

- Write a letter to the editor, editorial, p. 2.
- International Education Week, p. 7.
- Wellness Center shaping up, p. 12.
- Nursing majors see change, p. 14.

Advisers can steer students toward success

By David Miller
Editor

Knowledge is power. That's why students should use every resource possible at OCCC when plotting their college careers.

When a student is initially admitted to OCCC or wants to change majors, he or she is required to meet with an adviser before enrolling in classes.

"We do require that [students] meet with [an adviser] to change their major or when they enroll for the very first time," said Aspen Svec, Advising and Career Services intake assistant.

"If [students] talk with an adviser, they can declare their major, or when they change [their major], they should be able to get a pretty good picture of what they need See "Major," page 16

Play offers insight via letters to God

By Robert Smith
News Writing Student

"Children's Letters To God," a play based on the best selling book of the same title by Stuart Hample, will be performed at 7 p.m., Dec. 7, 8 and 9, in the OCCC Theater.

In the play, children pose questions to God, such as: "Dear God, how did you know you were God?" or "Dear God, are you really invisible or is that just a trick?" and "Dear God, how come you did all the miracles in the old days and you don't do any now?"

Professor Jacque Hocking, director, said although the original play cast children, the upcoming play will cast college students who will portray children.

She said the play doesn't necessarily have a religious theme. "It is not so much Christian as it is asking God why things happen."

The play has five main characters with some back-up singers.

Yousef Kazemi plays Kicker, age 9. "It is comfortable and so much fun to go back to being a kid again," Kazemi said.

"Kids are silly and goofy."

Erin McMurry plays Joanna, age 12. "The play has the answers to the age-old questions," McMurry said. "Is God really there? Is he here? And, why did you let it happen?"

Matthew Mattocks plays Brett, age 13. "Playing the

Twelve days of Christmas



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Holiday spirit abounds in the OCCC Bookstore as staff members Denise Smith, Lanita Haynes and Pam Simonds get ready to host "The Twelve Days of Christmas" contest, scheduled to run Dec. 1 to 18. The contest will consist of a different activity each day, Simonds said, with one prize being awarded per day. College faculty, staff, students and visitors are welcome to participate in the contest. Contest rules will soon be posted in the Bookstore, she said.

character of Brett reminds me of how I acted at the age of 13," Mattocks said.

Joshua Houston plays Theo, age 11. "I look forward to play practice because it gives me a chance to relive my childhood," he said.

Houston said this play has touched his inner child and he hopes it will do the same for others.

Admission is \$4 for students and \$5 for adults. OCCC students, faculty and staff can get into the Thursday night performance free with a valid I.D.

A special kids' matinee will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, Dec. 8. Admission will be \$2.

For more information, e-mail Hocking at jhocking@mail.com.

**"Children's
Letters to
God"
7 p.m.
Dec. 7, 8 & 9
OCCC Theater**

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Pertinence of news is relative

In the past several weeks, a few students and faculty members have approached certain staff writers of the Pioneer over the content of the oh-so-coveted space that we newspaper junkies call the editorial.

The editorial is a section in a newspaper that is often written by the editor that expresses an opinion, but, in the case of the Pioneer, staff, as well.

The complaints have questioned the relevance of the editorial to the college.

Some think this column should not highlight a writer's opinion at all.

Looking back at the past few editorials, there is a major amount of overlooked relativity to be found in the topics.

Stair etiquette, slumbering students and procrastination all pertain to this college.

If they don't, perhaps editorial writers should dig longer than usual in order to find more valuable and pertinent reasons to write in this space.

For that reason, and that reason alone, opinion writers should constantly be on their toes and keep their eyes peeled for relative information.

Not that the toe upkeep and eye peeling are omitted now, but even professional writers need a refresher or a reality check every now and then.

The staff of the Pioneer encourages outspoken students and others to take the time to jot down their feelings in the form of a letter to the editor.

Students who regularly read the Pioneer know that the outrage, the anger, the blissful joy and the emotional upheaval that letters of this nature cause are highly appreciated.

Printed letters like these give both the college and the Pioneer staff thoughts about current articles and sometimes suggest great ideas for future ones.

In short, don't shy away from reading this column because it was previously thought of as irrelevant to the existence of the newspaper.

Read the Pioneer so that there is a better understanding of how staff writers think about the college in whatever light they choose.

Editorials spark that part of the brain that makes others think about the campus, too.

Get pertinent information, roll it around inside the cranium and let the goodness of artistic thoughts produce new and individual ideas for yourself.

After all, an editorial is an "expression of an opinion dealing with the paper or the establishment for which the paper is produced."

—Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

Flags to be respected

To the Editor:

I want to share with everyone an experience I felt so deeply about that it compelled me to write this letter to the editor in hopes of opening everyone's eyes to an event that occurs daily on the campus of OCCC.

My name is Kevin Tipton. I work in the Safety and Security Department as the evening shift sergeant. One of my daily duties is to ensure the flags in front of the Main Building are lowered each day.

Two other officers from the department and I were lowering the colors when I noticed a new officer being trained. They began to incorrectly fold the flags, and, having a military background, I informed the two officers that, out of respect for the flags of our country, we needed to fold them correctly. I showed them how to fold the flags properly and with respect and I then stood for a couple minutes looking over the parking lot.

As I was returning to my office, I noticed a lady in what appeared to be a highly upset state. I asked if she was OK. With her face

buried in her palms, she looked up and said, "Yes." Seeing me in uniform, she looked back and stated, "No."

I asked if I could help her and she said nothing was wrong, just that she was amazed and taken in the moment of watching my staff and me lower the flag of our country. We chatted about her husband's military service and how people walk by as the flags are lowered without giving them a second thought.

As I was leaving, the lady said, "Thank you for defending our freedom so we can live in a free country and go to school wherever we choose."

I, in turn, said, "Thank you for being a member of the biggest family on the planet Earth. It's because of the sacrifices you as a family member make that we are able to stand here today and share this experience."

As I turned and walked into the building, I looked back and noticed she was still sitting on that concrete step looking toward the flag pole, now in its bare na-

ture. And she wept.

When you see a man or woman in uniform, stop and say, "Thanks." After all, it is why you are able to make the choice of where your education comes from. For the lady in this story, thank you for caring.

—Kevin Tipton
Safety and Security
Shift Sergeant

PIONEER

Vol. 35 No. 14

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

'Duty' calls for serious fun

War is hell, but in "Call of Duty 3" players will find out war can be a helluva lot of fun. Publisher Activision and game developer Treyarch have added some realism and new features that will make this game one of the best this holiday.

Like last year's game, this title delivers plenty of bang for your buck. Graphics look even better, and that's a hard feat to accomplish.

Along with the eye candy, players are introduced to the new physics engine that will have characters twisting like a rag doll after stepping on a mine or standing near a grenade that has been tossed their way.

Campaign mode will put players in the boots of American, British, Canadian and Polish soldiers as they try to conquer the German axis of evil.

The cutscenes are more polished and more frequent. This game's artificial intelligence is a little tougher than last year's



game.

Last year's game had a decent multi-player mode, which pit players in teams of four-on-four. The number of players has increased in this year's multi-player from four players to 12 on a team, for a total of 24 players on one map. This makes for more intense game and calls for some strategy at times.

Multi-player mode now allows players to play as a rifleman, light machine gunner, heavy machine gunner, scout, medic, support machine gunner and a heavy support member to silence enemy vehicles.

Each class comes equipped with specific weapons

and each is different from one another, although the game still allows players to pick up weapons lying on the battlefield.

Along with the new class system, vehicles also have been added to increase the carnage.

Tanks, all-terrain vehicles with gun placements and motorcycles with sidecars are placed on some of the maps to be used by the players.

This game has it all and is a blast to play online or off. Don't leave this one off the Christmas list.

—**Rating:** 4.5/5

—**John Savage**
Staff Writer

Barenaked Ladies dress up

Barenaked Ladies 10th album, "Barenaked Ladies Are Me," might sound strange to casual fans of the Canadian pop band, but it shouldn't be a surprise.

The mellow and somewhat serious album comes from a sound that's usually tucked away. The group, deceptively, has a tendency to sprinkle their albums with heartfelt, slow tunes like "When I Fall" or "Born on a Pirate Ship," and releases poppy-silly-fun singles like "Another Postcard" or "Everything to Everyone."

This album is a departure from that norm — a departure that serious Barenaked Ladies fans will appreciate.

"Barenaked Ladies Are Me" is the Barenaked La-

dies all grown up.

The album starts out with "Adrift," a song that describes the feelings of confusion that can occur after losing someone close.

"Ever since we said our goodbyes, the onion rings, the phone makes me cry," they sing.

The first single off the album is "Easy."

The song has a country flavor to it that has yet to be heard on any other Barenaked Ladies venture. Although the lyrics aren't nearly as straight-forward as a country song, it's not hard to see this song is about a girl who's done wrong.

"I've been burned before, you're not fooling me, there's no mystery," they sing.

The strongest track on the

album is "Maybe You're Right".

Musically and lyrically, it shows Barenaked Ladies at their finest.

The band's guitarists and vocalists, Ed Robertson and Steven Page, collaborated to make this slow-moving melodic song that continues to build momentum until it hits its crescendo with saxophones blaring at the end.

The whole time the song asks, "Shall I take back everything I've ever said and live my whole life in silence instead?"

The album's other strong songs such as "Bank Job" and "Home" makes this a must-listen for any Barenaked Ladies fan.

—**Rating:** 4/5

—**Scott D'Amico**
Staff Writer

CAREER POWER

Dell Computers is coming to OCCC from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., on Tuesday, Nov. 28. Dell job and career recruiters will be seeing students in the OCCC dining area who are interested in learning more about openings at their Oklahoma City location. Part-time and full-time positions are currently available.

At 12:30 p.m., students and faculty are invited to College Union rooms 1 and 2 to hear Dell's Kristie Gobeli, with Enterprise Support Services. Her topic will be "Dell Employment Opportunities." Following her lecture, a "Meet and Greet" is scheduled for 1:30 to 2 p.m., and free refreshments will be served.

DELL, Inc., a manufacturer of personal computers, has built a business services center on 62 acres of land located on the Oklahoma River near S.W. 15th and Portland in Oklahoma City. They are a Fortune 100 company with worldwide job and career opportunities. In 2005, Dell had over \$56 billion in revenues and is currently ranked as the 25th largest company in the United States.

Students are encouraged to bring their résumés and to dress professionally. Examples of current Oklahoma City Dell positions are:

- Inside Sales Professionals:** Responsible for selling electronics and accessories in an inbound call center environment.

- Server Support:** Responsible for providing technical support for customers on operation or maintenance of Dell server products.

- Desk Top/Laptop Support (HSB-TS):** Minimum one-plus year technical support experience; Mainstream DOS and Windows Applications; Basic PC Hardware for desktop and portable systems; and Microsoft Operating Systems.

- Management:** Responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of a team of representatives that deliver technical support for customers.

- Technical Account Managers:** Project Manager with two-to-six years of experience with technical hardware and servers.

For more information or assistance with résumé development and interviewing skills, please visit the Career and Employment Services office located in Advising and Career Services on the first floor of the Main Building, or call 405-682-7519.

—**Debra D. Vaughn, Career Specialist Career and Employment Services**

**Got something on your mind?
Write a letter to the editor. E-mail
the editor at editor@occc.edu.
Be sure to include a name and
valid phone number or the letter
won't be printed. Names are
withheld by request.**

Sticks and stones might break its bones



A skeleton in the visual arts lab, room 1D1, sports the latest fashions coming down the OCCC catwalk this fall.

The skeleton's attire consists of a fur bodice, black-and-gold lamé sash, gold brocade cape and colorful sombrero, all designed by students in Professor Nancy Riley's Interior Design class.

Riley said the students used textiles from the interior design classroom and supplemented those with items in the art lab.

Students in Doug Blake's Drawing II class later drew the fashionable skeleton for one of their assignments.

Photo by Carrie Cronk

By John Savage
Staff Writer

Students who wander into Arts and Humanities art room 1D1 might find themselves staring down a creepy-looking character dressed in a sombrero, a sash and a fur breastplate.

Adjunct Interior Design Professor Nancy Riley said the decked-out skeleton with its attire is all in good fun.

She said some of her students had noticed the skeleton and decided to dress it up.

"It's a still life," Riley said.

Riley said she doesn't know where the skeleton originally came from.

It has been a presence in the art class for as long as she has been here.

She said each art class has added to the wardrobe of the still life.

The skeleton is posed as if it were conquering the classroom.

One foot is set on top of a trash can while its right hand rests on its bony hip.

Riley said the skeleton remains unnamed and mentioned that the possibility of a contest to name it could happen.

She said the contest would be fun.

She said the tailoring of the garments all started when she mentioned the skeleton should have more holiday spirit.

"[The students] went for it," Riley said.

The fabrics came from Riley's interior design classroom and items students found lying around the art room.

"It makes class fun and if learning isn't fun, then it's too stuffy," Riley said.

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

Grads urged to apply for diploma prior to walking stage

By Noetta Harjo
News Writing Student

Graduation is a big deal to many students at OCCC but students who haven't yet applied for graduation may not receive a diploma.

Since some students may need help with the steps to graduation, the college is offering extra help, said Barbara Gowdy, Graduation Services director.

Graduation Services will have tables set up from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday Dec. 4 and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday Dec. 5 and 6, in the lobby of the Main Building, for students who want to apply for graduation, Gowdy said.

Graduation Services will have several assistants on hand to check a student's degree status. They will tell students what classes they have completed and what classes they still need to take. All students are encouraged to stop by to get a degree check.

Approximately 1,000 to 1,200 students graduate each year from OCCC, Gowdy said.

However, many students are not aware that they have to apply to get their degrees.

Students are informed of their options once they have completed 45 credit hours at OCCC.

"I knew that you had to apply for graduation," said Morgan Stapleton, Film and Video student. "I received a letter from the graduation office informing me of the option."

Gowdy said most students who have transferred from another school and have taken at least 15 credit hours at OCCC could be eligible for a degree.

"If a student has taken several courses here, it might be beneficial for the student to look into their degree options," Gowdy said.

She said some students also have come in to pick up their diplomas, only to find out they had not taken the correct steps to receive one.

Here is a list of questions to ask when considering graduation:

- Do you have a faculty adviser?
- Have you declared your degree and is it correct in the system?
- What catalog year is your degree in?
- Have you been taking the right classes for your degree?
- Do you need something approved?
- Is your contact information up to date?

Applying for graduation will answer all of the questions. Once the graduation office has looked at a student's degree worksheet, the

"Students should apply by the deadline date to guarantee their name will be in the commencement program. Applying early helps because there is always a chance that something could go wrong."

—Joan Sublett

Graduation Services Assistant

student will receive a letter stating the degree status.

The graduation office is taking applications for spring graduation now. Students are encouraged to apply early.

"Students should apply by the deadline date to guarantee their name will be in the commencement program," said Joan Sublett, graduation services assistant.

"Applying early helps because there is always a chance that something could go wrong."

Applications for the fall will be taken until Dec. 16. Deadline for spring graduation is Feb. 9.

"It's good to apply early and plan ahead so you are not doing everything at the last minute," said Sarah Allen, nursing student.

One mistake that many students make is not talking to their adviser before enrolling. Self-advising is not encouraged. Students should speak to their adviser to make sure they are taking the right courses for their major.

Students who do not have a faculty adviser can request one through Advising and Career Services.

All students seeking an associate degree or certificate of mastery need to apply for graduation, regardless of whether they plan to participate in commencement ceremonies, Gowdy said.

Without an application, students will not get their degrees even if they have completed all of the necessary courses.

Graduation Services will have all the necessary paperwork available to all students.

Students also can pick up graduation applications in front of the registration desk and at Mine-Online.

Have Club News?
Let the Pioneer know.
StaffWriter1@occc.edu

Prospective nursing students receive break

By Rachel Carlton
Staff Writer

Prospective nursing students for the Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Nurse Accelerated Pathway program will get a break in the requirements they must complete before applying to the program.

The nursing students now must have all prerequisites completed by the end of the spring semester.

The old standard was students needed to have all but six prerequisite classes completed by the application deadline, which is March 30.

"The only thing that's changed," said Rosemary Klepper, Nursing Program director, "is now they (students) have to be done with ev-

erything by the end of the semester."

This means there are no requirements to meet at the time the application is due.

The only prerequisite courses needed are the general education classes along with nursing courses that all nursing students must take to earn the degree, Klepper said.

This includes everything from English to nutrition.

The program is designed for people with bachelor degrees or higher in non-nursing fields to pursue a second career in nursing.

Since these students already have degrees, the old rule wasn't necessary, Klepper said.

She said the old rule was meant to make things fair for the students.

Since the program openings are based on GPA, taking two science classes at a time might lower one person's GPA, as opposed to a person who is only taking one science class.

"Since they have over 120 hours, it was shown to us that (two science classes) wasn't going to affect their GPA," she said.

The program begins June 4, which is when students must have all prerequisites finished.

Nursing coursework for the program is taught in four eight-week periods.

Since the program is taught in the compressed eight-week periods

instead of the usual 16-week periods, the students are expected to have earned their associate degree in nursing the following June.

Klepper said the program is intense and the students most likely would not have time for even a part-time job.

"These people have demonstrated a history of academic success and have critical thinking skills ... so they will be able to participate in this much accelerated program," Klepper said.

For more information, contact Claire Echols, Student Development counselor, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7582, or e-mail cechols@occc.edu.

Staff Writer Rachel Carlton can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Contest allows students to turn work into cash

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

Turning that painful English essay assignment into cold, hard cash might be easier than you think.

English Composition I and II students are eligible to enter the Department of Language Arts Annual Essay Contest if they are enrolled in the current semester or were enrolled during the spring and summer 2006 semesters.

For the past two years, English Professor Kim Jameson has taken on the organization of the essay contest.

"We had about 50 entrants last year," Jameson said. "I think it has more than doubled."

"There are two categories and both will be judged separately," Jameson said.

A \$500 prize will be split between ENGL 1113 and ENGL 1213, Jameson said.

There is a first- and second-place in both Comp I and Comp II.

There are a few guidelines students need to be aware of before submitting their works, Jameson said.

Essays need to be typed or computer-written on standard white paper, Modern Language Association format needs to be applied and essays should not be stapled.

"[Students] can take a paper that they've already worked on and expand on it, take it in a direction they want to take it. It doesn't have

to be a paper from class," Jameson said. "[The contest] offers something to the students for their writing and also encourages them to write."

Essays should be submitted in a pocket folder with a completed entry form, essay release form and the essay itself.

Jameson said essay release forms along with contest entry forms can be picked up from the table outside the Arts and Humanities division office on the first floor

of the Arts and Humanities building.

Also, the scoring rubric used by judges will be available to students and participants.

All awards and cash prizes will be handed out during the college's Student Awards Ceremony in April.

Essays may either be dropped off at 2F2 in the Arts and Humanities building or mailed to the college attention of Jameson.

Jameson said winning essays

from the past were all very different. "Some are very personal and they really get you," Jameson said. "Then some are very research oriented and those are interesting too because you can see the interest in the topic. I have a lot of favorites."

For more information, contact Jameson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7653, or e-mail kjameson@occc.edu.

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

Service Saturday rings a bell for Christmas

By Phillip Hemphill
Staff Writer

The next time you head to the mall and hear the "ring, ring, ring," of a bell from a Salvation Army volunteer, you just might be passing by a fellow student.

The latest and final Service Saturday, "Salvation Army Kettle Day," will be from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 2, at Crossroads Mall.

Jon Horinek, Student Life coordinator, said all students can sign up for the Service Saturday.

The shifts for the activity last two hours and all start times vary, Horinek said.

The activity is limited to just 16 volunteers. The deadline for the event is Nov. 29.

Students can register online at www.occc.edu/volunteer.

"Typically, we adopt a kettle every year. Students ring a bell and solicit donations for the Salvation Army. Between \$800 and \$1,000 is raised by the volunteers each year."

—Jon Horinek
Student Life Coordinator

Horinek said the kettle day has been used before during Service Saturdays.

"Typically, we adopt a kettle every year," Horinek said. "Students ring a bell and solicit donations for the Salvation Army."

Between \$800 and \$1,000 is raised by the volunteers each year, Horinek said.

A perk for volunteering is it counts as two hours of community service, Horinek said.

The proceeds from the kettle day go to the Salvation Army, Horinek

said.

After the Salvation Army receives the donations, the funds are distributed to different things such as clothing and feeding the homeless or needy.

Horinek said five Service Saturdays are planned for the spring semester.

For more information, contact Horinek at 405-682-1611, ext. 7697, or e-mail jhorinek@occc.edu.

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

Former Rwandan leader speaks about life

By Michelle Morrow
News Writing Student

Sitting in the front row in a blue pin-striped suit awaiting introduction, Joseph Sebarenzi, former leader of the Rwandan Parliament and teacher for International Studies at a school on the East Coast, exchanges pleasantries with his neighbors.

John Horinek, Student Life coordinator, put together "Campus Voices: An Educational Lecturer" series that brought Sebarenzi to OCCC.

Students, faculty and staff listened to the atrocities that have taken place in Rwanda since the 1960s.

On Nov. 9, the topic of the day was "Genocide and Africa: A Journey towards Peace and Reconciliation."

Decades of struggle in Rwanda occurred between the Hutu and Tutsi tribes, as the Hutu vied for supremacy over the Tutsi. This led to hundreds of thousands of people dying or becoming refugees.

Sebarenzi told a story of his mother, a Tutsi, hiding in the brush for three days when Hutu tribesmen came to his village to destroy property and kill every Tutsi.

Sebarenzi said he remembers a time when his family was forced to flee their home and hide with a Hutu family that befriended his father.

He recalled listening to other Hutu tribesmen demanding that his family be sent out to die, or the Hutu attackers would come in and kill everyone in the home.

Just when Sebarenzi thought they were all about to die, the sound of drums rolled through with a message of peace. Since there were not any phone lines in the villages, the drums were used as a form of communication.

Once, the Hutu and Tutsi lived together in peace and even intermarried. Then European colonialism divided the tribes by racial classi-

fication and the outsiders declared the Tutsi were born to rule.

By backing the Tutsi in this endeavor, Sebarenzi said, the Europeans sowed the seeds of antagonism between tribes.

When Rwanda was granted independence in 1962, the colonists switched their allegiance from the Tutsi to the Hutu, Sebarenzi said, and the Hutu took over. That is when the genocide began.

In the 1994 genocide, 800,000 people were killed in 90 days, which put it at three times the rate of deaths during the Jewish Holocaust, Sebarenzi said.

"The genocide of 1994 took my parents, siblings and step-siblings," he said.

When the Tutsi came back into power, people wanted to take revenge, but not Sebarenzi.

"[There is] nothing I can do to bring back my loved ones," he said. "We ought to focus on the living and on future generations."

Sebarenzi said reconciliation breaks the cycle of violence and that revenge transmits violence to future generations.

"Reconciliation, to me, means coming together and restoring broken relationships," Sebarenzi said. "Victims should have courage to accept apology and forgive."

Sebarenzi said being raised in a Christian family taught him reconciliation over revenge. He credits that upbringing for overcoming his trials and tribulations.

Student Matthew Coury said he admires the fact that Sebarenzi did not take revenge when he had been done wrong, but it's one thing to try for reconciliation and another to be someone's doormat.

"I see Sebarenzi as a pacifist trying too much to please everyone and trusting too much in the United Nations," Coury said.

Student Laura Pittman said she enjoyed Sebarenzi's speech and found it interesting.

"I understand why he feels the way he does,

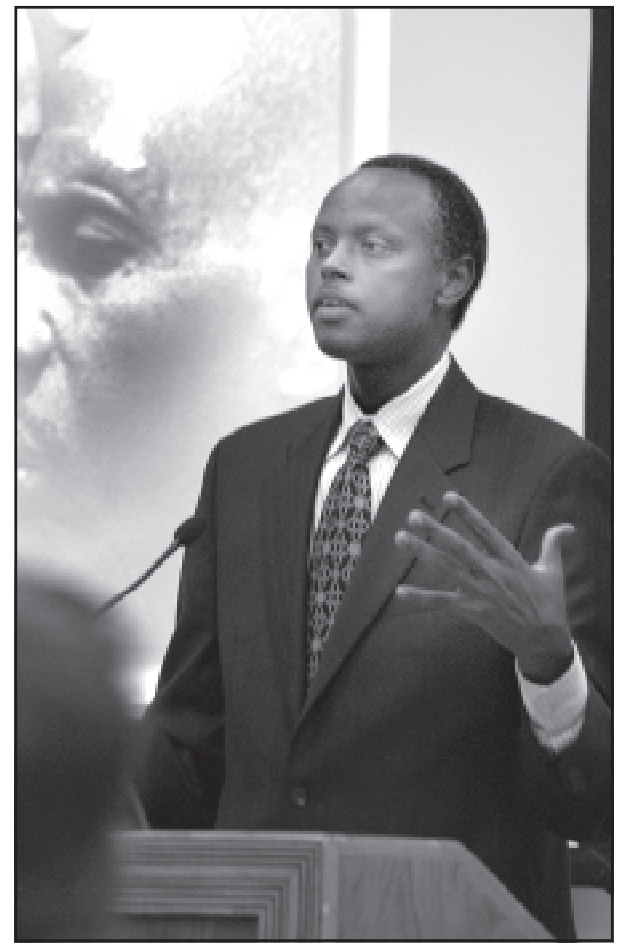


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Joseph Sebarenzi spoke to OCCC students, faculty and staff about his life in Rwanda during the 1994 genocide. Sebarenzi is the former leader of the Rwandan Parliament.

but my views differ from his," Pittman said. "However, I thought his message was good."

Being a political refugee, Sebarenzi has not returned to Rwanda since leaving. He appears on BBC in Rwanda, speaking in the local language discussing the political processes of the United States.

Russian history, infant development classes added to list

By Joshua Sauer
News Writing Student

Two classes are being added to OCCC's spring curriculum — History of Russia, and Infant and Toddler Development and Education.

A stockpile of nuclear weapons is one of many topics that will be discussed in History of Russia.

History Professor John Ehrhardt will teach the class.

Ehrhardt has taught an advanced two-semester History of Russia class before at Lambuth University in Tennessee.

"What I am going to do now is just level down to a freshman and sophomore level and compress it into one class," Ehrhardt said.

Ehrhardt believes there is not

enough attention paid to Russia.

"They still have pretensions of being a great power," Ehrhardt said. "They have a nice stockpile of nuclear weapons."

He thinks Americans are not as educated about Russia as they could be. He said students should know about Russia because it's the world's largest country.

"Americans, right now, are obsessed with the Middle East and Iraq in particular, and the so-called war on terror," he said.

History Freshman Katie Wilson said she is interested in learning about different environments and cultures.

"I think it would be very interesting to take a class specifically designed for Russia," Wilson said.

Ehrhardt said, when he taught this class in the past, it was well-received. Ehrhardt said he believes students will find the class interesting, especially twentieth century Russia.

There are no pre-requisites for the class, which has room for 30 students.

Another class being offered for the first time is Infant and Toddler Development and Education.

Child Development Professor Cecilia Pittman will teach the class. She said most people believe child development begins when a child begins to walk. It doesn't, she said.

"Childhood development begins when a child is born," Pittman said.

Pittman said the difference be-

tween this class and other related classes is the focus on children from birth to 2 years of age.

"The focus will be on how we could cognitively, socially and psychosocially develop a child of that age."

The class is intended for child development majors, but is open to anyone who wants to learn more about infants and toddlers.

There are only 30 seats available for the class.

Cecelia Yoder, Social Sciences Division acting dean, said she believes the class will be sought after.

"We hope that the [class] will become a regular part of the curriculum," Yoder said.

Cultural smarts grown during education week

International Education Week kicked off Nov. 6 with a variety of cultural activities, food and music on OCCC campus.

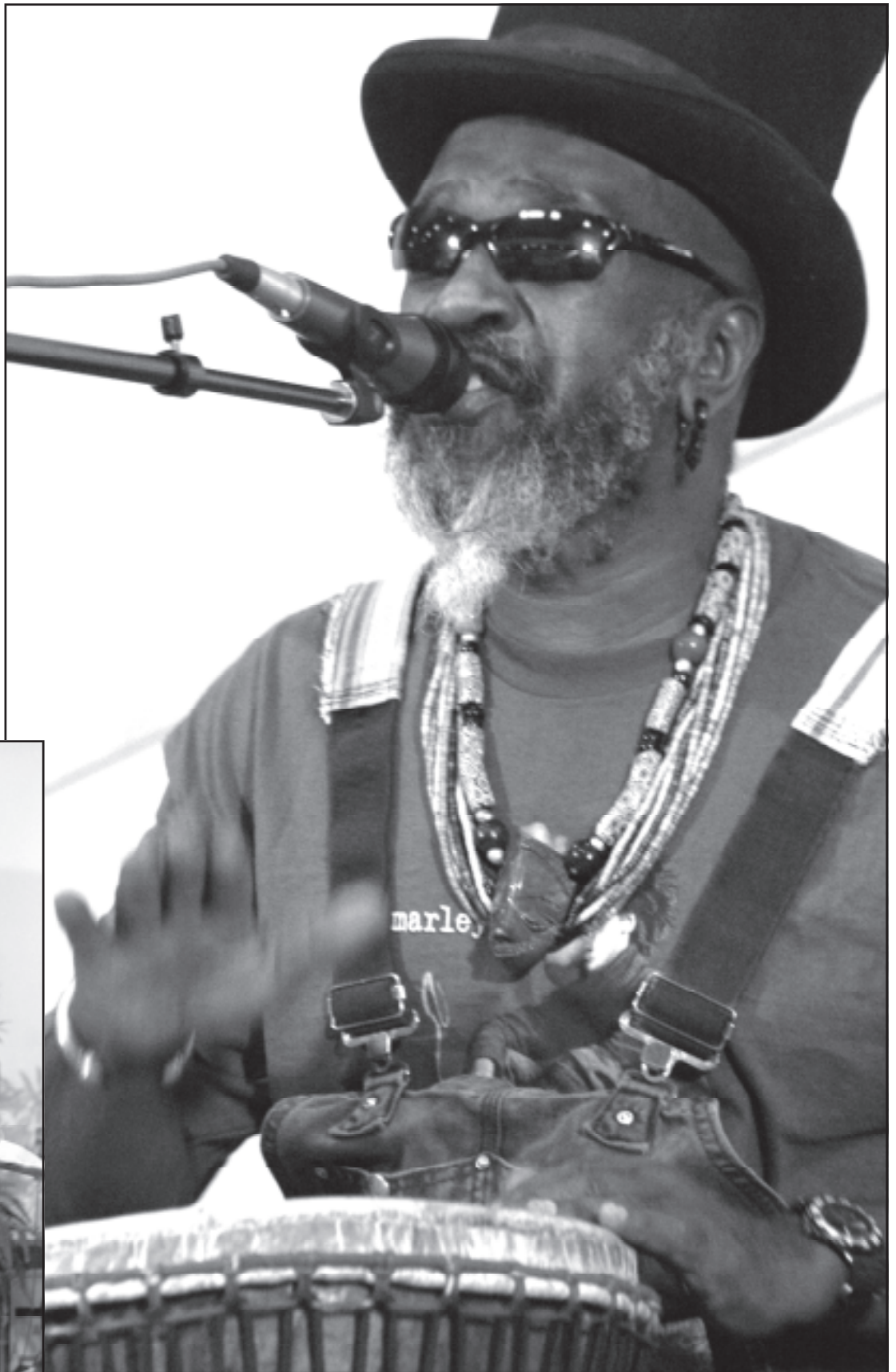
Highlights of the week included “Joseph Sebarenzi: A Message of Peace,” an African drumming group Jahruuba and “A Journey to Nepal” hosted by Business Professor Gyanendra Baral.

Sebarenzi is a former Rwandan Parliament leader turned peace advocate. He spoke about the Rwandan genocide during the mid 1990s.

Jahruuba shared stories through song and rhythm with students, faculty and staff. They played Nov. 9 in the College Union, the same day the International Student Association held an international food buffet.

Irish and Scottish music filled the College Union on Nov. 8. The “Celtic Call” presentation included dancers and traditional songs.

Student Life sponsored the events.

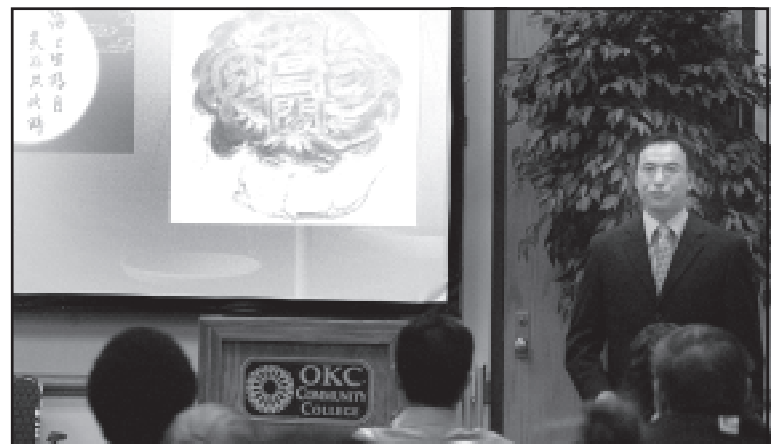


Jahruuba Lambeth plays an African drum during the lunch hour Nov. 9 in the College Union. Lambeth's musical group, Jahruuba, performed a wide variety of musical pieces ranging from traditional African drums to Bob Marley.



A member of Okii Taiko performs a variety of artistic styles of dance that are traditionally performed by geishas in Japan. Okii Taiko featured Japanese drums in their musical performance Nov. 6 in the College Union.

Haifeng Ji, computer science professor, gives a lecture on Chinese culture and language in CU1 on Nov. 6. Ji spoke about a variety of traditions and holidays, as well as tone inflections in the Chinese language.



Photos by Carrie Cronk

Disabled camp helps create friends

By Lauren Border
News Writing Student

In a cozy lodge in Stroud, 34 mentally- and physically-disabled adults came together to be part of the fifth annual Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled camp during the weekend of Nov. 10.

The three-day long camp was put together by students in OCCC's Occupational Therapist Assistant Program. It was designed to give adults with developmental disabilities an opportunity to participate in activities and events while making friends.

The theme for this year's camp was "TV World '06," and the activities for the weekend were planned accordingly.

On Nov. 10, campers participated in arts and crafts such as "CMT Western Wear," where they decorated cowboy hats. They also enjoyed "ESPN Remote Races," which was an obstacle course involving Hula Hoops.

That same night, the counselors hosted the "TV World Talent Showcase," where the campers performed their favorite songs and dances.

The rest of the weekend was filled with other activities, culminating Saturday night with the "Red Carpet Awards Dinner." Campers dressed up in formal attire for the event and everyone received an award.

"I always tell my students when they come back from camp they will have the same name, but will never be the same person."

—Tom Kraft
Occupational Therapist
Assistant Program Director

The Occupational Therapist Assistant students had been working on this project since last spring.

Program Director and Professor Tom Kraft said the students were required to plan the activities for the camp last spring, but were not required to attend the actual camp in the fall.

Despite the fact students were not receiving a grade for their attendance, 27 people still showed up and volunteered their time to ensure the camp would be a success.

Kraft said he is pleased with the outcome. He said it is an unbelievable experience to be able to work with disabled adults.

"I always tell my students when they come back from camp they will have the same name, but will never be the same person."

Kraft said going to the camp helps people renew focus and learn what working with people is all about.

Professor Reeca Young said the



Photo by J.D. Brown

Stroud played host to this year's Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled camp. This is the fifth year for the camp, which is designed for the mentally- and physically-disabled.

Stephen Helix, pictured above, participates in the "CMT Western Wear" event, where campers spent time decorating cowboy hats they later strut around the lodge. Campers also had fun participating in an obstacle course and talent show.

OCCC's Occupational Therapist Assistant Program put together the camp.

camp changed her life. She said she first attended the camp as a student.

"Before attending the camp, I was not sure if I wanted to pursue a career in Occupational Therapy," Young said.

"But after [attending], I knew that

this was my life's mission and my passion."

Camper Myra Byrd said she had a good time at the camp.

"I love the camp because I have so much fun, and I always meet so many new people and make lots of friends," Byrd said.

Committee collecting food for families

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

For one instant, imagine what your life would be like if the income you received was not enough to sustain your family. Would you get help? Would having HIV be a factor in receiving help?

The Nursing Pinning Committee organized a food drive for the Friends Food Pantry at Other Options.

The food drive will run until Dec. 15. Donation boxes are located by the Main Building elevator and in the nursing division.

Other Options is a professional, non-profit organization that provides resources for individuals and

families with HIV/AIDS.

Mary Arbuckle, Other Options intern director, said this kind of drive allows the program to thrive.

"We started out with 56 clients and now we have over 700, so it has been very successful," she said.

Arbuckle said clients are those with little income who need assistance and have been referred to Other Options from clinics.

Clients can come into the pantry and shop for their food on a weekly basis at no charge.

The food pantry is set up like a mini-market with clients filling their own shopping carts with their desired brands, Arbuckle

said.

Nursing student Nikki Roberts and other volunteers wanted to give back to the community while celebrating their achievement of graduation.

"Nurses have so much pull, and we should be more involved in our community," Roberts said.

"This food drive will bring more awareness not only to the nursing division but also to the organization."

Roberts got the drive approved through Jon Hori-nek in Student Life, who also coupled her with Other Options.

"These people are uncertain about so much in their lives," Roberts said.

"Nurses have so much pull, and we should be more involved in our community."

—Nikki Roberts
Nursing Student

"They are uncertain about how this disease process is going to affect them, and this allows them to feel a certain amount of independence because they know they are going to a place where they can get what they need."

Arbuckle said the committee wants to empower the clients. "We don't pre-package food, and we allow them to pick out what they want," she said.

Roberts said the food

drive is not just accepting non-perishable food items. Items such as toiletries, lightly-used books and clothes also are appreciated.

For more information, contact Arbuckle at 405-605-8020.

Individual donations or Christmas packages for adults can be dropped off at 3005 N. May Avenue.

Staff Writer Valerie Jobe can be reached at Staff Writer1@occc.edu.

World AIDS Day observed Dec. 1

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

More than 20 years after its initial discovery, HIV/AIDS remains a serious public health threat, said Michael Harmon, chief of the HIV/STD Service for the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

Almost 65 million people have contracted the virus since the pandemic began, according to www.usaid.gov. In 2004, an average of 13,500 people were infected each day. An estimated 32 million people have died of AIDS, according to the site.

It is the fourth leading cause of

death worldwide.

Almost a million cases of HIV had been reported in the United States as of 2004, Harmon said.

People in Oklahoma accounted for 4,247 of those cases. In 2004, 175 new cases were reported in Oklahoma, he said.

OCCC will help raise awareness of HIV/AIDS by observing World AIDS Day Dec. 1, said Student Life Coordinator Jon Horinek.

"We will be passing out ribbons and buttons, as well as information about HIV/AIDS," he said.

World AIDS Day has been observed annually since 1988. Horinek said it is important to

maintain public awareness of the disease.

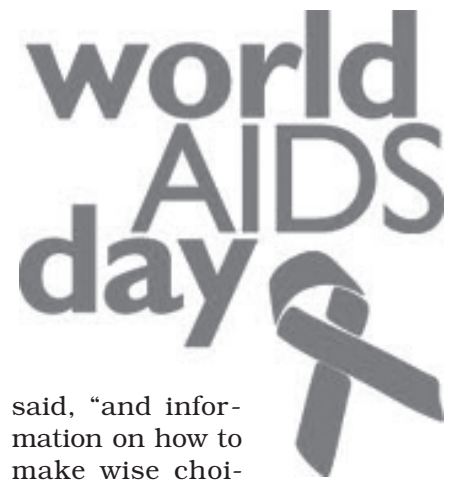
"I think that people, especially in the United States, feel complacent about HIV/AIDS," he said.

"World AIDS Day is a good opportunity to remind people that HIV/AIDS is out there and people still die from it."

OCCC also will observe Sexual Health Awareness Week Dec. 4 through 8, Horinek said.

He said the week will feature an information board in the Main Building.

"We'll have a display board with lots of information on different sexually transmitted diseases," he



said, "and information on how to make wise choices."

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

Student shares experience with virus

By Jessica Foster
News Writing Student

"Tell Someone." That is the national campaign to inform women about a cancer caused by a virus.

Human papillomavirus is a sexually transmitted disease that causes cervical cancer in some women. All sexually active women are at risk. I learned the hard way.

I was driving down the interstate listening to the radio on a sunny afternoon nearly two years ago. My phone rang and it was my gynecologist.

"You have abnormal cells on your cervix," she said. I nearly wrecked my car at the news.

Little did I know just how much my life would change over the next two years.

Turns out I did — no, do — have HPV. Once contracted, HPV is always in your body, even if it's dormant, I would find out.

I went in for a biopsy. It was painful. I was scared. I had to have a procedure done in spring 2006. It was even more painful. Recovery took a few days. I was back on my feet before I knew it, but the effects

were much longer lasting.

Over the next year I was in and out of the gynecologist's office every month for repeat exams and biopsies to "keep an eye" on my virus.

Most of the time it was dormant. Occasionally it woke up. It caused infections. I had fevers. I was tired and had trouble focusing on school or work.

This past summer it woke up again. My cervix was abnormal. I had another procedure done. This one was worse than the one before. It was more painful and it took

longer to recover. I still go to the doctor every month to have an exam.

I hate going and I hate that I have this virus. I wish I had known about it. I wish there had been a vaccine in time to prevent it for me.

I realize the vaccine costs more than \$100 a shot and there are three in the vaccinating series. I know that's a lot of money for poor college students who work hard for their money.

It's worth it.

Don't believe me? Ask my parents how much money they spent on my exams, procedures and tests. I'm sure \$300 sounds like heaven to them. I now spend that much a year on my doctor visits alone.

I feel burdened — no, compelled — to tell every girl I know to get tested. Don't skip your annual gynecological exam. There are no excuses. Ten minutes of discomfort one day a year is a lot better than the hours I spend each year in the stirrups.

Every girl should challenge herself to become as educated as possible about this virus and the shot.

Look it up. Get the facts.

Don't be embarrassed, because approximately 20 million people are infected with HPV, according to the Centers for Disease Control. More than 50 percent of sexually active men and women will contract the virus during their lifetimes.

So tell someone your story, and together, with the vaccine, we can help prevent cervical cancer.

Newly-approved vaccine will help protect against cervical cancer

By Jessica Foster
News Writing Student

Waiting in the wings is a vaccine that will help prevent most types of cervical cancer. Human papilloma-virus is a sexually transmitted disease that can cause cervical cancer. The vaccine will protect against the four HPV types that cause over 70 percent of all cervical cancers, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

The problem is insurance companies are not yet covering the cost of the shots.

The Federal Drug Administration reports that the shots are to be given in a series of three within a six-month period. Each shot costs \$120, and is aimed at girls and young women, ages 9 to 26.

The vaccine seems expensive at \$360 for the series, but insurance companies and schools are working on ways to bring down the cost for consumers.

Once insurance companies approve the vaccine, the Health Department and many local gynecolo-

gists plan to order the shots in bulk.

The Cleveland County Health Department is without the vaccine at this time.

"We hope to receive the go-ahead soon to provide the shot, but are without a date at this time," said District Nurse Manager Beverly Byman.

Many girls and young women are unaware that there is a problem, let alone a solution.

Heather Iske, Health and Exercise Science major, said, "I didn't realize they had developed a vaccine. The virus is serious and I hope every girl takes it seriously."

Rosemary Klepper, nursing program director, said she believes preventative vaccines are cost-effective and will save money in the end.

"I am a major proponent of preventative health care," Klepper said. "This vaccine will not only be beneficial to a woman's health but also to her wallet."

"Tell Someone," is the national campaign slogan to inform women about HPV. Now you know, so tell someone.

Lecture gives information about Chinese economy

By Megan Burchett
News Writing Student

Americans often misunderstand China, confusing the frequent appearance of the color red with a political statement rather than a cultural message.

"It's a big world out there," said Business Professor Marty Ludlum on Nov. 8 at the lecture "Studies in China."

"When we think China, we think red China," Ludlum said.

Most people think China is a communist country because of all the red in public places, Ludlum said.

"Red stands for wealth, happiness and prosperity. Red is money and gifts," Ludlum said. "They have lucky red envelopes filled with money that they give as a traditional gift."

He said Americans believe they are the only ones who buy foreign brand products.

Yet in China the Chinese buy American merchandise, which, to them, are considered foreign goods, Ludlum said.

Chinese people buy American items such as Ritz crackers, Pringles potato chips, and Oreo cookies, he said.

"Some items that are popular over here are not as popular there because the companies have not adjusted to Chinese culture yet," he said.

"McDonald's is very popular because it has adjusted to the culture.

"Their hamburger meat is compressed with vegetables mixed up in it. It's like meatloaf," he said.

Cereal and soda companies also have adjusted to the culture, he said.

"Cereal comes in single pouches with directions written on the back telling how to eat the cereal. Cold cereal is new to them," Ludlum said.

"Pop companies are actually struggling in China because people are not accustomed to the sweet sugary taste."

Companies are even thinking about developing a different recipe for the products by adding less sugar he explained.

Ludlum said Wal-Mart also is experimenting in China. As of 2006, they have 60 stores and 20 under construction.

Pizza companies are having trouble adjusting to the Chinese culture. Companies charge the same amount for pizza there as they do in America, making going out for pizza a celebration, he said.

"We go to Red Lobster to celebrate and they go for pizza at Pizza Hut," Ludlum said. "They have American brands of everything. You would think you were in America if it weren't for the symbols."

One of the things that has

Business Professor Marty Ludlum discusses business opportunities that have emerged from recent increases in trade between the United States and China as well as cultural differences in purchasing habits during a lecture Nov. 8.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

caught on in China is smoking.

"Eighty five percent of the male population smokes," Ludlum said. "While the women usually do not smoke because it's considered unflattering."

One advantage China holds over the United States is their cheaper work force.

"A monthly wage for a factory worker is 2235 Yuan (\$279.37 American). It takes eight Yuan to equal one American dollar."

Ludlum said, right now, China is in the process of making a huge social investment in the 2008 Olympics as they have already begun planning and building for the games.

China trip offered for students

By Jordan Singleton
News Writing Student

American businessmen are treated as if they were movie stars in China, OCCC Business Professor Marty Ludlum said.

"The local people would stare at us on the streets as if we were celebrities," Ludlum said.

Ludlum experienced that feeling again this past summer when he took six business students to study abroad in China.

Another group of students is scheduled to make the trip to China in the summer of 2007, which will be led by Business Professor Vijayan Ramachandran.

Since 2004, OCCC students have taken two 13-day trips to China. All together about 20 students have taken the trip.

There are two days of classes during the trip and

several days touring historical sites.

"Tiananmen Square and the Great Wall of China are two of the sites the students get to visit," Ludlum said.

The cost of the trip is approximately \$3,000. He said students should not shy away from the trip because of the money.

"It is a life changing experience," Ludlum said.

Ludlum believes that the Chinese market is filled with many intriguing business opportunities.

The United States and China only have recently become large-scale trading partners. Ludlum believes it is important for students to understand China's large market.

"Before, China had a closed market economy, now it is open for world trade which presents many new opportunities," Ludlum said. "This trip helps

students understand international trade and relations in such a uniquely untouched market.

Seeing the economic boom in China shouldn't be difficult.

"Four-hundred and twenty-two of the Fortune 500 companies have moved some of their operations into China in recent years."

He believes the experience earned from the trip is a wise investment into a student's future.

A student from the first trip in 2004 enjoyed his experience so much that he has since traveled to China to finish his education, Ludlum said.

For exclusive content and to read the Pioneer Online, visit www.occc.edu/pioneer



On the left is a can of Coca-Cola as sold in China. Business Professor Marty Ludlum said the Chinese haven't yet caught on to the sugar-based beverage, forcing Coke to re-examine its traditional recipe.

Ludlum said American cereal companies now give directions on how to eat cereal. He said cold cereal is something the Chinese are just now experiencing.



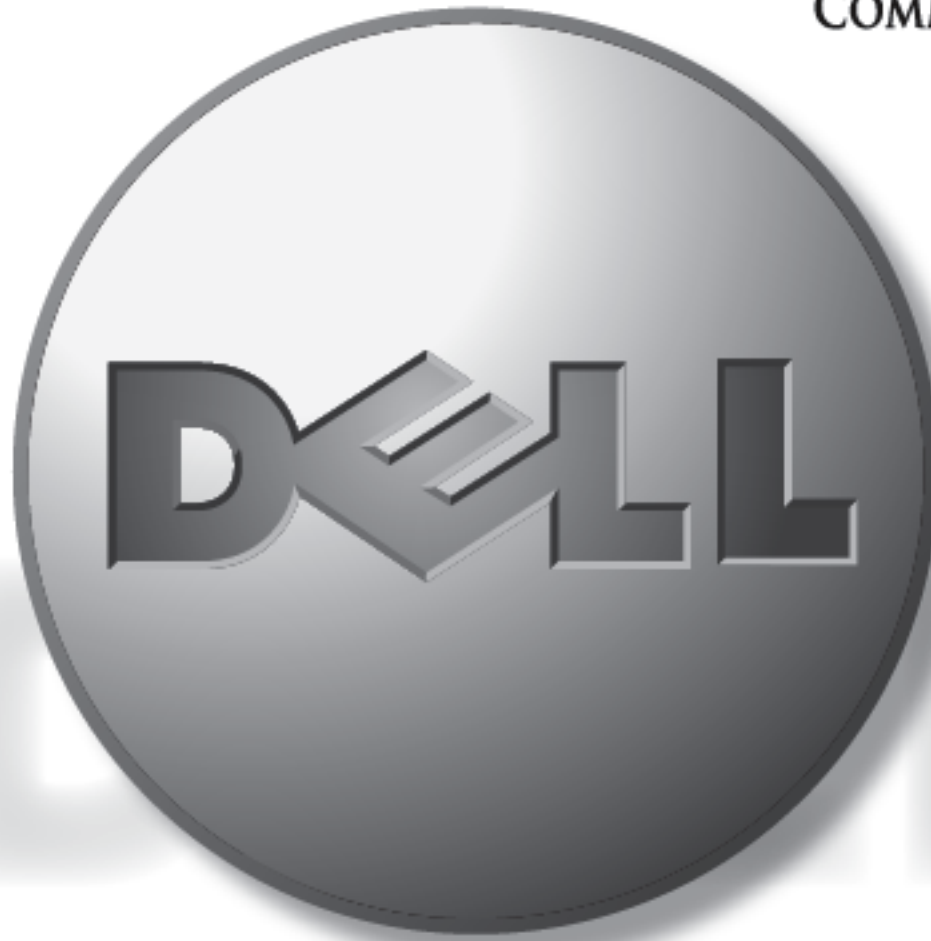
Ludlum said 20 new stores are under construction in China. Wal-Mart is only one of many U.S. companies looking to capitalize on China's strong consumers, Ludlum said.



OCCC Career and Employment Services



OKLAHOMA CITY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**Job recruiters will be here!
Bring your resumes
and dress professionally!**

Tuesday, November 28, 2006

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

College Union CU 1 & 2

Refreshments Provided

Special thanks to: Office of Student Life, Business Professionals of America, OCCC Division of Business & OCCC Division of Information Technology.

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC
INTRAMURALS
EVENTS

•**Dec. 2 - Feb. 17:** OCCC youth basketball season tips off. The cost for the event is \$60. It will be held in the OCCC gymnasium. For more information about this event, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Jan. 8 - Feb. 9:** Adult volleyball league registration dates are available for team sign-ups. League play starts Feb. 19 and runs through Apr. 30. The cost for the team is \$200. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Jan. 10 - 17:** Sign up for the Intramural league table tennis tournament. Sign-up forms for the Intramural games can be found at the Recreation and Community Services counter. All intramural games are free to OCCC students. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Jan. 11 - 18:** Sign up for the Intramural league dominos tournament. Sign-up forms for the Intramural games can be found at the Recreation and Community Services counter. All Intramural games are free to OCCC students. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 7 - 10:** Sign up for the Intramural PlayStation 2 "NCAA '07" basketball tournament which will be held in the college union. This event is free to all students. Sign-up sheets can be found in the Wellness Center. For more information on this event, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Got sports news?
StaffWriter2@occc.edu

Wellness Center slims waistline

By John Savage
Staff Writer

Some people may put on five to seven pounds through the fall and winter, thanks to a steady diet of such things as large meals and sweets.

And while most Americans gain only about a pound during the holidays, it can be hard to lose without exercise, according to CNN.

There is an easy way to make those pounds melt like butter, but it will cost sweat and time.

OCCC's Wellness Center cardio room has everything needed to get back into a shape other than round.

Wellness Center Attendant Billy McCoy said the gym is a great way to get healthy and stay in shape.

"It tones your body and increases lung capacity and heart capacity," McCoy said.

The Wellness Center has several machines geared not only toward beginners but also advanced athletes.

McCoy said many of the cardio machines are popular and used quite often.

Also the weight machines and free weights are used often he said.

Students who want one-on-one training can hire the athletic trainers.

Students pay \$25 for a 30-minute session with the trainer. The trainers will set up a workout plan along with a chart to show progress.

Staff and students also can work out in the Aquatic Center if they want a low-impact workout.

McCoy said the best times for students to hit the gym to avoid crowds are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are the busy days of the week.

Along with the weight and aquatic training, the gym offers students and staff basketball and volleyball nets.

McCoy said, sometimes students don't realize OCCC has an Olympic-size swimming pool.

OCCC student Mai Du said she likes to use the facilities when it gets cold outside.

"I usually go outside [to exercise]. When it's cold, I come here," Du said.

Another student who likes to hit the Wellness Center is OCCC Busi-



Photo by Carrie Cronk

ness major Dillon Dolezal. Star Oosahwe, coordinator of Registration and Records Services coordinator, spends an hour working out in Athletic Trainer Christy Barnes' Core Spinning class in the Wellness Center. Recreation and Community Services offers numerous fitness classes as well as workout facilities for OCCC staff and students.

ness major Dillon Dolezal.

"Yeah, [I like the facilities,]" Dolezal said. "I wish it had more free weights."

All students and staff must present a current school ID to use the facilities for free.

Non-students can pay for a one day pass for \$6 or \$40 for a 20 day punch card.

People who want to work out also must have the right attire, meaning no street clothes or shoes.

The Wellness Center is open through Dec. 23. It will close Dec. 24 and will re-open Jan. 2.

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/rcs.

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

Radio talk show host covers audio class

By **Matthew Coury**
News Writing Student

Radio news show Host Reid Mullins recently joined the college as an adjunct professor of Journalism and Mass Media Communications.

The opportunity arose when he received a call from friend and co-worker Gwin Faulconer-Lippert, mass communications professor.

She told Mullins she would not be able to teach the rest of the semester due to a health problem.

"She called me up a few weeks ago and said, 'I know that you've taught audio production classes before at OU,'" said Mullins. "I need you to teach my audio production class at OCCC."

Mullins said he jumped at the chance to repay Faulconer-Lippert for how well she's treated him and others when they worked together.

"I'd be willing to help her with anything," said Mullins. "I love to teach."

Mullins and Faulconer-Lippert are co-workers at the local Clear Channel radio network located at 50 Penn Place.

Mullins said everyone should pursue a college degree, something he earned as a student worker.

"When I was in college, through the first half

"I'd be willing to help her with anything. I love to teach."

—Reid Mullins

Adjunct Journalism and Mass Media Communications Professor

of school, I cleaned bathrooms for extra money," Mullins said. "If you've never gone to a truck stop on I-40, and scraped scum and algae off of a shower stall with a single-edge razor blade, then you haven't lived."

Two of Mullins' buddies, with whom he was rooming, already had jobs working in radio, and Mullins thought it was time he gave it a shot. He's been doing it ever since.

Mullins worked as a sports programming engineer, production manager and a deejay for six radio stations before attaining his current position as a show host.

"About a year and a half ago I was selected to be the morning host of News Radio 1000 KTOK," said Mullins.

Audio Production student Jonathan Card said he really likes Mullins as a professor.

"It was sad to see Gwin go," said Card, "but if I had to pick a replacement, I would pick Reid Mullins."



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Adjunct Journalism and Mass Media Communications Professor Reid Mullins gives lecture to students during the Audio Production class on Nov. 11. Mullins is filling in for Gwin Faulconer-Lippert professor of Mass Media Communications.

Mullins said he likes what he does. He hopes other people would like to do it too, and he likes to show them how to do it. He said I've got some smart students who are going to go on to bigger and better things.

History professor studies Transcendentalism

By **Adam Croom**
News Writing Student

Melinda Barr, history professor and coordinator of the honors program, fulfilled her dream of studying at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. this summer.

Through the National Endowment for Humanities, Barr was one of 25 people chosen nationally to spend one week at Harvard and one week in Concord, Mass., to study Transcendentalism and Utopian Thought in the 19 Century.

"Transcendentalism is the belief of man in his own perfectibility," Barr said. "Post-Civil War people were not as interested in organized religion as they once were so they were beginning to try to make themselves the guiders of their own path."

Transcendentalists were led by people who are now highly-regarded American authors.

"You're going to have people like Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David

Thoreau who write about the fact that you need to discipline yourself, you need to be in tune with nature, and you need to live a life that is sustainable," Barr said. Barr was one of four participating professors to give a brief presentation at Harvard.

She spoke on Education

Reform in the Antebellum Era.

For two days Barr spent time with a man who is a celebrity in her field, Sterling Delano, a Harvard English professor. He showed the group around Brook Farm, the site at which Transcendentalists tried to create their utopian com-

munity.

"Having Sterling Delano with you over two days is just not an experience I could have gotten any other way," Barr said.

Barr decided to apply for the grant on a whim.

"I was very hesitant," Barr said. It was a nationwide application process."

"But I always tell my daughters to go out on a limb, and to stretch beyond their comfort zone."

It is not easy for a full-time professor to always fit in learning for fun, Barr said. "Time to just study for the love of learning is always in short supply," Barr said.

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

Date change for graduation ceremony

The date for the 2007 Commencement Program has changed from May 11 to May 18.

Degree planning with Graduation Services

Staff from Graduation Services will be available from 5 to 8 p.m., Monday, Dec. 4, and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 5 and 6, in the Main Building lobby to assist students. Students who stop by will be able to check whether they are on track for graduation, if their declared degree is correct, if they have a faculty adviser, and who he or she is. Staff also will cover many graduation requirements.

Future Teachers make plans for Christmas

The Future Teachers Organization is meeting at 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 28, in room 2N5, to discuss plans for the FTO Christmas party on Dec. 12. Members also will talk about transferring to University of Central Oklahoma, University of Oklahoma, and University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. An additional meeting is being arranged at 4:30 p.m. for those who can't attend the first one.

Movie night by Society of Performing Artists

SPA is sponsoring a movie night showing "A Christmas Story" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 30, in CU3. If you want to participate in the game Dirty Santa, bring a white elephant gift (\$5 to \$10). Holiday games and snacks will be available. For more information, www.myspace.com/occcspa.

Festival of Giving tickets

Black Student Association is selling tickets to the Festival of Giving at Quail Springs Mall and Sooner Fashion Mall. Tickets cost \$5. Nights for the sales are Nov. 19 for Sooner and Dec. 3. for Quail. The mall will close at 6 p.m. to the public and reopen from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m. for ticket holders. Send ticket requests to Carlos Robinson in the Office of Student Life. For more information, contact Robinson at 405-314-7055.

Annual Essay Contest deadline

The Department of Language Arts Annual Essay Contest is accepting essays from students who have been enrolled in either ENGL 1113 or ENGL 1213 between Jan. 1 and Dec. 16. The maximum length of the essay is 2,000 words with no minimum. The essay is open topic and must be typed or computer printed on white, 8-inch by 11-inch paper, double-spaced with standard margins, presented in MLA format and unstapled. Entry forms can be picked up at the table outside the Arts and Humanities Division Office. The deadline for the essay is Dec. 16. Entries should be mailed or delivered to OCCC Arts and Humanities Division, 7777 South May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla., 73159, Attn: Kim Jameson, 2F2-B AH Bldg.

Twelve days of Christmas

The college bookstore will have 12 days of Christmas activities beginning Dec. 1 through Dec. 18. During the 12 days, the bookstore will have special sales and activities. Prizes ranging from a bike, grilling machine, smoothie maker and MP3 player will be given away each day. To win the prizes, contestants will compete in games and the winner will win the prize.

Highlights are due by 5 p.m. Tuesdays. Drop off highlight forms at the Pioneer, located on the second floor of the Main Building, in front of the elevator.

All smiles



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Hispanic Organization to Promote Education Vice President Monica Perez and President Raquel Carranco give service with a smile during the club's bake sale Nov. 14.

Proceeds from the bake sale were donated to the College Democrats to help raise funds to buy body armor for United States military personnel serving in the Middle East.

Club open for all nursing majors

By Lauren Border
News Writing Student

The OCCC Nursing Student Association recently amended its constitution to allow any students who have declared nursing as their major to become members of the association.

This modification is a first for the Nursing Student Association and club President Steven Braudway said he is thrilled about the change.

"This gives those who are looking to enter into the nursing program a chance to become familiar with the program as well as the opportunity to network with other people who are working toward similar goals," Braudway said.

In addition to the amendment, other changes have been made to ensure stu-

dents interested in nursing are accommodated, such as a mentorship program, the NSA website and monthly meetings.

The NSA mentorship program is designed to aid in answering any questions interested students in nursing might have.

"This is a place where underclassmen can ask upperclassmen anything that they want regarding the nursing program," Braudway said. It helps [underclassmen] know that they are getting an unbiased answer from the ones who have been where they are.

The mentorship program is accessible under one of the many discussion boards and tools located at the NSA club website, www.nsaoccc.com.

Jaimie Weihmueller, communications officer in

charge of the website, said her goal is to help students be informed.

In addition, the nursing program currently is working with nursing recruiters from area hospitals.

The purpose is to schedule times to come to OCCC and talk to the students about what kind of job opportunities are available once they graduate.

"We are also working with other colleges to send representatives and speak about the baccalaureate programs in nursing," Braudway said.

The purpose is to help our students make informed decisions as to where to transfer so they may further their education, he said.

The next meeting for NSA is at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27, in room 1N1 and will host a guest speaker.

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

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.

FREE TO GOOD HOME: Male puppy. 8 mos. old, 1/2 Lab, 1/2 Pit, black & white, is a big dog. He needs a backyard & lots of attention. Very playful & sweet, has had shots & is crate trained. He minds well & is housebroken. I live in an apartment, he needs more room. If interested, please call Priscilla at 405-412-2521 or Kenny at 405-243-8122.

FOR SALE: 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 Papillone female puppies. I have 2 to sell. Each is white with brown spots, very cute. They were born Oct. 23 and will be ready for a new home on Dec. 4. I am asking \$250 per puppy. If interested, please e-mail me at cheryl.p.flud@email.occc.edu.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '06 Dodge Ram 1500 LoneStar. 23k miles, power all, loaded. Asking \$22,000. Call 788-0068. For pics or more info: kati.e.henry@email.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: '04 Chevy Cavalier, 52,000 miles, lots of extras, very clean, excellent condition, warranty included. \$8,500. Call Daniel: 590-2795.

FOR SALE: '04 PT Cruiser Limited Platinum Series. Silver V4-turbo, low mileage. Loaded with extras: sunroof, custom leather interior, 6-disc CD, Sirius radio, new tires. Valued at \$13,675. Selling for \$12,500. Contact Patsy at 601-5754 or e-mail patticat22@cox.net

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, moon-roof, 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 \$2,100. Please e-mail hayemargo@hotmail.com

FOR SALE: '91 Mustang LX Convertible. 4 cyl., Automatic, 68k one-owner miles. First \$2,000 buys. 630-5703.

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. \$4,000 OBO. E-mail me trantor1000tt@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: '77 Mercedes 450 SL Convertible. White with black top and tan interior. This is a great car and a real headturner! It has 182k miles and runs great! The NADA is \$8500, but will sell for \$5200! Call 378-2337.

FOR SALE: '64 Ford Truck. It is red with a custom cab, short wide bed, with a straight six. Asking \$3,000. Call Andy for more details: 405-317-4613.

CHILD CARE

BABYSITTER AVAILABLE: OCCC student will babysit at person's residence. Flexible hrs., can work nights and help around the house. \$6.50/hr negotiable. Please contact Jennifer at 703-3664 or jen-anie@hotmail.com.

ELECTRONICS

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

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 instruc-

tors 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.

NOW HIRING: Servers, Bussers, Host Staff, & Bartenders. Apply at Shogun Steak House on N.W. 122nd & May in the Northpark Mall after 5:30 p.m. any day or call 749-0120.

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.

FOR RENT

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

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Daybed for sale. Black, western-looking. Asking for \$125 OBO. Call 255-8989 and ask for Ashley.

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

BOAT FOR SALE: '88 Celebrity Champion Line. 19ft Cabin

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Letterhead feature
- 5 Use a rink
- 10 Lodges
- 14 Leave out
- 15 Dark
- 16 Condo alternative
- 17 Fresh
- 18 — of the ball
- 19 Tiny bit
- 20 Approve
- 22 Scout
- 24 Barnyard sound
- 25 Nothing
- 26 DiCaprio movie
- 30 Natural gifts
- 34 Soon
- 35 Tag
- 37 Achy
- 38 "— overboard!"
- 39 Tear
- 40 Glamour wrap
- 41 Oklahoma city
- 43 Cornbread cakes
- 45 Type of pudding
- 46 Acoustical measure
- 48 Holes for shoelaces
- 50 Rower's need
- 51 Extinct bird
- 52 Fedora's place
- 56 Not well-known

- 60 Workers-protection agcy.
- 61 Zoo denizen
- 63 Prima donna's song
- 64 Polite cough
- 65 Merman or Kennedy
- 66 Bar bills
- 67 TV Princess
- 68 Climbs (a rope)
- 69 "What — is new?"

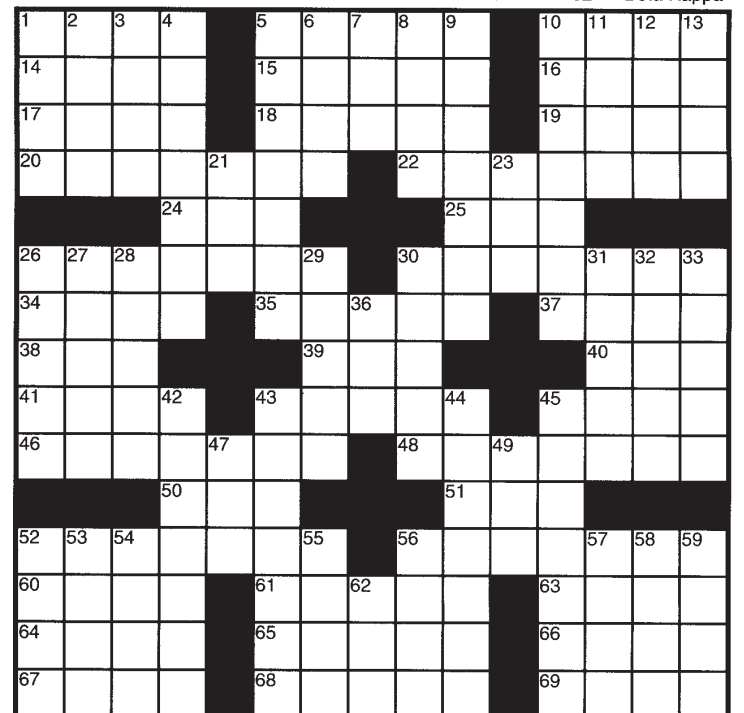
DOWN

- 1 Stride along
- 2 Portent
- 3 Encircle
- 4 Hassock
- 5 Farmer's concern
- 6 Type of jerk
- 7 Everything
- 8 Lean
- 9 Timeless
- 10 Winter sights
- 11 Cozy corner
- 12 Observe
- 13 Practice boxing
- 21 Reagan's nickname
- 23 Feel ill
- 26 Domesticated
- 27 Silly
- 28 Gin and —

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

SWAM	ROOFS	YOYO
KATE	EDDIE	IRON
IGOR	CIDER	PERU
PENGUINS	APPLES	
EFT	AGEE	
MONROE	CLIENTS	
AMASS	SARI	YEA
CAR	CAMEO	LAB
ANC	OTIS	PROSE
WISEGUY	WIENER	
PURR	ANY	
HERONS	ORIENTAL	
AVEC	INPUT	ARGO
LEAH	NOISE	ROUT
ERRS	GREED	OYES

8-15-98 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate



Cuddy, 280 HP 305 Motor, runs great. Call 788-0068. For pics or more info: kati.e.henry@email.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: Western paperbacks. \$1 each. Take your pick. 630-5703.

FOR SALE: Women's size-7 white gold diamond engagement ring. Princess cut w/diamond accents, asking \$400. Size 11/12 red prom dress with black sheer material over it so it appears deep red, beading all over \$75. Size 10 seashell pink wedding dress with lace and beading \$100. Call Kristina 250-8919 or e-mail for pictures at kbezdek@po.occc.edu.

FOR SALE: Washer, Whirlpool Ultimate Care II, white, exc. cond.,

\$175. Dishwasher, GE Nautilus, black, built-in, \$125. 794-2078.

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

To advertise in the Pioneer

Fax your ads to 405-682-7843 or e-mail your ads to adman@occc.edu. For more info, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674.

'Absolute' takes on new look in hardback

Dominic Mattachione
News Writing Student

Hard-bound copies of past issues OCCC's literary magazine "Absolute" are now available in the library. The magazines range from 1989 to 2005 and can be found in the reference section.

"Absolute" began in 1974 and also is OCCC's oldest publication.

It is edited by students

and faculty, Faculty Advisor Clay Randolph said. The journal contains poetry, art, essays, short stories and photographs from students and others, Randolph said.

Prior to the binding, the library shelved one loose copy every year after the magazine was released. Many of the loose paperback copies of the magazines have accumulated after decades of printing.

They are now being hard bound to help keep the magazines organized and protected.

Randolph said he was worried older issues would be lost.

"We are presently preparing to bind the older issues going back to the '70s," he said.

"These bound issues have the work of people that started this college, students and staff who were

here from the beginning, and it is wonderful that we preserved them."

The library staff is pleased with the new acquisition. Reference Librarian Jay Ramanjulu said the "Absolute" is a history of literature and art students.

[The] positive effect is evident through the people who create it," Ramanjulu said. "Our students produced this with faculty help."

The binding of the "Absolute" is providing a historical record of past students as more issues will be bound and shelved.

"We want to capture this part of the history of Oklahoma City Community College for future generations," said Susan VanSchuyver, Arts and Humanities dean.

"I am very glad to have the 'Absolutes' in a bound, permanent and attractive form."

Academic advisers offer students much-needed help in a number of areas

"Major,"
Cont. from page 1

to do."

Theater major Randy Beavers sees the importance of speaking with an adviser.

"It's important to figure out which classes you need to take in order to get to your degree."

Other students echo and elaborate on Beaver's sentiment.

"I think [speaking with an adviser] is very important," said Architecture and Constructive Science major Damian Comiskey.

"If you really want to do something and you don't get advisement for it, you're probably going to end up wasting time," he said.

"Experience is good, but it's not going to get you from point A to point B as soon as possible."

Students need to contact other schools to determine what courses will transfer.

"When you're transfer-

"If [students] talk with an adviser, they can declare their major, or when they change [their major], they should be able to get a pretty good picture of what they need to do."

—Aspen Svec

Advising and Career Services
Intake Assistant

ring to another school, it's actually up to that school what classes will transfer," Svec said.

She said students going to any college, either inside or outside of Oklahoma, need to speak with an adviser at the school they plan to attend to determine what courses will transfer.

Student Development Counselor Mary Turner recommends students also speak with faculty advisers to obtain specific details on a particular degree program.

"At least touch base with a faculty adviser," Turner said.

She said she's worked with exceptional students

who had a specific degree in mind, but weren't able to get into the programs they needed in a timely manner because they didn't sit down with a faculty adviser to learn all the nuances of what they were trying to accomplish.

There also are other resources available to students so they can easily determine what courses are transferable.

The Advisement and Career Services website, www.occc.edu/acs, has a link to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education site, which lists what courses are transferable between Oklahoma colleges and universities.

A common course such as English Composition 1113 will transfer to most colleges, but a specific de-

gree-oriented course won't transfer on such a wide basis.

For example, an Engineering major, when looking up transferable courses, will find that OCCC's Engineering course 2333 doesn't transfer to the University of Oklahoma, the University of Central Oklahoma, Rose State College or Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City.

For colleges outside of the state, students should contact their particular school of interest for information

regarding transferable courses.

Students can speak with an adviser at any time about a degree plan, even several semesters in advance, so students are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, Svec said.

For more information, stop by Advising and Career Services on the first floor of the Main Building or call 405-682-7535 to make an appointment with an adviser.

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

**NEED SOME EXTRA \$\$\$
FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!!!**

The Holiday season is about to begin! Now hiring part-time event set up and banquet waitstaff. \$7.50 hr., day or evening hours available. No experience needed. Contact Link Staffing for more details 946-1884.

**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

The Pioneer Online offers its readers

- Online-exclusive stories
- Access to Pioneer archives as far back as 1998
- Links which provide readers with even more valuable information

www.occc.edu/pioneer