-nine percent of students prefer to buy used books.

The bookstore will buy back both new and used textbooks.

"Either way, new or used books are expensive. Whether a book costs \$100 or \$75, we try to help out the student as much as possible," Reinke said.

"We try to sell what the student wants."

On the other hand, some students would rather pay the higher price for a book

Sing along



Photo by Jessica Martinez-Brooks

Professor Ron Stato directs OKCCC's three choirs during the Spring Choir concert April 28 in the college theater. More than 110 students participated in the concert. Joyce Mauldin accompanied the singers on piano. Auditions for the concert choir, chamber singers or symphonic choirs will be held the first week of the fall semester. For more information contact Staton at 682-1611, ext. 7249.

that has never been used, she said.

Sophomore Casey Shelley is one of those students.

"Yes, used books are

cheaper, but new books don't have other peoples writing in them," she said. "You can do your own highlighting in it if you wish to."

It comes down to preference. Although many students still like to buy new textbooks, the demand for used textbooks is growing.

Enroll online to avoid standing in line

**By Gregory Coleman
News Writing Student**

Students can begin registration online for fall and summer classes right now.

Early registration gives students a couple of different advantages, said Mary Turner, Student Development counselor.

Students who arrive early will not have to wait in long lines. Those students also will have a better chance of getting the classes they need.

"Pre-registration is available to every student," Turner said.

Some students have yet to take advantage of this opportunity.

LaDon Lonsdale, business major, said she has not yet enrolled.

She doesn't know what classes she wants to take.

Students would benefit greatly from coming by the counselors office and settling on a major so they will not take unnecessary

classes, Turner said.

Benny Stevenson, undecided major, has already enrolled.

He said he wanted to stay away from long lines.

"The percentage of students taking advantage of pre-registration versus last fall should be greater," Turner said.

Visit the mountains with BCM

**By Tyler Wood
News Writing Student**

The Rocky Mountains in New Mexico will be a happening place come August.

The OKCCC Baptist Collegiate Ministries members will take their place alongside students from other schools from across the United States in Glorieta, New Mexico, from Aug. 3 through 9.

The Glorieta Student Week is an annual event held at the LifeWay Conference Center at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. Cost

of the trip is \$175 with a \$25 required deposit.

"We only have so many spots and it is a matter of, whoever gets us the deposit first gets a seat," said Mike Barnett, OKCCC BCM director.

"What we do on behalf of the students [is] we send out letters to their respective church looking for someone willing to help send them to the conference. We usually get very good results from this," Barnett said.

The conference allows the BCM students to interact with other students who share in their beliefs through conferences on subjects relevant to college students.

"This is a Christian conference focusing on spiritual growth, fellowship, fun activities, and subjects relevant to the college students [who attend]," said Barnett.

For more information, contact Barnett at (405) 323-0583.

Read the Pioneer at www.okccc.edu/pioneer

Highlights

Graduate Pinning Ceremony

This year OKCCC will host the first annual Graduate Pinning Ceremony at 4 p.m. on Monday, May 9 in the college union. Graduates will receive graduate pins and have their picture taken as the class of 2005. Faculty and staff are encouraged to join in recognizing and celebrating the success of the students as they begin a new chapter in their lives. For more information, contact Liz Largent, Student Life director, at 682-1611, ext. 7596.

Workforce Oklahoma Job Fair at OKCCC

Student Life Employment Services presents a job fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, May 20 in the college union. Workforce Oklahoma is partnering with Student Life Employment Services to host their semi-annual job fair. Students and alumni, bring your college ID numbers to sign up for a chance to win a \$50 Wal-Mart gift certificate. For more information, contact Linda Fay, Employment Services coordinator, at 682-1611, ext. 7683.

Project Graduation

Phi Theta Kappa is using Project Graduation to battle the social issues of hunger and low literacy skills by collecting non-perishable food items and books for distribution. For more information, contact English professor Richard Rouillard, at 682-1611, ext. 7389.

Photography Club to host San Antonio trip

The Photography Club will use the proceeds they raised during the school year to take a trip to San Antonio. The group will leave at 6 a.m. May 20 from parking lot G and will return Sunday, May 22. Students will take trips to the San Antonio Zoo, the Alamo and one of San Antonio's art museums. For more information, contact LaWanda LaVarnway at 682-1611, ext. 7329, or e-mail llavarnway@okccc.edu.

Native American Student Association meetings

Officers for the Native American Student Association will meet during the summer to plan upcoming events for the fall and spring semesters. For times and dates of where the officers will meet, contact club sponsor Kristi Fields at 682-1611, ext. 7550.

Biology/Ecology Club seeks members

Students are invited to help revive the Biology/Ecology Club. If revived, the club will have summer meetings to discuss future events. For more information, contact Christiana Kostura at 682-1611, ext. 7440.

Physical Plant and parking lot closings

Students are urged to check construction of the parking lots. This way they have an idea of which parking lots will be closed on which day. Students can check online at www.okccc.edu/physicalplant. For more information call 682-7554.

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

Highlights are printed free of charge for all students and staff members. Forms are available in the Pioneer office, located in 2M6 of the main building, or Highlights may be e-mailed to editor@okccc.edu using the word Highlights in the subject line.



File Photo

All Smiles: Left to right: Azfar Gul, Haifeng Ji, DebbieYuDa and Jonathan Nimo of the International Student Association pose with awards they recently won at the OKCCC Student Organization Student Jubilee. The club was awarded best club of the year, best sponsor of the year and best event of the year.

SOTA to host summer camp

Students provide fun activities for handicapped people

By Gregory Coleman
News Writing Student

Members of the Student Occupational Therapy Association are thinking through the theme for a camp they have been hosting in Stroud, Okla.

During spring semester the students broke into groups and began to work on themes and ideas for the coming fall camp, said Tom Kraft, professor and Occupational Therapy Assistants program director.

He said, at the end of the semester, the students will introduce their ideas and themes for consideration.

The camp consists of the students assisting disabled people with needs, Kraft said. The campers' disabilities may vary from old age, broken legs, not being able to feed themselves, stroke patients and more.

Kraft said campers range in age from 20 to 60.

This camp has had good feedback from students and the people the students help, he said.

Members said this camp is a wonderful work experience for occupational therapy assistants, Kraft

"Others attempt to keep us alive. The OTA provides us with the skills for living."
—Tom Kraft
Occupational Therapy Assistant Program Director

said. Occupational Therapy Assistants can be found in hospitals, long-term care facilities, school districts and mental health facilities.

Kraft said they help in a variety of ways in all areas of life.

They provide help in the areas of work, leisure, aging and self-care dealing with illness.

Occupational Therapy Assistants also help stroke patients regain the ability to eat.

Kraft wrote a poem where the last lines read, "Others attempt to keep us alive. The OTA provides us with the skills for living."

Fonda Scott, former student and current OKCCC staff member, said the camp averages approximately 30 student volunteers each year.

Every person at the camp receives one-on-one atten-

tion, she said.

Kraft described the interaction as "people working with people."

There once was a student who left late on the day he was to celebrate his wedding anniversary because of the impact the camp had on him.

Kraft said the themes really allow the campers to become more involved with the camp.

Some past themes have been Europe, Central America, Mexico, South Seas and a ship theme.

"It's incredible," Fonda said. She said she'll attend the camp every year even if she is not a part of the program.

For more information about this club, contact Kraft at 682-1611, ext. 7227, or e-mail tkraft@okccc.edu.

**Have club news?
Call 682-1611, ext 7676.**

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: '05 Harley Davidson Springer Softail. Limited edition paint, #18 of 200. Arrives 5/23-5/26. Must sell. Paid \$19,760, will take \$18,900. Lots of extras, call for info. 401-9137.

FOR SALE: '01 Yamaha Big Bear 400, 4-wheeler. 2 X 2, low miles, Great condition. \$3,500. 969-6064.

FOR SALE: '00 Jeep, straight 6. P/W, P/L. 43,650 miles, \$9,800. Call 228-2560.

FOR SALE: '00 Dodge Neon automatic, 4-door, runs great. \$6,000. Call 819-6953.

FOR SALE: '99 Chevy Astro van. Works great, looks like new. Great for trips. \$5,500. 635-9716.

FOR SALE: '99 Mitsubishi Eclipse. 93K miles. Manual trans. Great cond. \$7,000. Call 615-4792.

FOR SALE: '97 Geo Metro. 4-door, light green, automatic. CD, A/C, 81K miles. Good condition. \$1,400 OBO. Call 812-0328.

FOR SALE: '97 GMC Jimmy. 4WD, V-6, P/W, P/L, A/C. New tires, great shape. Runs great. \$4,500. Call 255-4302.

FOR SALE: '97 Black Isuzu Rodeo V-6, auto, cold air, 160K miles. \$3,500. Call 314-4935.

FOR SALE: '95 Nissan pickup. AC, radio, tinted windows. 5-speed, 147K miles, good condition. \$4,000 OBO. Call 969-6064.

FOR SALE: '95 Mitsubishi Eclipse. Sunroof, automatic, black, great rims. Runs nice. \$2,500. Call 426-9626.

FOR SALE: '95 GMC Sierra extended cab. Lowering kit, wide tires, low mileage. \$6,500 OBO. Call 794-2104.

FOR SALE: '94 Honda Accord EX. Runs good, clean. 190K miles. Blue book value \$2,700. Asking \$1,300. Call 579-4355, evenings.

FOR SALE: '93 Dodge Stealth. Teal, V-6, auto., w/tittle. Runs, needs some work. \$900 OBO. Call 229-7943.

FOR SALE: '92 Lexus LS 400. Automatic, 187K miles, P/W, P/L, moonroof, leather seats. \$3,500 OBO. Call Vinh 816-7411.

FOR SALE: '88 Fleetwood Cadillac. As is, \$500. 605-7728.

FOR SALE: '88 GMC 4 X 4. Runs great, \$2,250. 922-1284.

FOR SALE: '78 Chevy pickup hood. Primer grey, good cond., \$75. Billet bar grill from same, exc. cond., \$100. 229-7943.

ANIMALS

MISSING: 1 English bulldog. Lost near S.W. 48 and Western. Call 863-6066 or 740-5535.

FREE KITTENS: 7 kittens, free to good homes. 6 wks. 603-3648.

FREE CAT: 7-month-old female. Has had all shots and is spayed. Very sweet. 265-0353.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: 17" computer monitor, \$50. Canon laser printer, \$30. Canon ink jet printer, \$20. Call 605-7728.

FOR SALE: Sony Clie PDA, Model SJ20, 1 yr. old. Exc. condition. Comes with Palm OS software, charger, USB cord and case. Purchased for \$179, asking \$65. 682-1611, ext. 7295.

FOR SALE: One 13" RCA TV, one 19" RCA TV, \$25 each. Pentium 2 computer w/ 17" color monitor and Epson color plus printer, \$100. 250 sheets Epson glossy photo paper, \$75 OBO. 386-2050.

EMPLOYMENT

UPS PART-TIME JOBS

Part-time loader/unloader positions. Midnight shift. (Sun. - Thurs., 10 p.m. - 3 a.m.) \$8.50 with a \$0.50 raise at 90 days and 1 year w/continuous annual raises. *Promotion opportunities. *Tuition assist. upon promotion. *Medical, dental, vision, UPS pays premiums. Info. and tour sessions: Sun., Mon. or Wed. at 11 P. M., 901 S. Portland www.UPSjobs.com EOE

FOR RENT

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4-bedroom units.
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Fall 2005! (405) 530-8100
ocu@campushousing.com

ROOMMATE WANTED: 3 bedroom, 2-bath, 2-car house in Edmond. Large living rm. w/bar. \$334/mo, 1/3 bills. 216-9520.

ROOMMATES WANTED: 1 to

2 responsible female roommates for lg. home in Moore. Completely furnished except bdrms. Lg. rooms, 3-car garage, 2 1/2 bath, nice neighborhood. \$350/mo. plus 1/3 bills. 615-2396, leave msg.

ROOM FOR RENT: Roommate needed to share 2 bed, 2 bath apt. N.W. 47 & Penn. \$250, 924-8542.

RESPONSIBLE ROOMMATE WANTED: In Norman, \$265/mo., 1/2 bills. 701-5958.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Used couch. Mauve/floral. Good condition, no tears. \$50 OBO. 631-4193.

FOR SALE: Crib mattress used for 1 mo. Perfect cond., no stains. Paid \$80, asking \$20. 745-4156.

FOR SALE: Sofa, chair, computer desk, and microwave. Selling as a set for \$70. Nice coffee table, \$20. Call 426-9626.

FOR SALE: Pulaski glass/mirror hutch. Gorgeous, 46" X 79". \$900 OBO. 681-4269.

FOR SALE: Plaid couch, \$50. 5-shelf bookshelf, \$10. Girls 4-shelf cabinet, \$25. 605-7728.

FOR SALE: Pool table. 8-foot slate. \$1,800. 843-2335.

FOR SALE: Wood futon, thick mattress, \$75. Western print couch, like new, \$200. 386-2050.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: GE profile gas dryer. Very nice, lg. capacity, works great. \$75, 631-4193.

WANTED: Bassist, guitarist, and vocalist to start a punk-rock band in south OKC. Influences range from Blink-182, all the way to My Chemical Romance. If interested, please contact David at 609-9444 between 2 and 5 p.m. or 8 and 10 p.m.

FOR SALE: 8' X 9' black steel flatbed w/headache rack and drop-down hitch. Already removed, good cond. \$700 OBO. 229-7943.

WANTED: Cabin on Grand Lake of the Cherokees. Will rent, prefer to buy or lease. 682-1611, ext. 7454.

FOR SALE: Wedding dress. Smooth satin strapless. Top, bottom lined in red, back laced in red. Very beautiful. Size 12, fits size 10, not altered. Petticoat incl. Purchased for \$500, asking \$300. Size 7 heels match bride's dress, \$20. Girl's size 12 red bridesmaid dress, \$60, 249-1282.

WANTED: Members needed to resurrect the Biology/Ecology Club. Help the environment and make a difference. Call Christiana at 682-1611, ext. 7440.

FOR SALE: K2 Freestyle Rollerblades. 2 pair, sizes 12 1/2

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Traveler's guide
4 Add up
9 French farewell
14 Physicians' org.
15 German river
16 Trait carriers
17 Ketchup or mustard

19 Very very
20 Video's companion
21 Debonair
23 Decorate a gift
24 Type of sign
27 Miscalculates
30 Appetizers

32 "Abner"
33 Delighting (in)
37 Abode
39 Beginnings
40 Like malls before holidays

42 Brickworker
43 Like some refugees
44 "— was going to St. Ives..."
45 Tenuous, in a way

48 Electric sign
50 Davis or Midler
51 Ali —
55 Grisham product
57 Brass instruments

58 Mindful of
60 Toiletry item
64 Grows crops
65 Bygone
66 Fr. holy woman
67 Romantic date
68 Appearances
69 Ben- —

DOWN

1 Parrot
2 Love, in Paris
3 Black-and-white animal
4 The Kingston —
5 Electrical unit
6 Fasten
7 Actress Sheridan
8 Diminishes
9 Water, to Pedro
10 Dig (into)

11 Pause
12 "Ballad" ending
13 Neighbor of Mex.
18 Party staple
22 Exploit
24 Popular street name

25 Taverns
26 Act like a shrew
28 Stands
29 Toboggans
30 Static —: clothing problem

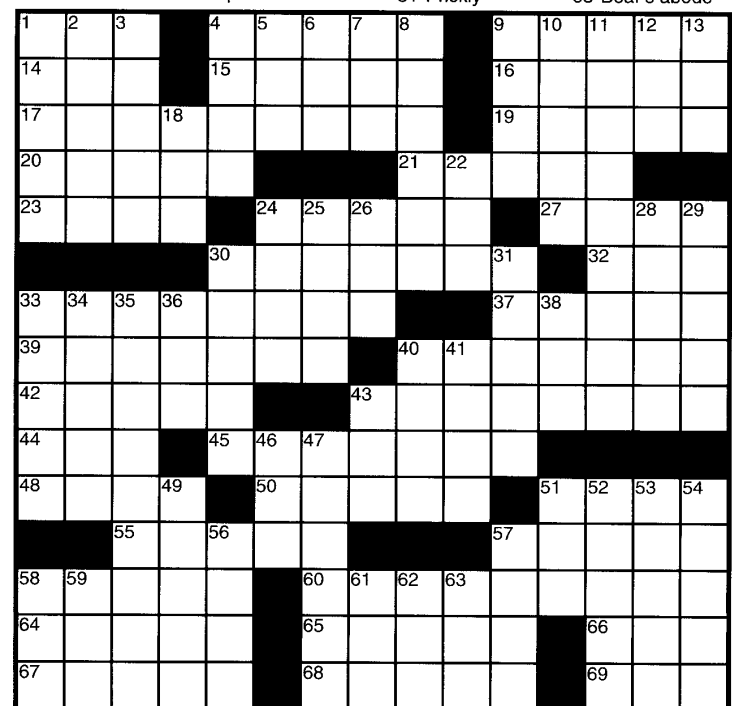
31 Photos
33 Caesar or Nero
34 Rub out
35 Dreamer
36 Type of trip?
38 Night bird
40 Aquatic bird
41 Dissipated one
43 Soak, as flax
46 Lincoln's nickname
47 Almost never
49 Standards
51 Prickly

52 Embarrass
53 African language
54 Autumn bloomer
56 Part of a suit
57 Weight units
58 Behind, on a ship
59 "— and Peace"
61 Actor Wallach
62 Work by Keats
63 Bear's abode

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

M	E	T	A	L	R	E	A	L	J	A	V	A
I	R	E	N	E	A	Y	L	A	U	F	O	S
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L	E	M	O	N	A	D	E	E	G	R	E	T
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A	D	A	E	O	N	B	E	G				
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T	E	N	S	I	T	E	R	S	T	E	W	S

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and 7. Carrying bags and hex wrenches included. Only worn twice. Both in exc. condition. Pd. \$200 each, asking \$100/ea. Call 602-2761, or 596-3682.

FOR SALE: '01 Wildwood Lite Trailer. 25' X 8', 4,190 lbs. Exc. cond., \$9,995. '95 Bass Tracker boat, 25 h/p. Mercury motor, 16', good cond., \$2,995. 794-5390.

WANTED: 2-4 people to play Dungeons and Dragons on Sun. or Mon. afternoons or evenings. cuddlyasiangirl@hotmail.com, or leave a message, 514-8633.

FOR SALE: Old-style washing machine, old-style dryer. \$10 ea. New 5-pc heavy duty BBQ set, \$10. Call 325-9625.

FOR SALE: 2 bikes, both look brand new. One Mongoose, one

Next. \$50 each. Call 306-9742.

TEXTBOOKS

BOOKS FOR SALE: Psychology, Hockenbury, 3rd Ed., \$45. Study guide, \$20, or \$55 for both. Fund. of Nursing Study Guide, 5th Ed., New, \$15. 631-4193.

BOOKS FOR SALE: College Keyboarding, \$40. BIO Concepts and Apps., Student Guide, \$95 for both. 863-6066.

BOOK FOR SALE: HIST 1493 The American Journey, Vol. 11, 3rd Ed. \$20. 265-0353.

BOOKS FOR SALE: SOC 1113, and Music Appr. 635-9716.

BOOK FOR SALE: BIO 2215: Cry of the Kalahari, \$6. 414-7070.

Help is offered for students feeling end-of-semester stress, worry

"Stress,"

Cont. from page 1

She said if students would do that, then they'd be calmer when it comes to test time.

Turner said students also can lower stress levels by pacing themselves accordingly to the tests they take during final week.

"Students should split up the amount of time they spend on tests," Turner said. "If there's a portion of the test worth more than

other portions, focus on that first."

Freshman Ryan Hedrick said he's got a lot going on this week but isn't too worried. "I'm a lazy guy and put things off," he said.

"But I'm not stressed about it."

Biology major Amber Marshall is drumming to a different beat. "I'm so stressed because all my exams are on the same day," Marshall said. "I've got a lot left to do and all I'm stressing over [is] being prepared [for the exams]."

Turner also said students

should remember the fundamentals of test taking and not to struggle with problems but rather go back to them later.

She said students should keep tests in perspective and remember that they're important but not the most important things in the world.

She said students should stay cool and keep next semester in mind.

"Higher education is very forgiving," Turner said. "If you fall down, we help you get back up again."

Turner said if students

feel they need to talk to someone about stress or want words of encouragement they can stop by the office of Student Develop-

ment in the main building and meet with a counselor.

Editor Richard Hall can be reached at editor@okccc.edu.

College creates support program

"TRIO,"

Cont. from page 1

of entering the program, and at least 70 percent of each group must achieve a minimum 2.0 GPA each year.

Paden said getting the grant was not easy.

"It's really quite an elaborate and competitive process to get one of the support services or TRIO grants," she said.

"The college has not had

one of these grants before."

Charlotte French, former OKCCC professor, was the primary author of the grant proposal, Paden said.

"Dr. French was able to write a proposal that demonstrated need, and... warranted that program and the money we will receive," Paden said.

"We believe and the federal government believes there are special programs that can help [at risk] students be successful in college," she said.

Staff Writer Christiana

Kostura can be reached at StaffWriter3@okccc.edu.

Correction

In the last issue, we incorrectly reported that a fence being constructed at the Child Development Center and Lab School cost \$300,845.79.

The correct cost, according to the Feb. 21 OKCCC Board of Regents agenda, is \$30,845.79.

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