

- Vote! Vote! Vote!, editorial, p. 2.
- Students help others on Saturdays, p. 10.
- Last soccer game of season set, p. 12.
- College Democrats help troops, p. 14.

PIONEER

Construction funds approved at Oct. 16 regents meeting

By David Miller
Editor

OCCC regents authorized college administrators at their Oct. 16 meeting to draw up a contract with Wynn Construction Co. to begin construction of Phase One of the Arts Education Center.

The cost of the Arts Education Center is approximately \$7 million, said Arts and Humanities Dean Susan VanSchuyver. Those funds were given to OCCC by the state Legislature.

The building will sit between parking lots C and D where Arts Festival Oklahoma is normally held. Construction is anticipated to begin soon, said Ruth Charnay, Arts and Humanities department chairwoman.

"[Arts and Humanities instructors] are hoping that we're going to break ground within the next month or two," Charnay said.

The Arts Education Center will be about 56,000 square feet and will include approximately 12 classrooms and labs to "facilitate expanding student enrollment in the art, music, theater, graphic communications, and film and video production programs," according to the Board of Regents agenda.

Phase One includes construction of all but the theater. Once funds for the theater have been identified, it will be added to the north end of the Arts Education Center.

In addition to the classrooms and lab space, there also will be an art gallery in the entryway to the building.

"Right as you walk in, there'll be an area where we'll be able to show student artwork or small traveling exhibits," Charnay said.

"This is all about helping our art students, whether it be in visual arts or performing arts, have a better place to work and learn."

There also will be several new rooms and updated technology to better accommodate programs such as choir, film and video production, and painting, Charnay said.

The film and video production program was added to the curriculum only a few years ago, so the current Arts and Humanities building wasn't constructed with them in mind, Charnay said.

Instructors currently use whatever space they can find, she said.

VanSchuyver said that will all change with the new building.

"There'll be a huge film and video production studio that'll

See "AEC," page 16



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Art major Bobbie Gray applies glaze to a ceramic dish she created in MaryAnn Moore's Tuesday afternoon ceramics class. The current ceramics lab is located just inside Entry 5 of the Arts and Humanities building, but will relocate into the new Arts Education Center once the building is completed.

Survey shows rate of student satisfaction

By David Miller
Editor

OCCC students are satisfied with a number of services offered to them while other areas within the college need improvement.

That was determined by a recent student opinion survey administered by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

The survey measures student satisfaction for 19 college services. Among them are academic advising and food service. The survey also measures 43 college environmental factors such as

class size and course availability, according to the report.

"The survey is used to gather information about student satisfaction," said Marion Paden, vice president for Enrollment and Student Services. "Based on the level of student satisfaction for those areas that are within student services, which the majority of them are, then we design strategies to improve the level of student satisfaction."

The survey shows overall student satisfaction with OCCC as being 85.8 percent, which is higher than the national norm of 81.9 percent, according to the Sept. 18 Board of Re-

gents agenda.

Areas that rated significantly higher than the national norm include, but are not limited to, the college bookstore, the student union, class size, the library, and the student media, according to the report.

From 2004 to 2006, student satisfaction improved or remained the same in about 80 percent (49 of the 62) of the service and environmental areas measured such as academic advising, parking facilities and career planning services, according to the report.

However, despite improvement in those ar-

See "Survey," page 16

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Voting or 'Earl'?

On Oct. 19, KFOR pre-empted its regularly scheduled programming of "My Name Is Earl" and "The Office" to air the congressional debate between Lt. Governor Mary Fallin and Paul Hunter, who are running for Oklahoma's 5th district House seat.

KFOR's interruption most likely elicited two responses from the 18- to 29-year-old demographic.

The first was to change the channel.

Secondly, it meant YouTube was going to have an influx of young Oklahomans looking for ways to find out if Jim had gotten any closer to his cute co-worker at the Stamford branch.

Maybe that's one of the reasons we've had bad karma as of late with our country's elected leaders.

Young America cares more about the politics of Dunder-Mifflin more than their own country.

The future of America has made a profound statement with their voting record — they just don't care.

According to statistics compiled by CNN.com, only 17 percent of the votes in the last presidential election came from 18- to 29-year-olds.

Their only competition came from people who were age 60 and over, who had a 24 percent turnout.

Only 17 percent of the popular vote coming from 18- to 29-year-olds is a staggering statistic when it's put in perspective.

This is the group of people who will be caring for the aging baby boomers and dealing with countries that have nuclear proliferation on their agenda.

Speaking of which, North Korea just tested out a nuclear weapon. If they test another, will we be fighting a war in Afghanistan, Iraq and on the Korean Peninsula?

Elected leaders will make that decision whether you vote for them or not, and that's a decision that could have a major impact on your life.

But, if there's ever been a time to cease the 'It's cool to be apathetic towards everything' routine that's popular with Generation Y, it's now.

The military is heavily composed of 18- to 29-year-olds who could be ordered to sacrifice their lives for your way of life.

Although it might have been the politicians who sent them to war, the responsibility still falls upon the shoulders of the people who elected them.

The ones who didn't vote don't care what happens to our soldiers.

On Nov. 7, the nation will head to the polls again, with the direction of an uncertain America being decided as well as the direction of our state with the gubernatorial elections.

Maybe Generation Y can sign onto MySpace less and exercise their responsibility to vote.

—**Scott D'Amico**
Staff Writer

Retiree recollects relationship

To the Editor:

My Friend Gaylene Graham was a business professor at OCCC before we both retired. Since her recent death, I have wanted to remember her in a letter to the Pioneer.

For 30 years at OCCC we taught together, laughed together, cried together and bonded. The last time we talked was three days prior to her surgery.

How odd that, in those last sacred moments, she talked about what we would say at each other's funeral. And we both agreed we just couldn't do it. As I write, my feeling is exactly that: where to begin and how to do justice to this exceptional person who was so much a part of my life.

We met when she took over my Office Machines class at the college. Only one thing was wrong: she didn't know how to operate the machines. It was in teaching Gaylene how to



operate the machines and teach the course that we bonded.

And did she resist learning the computer. But once she finally learned the Internet, woe be the person on her e-mail list.

Most of those e-mail times were 2, 3 or 4 a.m. because, although sleeping wasn't one of her passions, keeping the people on her e-mail list informed was.

And that consideration spilled over into birthdays, anniversaries and such.

Once learning of one of your special dates, you received a card from her every year. I can't imagine anyone she met not loving her.

You can't talk about Gaylene and not talk about her faith.

She was always connected to her God and active in her church, and loved by so many, simply because she lived her faith.



I'm very thankful I was able to spend that last afternoon with my very best friend, and I am more thankful I was able to spend these last 30 years with her.

Goodbye Gaylene, and have a wonderful trip. I will see you soon.

—**Jo Ann Landrum**
Retired Business
Professor

PIONEER

Vol. 35 No. 11

David Miller.....Editor
John Savage.....Staff Writer
Phillip Hemphill.....Staff Writer
Rachel Carlton.....Staff Writer
Amanda Bittle.....Staff Writer
Valerie Jobe.....Staff Writer
Scott D'Amico.....Online Editor
Mike Ferak.....Webmaster
Carrie Cronk.....Photographer
Tim Cronk.....Ad Manager
Richard Hall.....Lab Assistant
Ronna Austin.....Lab Director
Sue Hinton.....Faculty Adviser

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

All opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher.

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

Letters to the editor can be delivered to the PIONEER office, mailed to: Pioneer Editor, 7777 S. May, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73159 or faxed to (405) 682-7843.

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

The PIONEER can be accessed on the Internet at: www.occc.edu/pioneer.



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Comments and Reviews

'Double Agent' double fun

Sometimes innocent people may have to be eliminated for the big picture. That's what players can encounter with this year's new "Splinter Cell" game, "Double Agent."

Players will have to determine what is the best-case scenario as they go through the game and play both sides.

At times, players will have to maneuver their way around almost in broad daylight or their covers will be blown.

Sometimes this can be a daunting task, and players must use cover and timing a lot more to complete missions.

The graphics of the game are dazzling and the shading of the character models is well executed. Even minor details like scars on top of Sam Fisher's shaved head can be seen along with sweat. The environments are dark and have a great amount of detail added as well.

Some of the missions have players swimming underneath icy waters,



sandstorms and smoke which help cloud movements.

Settings for this game range from New York City to China to Mexico.

The campaign mode has mostly stayed the same except for some major plot twists.

This game supports online play and, this time, two more players have been added to the mix. Co-op mode allows three players to take up spy roles and battle the computer mercenaries.

Players get higher scores for completing objectives in the allotted time.

The player-versus-player mode is still included in the game and pits three spies

against three mercenaries. In "Double Agent," the spies are not allowed to use guns, and several gadgets and weaponry used by the mercenaries is nonexistent.

This helps the game by making it more balanced for both sides. In the past, players complained that the spies could do too much.

Although the change makes it a little fairer in the end, it feels like something's missing.

Overall, this is a solid game but many changes may leave some gamers scrambling for some of the older "Splinter Cell" games.

Rating: 4/5

—**John Savage**
Staff Writer

'Antoinette' lives up to name

Let them eat cake. In the new film, "Marie Antoinette," Kirsten Dunst ("Spiderman") fills Marie's famously expensive shoes.

The film is based on Antonia Fraser's biography on the infamous queen. It was written, directed and produced by Sofia Coppola ("Lost In Translation").

"Marie Antoinette" begins as the 15-year-old Austrian Archduchess Marie is married to the future king of France, Louis XVI, portrayed by Jason Schwartzman, in order to form an alliance between Austria and France.

After the ceremony, the pressure to produce an heir is placed upon young Marie's shoulders.

Despite the King and Queen's inability to rule ef-

fectively, the two actors bring sympathy and understanding to the roles.

Viewers skeptical of Dunst's ability to play the queen will be won over as Dunst portrays Marie with young innocence and the selfishness of a bored shop-a-holic and eventually, a loving and protective mother.

Schwartzman also is perfect as the oddball Louis, who, for most of the film, looks shifty and nervous.

The sets are so lush that it's hard to look away from the screen. The furniture, architecture, clothing, and lavish parties are so grand they evoke a sense of nostalgia for that time period.

Unfortunately, the settings and even the rock soundtrack don't do much

for the film's slow pacing. Although the movie is approximately two hours, it feels much longer.

What makes the film boring at times is the constant overindulgence.

There are only so many times someone can watch Dunst eat sweets, drink champagne and buy shoes.

Another letdown is the end of the movie. Although Coppola makes sure the audience knows why the French people revolt, the actual mob scenes are kept to a minimum, which was a cop out.

"Marie Antoinette" is rated PG-13 for sexual content and partial nudity and innuendo.

Rating: B-

—**Rachel Carlton**
Staff Writer

YOU asked FOR IT

Q: As an incoming new student, can I take a tour of the campus? How?

A: Tours are provided by student ambassadors through the Office of Admissions. Students can schedule tours 24 hours in advance by contacting the office at 405-682-7580. Tours are given on a walk-in basis if a student ambassador is available.

—**Lyndsie Stremlow**
Admissions Assistant

Q: Where can I sign up for intramural basketball?

A: Intramural basketball is a spring sport. The forms for just basketball are not yet out. A sign-up sheet for all intramural sports is located in the Recreation and Community Services office.

—**Eric Watson**
Community Education and Health Specialist

Q: Why do classes for the spring semester start so early, on Jan. 2?

A: The classes that begin Jan. 2 are January Intersession classes. These are two-week classes which usually last from 8 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., Monday through Friday. Regular spring classes begin January 22.

—**Craig Covey**
Ambassador in Admissions Office

Q: What is the procedure for dealing with unfair or rude professors?

A: If students feel they received an unfair grade, they can follow the grade appeal process listed in the student handbook. If students feel a professor's behavior is affecting their ability to learn, they should first talk to the professor, then to the department chair, then to the Dean of the department.

—**Susan VanSchuyver**
Dean, Division of Arts and Humanities

Q: Where can I find out about club activities?

A: Students can find club information in the Student Life office. They also can access the information through the Student Life homepage at www.occ.edu/StudentLife/Club.html.

—**Karlen Grayson**
Student Clubs and Organizations Assistant

Q: Why is there a painted bison in the Main Building?

A: Vincent Van Buffagogh is sponsored by P.B. Odom III, president of the OCC Foundation. Odom loans Vincent to various institutions around the metro and OCC will have him for one year.

—**Patricia Berryhill**
Executive Director of
Institutional Advancement

Drivers exceed campus speed limit

By Phillip Hemphill
Staff Writer

Do you know the speed limit around Faculty Circle?

Neither did one-third of the students heading to and from class one October morning.

To find out how many drivers were speeding on campus, this reporter set out with a radar gun.

Here are the results:

Faculty Circle, the street that circles the campus, has a speed limit set at 25 mph.

There are 14 speed-limit signs clearly posted in both directions on the circle, all of which say 25 mph.

Nineteen of the 29 vehicles that were clocked were driving over the speed limit.

Fourteen of the cars speeding were less than 10 mph above the limit, but five others exceeded 35 mph.

One car was going around a turn on the loop at 41 mph — 16 mph over the limit.

Not every car was speeding, though — two cars were clocked at 15 mph.

Of the 29 cars clocked, the average speed was 29 mph.



Photo Illustration by Carrie Cronk and Phillip Hemphill

The above photo illustration shows a car traveling just under the posted 25 mph speed limit on OCCC's campus.

Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director, said the speeding didn't surprise him. He said he was pleased the average speed was only four miles over the posted limit. Sloas said security officers can't

issue tickets for speeding, but they can issue citations for reckless driving, which covers speeding.

Keith Bourque, Safety and Security coordinator, said the fine for reckless driving is \$25.

Sloas said, that in addition to issuing fines, officers can be a deterrent to speeding by letting their presence be known.

In addition to fines, Sloas said, Safety and Security officers could use traffic control mechanisms to curb speeding.

"To limit the speeding we can put up more stop signs and even speed bumps," Sloas said.

He said speed limits are necessary.

"If there is an accident, Oklahoma City Police investigators can tell whether a person involved was speeding," Sloas said. "The formula used is called the drag coefficient."

Also, Sloas said, the Oklahoma City Police Department and the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department can come to the campus and assist with traffic control if OCCC requests it.

Staff Writer Phillip Hemphill can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.

Mini-metamorphosis in store for college

By David Miller
Editor

OCCC administrators are looking to students and faculty for ideas of how to improve study areas and food service options.

The college has brought in a consultant to recommend ideas which will enhance food service options as well as provide more amenities in the college union, the first floor main lobby and the courtyard.

Campus Life Concepts Consultant Manny Cunard visited the campus, Oct. 19 and 20 to review the college campus and obtain feedback from faculty and students as to what changes they would like to see be made on campus.

"I was brought in to take a real hard look at the public areas," Cunard said.

A sense of community needs to be created by en-

hancing the look and feel of the courtyard, College Union and pubic lounge areas, Cunard said.

Several ideas for the first floor of the Main Building were offered up in regards to student comfort.

OCCC student Dustin Fisher said he wants to see some comfortable chairs and couches in the Main Building.

"More comfortable furniture than what's out there now," Fisher said. "Those couches are hard as a rock."

In addition to furniture, students recommended soft lighting on the tables, plants and area rugs under the tables to create a soothing and inviting atmosphere, Cunard said.

Additional food vendors who would remain open in the evening after Carson's Market Fresh Café closes to accommodate students

was a top concern to students, he said.

Based on student's wishes, Cunard recommended placing a Starbucks-type coffee bar on the first floor of the Main Building next to the stairwell where the copiers now sit.

"Take that back wall and build Oklahoma City Community College's version of a Starbucks.

"Instead of having just the coffee, pastries and brownies, it would have Gyro sandwiches, soup and salads."

Fisher really liked the idea.

"That would be awesome," he said.

Other ideas mentioned to Cunard included more comfortable chairs and smaller, round tables in the union, arcade-style games such as air hockey, pool and foosball on the raised

area of the College Union as well as plants to improve the Union's aesthetic appearance.

Cunard's report has not yet been submitted to college administrators.

"At this point, [Cunard] is preparing his report to the college, which I have not

seen yet," said OCCC President Paul Sechrist in an e-mail.

"It is likely that we will move forward on something, but funding may provide some limits of we can do right away."

Editor David Miller can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

It's a connected world.
Do your share.

For 30 ways to help the environment, write Earth Share,
3400 International Drive, NW, Suite 2K (AD4),
Washington, DC 20008.



Earth Share

Read the Pioneer Online for Online Exclusives
www.occc.edu/pioneer

Lab helps student dissect questions

By Cheriecea Medina
News Writing Student

For students who need help understanding chemistry equations, the proper way to dissect a sheep eye or how to prepare for an upcoming science test, the Science Center is the place to go.

Located in 1C2 of the Main Building, the center helps students work on assignments, whether it is a group or individual lab, and helps students with studying.

"We allow 30 students for an independent lab, and 10 to 12 students for a group lab," biology lab Supervisor Virginia Hovda said.

The lab is open from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday and Saturday.

"Probably, on any given day, there are 100 to 150 students using the lab," physical science lab Supervisor B.J. Higgins said.

In order to use the center, a student must have a valid I.D. card and pass the required lab safety exam, which takes approximately five to ten minutes to complete, Hovda said. An instructor covers the rules either through PowerPoint or in a one-on-one lecture.

"The students can then take the exam in the Testing Center," Higgins said.

The physical science side of the lab includes chemicals and equipment for measurements,

Higgins said. The biology side uses many kinds of animals, depending on the class.

"We mainly use preserved specimens for dissection," Hovda said. "The animals were raised for that purpose. It depends on the class for what animals are used."

Hovda said some of the specimens used include sea stars, fetal pigs, sheep brain, perch and cats.

Higgins said there haven't been any injuries this semester.

"We usually have one or two a semester, maybe a cut finger or an acid spill on a hand, nothing serious," she said. "We haven't had anything serious that I know of, in close to eight years."

The Robert P. Todd Science, Engineering and Math Center, which is currently being built on the second floor of the science area, will house the labs once it is completed.

"[The new labs] should be fully functional by July 1. They will have more availability for students," Hovda said. "It will have the same hours as the lab we have now."

Two OCCC science students use the science lab's microscopes. The lab is available for students who need tutoring or hands-on experience with lab tools.

Photo by Carrie Cronk



Last day to drop without refund coming Nov. 10

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

The last day to withdraw from classes for the 16-week fall semester is Nov. 10.

Sophomore Kim McCracken, 20, said her reasons for withdrawing from a class is simple.

"Because it's hard and you're failing," McCracken said.

But Student Development Counselor Mary Turner said that may not always be what is best for the student.

She said she sees a steady flow of students when the time to withdraw from classes approaches.

"I will average three to four students a day," Turner said about the number of students inquiring about withdrawing from their courses.

Turner said a student's best option is not to immediately withdraw from a

class if they think they're in danger of failing.

"I encourage all students to speak with their professor first," Turner said.

She said this is in the best interest of a student who can recover from a class.

"They think, 'I'm OK, I'll be OK.' They really need to hear they're not OK," Turner said.

She said students who have had academic troubles in the past need to be careful of the dangers of failing another class.

"Students who are already on academic probation need to be very mindful of how they are doing," she said.

Turner said a transcript that has too many withdrawals on it can send a red flag to employers or be an issue when a student decides to transfer.

However, she said, a single withdrawal isn't something that will have a

huge negative impact upon the student.

"A single F, a single D or a single W doesn't impact [your grade] as much," Turner said.

Withdrawing from a class isn't the only option a stu-

dent has if they're not performing well.

She said a student can audit the class instead of taking a withdraw.

Turner said this option allows students to still get the information from the

class without getting graded on their performance.

Refunds are not available for withdrawing from 16-week courses.

Staff Writer Scott D'Amico can be reached at OnlineEditor@occc.edu.

Group learns ABCs with hands

By Kyearra Wyont
News Writing Student

A group of eight people learned the basics of sign language from a certified instructor Oct. 23.

The instructor was Tammy Earl, OCCC Interpreting Services coordinator and nationally certified interpreter for the hearing impaired.

Earl said she was enthusiastic about the small group because it allowed her more one-on-one interaction.

Picking up the basics enough to hold a conversation with someone takes a little more than a month, Earl said.

"With six to eight weeks of practice, you could hold a conversation with someone who is hearing impaired," she said.

Although 30 percent of spoken language can be seen in the mouth, many of the hearing impaired are unable to read lips,

Earl said.

"The number one thing to remember," she said, "[is] lip reading is not automatic."

The participants were provided with a booklet on how to sign the alphabet, numbers, and everyday questions and answers.

Earl also taught the group how to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired if sign language doesn't work.

"[The hearing impaired] are not offended by being asked to please write it out."

The seminar was concluded with a reminder to practice what was in the handout. Earl encouraged the audience to get acquainted with someone who is hearing impaired.

OCCC Psychology Professor Trish Bilcik attended the seminar and said the seminar was informative.

"Signing is another language to us," Bilcik said. "The seminar taught about another culture and was very informative."

Nursing program adds another to staff

By John Donat
News Writing Student

OCCC graduate and registered nurse Kay Wetmore made her debut as a full-time nursing professor on campus this semester.

Wetmore, who received her associate degree in nursing at OCCC, said her main reason for returning to the college was because she loves the nursing program.

"The administration is aggressive toward expanding the college programs and projects," Wetmore said.

She said she wants to help the program expand by teaching students from her experiences.

Wetmore said she plans to bring a fresh prospective and a bright attitude to OCCC's nursing program.

Her personality and strong desire to teach will help her with that, she said.

Wetmore received her bachelor's degree at Oklahoma City University and currently is working toward her master's degree.

During her time as a professor at OCCC, Wetmore said, she hopes to learn from senior members of the nursing program.

"It's a new world for me," she said.

In that new world, Wetmore said, she knows someone she can count on — her sister Robin McMurry



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Nursing Professor Kay Wetmore stands next to a medical dummy. Wetmore graduated from OCCC with her associate in nursing, and from Oklahoma City University with a bachelor's in nursing.

also is a nursing faculty member who began this semester.

Both worked together as children for their family's business.

"My family has always been a tight-knit, massive unit," Wetmore

said.

Before returning to OCCC, Wetmore taught at the Moore Norman Technology Center and the University of Central Oklahoma.

Wetmore was an adjunct nursing instructor at OCCC for about a year and a half before she came on full time.

In her free time, Wetmore said, she enjoys photography.

OCCC graduate joins professor ranks

By John Donat
News Writing Student

Professor Robin McMurry is a registered nurse who became a full-time nursing faculty member at OCCC this semester.

Though she is a new professor, she is not an outsider to OCCC — she received her first degree in psychology at the college in 1993.

After graduating, she returned four years later and earned her associate degree in nursing, then transferred to the University of Oklahoma where she received a bachelor's degree in nursing.

From there, she earned her master's degree at Southern Nazarene University.

While attending OU and SNU, McMurry worked at the OU Medical Center as a staff nurse, supervisor and manager.

As a manager, she was in charge of 280 staff members.

McMurry has a sister, Kay Wetmore, who has been in the same career field most of her life and also works at OCCC.

"As young adults, we worked together in our family business," she said.

"And, ever since, [my sister and I] have worked well together in close proximity."

One goal McMurry hopes to achieve while at OCCC is giving information to the students in order to keep some of them from making the mistakes she has seen during her career.

Simply put, she said, she wants to keep nurses from being sued.

McMurry said she knows how to do this because she has administration experience as a certified legal nurse consultant.

Besides working at OCCC, McMurry is a faculty member at the Moore Norman Technology Center and is on the childhood obesity panel.

McMurry said she loves teaching and is looking forward to working with students.

Robin McMurry, a nursing professor who began this semester, received her associate degree in nursing at OCCC. She has a sister, Kay Wetmore, who also was recently hired on as a nursing professor at OCCC. McMurry said she and her sister often have worked in close proximity to one another.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Love of martial art leads to teaching

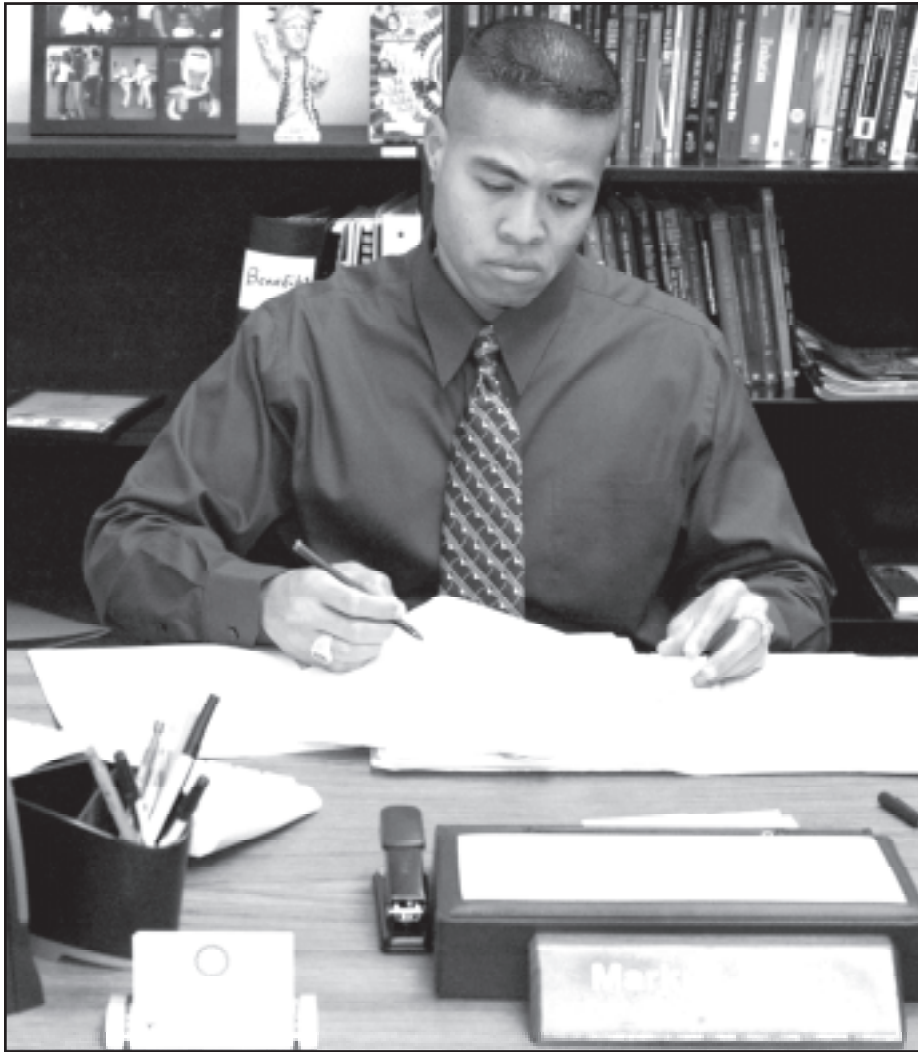


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Political Science Professor Markus Smith found his love for teaching while instructing a martial arts class.

By C. Jan Thomas
News Writing Student

Political Science Professor Markus Smith said his first career goal was to become an attorney. However, his passion for the art of Tae Kwon Do led him to rethink his plans.

At the age of 24, Smith began to learn the Korean martial art. Three years later he was so advanced, he began to teach the Korean art part time.

"I got a lot of positive feedback from parents and students," Smith said. "I feel that it is natural for me to teach."

That kicked off Smith's teaching career.

Smith began teaching college courses as an adjunct professor and now, teaches full-time.

Smith said his passion for political science and his love for teaching are why he decided to become a professor.

Josh Miller, a premed student at OCCC, said he feels Smith is an asset to the college. Miller said Smith's class is challenging.

"He is trying to get us ready for a four-year university," Miller said.

Smith attended Southeast High School and went on to receive his associate degree from OCCC in May 2001.

Smith then transferred to the University of Central Oklahoma where he received both his bachelor's and master's degrees.

"My goal was to eventually come back to the community college and give back."

Smith said he wants to give back to the college that gave so much to him.

"I know that I would not have been as successful at UCO or at the University of Oklahoma and accomplish the things that I have done had it not been for the foundation that was set up for me at the community college first," Smith said.

Smith currently is in graduate school at OU and said he has hopes to finish his doctorate in December 2007.

Smith still teaches Tae Kwon Do and currently performs service in the U.S.A. Tae Kwon Do organization, which promotes the growth of the sport.

Pediatric nurse finds new home with college faculty

By Lauren Border
News Writing Student

OCCC has added another faculty member to its roster this semester — nursing Professor Mary Holter.

Holter has worked in pediatrics, which involves the care of sick children, throughout her career. In addition, she has 23 years of experience working for the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

Before joining OCCC full-time, Holter worked as a clinical adjunct professor, which is a nurse who works in the clinical arena, not in a classroom. She worked for the University of Oklahoma and for Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva.

Most recently, Holter was a full-time faculty member at Salt Lake Community

College in Utah. Holter spent the last four years teaching at Salt Lake Community College but decided to move back to Oklahoma to be closer to family and friends.

"We moved to Utah for the mountains and moved back for the grandbabies," she said.

Holter said her first experience with nursing was in grade school when she met a public health nurse who had come to her school to give student immunization shots.

Holter said she looked up to the nurse and thought she might want to be a nurse when she grew up.

Years later, during her senior year of high school, Holter ran into that same public health nurse and decided she wanted to study for a career in nursing.

ing.

Holter currently teaches Nursing Process 3, which includes psychiatric nursing as well as medical/surgical nursing and pediatric care.

Nursing Process 3 is the third of the four levels in the nursing program.

Nursing Process 3 student and president of the Nursing Student Association Steven Braudway said he is excited to have Holter as a professor.

"Mary Holter is very personable, intelligent and knowledgeable," Braudway said. "Her class is challenging but extremely rewarding."

Holter said she enjoys working at OCCC and said she has found her colleagues to be supportive, interesting and professional.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Mary Holter, one of OCCC's newest nursing professors, was once involved in the pediatrics field, which involves the care of sick children.

Students learn by observing children

By Laurie Ghigliotti
News Writing Student

I spy with my little eye a student who seems a tad too tall and a bit too old for the preschool class at the Child Development Center and Lab School.

The center not only provides a nationally-accredited learning environment for infants and children — it also is a working lab for child development majors at OCCC.

The lab school offers child development majors an opportunity to observe and have hands-on experience working with children, said Child Development Professor Cecilia Pittman.

According to the OCCC course catalog, students enrolled in certain child development courses are required to spend time at the center.

Some classes require that students observe children and teachers, while other courses require students to have hands-on experience with the children, Pittman said.

“We have these students develop curriculum and activities, and implement the curriculum with the kids [at the center],” she said.

This field work can be done off-campus, but the campus lab school is preferred, she said.

“It is a high-quality center that follows developmentally-appropriate practices,” Pittman said.

The Child Development Center and Lab School is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Although the primary purpose of the lab school is to function as a lab for child development majors, the children always come first, said



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Child Development Sophomore Jacqueline Penick reads to the children in the Child Development Center and Lab School's Preschool A class during group time on Oct. 25. Students are encouraged to do required observations and field work in the lab school.

Lee Ann Nurdin, lab supervisor.

The program philosophy is to “provide an atmosphere for children which treats each child with respect and dignity,” according to the center’s brochure.

“Full-time teachers are required to hold a degree in early childhood,” as stated in the brochure.

Delilah Juares, 20, is enrolled in Introduction to Early Childhood Education.

Juares said she is required to spend 14 hours as an observer at the center.

Juares said she enjoys the child development program at OCCC.

“It’s awesome to see the children and how they interact with other children,” Juares said. “Also, observing has really opened my eyes to see things that I wouldn’t have noticed before.”

What has impressed Juares most

is how the teachers let the children be independent.

Juares’ experience in the CDCLS has been a positive one.

“I have learned that there are many more appropriate ways to handle situations with children,” she said.

Juares said the lab school would be a factor in why she would recommend the child development programs at OCCC.

Cheaters in Testing Center take big risks

By Christopher Scott
News Writing Student

“Thank you, sir. I need that test.”

These are words no test taker wants to hear because they indicate a test monitor in the Testing Center has spotted something amiss.

“There is no room for cheaters here,” said Jim Ellis, OCCC Testing Center director. Ellis said about 20 people a semester get caught cheating on an exam.

Ellis said no particular groups

or types of students cheat any more than others. All departments of the school have had cheaters in the Testing Center.

Mitchell Gosey, a freshman in the nursing program, said he has never cheated in college and doesn’t know of anyone who has.

“It’s not worth it,” he said.

Students asked about cheating said no degree program is important enough to warrant cheating on a test.

“No one should cheat, no matter what degree you are getting,” dentistry major Mahla Mohsencadeh

said.

“If you cheat now, you might get stuck later.”

Many students said they believe they would be the ones who were getting cheated if someone in the same class decided to cheat.

Professors who expressed their views on cheating said that when students get caught cheating on one of their tests, they would be wise to withdraw.

Professors said they would give cheaters the harshest penalties allowed.

The Testing Center has computer

monitors overlooking students taking tests, Ellis said.

Ellis also has audio speakers in his office that allow him to hear every noise in the testing room, from noisy coughs to the slight rustling of paper.

Though these electronic devices catch people cheating, the human eye works best, Ellis said. When the camera or audio doesn’t detect something, real people can see sneakiness.

For instance, that trick with the answers on your hat probably isn’t going to work.

College Union shares worldly ideas

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

A demonstration on Chinese culture and characters, a presentation on Nepal and a lesson on the global economy are just a few of the learning opportunities being offered at OCCC during International Education Week in November, said Jon Horinek, Student Life coordinator.

OCCC will celebrate International Education Week Nov. 6 through 10.

Planned activities include presentations by OCCC faculty members as well as tentatively scheduled appearances by outside performers, he said.

The International Student Association also has tentative plans for

an international food booth, said club sponsor Haifeng Ji, computer science professor.

Ji will present a lesson on Chinese culture and characters Nov. 6 at noon in room CU1, he said.

Business and Economics Professor Gyanendra Baral said he will speak on various aspects of Nepal on Nov. 8. Baral's presentation is scheduled for 2 p.m. in room CU2.

"I will introduce Nepal and show pictures that show the economy and lifestyle, the topography and the culture of Nepal," he said.

Vijayan Ramachandran, business professor, will give a presentation on the global economy at 12:30 p.m., Nov. 9, in CU2, Horinek said.

Performances of arts and music from Japan, Scotland and Africa

are planned but have not been confirmed, he said.

International Education Week is co-sponsored by the U.S. Departments of Education and State, according to www.iew.state.gov.

Though IEW is officially observed the week of Nov. 13, Horinek said, OCCC is celebrating the event one week early due to considerations of time and space.

"We don't like to schedule events the week before Thanksgiving," he said.

The goal of IEW is to promote academic exchange between the United States and other nations, according to the website.

The theme for IEW 2006 is "International Education: Engaging in Global Partnerships and Opportunities."

In a press release published on the site, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings stressed the increasing importance of education in the developing global economy.

"More than ever, success in the world depends on what you know, not where you live," she said.

"Technology has illustrated the importance of foreign languages in communicating and forming partnerships with citizens from other cultures and countries."

For more information, contact Horinek at 405-682-1611, ext 7697.

Students can also find more information or test their global trivia knowledge at www.iew.state.gov.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Former professor directing on a higher level

By Blake Barber
News Writing Student

One of the newest additions to OCCC's administrative ranks is Ruth Charnay.

She has assumed the responsibilities of Communication and the Arts department chair.

Charnay is new to her position, but not to OCCC.

She served as a theater professor for five years. Charnay said the transition from faculty to administrator has been smooth.

"I love it," she said.

She does admit that she misses the student interaction, acting classes and play directing, but she views her new position as direct-

ing on another level.

She said she hopes to improve the department and further the development of local fine arts awareness.

She believes a lot of students would attend more fine arts events if they were better informed.

Charnay has been succeeded by Theater Professor Brent Noel, who said he is happy to have her on staff.

"Ruth still being here has been a very valuable assistance," Noel said.

Arts and Humanities Dean Susan VanSchuyver said the reason she selected Charnay for the job was the fact that she has a lot of experience in similar fields.

Charnay served as the Curriculum Chair at OCCC and did an excellent job, VanSchuyver said.

Charnay received her bachelor's degree in speech and theater, and her master's degree in theater from Oklahoma City University.

She is currently working on her doctorate from Texas Tech University.

Charnay said she would like to develop an arts calendar.

She said students could be more informed and aware of arts events happening at OCCC.

Charnay thinks that this could be beneficial to keep others informed, not only to the students but also to the surrounding community.



Ruth Charnay

Brown Bag goes cyber, knocking out spyware

By Kyle Davis
News Writing Student

A Brown Bag Lunch on computer safety will be held noon Wednesday, Nov. 1.

The seminar will cover the ways to keep computers safe from spyware.

Spyware is a broad category of software designed to intercept or take partial control of a computer's operation without the informed consent of that machine's owner or legitimate user, according to Wikipedia.

Brett Weber, Computer Science professor and cyber security pro-

gram coordinator, said students should be cautious about their Internet habits.

"Be careful what you download," Weber said. "The websites can carry various spyware programs."

Weber said spyware is often bundled with free downloads.

He said there are various computer programs that can remove unwanted spyware.

Spybot and Adaware are two programs that get rid of spyware and adware, he said. Both of these programs are free to the public.

The Brown Bag Lunch will cover more safety tips on spyware.

Weber or Computer Science Pro-

"Be careful what you download." The websites that are not trusted can carry various spyware programs.

—Brett Weber

Computer Science Professor

fessor, Albert Heitkamper will speak at the luncheon.

There also will be a giveaway for a fingerprint scanner. It scans your finger for security, and eliminates the need for several passwords

Weber said.

For more information on cyber security, contact Weber at 405-682-1611, ext. 7166, or Heitkamper at 405-682-1611, ext. 7494.

•It pays to advertise in the Pioneer, call the adman at 405-682-1611, ext. 7407•

Student Life gears up to build home

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

Another year, another house needs to be built. The Office of Student Life is gearing up for another Habitat for Humanity Service Saturday on Nov. 4.

These service projects are for any student who wants to help the community by painting, landscaping, and framing a new house.

"Habitat for Humanity is a neat service opportunity that allows students to work hands on and see the work that they have done at the end of the day," said Jon Horinek, Student Life Programs coordinator.

Students do not have to belong to a club or organization to attend.

The college also has developed a new way to sign up this year.

A volunteer board online at www.occc.edu/volunteer exists for interested people to register for the Service Saturdays.

"You used to have to call to sign up and names were getting lost," Horinek said.

At least two OCCC employees accompany the students on these trips. In the past, a few professors have signed up to join students.

Attendees will meet on campus around 8 a.m.

"I will most likely continue to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity ..."

—Jacqueline Edwards
Nursing Student

Student Life provides lunch for volunteers and the project normally lasts for six hours.

Nursing student Jacqueline Edwards is on her third volunteer service project.

"It is such a great organization and I'm glad the school participates in this," Edwards said. "I will most likely continue to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity after I graduate this year."

Service Saturdays have been an ongoing project for the college since spring 2005. Opportunities to participate in other projects can be found on the bulletin board across from the Office of Student Life.

Staff Writer Valerie Jobe can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Students paint a house for Habitat for Humanity during a Service Saturday last semester.

File photo



Thank-you note can be key to getting new job

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

If you have recently had an interview for a job, then you might ask yourself what is your next move?

In less than 25 minutes, the Career Builders Workshop will teach students how to write a post interview thank-you note on Nov. 1 in room 1F6.

The etiquette of thanking those who conduct the interviewing process is an important part of finding a job, said Laura Choppy, Employment Services coordinator.

"It basically thanks the interviewer for giving their time," Choppy said. "It keeps your name fresh in their minds, and sets you apart from the crowd because most people don't write thank-you notes."

Debra Vaughn, career specialist, and Choppy take turns putting the workshops together.

Choppy coordinates the seminars that deal primarily with employment such

as résumés, interviews, and thank-you notes. Vaughn handles the workshops that deal with the balancing act that can occur with a job and school as well as seminars about finding the right job.

Attendees can look forward to Choppy being very candid and open about finding a job.

"I normally hand out checklists and my business cards," Choppy said. "I tell people they are free to stop by, make an appointment, or call if they have any questions or need to talk."

"I love it when people stop in."

Another aspect Choppy brings to the workshop is her own job-hunting experience.

"Less than six months ago I was looking for a job, so I know how difficult and stressful it can be," Choppy said.

Career Builders Workshops are designed for anyone wanting to find a job, no matter the field.

"These seminars are to help people with the foundational ground work for finding a job, and we have broken them up into a bunch of shorter sessions

that walk people through the process. What we talk about is very generic and can be applied to any job."

For questions or comments about the work-

shops or other related topics, contact Choppy at 682-1611, ext. 7369.

Staff Writer Valerie Jobe can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Graduation applications still being accepted until last day of class

By Chelsea Moore
News Writing Student

Though the official deadline for graduation application has passed, the opportunity to apply has not.

Students with enough credit hours to graduate this fall can apply and have the opportunity to graduate on time.

Barbara Gowdy, OCCC credentials analyst, said the graduation office accepts graduation applications until the very last day of finals, Dec. 16.

"It's never too late," Gowdy said. "We'll work with you."

With the rush of students applying, the staff does

what they can to help every student graduate on time, Gowdy said.

"Students are encouraged to apply as early as possible," she said.

Students hoping to complete degrees in the health programs have more at stake regarding the timeliness of their graduation application.

"They need their degree if they want to continue their education at another school," Gowdy said.

Not applying now could hinder their being accepted into other medical schools.

"I encourage students to apply the semester before," Gowdy said.

She said this lets the student get information back from the graduation office explaining what the student needs to do to graduate, whether it be approval from faculty advisers or taking the right classes in order to obtain a degree.

"[The staff] can't assume that if you have enough hours, you want to graduate," Gowdy said.

Once an application is turned in, it takes approximately two to four weeks for the feedback to return to the student.

Applications can be found in the Graduation Office. They also are available online at www.occc.edu.

Fender benders, computer pornography reported

By Phillip Hemphill
Staff Writer

Slow is how Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director described a week in which three events took place — two accidents and an incident of computer misuse.

A hit-and-run accident was reported at 3:36 p.m., Oct. 18, in parking lot C, on the northwest part of campus.

The front bumper of a 1998 Lexus ES300 was hit.

Sloas said all Safety and Security officers could do was file a report for insurance purposes, since there were no witnesses to the accident.

A case of computer misuse was reported at 9:30

p.m., Oct. 19, in the library.

Two men, identified as William Crowe and Robert Ratliff, were reported by library staff to be looking at pornography.

After their personal information was taken, Sloas said, the men were released. It was discovered later that Crowe had an active warrant for drug possession.

"Looking at obscene material is in violation of policy 3058," Sloas said. "If they were students, we would have filed a student conduct violation."

Sloas said, had security

officers known beforehand of the warrant against Crowe, Oklahoma City Police also would have been notified.

The final incident of the week was reported at 10:08 a.m., Oct. 23, at the intersection of Faculty Circle and Regents Blvd.

According to the report, a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado was rear ended by a 1992 Ford Explorer.

Greg Dudley, who was in the Silverado, said only minor damage was done to the rear bumper.

"Putting in a CD, eating or using a cell phone are not a good idea to do while driving."

—Ike Sloas

OCCC Safety and Security Director

In the report, the driver of the Ford stated she was trying to use her phone when her foot slipped.

Sloas said accidents can be prevented if drivers will limit distractions.

"Putting in a CD, eating or using a cell phone are not a good idea to do while driving," Sloas said.

Staff Writer Phillip Hemphill can be reached at Senior Writer@occc.edu.

**SAVE TIME!
FAX YOUR AD!
405-682-7843**

**It Pays to
advertise in the
Pioneer!
Call Tim at
405-682-1611,
ext. 7674**

CRAFT SHOW

NOV. 4th & 5th
Sat. 9-4, Sun. 12-5
St. James School Gym
S.W. 41st & McKinley
(behind S.W. Medical Ctr.)
Homemade Gifts, Indian Tacos,
Corn Husk Angels, Jewelry,
Candles, Crochet, Baby Bows,
Holiday Decorations, Quilts,
Salsa, Wreaths and much more!
Limited booth space available
Call 636-6830

**NEW DONORS EARN \$40 TODAY!
\$80 THIS WEEK!**

DONATE PLASMA

AND SAVE LIVES!

ZLB Plasma Services

Good for You. Great for Life. www.zlbplasma.com

716 NW 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73103

405.521.9204

Walk-Ins Welcome

OCCC Career and Employment Services



OKLAHOMA CITY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Disney

INTERNSHIP INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Wednesday, November 1

6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

College Union CU3

Refreshments Provided

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**Oct. 27 - 31:** OCCC Punt, Pass and Kick Challenge will be back this fall. Contestants will test their skills in each of three following categories: Pass: complete four target passes in 10 yards, 15 yards, 20 yards and 30 yards. Punt: complete two punts: 1 distance kick and one timed kick. Kick: contestants complete two field goal tries from 20 yards and 40 yards. Challenge date is Thursday, Nov. 9. Sign-up sheets for the event can be found at the Wellness Center. For more information, call 405-682-7860.

•**Oct. 22 - Nov. 9:** OCCC Youth Basketball League will tip off its season of non-competitive basketball for boys and girls, ages 5- to 12-years-old. The season starts Dec. 2. Registration ends Nov. 9. Each team will play eight games. The season ends Feb. 17. The cost for this league is \$60. For more information, contact Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or visit www.occrcs.edu.

•**Oct. 23 - 28:** Dive Oklahoma will host the Fall Invitational starting at 8:30 a.m., Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 4 and 5. Entries are due Oct. 28 and participants can apply online for dive entry. There will be a \$15 late fee per diving sheet for entries after Oct. 28. No charge for dive sheet changes up to one hour before the event. All events cost \$65 or divers can pay \$25 to dive in one event. For more information, contact Meet Director Mark Butcher at 405-821-4674, or go to www.dive-oklahoma.com.

•**Nov. 11:** Jaguar High School Swimming and Diving Invitational will be hosted at OCCC from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 11, in the Aquatic Center. More than 250 swimmers will compete in this event. For more information, contact Roxanna Butler at 405-682-1611, ext 7425.

For more information, visit www.occrcs.edu.

Soccer team looks to bounce back

By John Savage
Staff Writer

The club soccer team has been on a two-week layoff but is gearing up for more action on Nov. 4.

OCCC planned to host the Oklahoma State University Soccer Club but a change of plans might be in order. OCCC's soccer field may not be game-ready, said Coach K.B. Yeboah.

Because of that, Yeboah said, he is hopeful Rose State College will agree to host the final game.

OCCC has played at Rose State at least twice this year.

Practice this semester has been from 4:30 to 7 p.m., four days a week, across the street from the Child Development Center and Lab School, but with the lack of players present at practice [team practices] have been called off.

Yeboah said he is at a loss as to why the soccer players aren't attending practice.

"Typically, we have a small number of players who make it to the practices every day, and the numbers usually average between six to eight players," Yeboah said.

The game is played with 11 members of each team on the field.

Players who have been attending have worked on their stamina, a problem that has plagued this year's club.

It's never too soon to look to spring's games, Yeboah said. He believes many of the current players will join the team in the spring.

OCCC is too far out of the standings for the playoffs but still has a chance to pull out a win in the next game.

Yeboah said, part of the problem this season was poor execution. The team never "jelled," he said, meaning they never played together and, as a result, had issues on the field.

"We have no chemistry," Yeboah said.

Some players think communication has been a problem this season.

Team member Bianca Lopez said, "I think all of us need to get together and set one day of the week [for practice]."

She said this season was fun even though OCCC was handed some bad losses.

She looks forward to playing next



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Daniel "Ireland" Cory is shown practicing on the field located east of the Child Development Center and Lab School. So far, the OCCC soccer team has won one and lost four. The next game is scheduled to be played Nov. 4 and the location has not been confirmed at this time.

year and encouraging more of her friends to participate.

Yeboah said only four teams in the conference will make it to the regional tournament hosted by OSU.

The official ending of the season

is Nov. 18, but could change if there are make-up games. He said the games will be played unless the weather interferes but that call is decided by the officials.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at StaffWriter2@occrcs.edu.

OCCC Wellness Center Fitness Classes

Combo aerobics	\$30
Yoga.....	\$20
Tai-Chi.....	\$20
Body Sculpting.....	\$20
Pilates.....	\$20
Core.....	\$20
Get On the Ball.....	\$20
Kickboxing Boot Camp.....	\$50
American Karate.....	\$50

Prices shown are for current OCCC students.
New classes start each month. Several are offered in the mornings.
Most classes are 30 minutes.
For more information, or to enroll, contact the
Recreation and Community Services office at 405-682-7860.

Program mixes high school and college

By Michael Bullock
News Writing Student

High school students don't have to graduate before they can take college classes.

With concurrent enrollment, students can earn college credits during their junior and senior years of high school, said Carol Worth, assistant principal of Capitol Hill High School.

Concurrent enrollment has students taking some college courses at OCCC, as well as other area colleges, while still in high school.

Participating students can take college-level courses such as math, English

and government. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average for seniors or earn a composite score of 19 on the ACT.

The program began at Capitol Hill High school then expanded to Northeast Academy, in the Oklahoma City Public School system.

Brian Staples, Northeast Academy principal, said he first introduced the program at Capitol Hill, before he moved to Northeast Academy.

Concurrent college enrollment was slow to start with just a small number of students participating, but it quickly caught on.

There are now more than

100 high school seniors between the two schools.

Northeast Academy will graduate 85 high school seniors with college credits, Staples said.

Worth said she hopes to graduate 12 seniors with college credits from the program at Capitol Hill High School. She said she receives strong support from the parents for the program.

Capitol Hill has one room dedicated to college classes, said J.P. Johnson, director of Early College Awareness. Currently, she said, 13 OCCC professors alternate between Northeast and Capitol Hill.

Johnson said Southeast, Grant, and Santa Fe South high schools are the latest Oklahoma City schools to join the concurrent college enrollment program.

Some students will continue to finish their degrees at OCCC while some will attend a university, Johnson said.

She said she would like to see college graduation results comparing concurrent enrollment students who went on to attend a university after high school graduation versus those who attend a community college following graduation.

Staples said a number of

sources are available for students needing help paying for college after high school.

They include the Clara Luper scholarship, Gates Millennium scholarship, federal financial aid, and the OKC-Go program, at OCCC, which gives 12 hours of free tuition to Oklahoma City public school graduates.

High school juniors wishing to take college classes must have a 3.5 GPA along with at least a 21 ACT score, Johnson said.

For more information, contact Johnson at 405-682-7533 or jpjohnson@occc.edu.

Speaker says government, religion meant to be separate

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

Americans are seeing an erosion of the separation between government and religion, said Jim Huff, executive secretary for the Oklahoma chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Huff, who identified himself as Baptist, spoke Oct. 18 at a meeting hosted by the College Democrats.

His topic was separation of church and state.

"I think we have had well over 200 years of peaceful existence because (different religious groups) felt they were being equally treated under the law, because of the First Amendment," Huff told the approximately 20 students, faculty and community members attending the presentation.

"Now that we're giving tax dollars to certain faith groups, other groups are saying, 'Wait a minute, they're getting dollars and we're not, and we're doing the same things.'"

Huff said he believes the current atmosphere in Oklahoma is not supportive of separation of church and state.

"It's almost become a four-letter word," he said.

Huff addressed the argument that the words "separation of church and state" are not found in the constitution by encouraging analysis of documents left by the founding fathers.

He provided several handouts containing excerpts from these documents.

One handout contained the 27 "facts" cited by America's founding fathers as reasons for separating from Great Britain.

Huff challenged the audi-

ence to find evidence in the document that America's founders intended to base their laws on the Christian Bible.

Huff also provided and analyzed parts of the Declaration of Independence. He said he considered the reasons cited for independence to be secular, but invited listeners to dissect the document themselves.

Emergency Medical Sciences sophomore Rodney Johnson, 41, said he attended the presentation af-

ter he saw a flier posted on the club board.

"... I thought it was an interesting subject," he said. "I learned a lot."

Kitti Asberry, Oklahoma County Democratic Party Chair, and College Democrats of Oklahoma President James Henson also attended.

Asberry said she enjoyed the presentation, although it was not the first time she'd heard Huff speak.

Huff said more information on the topic can be

found at www.auok.org.

Club President Elizabeth Aven said College Democrats will next host a speaker from the American Civil Liberties Union at 1 p.m., Monday, Oct. 30, in room 2P7 of the Main Building.

The club also will hold a bake sale Nov. 1 and 2 to raise money for body armor for U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

IN IT FOR SPRING AT O-TRIPLE-C



Are you in it for Spring?
Get in it with classes any time you want them...

January Intersession
Fast Track
Early 8-week
Late 8-week
16-week
Online Courses
Telecourses

Did you know...
Students who stay in it to earn their associate degree earn nearly \$500,000 more during their working life than students who don't. It pays to stay!



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

7777 SOUTH MAY AVENUE • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73159 • 405.682.7580 • www.occc.edu

ENROLL NOW!
CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 22

Highlights

Bake sale for body armor

A bake sale held by the College Democrats to donate money to Bake Sales for Body Armor will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 1, and Thursday, Nov. 2, in the Main Building. Bake Sales for Body Armor buys body armor for troops overseas.

Ethics discussion for business students

Chris Howard will speak on the topic "Somewhere between Black and White: Ethical Boundaries in a Boundary-less World" to business students from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 2, in room CU3. For more information contact Professor Ron Summers at 405-682-1611, ext. 7333.

Tours of Oklahoma City Museum of Art

Two tours of the Oklahoma City Museum of Art will be directed by Richard Rouillard at 6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 2, and the second one at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 9. The tours are expected to take two-and-a-half hours. During both tours, Rouillard will address how artifacts on display reflect the Phi Theta Kappa honors study topic, "Gold, Gods and Glory: The Global Dynamics of Power." Transportation will be provided. Students interested in attending can sign up in Student Life.

Womens fall clothing drive

The Psychology and Sociology Club Young Women's Christian Association Fall Women's Clothing Drive will be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday, Nov. 6, through Saturday, Nov. 11. Boxes for donations will be located throughout campus. For more information, contact Laurie Thornton, club president, at 405-606-3952.

A message of peace from Rwanda

Former head of the Rwanda Parliament Joseph Sebarenzi will present a message of peace at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9, in room CU3. Sebarenzi is the second speaker in the lecture series Campus Voices, held by Student Life.

Advocates of Peace November plans

The Advocates of Peace Club will take part in a fall peace festival on Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Downtown Civic Center. The club will host a movie night Wednesday, Nov. 29. The film is "Why We Fight." For more information contact Steve Morrow, club sponsor, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7350.

Schedules needed for military benefits

Prior active duty military and dependents who plan to receive educational benefits for the spring need to bring their schedule by the VA office (across from Financial Aid) to ensure they get paid on time. For more information, contact the office at 405-682-1611, ext. 7695.

Win an iPod

OCCC is participating in a national survey of media preferences. The 15 to 25 minute anonymous online survey asks students about media preference and participants can register to win an iPod. Students can find more information in posters located throughout campus.

Production team needed

A production team is needed to help organize a production of "The Vagina Monologues." The production is set for March 2. Men and women are needed to raise money, advertise and organize the benefit performance. For more information, e-mail Elizabeth Shultz at bibba@po.occc.edu.

Sweet tooth



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Betty Lopez and Fatemeh Taghavi, members of Computer Aided Design Society, sell popcorn balls and caramel apples for a club fundraiser in the Main Building. The club held the fundraiser for two days to raise money for a trip to Siggraph Computer Convention to learn about new technologies.

Club raises money for troops armor

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

Community members with penchants for sweets can indulge their senses while supporting U.S. troops overseas on Nov. 1 and 2.

OCCC College Democrats will host a bake sale to purchase body armor both days from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Main Building, said club president Elizabeth Aven.

Bake Sales for Body Armor is a national movement that raises money to purchase body armor for overseas troops, Aven said.

She said many soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan lack side and deltoid plates for their body armor.

"There are men and women over [in Iraq and

Afghanistan] who are fighting for us, and they don't have what they need," Aven said.

"Whether or not you support the war, you should care that these people (need our help)."

A Montana woman whose husband is stationed in Iraq with the U.S. Army and an Iraq war veteran from Virginia founded the project, Aven said.

The Nov. 1 and 2 sale will feature both homemade baked goods and buttons, Aven said.

The project has raised almost \$13,000 nationwide, according to www.bakesal-esforbodyarmor.com.

Twenty-five armor sets have been purchased, and 18 soldiers have received various other items such as medical supplies and com-

munications gear.

"We're not going out there to promote our club or the Democratic party," Aven said.

"We're not saying anything about the war. It's about [the soldiers], and it's about saving lives."

If people wish to support the cause but are unable to attend the sale, Aven said, donations can be made though club sponsor Dana Tuley-Williams, systems librarian.

Checks payable to Bake Sales for Body Armor can be sent to:

Dana Tuley-Williams, systems librarian, College Democrats sponsor, 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73159.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all currently enrolled OCCC 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. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or fax 405-682-7843.

ANIMALS

FOR SALE: Schnoodle puppies. 3 male, 3 female, both parents registered. Schnoodles are Schnauzer and Poodle, beautiful puppies, do not shed. Call Michelle or Gayle at 527-9004 or 527-7497, cell 659-8447.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: 3 yr. old female long-haired black and orange calico cat. She is fixed, very sweet, needs to be by herself, no other pets. I'm moving. Call Priscilla 412-2521 or 949-5518.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '06 Dodge Ram 1500 LoneStar ed. 22k miles, power all, loaded. For pics or more info, kati.e.henry@occc.edu.

FOR SALE: '04 Chevy Cavalier, 52,000 miles, lots of extras, very clean, excellent condition, warranty included. \$9,950. Call Daniel: 590-2795.

FOR SALE: '03 Chevrolet Avalanche, V8 engine. XM radio, CD player, On-Star programmed, built-in telephone. Leather interior and 4 heated seats. Moonroof, chrome wheels, dual exhaust, privacy windows. Like new, garage parked. \$17,900. Please call 691-1261 or 830-5589 for more info.

FOR SALE: '99 Dodge Ram 1500. 4 WD, ext. cab, 148K mi., red, 5.9L. \$10,000 OBO. Call 405-521-7272 or e-mail relmore@po.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: '99 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited. Gold color, 4-D, 4-WD, Infinity 10-CD Premium sound system, 120,000 miles, 17-18 MPG city, 20-22 MPG highway, leather interior, moonroof, tinted windows, garage kept, excellent condition. Not moving, must sell. \$8,200. Call 329-6731.

FOR SALE: '95 Sportage Jeep 4x4. Nice car, manual tran., low miles, fully-tinted windows, very good condition. Asking \$3,100. 405-408-2828.

FOR SALE: '94 Ford Taurus. 155k, sable, clean, great car. Asking \$2100. Please e-mail hayemargo@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: '92 Toyota Camry. 4-dr. sedan, 2.2L V6 standard trans., 182,333 miles, a/c, trailer

hitch. Call 405-361-4453.

FOR SALE: '90 Dodge Caravan. Cold AC, runs good, gets 22 mpg. \$1,200 OBO. Contact 527-9468 or traatj@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: '87 Camaro IROC Z28. 355 small block, 350 hp, 650 holley, 350 turbo transmission, 2500 stall converter, B&M starshifter, 5" tack with shiftlight, ceramic coated headers, HEI distributor and more. In order for car to be ready for the street it could use a few mufflers. This car is really fast but could use some cleaning up. \$5,000 OBO. E-mail me trantor1000tt@yahoo.com.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: Barely-used Dell laptop. Great for students. E-mail hayemargo@hotmail.com for specs.

FOR SALE: GREAT DEAL! Brand new 1,000-watt Phillips Home Theater System. Comes with four speakers, subwoofer and multi-format/multi-system DVD. Plays everything. Never opened, still in box and sealed. Bought for \$250 and selling for \$150. Call Niaz 830-9912 if interested.

FOR SALE: Sony Xplod amplifier. 480 watt, 2/1 channel power, XM280GTX, 12" JL Audio. Asking \$200. If interested, please e-mail deniser.williams@sbcglobal.net.

FOR SALE: Microsoft wired router, like new. Wired ethernet base station model. \$25. Call Dustin at 388-3913.

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVERS WANTED: Brickshaw Buggy is looking for those who want to make money while getting a workout. Average pay is \$15/hr. Interested applicants call 405-733-3222.

NOW HIRING: Brickshaw Buggy is looking for individuals who have advertising sales experience. Serious applicants please contact Rocky Chavez at 405-733-3222.

HELP WANTED: Earlywine Park YMCA now hiring experienced water aerobic instructors able to teach classes in the a.m. and/or p.m. and experienced, certified, aerobic and Pilates instructors able to teach evening classes. All applicants need to apply in person and bring copies of their credentials to the Earlywine Park YMCA, 11801 S. May Ave.

NOW HIRING: Olive Garden Northwest Expressway is now hiring servers. If you want to be held to high standards apply at Olive Garden, 1844 NW Expressway.

HELP WANTED: Part-time nursing student for busy doctor's

office at Mercy. Must be able to work all day Tuesday and Thursday! Please fax résumé to 405-752-4242.

HELP WANTED: Earlywine Park YMCA now accepting applications for Lifeguards and Swim Instructors. Training provided if hired. Flexible schedules, including am/pm and weekends. Apply in person at Earlywine Park YMCA, 11801 S. May Ave, Oklahoma City.

ACCOUNTING INTERNSHIP: Accounting Internship available in Edmond CPA firm. Please call 340-5974.

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS!! Photographer needed for wedding. Camera will be provided, compensation for time, and use of portraits in your portfolio. Please call Brittany at 405-706-8045 or 405-682-1611, ext. 7647.

FOR RENT

FEMALE ROOMMATE NEEDED to share fully furnished, large 2 bed/2 bath apartment in NW OKC. Rent is \$280+ bills. Please contact Denise at 405-413-1093 or e-mail mwaimutezo@yahoo.com.

ROOMMATE WANTED: Female only. \$350.00 per month, all bills paid. New 1,200 sq. foot, 3 bed, 2 bath home in Moore. Call Erin at 401-4906.

ROOMMATE NEEDED: Male or female. 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhouse. \$250/ month + electric. Five minute walk from school. Call Daniel @ 405-788-1199.

ROOMMATE NEEDED: M or F, \$600/ mth., all bills. 3 bedrm.-2 bath-FP-dblcar gar. (fence). 824-5605. No smokers or pets (small dogs acceptable). Need references. Off of 12th St. in Moore, "NICE".

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Daybeds for sale. Black, western-looking. Asking for \$175 OBO. Call 255-8989 and ask for Ashley.

FOR SALE: Loveseat for sale. Good condition. Primarily gray pattern, can e-mail photos. Asking \$50 OBO. Call David at 573-4980 or 682-1611, ext. 7409.

FOR SALE: 4 POD Computer Table. Just like the ones in the Computer Center. Great for gaming! Asking \$200 OBO. E-mail at ataghavi@occc.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: His & hers wedding/engagement set. Hers: Round 1/3 carat diamond solitaire set in white gold w/ yellow gold accents and matching white gold band, recently appraised \$750.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Learn by —: memorize
- 5 Omelet needs
- 9 Sword handle
- 13 Gumbo veggie
- 14 River nymph
- 16 Part of HOMES
- 17 Cry of woe
- 18 "The Sweetheart of — Chi"
- 19 Tibetan monk
- 20 Enthralled
- 21 Be —: hippie happenings
- 22 Church book
- 24 Units of energy
- 26 — gin
- 27 Synthetic fiber
- 30 Picasso and Van Gogh
- 34 O. Henry's forte
- 35 Type of blocker
- 36 Distort
- 37 Wrongdoing
- 38 Al and Tipper
- 39 "— had it!"
- 40 Beer barrels
- 42 Strikes
- 43 — and dined
- 45 Hasty and careless
- 47 Geese group
- 48 Misplace
- 49 Farm sight
- 50 Short race

DOWN

- 1 Bellow
- 2 Tex. neighbor
- 3 Snare
- 4 From Asia
- 5 Naval officer
- 6 Profits
- 7 Musicians' jobs
- 8 Spade of whodunits
- 9 Firefighters' headgear
- 10 OPEC member
- 11 Type of bean
- 12 Shade of blue
- 15 Shaggy flowers
- 23 Over there
- 25 Cowboy Rogers
- 26 Cloys
- 27 Computer-users' needs
- 28 "The Tempest" spirit
- 53 Toast topper
- 54 Not working
- 58 Baldwin or Guinness
- 59 Cad
- 61 Row
- 62 The — Ranger
- 63 Alpine song
- 64 Level
- 65 Viewed
- 66 Bouquet unit
- 67 Challenge

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

LOBO	SOCKS	ASTA
ALOU	ABOUT	ZOOM
MINT	LORRY	ALTO
BOYFRIEND	GLOSS	
IAN	BYE	
FEATHER	TAMALES	
AMISS	ITER	SULU
KID	BLANK	CAP
ILES	LEND	SPITE
RESCUED	SPEEDER	
OSU	AAA	
BERRA	GREENCARD	
RAIN	GUAVA	OREO
ARTE	ARKIN	CEES
GLAD	DUELS	KALE

8-12-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13					14				15	16				
17					18					19				
20					21				22	23				
			24	25				26						
27	28	29					30				31	32	33	
34						35				36				
37						38					39			
40			41		42				43	44				
45				46				47						
			48					49						
50	51	52					53				54	55	56	57
58					59	60				61				
62					63					64				
65						66				67				

Selling with men's white gold band, (heavy in weight). Asking \$425 for all. E-mail atctracy@yahoo.com for more info and pictures or call 694-9243.

FOR SALE: Three-year-old Ludwig Doetsch violin with soft-side case. In excellent condition. Kid graduated. A real buy at \$1500. Contact 306-1396 or 306-3290.

BOAT FOR SALE: '88 Celebrity Champion Line. 19ft Cabin Cuddy, 280 HP 305 Motor, runs great. For pics or more info: kati.e.henry@email.occc.edu.

REWARD OFFERED: I lost two rings Monday, 10/02/06, in the wellness area restroom. They were left on the counter. One means a lot, was a gift from a

grandfather who has passed. It's silver double-hearted with crystals. Not worth a lot in dollar value but personally means the world. If found, no questions asked just a big thank you and huge reward \$. If found, please call Katrina at 405-326-7816 or 405-872-0616.

RACE TICKETS FOR SALE: Nov. 2 - Nov. 5, Texas Motor Speedway, two qualifying events, Busch Race & Nextel Cup. A total of 8 tickets, section 126, row 28, seats 12 & 13. Call 794-6942.

REAL ESTATE

HOME FOR SALE: 3 BD, 2 bath, 2 car garage, large back yard with privacy fence. Call 227-6266.

Arts and Humanities employees anticipate construction transformation

"AEC,"

Cont. from page 1

be about the size of five classrooms," VanSchuyver said.

Other major changes are anticipated as well.

A new choir room will facilitate students as well as have updated technology.

The room will house a sound system that will enable choir members to record their singing and instantly play it back to listen for possible errors, Charnay said.

The painting lab, while not typically associated with technology, will have computers in place for quick information retrieval.

"There's going to be computer access [in the painting lab] so the professor can walk over and say, 'OK, here's what's happening at the Metropolitan Museum right now,' and bring up a display," Charnay said.

Other programs also will

get facelifts once the new building is completed. Those updates include: a new photography darkroom, music practice rooms, and labs for pottery, ceramics, and screen printing. New faculty offices and an adjunct faculty office area are planned as well.

Charnay said the space currently used for those areas will be modified and updated, then occupied by other programs that are within Arts and Humanities but may be currently located in other areas across the campus.

"The area that's currently being used for some of the art classes and the art labs will be taken over by the Pioneer, as will Journalism and Broadcasting," she said. "The theater program is going to stay in the (current) theater, and they'll take over some of the space currently being used by music for their storage."

Students look forward to

the new facilities.

"It would be nice to have a new space," said Spanish major Lyndsie Stremow, "maybe with more open spaces and more natural lighting."

Student Trenton Hubbard likes the idea of the art gallery.

"The gallery sounds really cool. I'd go to the gallery."

Students agree the new Arts Education Building will be a unique addition to the south Oklahoma City community.

"I think [the Arts Education Center] can definitely be beneficial to the community," said student Cara Hendrix.

"Anything that's new and modern, and is adding on and expanding, is going to be a benefit."

Charnay agrees and hopes the community will welcome the new building.

"We're going to have a wonderful opportunity to have sort of an art hub on

our side of town and so, hopefully, south Oklahoma City will be able to embrace it as their own," she said.

A construction timeline has yet to be set for the project, but there are factors to consider when developing it, said Physical Plant Director J.B. Messer.

"Normally, in a facility like this, it can be completed somewhere within about 18 to 24 months."

Also authorized at the Oct. 16 Board of Regents meeting was funding for an expansion of the Health Professions Education Center. The college will draw up a contract with Wynn Construction Co. for that project as well.

Both projects were authorized in an amount not to exceed \$13,387,000, according to the Board of Regents Recap e-mail.

OCCC received \$15.3 million from the state Legislature for both projects.

OCCC President Paul

Sechrist said the other \$2 million is earmarked as well but isn't added in because it goes toward other costs with a different company.

"Part of it does not include the architectural and engineering fee," Sechrist said.

"I don't know the exact figure, but a portion of that will be paid to (Walt) Joyce and the Triad Design Group for doing the architectural and engineering work."

"Also, we bid the contract without landscaping or parking lots, so the balance of that will be used for the required parking lot."

"We'll actually be spending all of the \$15.3 million on the two projects."

Details on the Health Professions Education Center expansion project will appear in the Nov. 6 issue of the Pioneer.

Editor David Miller can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

Students survey results show overall satisfaction with OCCC

"Survey,"

Cont. from page 1

eas over the past two years, student satisfaction remained significantly lower than the national norm in four other areas — student employment services, billing and fee payment procedures, financial aid services and availability of financial aid information before enrolling, according to the 2006 Student Satisfaction Report.

While higher increased satisfaction was indicated within the college, these areas still failed to meet the national norm.

The Spring '06 survey results list student satisfaction with billing and fee payment procedures as having increased substantially from 3.69 in Spring '04 to 3.80. However, the figure is lower than the national norm of 3.81.

"We are always looking for ways to make paying easier for students and we hope to add the ability to pay online using a checking account," said Bursar Brandi Henson in an e-mail. "Ultimately, we would also like to be able to do

away with the paper billing and go to an entirely online billing system."

Financial aid services and available financial aid information prior to enrolling also were two areas that rated lower than the national norm.

Financial aid services increased in student satisfaction with a rating of 3.65 as opposed to a rating of 3.53 in Spring '04. The Spring '06 rating was significantly lower than the national norm of 3.86.

The availability of financial aid information prior to enrolling experienced a slight drop in student satisfaction with a rating of 3.60 when compared to the national norm of 3.63.

The last area that experi-

enced a significantly lower rating was the student employment services area.

Student employment services rated a 3.42, which was lower than the Spring '04 rating of 3.52 as well as being lower than the national norm of 3.80.

Appropriate personnel have been notified of the results in these areas, and factors concerning the lower ratings are being addressed as part of the annual planning process, according to the Sept. 18 Board of Regents agenda.

Since 1996, OCCC has administered the ACT Two-Year College Student Opinion Survey to a sample of the college's on-campus credit students during even number spring semesters,

according to the report.

There were 1,002 usable forms, which represented roughly 8 percent of the student population, according to the 2006 Student Satisfaction Report.

The March 2006 survey was administered to students by 75 instructors based on meeting time and class type, including developmental, technical-occupational and university parallel classes.

This method was implemented to obtain a random sample of students of varying ages, gender, ethnicity, and full/part-time status.

The relatively small percentage of the student population surveyed as well as student demographics raises the question of the

reliability of the survey.

"The most important part is that you get a truly random sample and that it's representative of your group," said Joyce Morgan-Dees, Institutional Effectiveness research support analyst.

Paden said she expects the numbers to get higher.

"That's why I'm involved in [the survey], because we want students to be at least as satisfied as their peers at other two-year colleges, but, of course, we'd like to be significantly higher than the norm in student satisfaction."

"We're always looking at areas where we can improve student satisfaction."

Editor David Miller can be reached at editor@occc.edu.



FedEx Home Delivery- Apply in Person!
3714 S. Harmon Ave. Tues-Sat 10am-3pm
Oklahoma City, OK 73179

We are currently hiring part-time seasonal & permanent package handlers to sort and unload delivery trucks at our Oklahoma City, OK facility. You would be working in a non-climate controlled environment. The position ranges from 15-20 hrs/wk & you must be available 5 days/wk Tuesday - Saturday. PRE: 5am to 8am.

Shift times may vary - tuition assistance & scheduled raises available!