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Extreme temperatures



Photo by Carrie Cronk

A student arrives on campus after enduring high winds, frigid temperatures and rain during the afternoon of Nov. 29. A day after highs in the low 70s, an arctic front brought temperatures below freezing with wind chills in the single digits as well as rain, sleet and snow to much of the state Wednesday night and all day Thursday prompting the college to close its doors on Thursday. Local meteorologists are forecasting a slight temperature increase over the next week.

The OCCC Theater Department presents:

"Children's Letters to God"

7 p.m., Dec. 7, 8 & 9

OCCC Theater

For more information,
www.occc.edu/pioneer

Students able to plot own course via MineOnline

By David Miller
Editor

When an academic adviser isn't available at 1 a.m., students can help themselves by logging on to MineOnline to determine the path they need to take toward completing a degree.

An automated degree audit is a tool provided by MineOnline for students to review what courses they've taken as well as what courses they need to take to complete their degree requirements, said Student Development Counselor Mary Turner.

After logging in to MineOnline, a student's declared major is automatically posted at the top of the page.

A 'submit' box, directly below that, can be chosen and will lead to a page where several items, including the student's GPA and credits earned from OCCC, are listed.

If a student has attended another college, the combined GPA and earned credits are listed next.

Also included is the status of each course, such as if the course is transferable to another college, in progress, not needed for the degree, or if an acceptable grade was earned to gain credit.

See "Degree," page 16

Man pleads no contest to 2005 campus crime

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

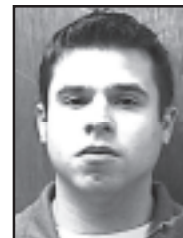
Former OCCC student Kevin Wayne Durant, 27, awaits sentencing for a crime he committed on campus in 2005.

Durant pleaded no contest — the equivalent of a guilty plea — on Nov. 9 to taking clandestine photographs of a female student.

Oklahoma County Judge Twyla Mason Gray accepted the plea of no contest, said

Gray's bailiff.

According to a 2005 OCCC incident report, Durant used a digital camera to film up a female student's skirt Aug. 31, 2005.



2005 File Photo

The Pioneer reported in its Sept. 5, 2005, issue that, after the woman re-

ported the incident to campus security officers, Durant turned his video camera over to the officers and was subsequently taken

into custody by Oklahoma City police.

Durant was initially arrested on campus for felony peeping tom and failure to register as a sex offender, a charge stemming from a 2002 second-degree rape case in Canadian County.

Eventually, the Oklahoma County district attorney's office decided to charge Durant with taking clandestine photographs, a felony.

Durant is currently out of jail on bond,

See "Durant," page 16

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

MySpace should be quarantined

It's becoming an epidemic of bulletin posting proportion.

The biggest social networking website in the world, MySpace, is all too present at OCCC.

Everywhere you turn someone is checking a MySpace account — from the computers at the main entrance to the computers in the library.

That in itself isn't really that big a deal. If, between classes, a student gets the sudden urge to repost a bulletin that tells them "to stand up and tell the rest of the world that you accept Jesus Christ as your personal lord and savior" there's really nothing wrong with it.

It's when it interferes with school or work that it becomes a problem.

MySpace is extremely addictive. It's the Internet equivalent to crack. It knows no social boundaries.

It isn't just accessed by young adults; it extends further, to musicians, athletes, actors and writers. It's an outlet for anyone to share information about themselves through blogs and by posting musical interests.

It's even gotten to the point where MySpace dating is acceptable. No longer is it taboo to send a message to the cute girl who is number three on your number seven's top eight. Maybe in a few years when MySpace can host live streaming video from its users, we can have the very first MySpace wedding.

So, although students do find school important, the opposite sex, music and movies often enter the brain of college students before school does. MySpace offers instant access to all of these things at any time, at any computer with Internet access — even during class.

Students in computer-aided classes often check out their MySpace profiles while professors are lecturing.

English classes are a little more distracting when you're startled by the sound of Gnarl Barkley's "Crazy" drifting from a MySpace page your classmate is perusing.

Even in classrooms without computers, people still are on MySpace — they just bring their laptops to class.

Essentially, MySpace is now the new cell phone. When they first became popular, classes being disrupted by ringing phones were easily remedied by professors forcing students to silence their phones.

MySpace is a horse of a different color though. It typically makes no sound, yet it still distracts students in the same manner.

Perhaps there's no cure to the MySpace epidemic other than self-control. If there is a cure, undoubtedly, it will find its way onto a MySpace bulletin board.

—Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

OCCC ads need spark

To the Editor:

I noticed in the first publication of the school newspaper that the overall enrollment has dropped by roughly 6 percent over last year.

I am aware that there are extenuating circumstances that were listed in your publication as to why the attendance has dropped.

I agree with you on quite a few of the reasons — one being gas prices.

Although, do you think that there may be other issues that have caused this drop?

How about the overall advertisement of the school itself?

On the inside of the school, I see many posters and banners that slap your logo, "In It For Me At O-Triple-C," on them. I think the slogan is excellent, but how it's being pitched both inside and outside advertising is boring.

I saw a television ad for OCCC the other night and I wasn't impressed.

The main reason I wasn't impressed is the person that was narrating the commercial itself was very

monotone and didn't have any enthusiasm in his or her voice.

How are you going to try and sell the school using someone's voice that shows no desire to be doing it?

My suggestion here is obvious. Find someone that wants to be in the commercial and establish some sort of personality.

If television isn't what your primary advertising budget is used for, I recommend doing any of the following things: radio, billboards, fax blitz or mass mailings.

I am aware that these are not as effective as T.V. commercials, but they are significantly cheaper, which will allow you to do them more often.

With the radio, you can do a survey of the entire school about which radio station they listen to the most to get a good idea of which station to primarily advertise on.

Using the mass mailing idea, you can take lists of students that are about to graduate from all the surrounding schools and send them information packets

on the school's mission statement as well as typical enrollment information.

After seeing the commercial for OCCC, I have had serious doubts about the advertising techniques of the school and see it as a serious area of improvement.

—Keith Moon
OCCC Student

PIONEER

Vol. 35 No. 15

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Rachel Carlton.....Staff Writer
Amanda Bittle.....Staff Writer
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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

off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



Comments and Reviews

Current college e-mail often confusing, frustrating

To the Editor:

Overall, Oklahoma City Community College is a great place to start college.

It offers many opportunities for young adults to better their future.

The campus itself is a well-rounded place, there are friendly helpers around assisting you if you need help, and the atmosphere makes you feel very comfortable.

Although the campus is great, I would change one thing: our school e-mail.

Our school e-mail is designed for students to interact with our professors and our peers to fix any financial problem, enroll in classes, and so on, but the issue is very complicated.

Sometimes you can't even log in without it making you re-type all your information 20 times.

Once logged in, you now have two e-mail accounts you can log into. There's an

"Our school e-mail is designed for students to interact with our professors and our peers to fix any financial problem, enroll in classes, and so on, but the issue is very complicated."

—Shawnta Raeford
OCCC Student

old and a new one.

You have to check both daily in order for you not to miss out on anything.

The old e-mail system is very old-fashioned. It seems as if someone just created this webpage in one day.

Sometimes you can't send attachments along with your e-mail, you can't add people to your address book or even know what new mail is and what is not.

The new e-mail system was created better, but no one knows about its existence.

There is not a certain e-mail address you can give someone so it sends to the

new one; everything refers back to the old e-mail account.

At times it can be extremely frustrating to the point where you just want to quit and just forget about accessing your e-mail at all.

The solution to this problem is creating one e-mail address and making all correspondences go to it. That way there would not be any confusion whatsoever.

Someone needs to fix the system to where it's easier to log into. That way the process of everything is smooth and quick.

—Shawnta Raeford
OCCC Student

Library staff permanently checked out on second floor

To the Editor:

Oklahoma City Community College is a wonderful school full of gifted teachers and students.

One minor aspect that I have noticed is lacking is the second floor of the library.

There is no attendant on that floor to help people find books.

Other people besides me have complained about this lack of assistance.

Since there is no one there to help, a person may spend hours looking for a book that is already checked out or is perhaps missing.

Maybe that person might just be looking in the wrong place, but they'd never

"One minor aspect that I have noticed is lacking is the second floor of the library. There is no attendant on that floor to help people find books."

—Dobry Priboy
OCCC Student

know this because no one is there to help them.

One way to solve this is to provide a librarian on the second floor to aid the students that need assistance.

This would stop the confusion among the students and help get more books checked out at the library.

Even though this is just a minor detail, this small addition would help the school and the students as well.

Oklahoma City Community College is a wonderful school and just some small adjustments could make it even better.

—Dobry Priboy
OCCC Student

View from the PRESIDENT'S OFFICE



At Oklahoma City Community College, we want our students to succeed not only in making a good living but also in making a good life for themselves, their families, and our community.

While we provide the education necessary to be successful in employment or to transfer to a university, we also provide students with opportunities to learn about making a good life.

One way we provide opportunities to build a good life is through what is called "service-learning." Living a good life is about being good to others and about giving of ourselves to others in need.

I believe that one of the key attributes that makes our community, our state, and our nation great is our goodness as a people demonstrated by our willingness to volunteer to serve others in need.

Students have found that participating in service-learning projects has a positive effect on their personal and interpersonal development, increasing both their sense of personal efficacy and their ability to communicate well, lead effectively, and to work well with others.

These qualities are highly valued by employers and are vital elements in creating a high quality of life for ourselves and our community.

OCCC students have made a tremendous impact in our community and serve as an inspiration to others. Just this fall, more than 500 OCCC students have tutored students at local elementary schools, painted and framed houses for Habitat for Humanity, sorted and boxed food at the Regional Food Bank, and served the community in a variety of other ways.

Through their service, their own lives have been enriched as they have improved the lives of countless others. We're proud of the accomplishments of our students and the services they do to strengthen our community.

If you haven't had the chance to join in a service-learning project, I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to demonstrate goodness and help our community by joining fellow students in service.

Not only will our community be a better place, you will lay the foundation for a good life for yourself.

To become involved in service-learning, stop by the volunteer center in student life or visit www.occc.edu/volunteer.

—Paul Sechrist
OCCC President

Got an idea or opinion about OCCC? Make your voice heard by writing 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.

Comments and Reviews

'Gears of War' won't grind to a halt

Time to gear up as developer Epic Games, Inc. released its Xbox 360 game "Gears of War."

Sometimes games come out with a ton of hype and never live up to it. This is not one of those games. This game is a real gem, and one that will be challenging for the best on this system or any system out to date.

With more butchering than a "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" script, this game is one for the mature gamer due to the blood, gore, intense violence and strong language.

This game is a third-person horror action game and delivers some sick moves that can make a squashed tomato mirror an enemy torn up by the available weapons. "Gears of War" plays a lot like games in the



"Splinter Cell" series but with more flavor.

Players will be able to brutalize through enemies with a chainsaw attached to their battle rifle. Blood and flesh splatter up on the

screen like a horror show.

The campaign mode is a blast to play through solo or with a friend co-op. Xbox Live friends also can play along online and complete the campaign mode to-

gether. The story pits players as futuristic soldiers trying to stop the horde of Locust that has invaded from under the earth's surface.

The game also supports

four-on-four multi-player options online where players battle each other in a race to three wins.

Players will use swinging grenades, snipers, shotguns, Hammer of Dawn, the Boomer Gun and semi-automatic pistols. Sometimes the player's own boot heel is used to stomp the opposition.

Strategy is a must to survive in this game; cowboys need not apply. Running around solo will get a well-placed chainsaw in a player's cranium, and will leave teammates cursing.

Although FPS games are my forte, I felt right at home with this instant classic.

So if traditional FPS isn't your thing, try "Gears of War."

Rating: 5/5

—**John Savage**
Staff Writer

Oasis' 'Clocks' an unwelcome mirage

Lead singer Liam Gallagher once proclaimed his band Oasis was better than the Beatles.

Although they've never been better than the Beatles, it's too bad Oasis' greatest hits collection, "Stop the Clocks," doesn't showcase them at their best.

The album is supposed to be a collection of Oasis' best songs, and although all are good, some are a far cry

from the great material they've produced over the span of 10-plus years.

Four of the songs on "Clocks" are from Oasis' sophomore smash hit album. "(What's the Story) Morning Glory." "Wonderwall," "Don't Look Back in Anger" and "Champagne Supernova" made the cut despite Oasis' main songwriter, Noel Gallagher, telling Reuters in November that, "Some of the songs are

not as great as people think they are."

The fourth song on "Clocks," from that album is "Morning Glory."

Oasis' debut album, "Definitely Maybe," has five songs on "Clocks:" "Rock n Roll Star," "Live Forever," "Cigarettes and Alcohol," "Supersonic" and "Slide Away."

Those two albums make up the meat of this greatest hits collection.

Oasis' latest album "Don't Believe the Truth" only has two songs that made the cut and Oasis' 2002 release "Heathen Chemistry" had one song make the greatest hits collection.

The biggest problem with "Clocks" isn't that Oasis put bad material on the album, it's just that they didn't put their best on it.

Some of Oasis' greatest love songs like, "Cast No Shadow," "Sunday Morning

Call," and "Stand By Me" missed the cut.

"Stop the Clocks" will most likely leave Oasis fans feeling unsatisfied.

However, for those fans of Oasis who stopped listening once "(What's the Story) Morning Glory?" finally faded, this collection might pique a new interest in an old band.

Rating: 3/5

—**Scott D'Amico**
Staff Writer

'Ice Age 2: The Meltdown' will warm hearts

Just in time for Christmas, 20th Century Fox has released "Ice Age: The Meltdown" on DVD.

The movie brings back the lives of Manny, Sid and Diego, and the adventures of their mis-matched herd as they travel to the other end of the valley in hopes of reaching a boat that will save them from an imminent flood resulting from warming climate changes.

Along the way the herd meets up with Ellie, a mammoth with severe identity issues, and her two opossum brothers, Eddie and Crash.

Scrat, the saber-toothed squirrel with a passion for acorns, provides comic relief throughout the film with his mishaps while attempting to seize his prize.

The movie winds up with a surprise hero and a sud-

den population growth of mammoths.

The DVD offers a flood of extras, including the animated short "No Time for Nuts," which features Scrat.

During the short, Scrat discovers a time machine, which brings a whole new dimension to his difficulties in seizing his prized acorn.

Other shorts in the extras include a section titled

"Lost Historical Student Films," a collection of black-and-white documentary-style films that discuss various species of characters in the movie.

Other features include trivia-styled games, commentaries, "Scrat's Piranha Smackdown," and a section that allows the viewer to watch a scene throughout the various stages of development, from the story-

board to final product.

The overall picture quality of the DVD is excellent, as is the quality of the sound.

The "Ice Age: the Meltdown," DVD is an all-around exceptional product that is guaranteed to make any DVD movie addict happy.

Rating: A

—**Carrie Cronk**
Staff Writer

Nursing professor teaches interactively

By Chelsea Moore
News Writing Student

Diana Spencer joined the OCCC nursing faculty this November. She will teach Nursing Process 4.

Spencer said Nursing Process 4 usually is the class taken the last semester before students graduate with a degree in nursing.

Spencer describes her way of teaching as interactive.

She said she likes to get

students involved. She said she focuses on critical thinking skills, and tries to stay away from straight lectures.

So far, Spencer said, she has been pleased with the campus, staff and students. "I love [the OCCC campus]" she said. "I hope I can make a difference."

She said she enjoys the people, her colleagues, and the other nursing faculty. "They are all very educated," she said.

Spencer started her aca-

"I love [the OCCC campus]. I hope I can make a difference."

—Diana Spencer
OCCC Nursing Professor

demic career at a vocational technical center in Cincinnati, Ohio, working toward a degree as a dental assistant.

She then got an associate degree in nursing in Ohio, moved to Oklahoma and, at age 46, got a master's degree at the University of Oklahoma.

"I have wanted to teach since 1981," Spencer said. "Now I am getting to do what I wanted to do."

She said she has worked her way up to where she wants to be.

"You may not get what you want right away, but if you keep working toward it, you'll get there."



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Diana Spencer

Campus Safety and Security keep busy with crime

By Phillip Hemphill
Staff Writer

Thefts, a burglary, a fight and an auto accident kept security officers busy in November.

The first case of theft was reported at 11:56 a.m., Nov. 10. A student told officers she left her purse unattended in the library and it was stolen.

In the report, Mee Worrirow said she left her purse on a table before heading to a computer to check her e-mail. The report showed several items from her purse were recovered in parking lot A, located on the northeast side of campus.

Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director, said cases like these can be easily avoided.

"Don't leave portable

items like cell phones, PDA's, books and laptops alone," he said.

Other items reported stolen during the week included a ladder belonging to Master Color Painting and a student's cell phone.

On Nov. 13, Issac Lively of Master Color Painting reported a ladder stolen after his crew returned from a break to a worksite near the Automotive Center. Lively said the 24-foot aluminum ladder has the letters MC painted on the side. Anyone with information should contact the college.

William Batchlear, 20, reportedly became angry Nov. 15 after he discovered his \$260 phone missing. The cell phone was later returned to the student, but not before he caused a disturbance during class.

In the report, the student said he plugged in his phone to charge it, then fell asleep. He later left the classroom but returned when he realized he had left his phone behind.

When he discovered the phone missing, he accused other students in the room of stealing it and cursed at the professor, according to the report. That's when security officers were called to the scene.

Sloas said a student conduct violation was filed. He said, even in cases where property is missing, students still have to behave in a mannerly fashion.

The final theft of the month was reported at 8:21 p.m., Nov. 21, when the window of a 2002 Ford F150 Harley Davidson Edition was reported to have been broken out.

In the report, George Martin stated that a CD case and CDs valued at \$400, along with a \$50 lug nut lock for the trucks rims were missing.

Also on the list of reports for November is a report of feminine hygiene dispensers in campus restrooms being broken into.

Other reports include a fight and a student disturbance.

A disturbance in the Arts and Humanities office Nov. 20, ended with a work study being asked to leave the area.

Security Officer Larry Lundy reported he was called to the area after Toya Howard became upset and began slamming doors and yelling at others in the office.

Arts and Humanities Dean Susan VanSchuyver reported the student also made threats of physical abuse. Lundy advised office personnel to file a Student Misconduct report and call

security if the student returned.

Another report shows that on Nov. 28, two students from the Career Transitions program started shoving each other, after which security officers responded and broke up the fight, according to a filed report. The students were later released to Career Transitions staff members.

On Nov. 27, a Metro Transit Bus hydroplaned on wet pavement and hit a guardrail and parked motorcycle belonging to Clifford Marshall. The report shows Marshall was headed to parking lot A when he noticed his bike on its side, on the ground.

Bus Driver Mike Revels said rainy conditions caused him to lose control of the bus. Minor damage was done to the motorcycle, bus and guardrail.

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



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Testing Center extends open hours

By Christopher Scott
News Writing Student

The Testing Center will add hours during finals week to help students who have busy schedules, said Jim Ellis, OCCC Testing Center director.

"Don't wait until the last minute to take all your tests," Ellis said. "It's too much pressure."

Rocky Chavez, public relations major, said he appreciates the extended hours.

"The Testing Center helped me out greatly in the past," he said. "Because of my busy schedule, I wouldn't have been able to make

it unless they had extended the hours."

The hours of the Testing Center will be 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. from Dec. 11 to Dec. 15.

The Testing Center also will be open the following week. The hours will be 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Dec. 18. From Dec. 19 through 22, the Testing Center hours will be 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Business Major Diana Veale works full time and doesn't usually take tests in the center. However, she will have to for finals week so the extra hours will benefit her.

"The Testing Center hours are awesome," she said.

Students who don't budget their time can suffer academically, Ellis said. "One person hadn't [taken] any tests and took all of the tests in one day. His grades drastically kept getting lower on each test," he said.

Testing Center employee Brian Nguyen has worked at OCCC for the last seven years.

"During finals week it's crazy so get here early," he said.

Students are reminded they have to start all tests one hour before the Testing Center closes.

Ellis said professors also must turn in all grades by noon, Tuesday, Dec. 19.

Finals week Testing Center hours

Dec. 11 to 15:
8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Dec. 18:
8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Dec 19 to 22:
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Holiday spirit in tune with traditions

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer and
Fatemeh Taghavi
News Writing Student

For years, it has been a tradition at OCCC for various offices and departments to participate in the college's holiday decorating contest.

This year will be no different — almost.

Captioning Specialist Marian Rother said while departments will be given the theme "Holiday Har-

mony" to follow when decorating offices or trees, they also will be given the option to incorporate a holiday song into the fun, effectively putting a new twist on an old tradition.

If a holiday song is chosen, the tree must be decorated in a way that represents the song, Rother said.

All decorated trees will be moved to

the college union where, Rother said, the fun will really start.

"This is the first time we're moving [decorated Christmas trees] down to the union," she said.

Folks are asked to stop by during the Faculty Holiday Reception Dec. 14 to vote for a favorite tree and play

"Name that Tune," Rother said.

"You look at the [song-themed] trees and try to figure out what song they're decorated after."

Rother said, to play, people will only need to write their guess on an entry form located by the tree.

Rother said people also can vote for a favorite tree by placing any amount of money in a voting box placed next to the tree.

The tree that brings in the most money wins that of-

fice a bagel-and-coffee breakfast party.

All collected money will be donated to the Christmas Connection, Rother said.

The deadline to enter the contest is Dec. 11.

OCCC vocal performance students and children from the college's Child Development Center and Lab School will provide entertainment.

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



Graduate office helps students' GPAs

By Koby Harrington
News Writing Student

The Graduation Office strives to provide students with the best possible grade-point average when they graduate, said Barbara Gowdy, Graduation Office director.

One way this is done is to determine if the student has taken a course at two different institutions that would fulfill the same graduation credit.

If so, this may qualify as a repeated course, Gowdy said, and the student can use the higher of the two grades for graduation.

She said it isn't uncommon for OCCC graduating

students to have credits from other colleges or universities.

"We try to catch every [repeat] before we confirm a degree to make the graduation GPA the best it can be," Gowdy said.

In addition, Gowdy uses the college's Academic Forgiveness Policy to help determine a student's graduation GPA.

The policy reads: "A student may repeat up to four courses ... in which grades 'D' or 'F' were originally earned and petition to have only the second grade used in the calculation of the retention/graduation grade point average."

The lower grade will not

show up on the student's transcript.

Student Marcella Young knows how confusing keeping up with credits and grades and can be.

"It's really hard to know if I'm taking the right courses to fulfill my degree," she said. "Especially because I have credits from several different schools."

Gowdy cautions that once finalized, graduation GPAs can't be changed.

For more information, contact the Graduation Office at 405-682-1611.

Have a story idea? Have a complaint? Want to share your opinion? e-mail the editor:

editor@occc.edu

Online Pioneer: www.occc.edu/pioneer

Music professor shares passion

By Jon Godsy
News Writing Student

Music Professor Michael Boyle shook the College Theater with a double bass recital Nov. 16.

About 125 attendees vibrated in their seats during the 90-minute performance.

The first set mainly concentrated on Boyle as both of his hands appeared to glide up and down his enormous upright bass.

"I pride myself on being technically precise," Boyle said, "and that's what I try to teach my students."

Although Boyle soloed the majority of the first set, music Professor Ron Staton joined him on the piano for a song, and student Jean Windham performed a narration.

The first set was filled with composers such as Johann Sebastian Bach and Betram Turetzky.

Following the first set was a 10-minute intermission, then Boyle, with the help of other bandmates, began the second set.

"[The guitarist] played out of his mind," Boyle said.

Boyle's sound took on an electric tone as he began the second set with his bass thundering out of an amplifier instead of relying only on the theater's acoustics.

From time to time, one could hear the excitement in a "yea" coming from Boyle as he plucked his bass, moving musically with the rest of the band.

Music Professor Michael Boyle performs on the double bass during his concert Nov. 16. The show, free to students, faculty and staff, featured a variety of musical styles from Bach to Turetzky to jazz. It's traditional for new music professors to perform in a free concert during their first semester.

Photo by Carrie Cronk



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Dell offers many jobs to OCCC students

By Rachel Watson
News Writing Student

Kelly Farmer, manager at Dell Inc., spoke about the many jobs the company can provide students Nov. 28.

Farmer said there are tons of job opportunities for motivated and willing students with degrees in business, accounting, administration or marketing.

In 2005, Dell was named the number one most admired company. Dell is a company that spans the globe, Farmer said.

He said many natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina have been responded to, and given support by, Dell at the Enterprise Command Center.

The Enterprise Command Center uses technicians who help schedule and keep track of the resources throughout the world.

During the events following Sept. 11, Dell set up a Temporary Room, which was used to help make the Internet available to those who needed it.

Farmer said Dell has many goals, including providing a service to everyone and reducing the time it takes to send computers to customers.

He said the company now employs 1,500 people in Oklahoma City.

Michael Dell, CEO and chairman of the Board of Directors of Dell, worked on computers in his college dorm room and began to sell them. Since, Dell's company has grown to become a Fortune 500 Company.

Farmer said students could get training at Dell for the area where they would prefer to work.

He said Dell reaches 99 percent of the world in just a few hours. This helps Dell manage and understand resources that exist all around the world.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Kelly Farmer, Dell Enterprise Support Services representative, speaks to business students about Dell employment opportunities Nov. 28. Farmer helped launch Dell Call Centers in the United States, India and Panama.

Video students help out Department of Agriculture

By Sara Dew
News Writing Student

Three students from OCCC's Film and Video Program have been hired to film The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry's newest documentary.

Brian Gilliland was hired as lead cameraman, and Samantha Bryant and Dustin Walters were hired as the editorial assistants.

The documentary will consist of small documentaries of each of the department's 12 divisions, compiled as a single documentary, said Professor Greg Mellott, program director.

Previously, the Department of Agriculture had hired a different group to complete the film but the group failed to meet the department's needs. Facing a December deadline, the department was pressed for time and came to OCCC, trusting its film and video program could provide hard-working, talented students to complete the task successfully, Mellott said.

"So far its been going great for

them. They've been doing a lot of work and they've had a very intense schedule because they're trying to play catch up for this December deadline," Mellott said.

The Department of Agriculture seems to be pleased with the students' work, Mellott said.

He said filming this documentary is a good opportunity for the film students to apply their skills and

"There are a lot of documentary skills that translate very well into features, as well as some of the best television works too."

—Greg Mellott

Film and Video Studies Program Director

gain experience that will help them in their future careers.

"There are a lot of documentary

skills that translate very well into features, as well as some of the best television works, too," Mellott said.

Free pancake breakfast offered in time for finals

By Rachel Carlton
Staff Writer

To avoid distracting stomach grumbles during exams, Student Life is hosting a free pancake breakfast from 7 to 9 a.m., Monday, Dec. 11, in CU3.

Sara McElroy, First Year and Student Life Programs coordinator, said the breakfast is meant to be an energizer for finals week.

However, some students believe the hour is too early.

Journalism major Keri DeKinder, said she doesn't get up that early unless she has to.

"I live in Chickasha so it's a long drive," she said. "Pancakes are cool but they're not that cool."

Corina Garcia, business management major, agrees the breakfast begins very early, but said she might attend.

"I would maybe go around eight," she said.

McElroy said the free breakfast has been provided the first day of finals week every semester for the past two years.

"We really enjoy it and like to do it.

"Who doesn't enjoy a free breakfast?" she said.

In addition to pancakes, coffee and juice also will be served.

For more information, call Student Life at 405-682-7523.

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

Children don aprons for Center cook off



Preschool B class students Keragan Bourlier, 5, and Jazmyn Winston, 4, roll dough for crescent rolls during the class cook off on Nov. 20. The class prepared recipes from the cookbook that was compiled by the staff of the Child Development Center and Lab School.

Preschoolers got their hands dirty with cakes, pies and mashed potatoes in preparation for the Child Development Center and Lab School's cook off.

The cooking contest took place Nov. 20. The students prepared, cooked and served the dishes to three other classes and the office staff.

Recipes came from a cookbook put together by the students, said Constance Pidgeon, lab school teacher and lab assistant.

The entire menu consisted of:

- a chocolate sheet cake
- four pumpkin pies
- two cream pies
- two pans of stuffing
- mashed potatoes
- sixty-four crescent rolls

Carson's Market Fresh Café provided the main dish.

The cook off was part of a cooking unit the students were studying this semester.

The students used recipes from a cookbook, compiled by the staff, they have plans to sell.

**Photos
by Carrie Cronk**



Students from the Child Development Center and Lab School's preschool B class admire the many dishes the class worked to prepare earlier in the day as they carry in the crescent rolls to be baked for the school's lunch.



Preschool B classmates Mattie, 5, and Skylynn Spargur, 4, set down their trays of baked goods in the Child Development Center and Lab School's kitchen. After rolling the dough for the crescent rolls and bringing them into the kitchen for baking, the girls took a moment to admire other baked goods they helped create earlier that morning.

New class to put spin on politics and media

By Anna Ballje
News Writing Student

Students can gain a whole new perspective on mass media and the political system.

Starting this spring, students can enroll in a class on current events, heated debates and the evolution of mass media.

The class, Mass Media, Politics, and Public Opinion, will be taught by Randy Hopkins, political science professor.

Hopkins said he first decided to develop the class last semester when he encountered many students who were interested in the areas of mass media and political opinion.

"College students get most of their political information from watching TV," Hopkins said.

He said the main thing he wants his students to learn from the class is to be able to understand the bi-

ases within the media and how political television influences the public.

He said most of the mass media people see on television manipulates behavior.

Hopkins said he thinks it is important for college students to be aware of the political world around them.

"If students are not aware of society, they cannot function as a member of society," he said.

Hopkins said he is looking forward to teaching a new, fresh class that he thinks will be a lot of fun with many interesting discussions.

He said the class will cover the timeline of mass media, beginning from newspapers and going all the way to the world wide web of today.

"Students will see and understand how each type of media influences mass media and public opinion," Hopkins said.

Students also will analyze television shows such as "The Daily Show" and "The Colbert Report" in order to study mass media and how it is used to influence public opinion.

He said these television shows will be viewed as political satire with news issues of the day.

These shows will be important because students will be able to see and debate how television programming influences our culture today, he said.

Hopkins said this will be a trial semester to see how things go.

Overall, this class will help students get involved or be more interested in public affairs that may be going on, Hopkins said.

Students who are interested in getting the low-down on the real-world view of politics and mass media can e-mail Hopkins at rhopkins@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7173.



Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" with Jon Stewart, will be one of the programs analyzed.

Bill O'Reilly, of Fox's "The O'Reilly Factor," hosts the most-watched cable news show in the country.



Another popular show is "Hardball with Chris Matthews," on MSNBC. Matthews has hosted Hardball since 1997.

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Bird unit among hands-on activities at center

By Katie Pearson
News Writing Student

The OCCC Child Development and Lab Center offers toddlers and preschoolers innovative classes with hands-on learning with an emphasis on parent participation.

Teacher Kristal Cantwell's class just finished a unit on birds.

The children learned how birds fly and eat, made birdseed collages, and learned different names and features of birds.

Among the favorite activities, the students took a trip to the campus pond in September to observe the geese and ducks.

"The kids took clipboards and drew pictures of the birds they saw," Cantwell said. "(In the past), the kids got to hold [pigeons] and release them, and watch them fly back home."

Parents also were invited to the class to share their knowledge about birds.

The lab school is recognized as one of the nation's outstanding

centers, with a rating of three stars renewed annually, according to its website. The curriculum is based on an organized, structured environment for the children.

The students will benefit more from an early childhood program when their parents are involved and value the program, according to the curriculum beliefs.

Two classes are offered for the preschool age group, with about 18 children and two teachers for each. "The classes fill up fast; there is a long waiting list," Cantwell said.

The school's teachers either have or are working toward a bachelor's degree.

To keep the children's parents up to date, an online newsletter for each class is updated monthly, with a summary of the activities, important dates, and a list of the children's birthdays.

Cantwell has been teaching for three years.

She said the most gratifying part of her job is "just having the kids tell you they love you."



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Preschool students Ian Mathew, 3, and Halle Kobriger, 3, admire Tweety and Elmer during their morning play time. The parakeets have been visiting the Child Development Center and Lab School classrooms while some of the students have worked on a project about birds. The chirpsome duo will stay at the center until the students become interested in another project, at which time the birds will return home with lab school Director Mary McCoy.

Leadership Council works to improve life at OCCC

By Aaron McGuinn
News Writing Student

While walking across campus on any given day students may encounter signs advertising bake sales, seminars open to students, and countless other activities. Who

is responsible for these events?

Two Thursdays a month, two dozen students meet for an hour as The Leadership Council, or TLC.

Their goal is to improve the campus in as many ways as possible, said Council Chairman Carlos Robinson.

To accomplish this goal, representatives from each student organization come together and brainstorm ways to not only make life easier for the students of OCCC, but also to improve the campus as a whole.

For example, one item on the agenda of the council is to purchase a bench to add to the courtyard.

The meetings are casual, but the attitude of the members is completely serious. They organize themselves for the benefit of the school, but also use The Leadership Council as a way to better prepare themselves for what lies ahead in their academic lives and future careers.

Robinson said he sees the council as a way to hone the organizational and leadership skills he will be required to use as a business major and future entrepreneur.

Long-term benefits of being a member of the council are not the only reasons why students choose to participate.

"This is the best way to have my voice heard and make a difference here," said Robinson, who also is the president of the Black Student Association.

Not only do the members of the council want their own voices to

"This is the best way to have my voice heard and make a difference here. We are students who come together to make the campus better."

—Carlos Robinson
OCCC Student

Kids get college experience

By Marcella Young
News Writing Student

Gayla Holmes first joined the OCCC staff as a teacher in the College for Kids program. On Aug. 1, Holmes joined the rest of the OCCC staff as an admissions counselor.

Holmes began teaching College for Kids weekend classes in early January and decided she liked it so much she wanted to take on some classes of her own.

"I liked teaching the weekend classes during the school year because most of the kids in my classes were there because they really wanted to learn or they need help in certain areas," Holmes said.

Holmes taught a wide range of summer classes, including Tiny Tot Weather, Tiny Tot Animals, Edible Experiments and Ooey-Gooey.

"There is such a variety of classes that there really isn't any way you couldn't find something you wanted to be a part of," Holmes said.

Jack Perkins, Coordinator of Community Education and Health, said the purpose of College for Kids is to give kids a positive experience on a college campus.

For many people, he said, college is a scary place. When youngsters come here and have a good time, it becomes a more positive option.

Spring enrollment for College for Kids begins in December. Children between the ages of 6 and 14 are encouraged to enroll. For more information, call the RCS Office at (405) 682-1611, ext. 7860.

be heard, they are the voices for the students of OCCC. "We are students who come together to make the campus better," Robinson said.

Improvements on campus for students can often be attributed to the efforts of TLC.

The council labors under the watchful eye of Student Life and Development Dean Liz Largent.

Approximately 800 students are signed up with the 34 student organizations on campus, but students are not limited to just 34 choices.

They also can form new student organizations.

To start a new student club, one needs 10 members and a full-time faculty member as a sponsor. Largent encourages anyone who wants to gain experience in organizations or enhance their academic résumé to attend TLC meetings or find a club that fits.

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC
INTRAMURALS
EVENTS

•**Dec. 4 - 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 April 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 dominoes 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.

Sport club gets pumped up

By Courtney K. Barrie
News Writing Student

OCCC President Paul Sechrist wants to measure success as more than grades.

Sechrist's goal is to intertwine the college's academic and noncredit programs to create a more involved service for the benefit of the community.

On Nov. 14, Sechrist explained his vision for OCCC's future to the Recreation and Community Service department staff.

He elaborated on how RCS can assist him in his efforts and commended them for their help so far.

Sechrist said he is most concerned about the overall success of students.

His goal is to encourage minority and low-income students to achieve their degrees in a community-oriented atmosphere with support from non-academic groups like the staff in the RCS department.

Sechrist said connecting with students and their families both in and outside of a classroom is a crucial factor in helping students remain committed to finishing a degree program.

"It's about completing what you've started," Sechrist emphasized.

Sechrist said the greatest predictor of whether a high school graduate will attend college is not an ACT score, but rather how much money the student's parents make, and whether the student's parents attended college.

Many OCCC students are both from low-income families and first-generation college students.

Sechrist said he understands the benefit of an RCS department.

He took the time to encourage staff on their continued efforts to serve the community as a whole.

Sechrist's desire is to foster a community spirit by supporting the development of new programs within the RCS department.

"What the board has said is that the community is enriched economically and socially by our educational and cultural programs," Sechrist said.

In continued support of community education, focusing on Oklahomans' quality of life, Sechrist has asked that the Board of Re-

Practice makes perfect



Photo by Carrie Cronk

A student takes advantage of the Wellness Center's Gymnasium to play basketball with his friends during his lunch hour. The gym and other facilities such as the Aquatic Center pool are free to students with a valid ID.

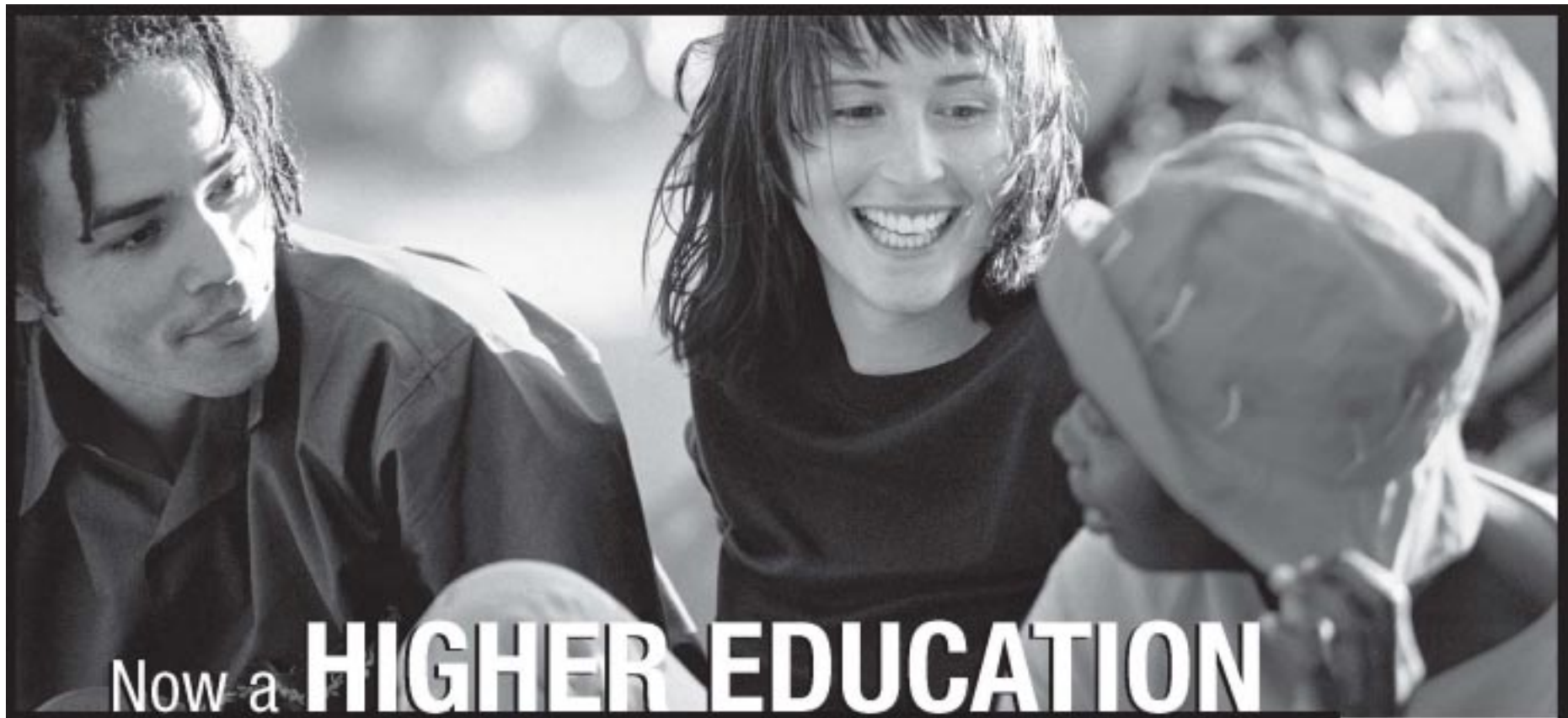
gents approve the addition of an optional physical education requirement to the OCCC credit curriculum. He stressed his belief that the college's goal should always be

about educating the student both through academics and physical challenge.

"I think there's a connection between the mind, body and spirit."

Lap Swim Hours

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday: 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. 11a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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Highlights

“Children’s Letters to God”

The play “Children’s Letters to God” will be performed at 7 p.m., Dec. 7, 8 and 9, in the OCCC Theater. Admission is \$4 for students and \$5 for adults. The Thursday night performance is free to OCCC students, faculty and staff with valid I.D. For more information, e-mail Jacque Hocking at jhocking@mail.com.

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 that adviser is. Staff also will cover many graduation requirements.

Pinning committee food drive

The graduating class of Nursing Process IV is holding a food drive for Other Options through Dec. 15. Other Options is a non-profit organization that deals with HIV clients. Boxes for donations are located near the elevator in the Main Building and in the Health Sciences area. Other items that can be donated are: clothing, lightly used books, toys and toiletries.

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, 8.5 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 between Dec. 1 and 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.

Date change for graduation ceremony

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

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.

Correction

In the Nov. 13 issue of the Pioneer, the location of the Chi Alpha Reality Salt Conference was incorrectly reported. The conference will be held in May Pearl, Texas.

Season of giving



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Oklahoma Blood Institute Phlebotomist Shyla Markwell draws blood from Emergency Medical Sciences major Chris Brady during the blood drive on Nov. 28. The blood drive, held Nov. 27 and 28, was sponsored by Student Life.

Club raises money for children

By Valerie Jobe
Staff Writer

This time of year brings on the urge to help others.

In the spirit of the season, the Health Professions Club is raising money to buy gifts for youngsters at The Children’s Center in Bethany this year.

“The reason ... we are not accepting items is because of health-related reasons,” said Club President Kari Glidewell.

“Some items may not be sanitary enough for the children to handle.”

Glidewell said bake sales have been the primary source of income for club donations to the center.

The club also has put out a donation jar at their regular meetings.

“The members’ response to this organization has been very good and it really is fun for us,” Glidewell said.

Club members will collect the donations and shop for

the needed items at Wal-Mart.

“We’ve raised about \$500 so far and we are going to check with our club sponsor to see if we can match the donations with club money,” Glidewell said.

“The center really could use the extra help.”

Some of the items on the list are baby toys, office supplies, and other games the children can use.

“Toys that would help the disabled children with their motor skills are in high demand,” she said.

Glidewell and some other members have done this service project for more than five years.

“It has been a traditional thing for us to do every year,” Glidewell said.

“These donations help the children tremendously with the things they use and need on an ongoing basis,” said Heather Walter, Public Affairs Coordinator for the center.

Glidewell said the center

also is looking for volunteers in certain areas of the facility.

“There are not always enough nurses to rock the babies to sleep, so volunteers are needed and appreciated.”

Walter said volunteers must take certain steps.

“We have a volunteer program, an application, and volunteers also need to be 18 or older,” Walter said.

Volunteers should contact Andrea Gray in the Human Resources department at 405-789-6711 for further questions.

Interested students who would like to donate to The Children’s Center should e-mail Kari Glidewell at gdk2005@cox.net or stop by the Health Professions board next to the science lab for more information.

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

Have Club News?
StaffWriter1@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: 1/2 Chihuahua, 1/2 Papillon 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.occ.edu.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '06 Dodge Ram 1500 Lonestared. 23k miles, power all, loaded. Asking \$22,000. Call 788-0068. For pics or more info: kati.e.henry@email.occ.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: '96 Chrysler Concorde. 4dr, Blk, pw, pl, cassette, a/c, heat, runs good. Asking \$1800 OBO. Great work or student car!

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: 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.

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.

HELP WANTED: Weekend position open for driver/appliance delivery person. Must have valid drivers license and a clean driving record. Call Rob at 201-4529

DATA ENTRY PERSON NEEDED: Starting pay is \$7/hr. with promotion opportunity. We are a small book company located approximately 1 mile south of downtown OKC. We are seeking an experienced Data Entry clerk on a temporary to hire basis. This individual must be business minded, detail oriented and possess a high level of accuracy and speed. This candidate will be working directly with the owner, therefore must possess excellent communication skills. Job includes lifting, sorting and shelving. Minimum requirements: over 10,000 ksp, MS Excel, e-mail/internet experience. Prior to interview, send resume or job experience info. to ballweber@integrity.com.

MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY AT NEW STORE!: Fast Lanes Supercenters are looking for individuals with leadership skills. We have a new store opening by Quail Springs Mall, and are looking for good people to help us grow. Good pay & health benefits available to those who qualify. Come by Fast Lanes 2220 S. Broadway in Edmond to apply, or call 844-8084.

FAST LANES NEW STORE!: Now hiring Carwash Attendants, Detail and Lube Technicians. No experience necessary. Advancement opportunities. Come by 2220 S. Broadway in Edmond or call 844-8084 to apply.

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

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Norway's capital
- 5 Anchor
- 9 Daisy Mae's creator
- 13 Jungle charger
- 15 Act like a wolf
- 16 Flu symptom
- 17 Buffalo
- 18 Witnessed
- 19 Nothing more than
- 20 Mineral spring
- 21 Capri, for one
- 23 First game of the season
- 25 Pepsi's rival
- 26 Slim
- 27 Word with the opposite meaning
- 30 Paving substance
- 31 Impends
- 32 Toss overboard
- 37 Melody
- 38 Yawning
- 40 Singer McEntire
- 41 — but: by no means
- 43 Coral or poppy
- 44 Pie — mode
- 45 Filmmaker
- 47 Soft fabric
- 50 Scurries
- 51 Thin coat

DOWN

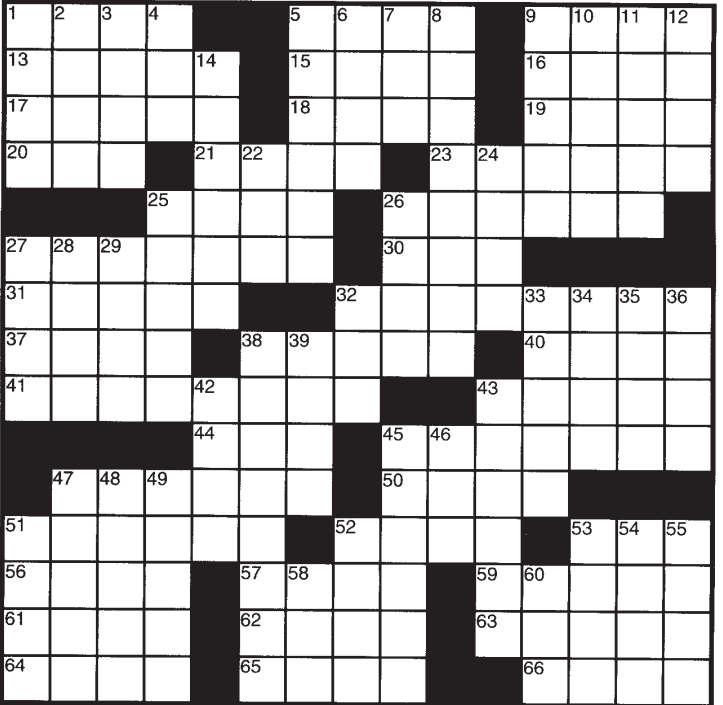
- 1 Spheres
- 2 Freight
- 3 Mona —
- 4 Lennon's love
- 5 Islam follower
- 6 S-shaped molding
- 7 Bullfight cheer
- 8 Restore to an earlier condition
- 9 Desert animal
- 10 Representative
- 11 Fruit pulp
- 12 Look closely
- 14 Liver and —
- 22 Shade of blue
- 24 Sassy
- 25 Hale-Bopp, e.g.
- 26 Pace
- 27 Can. province
- 28 It could be

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

LOGO SKATE INNS
OMIT UNLIT COOP
PERT BELLE IOTA
ENDORSE TRACKER
MOO NIL
TITANIC TALENTS
ANON LABEL SORE
MAN RIP BOA
ENID PONES PLUM
DECIBEL EYELETS
OAR MOA
HATRACK OBSCURE
OSHA HIPPO ARIA
AHEN ETHEL TABS
XENA SHINS ELSE

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- proper!
- 29 Actor Perkins
- 32 Notch
- 33 Golf clubs
- 34 Peddle
- 35 Woodwind
- 36 — a: not any
- 38 Wing parts
- 39 Tiny fly
- 42 "Only Angels — Wings"
- 43 Kind of salad
- 45 Turtles' homes
- 46 — Man, "Oz"
- character
- 47 Ground-cover plant
- 48 Boredom
- 49 Main roles
- 51 Suit part
- 52 Carnival
- 53 Extinct bird
- 54 Throat-clearing sound
- 55 Empty
- 58 Architect I.M. —
- 60 Cover



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MISCELLANEOUS

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

FOR SALE: Dishwasher, GE Nautilus, black, built-in, \$125. 794-2078.

Students able to use self-auditing as way to stay on track with degree

"Degree,"
Cont. from page 1

Rounding out the page are courses completed at OCCC and at other institutions, present courses and future courses needed. Grades for the completed courses are listed, as well.

Turner said students who don't have a major declared or are considering changing their major can still check the course requirements for any degree offered at OCCC. This can be done without changing or declaring a major.

"If you're a journalism major but you wondered what it would take to switch over to business, you can actually go in without having to change your major and just see how that degree compares to the one you're in," Turner said.

"It's a nice feature for students, especially if they're not fully committed to what they're majoring in."

While the audit may not provide detailed information as much as speaking with an adviser would, it can still be useful, Turner said.

She said she feels it's vital to educate students on

a basic level regarding their degree plan.

"I think [the audit] is very important because it takes the guesswork out of everything."

OCCC Architecture and Constructive Science major Damian Comiskey echoes Turner's thoughts.

"[The audit] gives [students] an idea where they need to go, and they could probably ask more educated questions about things they need and things they don't need."

The end of the audit lists courses related to a particular degree plan, but that do not apply to the plan.

Turner said this section often panics students because they may have taken one of the listed classes, believing it counted toward their degree — and, she said, most times, that's true.

"That doesn't mean they won't apply, but those [courses] have to be evaluated and then put in."

She said, in those cases, human intervention is sometimes required to tweak the degree audit.

For example, Turner said, OCCC's Nutrition course

used to strictly be a science credit but now is a general education course. Because of that, the audit often misleads students by causing them to think the Nutrition course doesn't apply as a biology credit, she said.

Turner said the confusion comes about because some degree plans accept Nutrition as a biological science while others do not.

"That course will frequently show up at the end of a degree audit and students panic and say, 'Well, I thought that was my Biology credit?' Well, it is, but there's no way for the computer to know who it would count for and who it would not."

OCCC students are still required to meet with an academic adviser to declare a major, so Turner recommends students conduct a degree audit and fill out an adviser approved contract mapping out their major early on.

They can then rely on their degree audit during subsequent semesters to complete their degree plan, she said, but are always en-

couraged to speak with an adviser should they have technical questions along the way.

OCCC student Chase Cudmore said he plans to use both.

"The [degree audit] is definitely more accessible and

easier to do, but I would use an adviser as a backup because people like to go and talk with them individually just to make sure they're doing the right stuff," Cudmore said.

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

MineOnline Course Abbreviation:

E-Extra – Either this course is not needed to complete this requirement, or else applying it wouldn't have contributed anything toward the requirement's completion.

G-Grade – Course failed the minimum grade requirement.

IP- In Progress – Student is currently enrolled in course.

PR- pre-registered – The course hasn't started.

U- Used – The course has already been used elsewhere and can't be applied twice.

Former OCCC student awaits sentencing for crime

"Durant,"
Cont. from page 1

awaiting sentencing Jan. 3.

According to a representative of the Canadian County district court system, a hearing also is set for Jan. 23 to discuss revoking a five-year suspended sentence given Durant in the 2002 second-degree rape case.

As a result of that offense, Durant was required to register as a sex offender — both nationally and locally — according to a Canadian County District Court docket, which he failed to do.

Durant's attorney, Brian Dell, declined to comment

on his client's behalf and Durant could not be reached for comment.

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

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