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PIONEER

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Sign o' the times...



Photo by LaWanda LaVarnway

Workers install one of two marquees now on campus at the corner of S.W. 74th and May Ave. The marquees will scroll continual messages pertaining to OCCC as well as the time and temperature. OCCC President Paul Sechrist said the new marquees provide the college with an avenue to communicate with students and the community about on-campus events. See story, page 12.

Data Center moves, gets sleek look

By Valerie Jobe
Editor

Students and faculty are once again streaming on the Internet and through OCCC's online services via the college's relocated Data Center.

Online registration, electronic payments and college e-mail are up and running after a 10-day shutdown over the holiday break.

On Dec. 22, all connections were severed to the college's networking devices so they could be moved into the nearly-completed Robert P. Todd Science, Engineering and Math Center.

"It actually went as smooth as it could have possibly gone," said James Riha, chief technology officer.

The move itself may not have been that noticeable to college employees or students, but on a tour of the new facility, the change was evident.

The old mainframe com- See "Data," page 12

Parking rules apply from day one

By David Miller
Staff Writer

An inevitable woe for students at the beginning of each semester is finding a parking space — near or far.

Although OCCC students don't experience as many parking difficulties as students at large universities such as the University of Oklahoma or Oklahoma State University, the parking experience here still can prove to be tedious early in the semester.

"Parking's going to be tight the first couple weeks of the semester," said Keith Bourque, Campus Safety and Security coordinator. "We'll be out directing traffic in

the open parking areas."

Bourque said students park primarily in lots A, B, and C on the north and east sides of campus and don't often consider parking on the west side, in lots D and E which are usually less crowded.

An important key to finding a parking space and still arriving to class on time is to plan ahead, said Physical Plant Director J.B. Messer.

"We always recommend that students already know where their classes are and what building they're in," Messer said.

"And, come a little bit early because right in the beginning of the semester is when the

crunch is as far as trying to find parking spaces."

Messer also recommends getting a feel for which parking lots don't generally get used.

"A lot of the time it's much easier to go to those parking lots.

"Normally, it can save you a lot of time."

Also, those using the parking areas need to be aware of the different types of parking available.

Parking in faculty/staff or handicap spots require special permits. There is no parking in fire zones.

In the past, Safety and Security officers generally gave students a warning during the first week of classes as opposed to

writing them a ticket. However, Bourque said, that won't be the case this semester.

"We'll be issuing citations for anybody in a handicap space, fire lane or any type of moving violation such as running a stop sign or failure to yield to a pedestrian," he said. "And the faculty staff spaces will be monitored and, if necessary, violators will be ticketed."

For more information about parking or driving regulations stop by the Safety and Security office located on the first floor of the Main Building next to the elevators.

Staff Writer David Miller can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Campus parking fines

Parking in:

- fire lane.....\$100
- handicapped space without a proper permit.....\$100
- faculty/staff area without a proper decal.....\$15
- Double parking.....\$5
- Improper parking (parts of vehicle outside of marked space)..... \$3
- All other parking violations...\$5
- Failure to display parking decal or parking permit.....\$5
- Improperly affixed parking decal or parking permit.....\$3

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Take action for the nation

For such a small word, war has such a large amount of impact, emotion and luggage in tow. Whether the trumpeting elephants or the stomping donkeys agree on the innumerable amount of strings attached, the United States is fighting a war — one about which many ordinary people are beginning to feel deeply and personally.

In an article by the Associated Press, President George W. Bush was quoted as saying, "To oppose everything while proposing nothing is irresponsible."

Did everyone hear that correctly? Even Bush is asking the people of this nation to get involved with the debate about this nasty feud. Citizens rioted in the streets and marched on Washington during the Vietnam War for issues they felt needed to be addressed.

Instead of sitting on the comfortable sofa in the safety of the living room complaining at the television, try getting up and working with others to take a stand for the nation that was built for us. One voice may not be able to make a change, but many voices can move mountains. Furthermore, collecting the "change" can only lead to a better nation for all of us.

Write that letter to the congressman that never got started, attend a rally for peace, or simply read a newspaper to get involved. Involved is a larger word than war, and perhaps it takes but one spark of awareness to light a ray of hope.

There are several things that people can do to make a difference. Complaining without action is doing nothing, and Bush said this well enough for us all to understand. If citizens don't vote or act as the change that can stir up the political pool, then their voices will never be heard.

It is time for those who blankly stare at the world section of the newspaper and talk about the nation's problems as though they belong to someone else to put their voices where their attitude is. Those candid comments about the president and his ability to run this nation can be put to better use.

The United States ranks a lowly 139 out of 172 nations that vote for their government, yet the United States is number one in the amount of Nobel Prize winners and billionaires.

With the smartest and the richest among the ordinary, surely we can come to some kind of agreement that will end this war with closure and relief for all.

Borrowing from an oh-so-famous presidential quote, do something for the country instead of asking what the country can do for you.

—Valerie Jobe
Editor

Security not that bad to some

To the Editor:

In response to Mr. Lamberth, who is unhappy with our Security officers and feels they should go to class to "better relate to students" because they just don't understand (Dec. 11, 2006 issue), I say this: No one will want to understand you if you don't give them the chance to speak and conduct yourself with maturity.

When you graduate and work full time, your boss will not sit next to you and try to "relate" to your daily struggles.

Your mother and father probably don't go to work with you now to try to "understand" the difficulties you must deal with every time you clock in.

You stated that one thing everyone on campus would agree on is that security looks down on students as if they are criminals.

I would like to be excluded from that blanket statement as you and I have never met, and I wholeheartedly disagree with your sentiments.

You also imply that their job, their "chosen" profession, is somehow less than

another, or has no honor.

This is where it becomes blatantly obvious that your interaction with them was most likely based on being corrected by one of them and you are angry.

To reduce yourself to spewing insults instead of a respectful questioning of a system is ineffective and unfair and does not portray you in a favorable light.

As a longtime employee of this institution, I truly believe that you will meet far more people who believe the students are our priority than those who do not, and that begins at the top with our current president and president's cabinet and trickles down through every department.

Realize that this is the only college or university in the state of Oklahoma in which you do not pay to park, and security officers work to help you find a place the first week of every semester, regardless of weather.

Don't misunderstand me.

I'm not upset at your letter and I appreciate that there is a forum for these types of discussions, but I want you to know that

there is a process that will get results instead of simply an arbitrary public judgment that only makes you seem as though you are stereotyping a group of which you actually know very little.

—Name withheld by request

PIONEER

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David Miller.....Staff Writer
John Savage.....Staff Writer
S. Livingston-Gainey.....Staff Writer
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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.

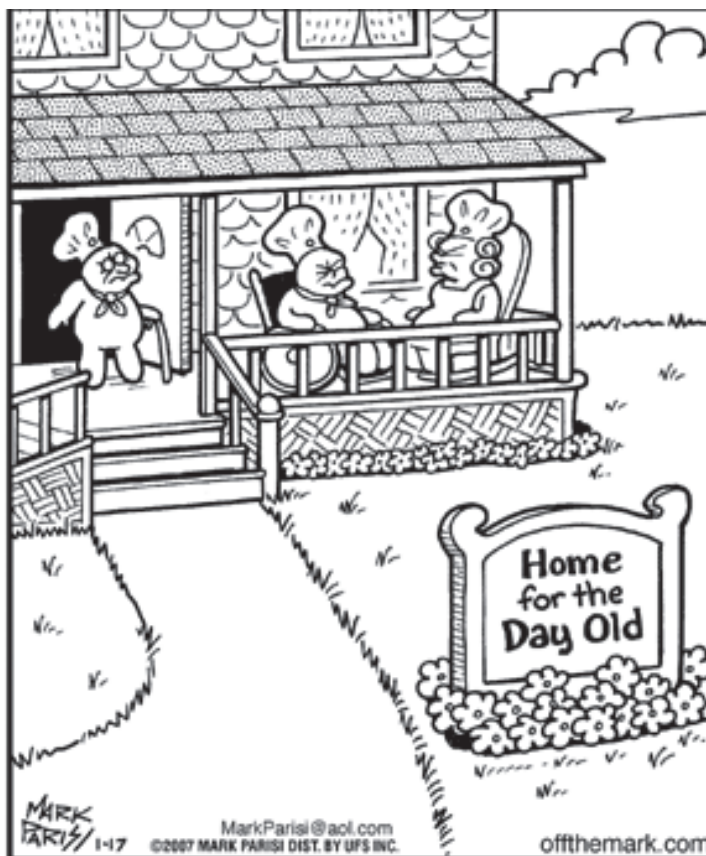
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Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@occc.edu. A phone number for verification must be included.

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Comments and Reviews

Leon Russell rocks the covers

"Hank Wilson's Back, Volume One" by Leon Russell gives listeners a chance to see the white-haired Oklahoma rocker's country roots.

Russell came of age as a young piano player during a time when Tulsa was piping hot with great musicians of all backgrounds.

Clubs featuring jazz, blues, early rock 'n' roll, and country could all be found within a few blocks of each other. These different styles all seemed to spill over onto each other and by the early 60s there was a nice thick stew of sounds boiling in the pot.

Fast forward a decade to the 70s, and Russell had made the successful transition from Los Angeles session musician to bona fide rock star. Featured on George Harrison's Concert for Bangladesh, Russell

was playing with everyone from Eric Clapton to Willie Nelson.

Known as a great live performer, his hard, pulsating music was deeply rooted in gospel and the blues. "Hank Wilson's Back, Volume One" took many listeners by surprise.

This is strictly a country album and Russell dives head first into the genre. He assumes the name Hank Wilson, a honky tonk crooner, and even lists him on the credits. The only place you will find Russell's name is on a single production credit.

This album is pure, raw, country music at its finest. All the songs are covers, but Russell made them his own without losing touch with the song's origins. After listening to the first track "Rollin' in my Sweet Baby's Arms," it is evident

that Russell knew exactly what he was doing. His country chops are in tip top shape on all of the numbers. Russell was joined by the top Nashville studio musicians of the day. The ensemble blazes through tracks by Hank Williams, Hank Thompson, Lester Flatt and George Jones.

This album did not signal a change in styles that many fans assumed would be permanent. Russell was just enjoying himself.

There is not a bad track on the album and Russell seems to make the transition from rock to country without missing a beat. This is a rare recording but it can be ordered on the web. It's a great introduction to old-school, stick-to-your-ribs country music.

—**Spencer Livingston-Gainey**
Staff Writer

Will Smith's 'Happyness' reason to have good day

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

These words, found in the Declaration of Independence, will resonate in moviegoers' ears during Will Smith's most recent movie, "Pursuit of Happyness."

Inspired by the true story of Christopher Gardener, the movie has already made its mark as one of the top feel-good movies this season.

Smith stars as Chris Gardener, a struggling salesman who has reached his lowest point.

His bone density scanners are not selling, rent is past due again, and taxes have taken a back seat in his long list of priorities.

When his wife, fed up

with the struggles of poverty, leaves him, he insists on keeping their young son, Christopher Jr.

He has only one hope.

He has put in an application to become an intern for a stockbroker firm. It is unpaid, but if he works harder than the rest, he has a chance to become a stockbroker — and a chance to change his life forever.

Chris, good with numbers and with people, is offered the internship.

Chris and his son receive blow after devastating blow, but prove to be resilient in every situation that comes their way.

One touching aspect of the film is the interaction between Smith and his real-life son, Jaden Smith, who plays the part of Gardener's son. The chemistry of their father-son relationship plays perfectly

into the mood of the film.

A burning question on the minds of most moviegoers will be why "happiness" is spelled "happy-ness." Although I won't spoil your fun by explaining away the plot, be assured, there is an explanation.

This story will easily touch the hearts of all audiences, both young and old.

It will make you laugh, it will make you cry, but most of all it will make you appreciate what you have and give you hope that tomorrow will be a better day.

Rating: A+

—**Courtney Barrie**
Staff Writer

Counselor's Corner

*"Man's yesterday may ne'er be like his morrow;
Nought may endure but Mutability."*

—**Percy Bysshe Shelley**

Just a few short weeks ago, most of you were wondering if the fall semester would ever end, some of you were wondering if the spring semester would ever begin, and some of you may not even have realized that college existed. Now, here we are again at the start of a new set of classes. We have the opportunity to lay the past to rest and to embrace the challenges of a new day.

I, too, will soon embrace new challenges. This will be my last contribution to the Counselor's Corner as I have only days left in which to serve as a counselor.

My new position begins Feb. 1 when I move across the hall to Student Support Services, so I leave you now with a few words of wisdom as you start your new (and successful) semester.

Always look for ways to become a part of your learning experience. Learning is not a spectator sport, so you can't stay home in bed or sit on the sidelines and expect your knowledge to grow. If you find yourself slumping or thinking that a class is boring, ask yourself what you can do to make things better and more interesting.

Behave in a way that demonstrates respect for yourself and for others. You'd be amazed at how differently people will treat you (and the benefits you'll reap) when you show that you're mature and thoughtful.

Call someone if you have to miss class. Of course, you should let your professors know, but call a friend from class, too, so that she/he can get hand-outs and other information for you. It makes good sense to have a lifeline in each class and also to be one for someone else.

Do your homework. Even ungraded homework gives you experience that you may need later. Learning involves practice, and that's what homework is designed to give you. That practice may come in handy on the next exam.

Expect the best from yourself. This won't always be an "A," but life isn't about perfection. It's about growth. Concentrate on doing your best and the grades will follow.

I wish you all the best as I hand this off to my former colleagues; know that your success will be my top priority as I join my new ones.

The only thing constant in life is change.

—**Mary Turner**
Student Development Counselor

Read the Pioneer Online at
www.occc.edu/pioneer for breaking news
and online exclusives.

Comments and Reviews

'Illusionist' DVD unlocks no magic

Nothing is what it seems and that is refreshing when it comes to one of the newest films being released on DVD.

"The Illusionist," directed by Neil Burger and starring Edward Norton, Paul Giamatti and Jessica Biel, will have viewers mesmerized as they learn the story of a young magician named Eisenheim, played by Norton.

Eisenheim is in love with a childhood friend named Sophie, played by Biel.

As Eisenheim's fame rises, it enables him to run into Sophie and rekindle their relationship.

Drama and suspense unfold as a jealous Crown

Prince Leopold, played by Rufus Sewell, tries to outwit the magician. The special effects in the DVD are impressive and the eerie music played through the film is crisp in 5.1 Dolby surround.

The DVD has subtitles in English and Spanish. Also included in the language selection of the DVD is a feature audio commentary by writer-director Neil Burger.

Special features include "The Making of The Illusionist" featurette and commentary by Jessica Biel. Four trailers also can be viewed in the special features menu. The theatrical trailer for "The Illusionist"

also can be viewed. The DVD also includes a few other trailers of movies coming out and already available.

Overall, the DVD is a solid watch. The special features department lacked substance. Several of the tricks are not mentioned and the special features seem to be fairly short.

If viewers were hoping to unlock some of the mysteries from the special features they will find none. However, viewers will be entertained by the story and the illusions.

Rating: B+

—John Savage
Staff Writer



Mike Judge scores again with bleak view of society

In writer-director Mike Judge's (Office Space, Beavis & Butthead) new satirical comedy "Idiocracy," American society has been dumbed down to the point of instability and is near total collapse.

In 2005, military scientists, in an effort to one day preserve society's greatest thinkers, began an experiment which would freeze humans indefinitely and revive them in the future when their knowledge would benefit society.

Luke Wilson (The Royal Tenenbaums) portrays Joe Bauers, an underachiever who is chosen to serve as the guinea pig for the initial experiment, as is a prostitute by the name of Rita (SNL's Maya Rudolph).

However, when the top scientist in charge of the experiment is arrested for being involved in a prostitution ring, Joe and Rita are forgotten and wake up 500 years later in a completely different world than the one they once knew.

Due to excessive reproduction within the white

trash subculture and a lack thereof within the intellectual community who have put their careers first, adults have regressed to an intelligence level the common ape could outwit.

Attempting to point out what would normally be considered common sense, Joe is always thought of as "gay" by the halfwits who now populate America.

Joe is ultimately arrested and, when in prison, scores high on an I.Q. test containing simple tasks such as placing a square block through the proper hole. The President of the United States, a former porn star and wrestler, learns of his high score and recruits him to save America from its impending doom.

Upon his release from prison, Joe learns that no one drinks or even uses water any longer. "Brawndo," a Gatorade-type drink has replaced water in every way. Also, instead of serving coffee, the Starbucks chain now only offers adult services with one menu option being a "Gentle-

man's Latté."

Naturally, Joe recommends using water to make plants grow. The President follows his advice, but upon doing so, people lose their jobs because the stock in Brawndo plummets, and everyone, including the President, turns on Joe.

In his typical, simplistic way, Judge has created another piece of biting social commentary that is humorous on the surface, but when dissected, reveals the sad state of society, albeit significantly dramatized in the film.

This film will appeal to stoners who are out for a quick laugh as well as those who appreciate underlying satirical wit, two aspects Judge seems to be a master in combining.

The special features are few with English, Spanish and French subtitles as well as deleted scenes. The film is rated R for language, sexual dialogue and violence.

Rating: B

—David Miller
Staff Writer

'Arabia' still epic

Admittedly long, epic adventure movies are not for everyone. For those who like that sort of thing, however, the classic 1962 epic "Lawrence of Arabia" is an absolute must-see film.

"Lawrence of Arabia" tells the mostly true story of the legendary T.E. Lawrence, an eccentric British officer who served heroically in the First World War. Played by Peter O'Toole, the slightly insane Lieutenant Lawrence is sent by his superiors to observe the Arab resistance forces fighting against the Ottoman Empire in present-day Saudi Arabia.

He ends up exceeding his orders on an unheard of scale: with the blessing of Prince Faisal of Mecca (played by Alec Guinness of Obi-Wan Kenobi fame), Lawrence leads a force of 50 men across the Sinai Desert and captures the heavily fortified port city of Aqaba from the Turks.

He goes on to unite many warring Arab tribes under his command, and leads a series of hugely successful guerrilla campaigns that cripple the Ottoman war effort and lead to the creation of an independent Arab state.

Directed by David Lean, the film was an instant success when it was released.

It was awarded seven of that year's Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director for Lean.

There is really very little to find fault with in the movie: the story is well written, the acting is believable and the scenes captured during filming are incredible.

One could argue that it could be shorter; however, even if the overture and intermission are skipped, the movie runs more than three and a half hours long.

The special effects are also fairly rudimentary but there isn't actually anything wrong with them and, by the standards of the early 60's, they're really fairly good.

All in all, "Lawrence of Arabia" is a great film, assuming you have around four hours to spare.

—Drew Hampton
Staff Writer

College administrators hire four new advisers

By Courtney Barrie
Staff Writer

Knowledgeable academic advisers can be the key to success in any student's college career.

Academic advisers provide clarity to a student's degree program, and answer any questions about course material.

This semester, four new academic advisers have joined the staff at OCCC.

Melissa Aguigui has worked for OCCC since May. She was promoted from her previous position as a Testing and Assessment Specialist in November, and now feels she has

found her calling.

Aguigui said she enjoys being able to be a mentor to students, helping to identify their talents and giving them more direction in their goals for the future.

"[As an adviser] you bring clarity to ambiguous situations," said Aguigui. "I try to break it down for the student."

She said their goal is to create a positive atmosphere for the students who sit at their desks.

Adviser Melanie Lawrence is a former OCCC student. She said she was interested in the position because of her positive experience with a former

OCCC academic adviser.

Lawrence holds a degree in business administration from the University of Oklahoma. She plans to pursue a master's in psychology counseling.

"I would like to treat every student as an individual and help them reach their goals," Lawrence said.

Adviser Elizabeth Pressler also was hired as an adviser in November.

Pressler obtained a master's degree in English from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Pressler said her interest was piqued by the advising position because of her desire for more one-on-one

"I would like to treat every student as an individual and help them reach their goals."

—Melanie Lawrence
Academic Adviser

time with students. She said she hopes to have the opportunity to hold workshops for students, promoting a positive attitude toward succeeding in college.

Adviser Craig Carter is enthusiastic about his new position.

Carter earned a master's degree in urban education from Langston University, where he was previously

employed.

"I love [advising]," Carter said. "It's given me the opportunity to work with students."

To speak with an academic adviser, visit Advising and Career Services on the first floor of the Main Building.

Staff Writer Courtney Barrie can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

Cultural Arts Series provides eclectic entertainment

By David Miller
Staff Writer

This spring's Cultural Arts Series offers an eclectic assortment of music acts ranging from a jazz harp and bass duo to an a cappella vocal ensemble.

The first act, 2 Tone, a jazz harp and bass duo from Dallas, will perform at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23, in the OCCC Theater.

2 Tone consists of Cindy Horstman on the jazz harp and Michael Medina on bass.

They have performed for the likes of musician Wynton Marsalis and

former President Bill Clinton, according to the CAS press release.

Horstman and Medina also will conduct a free educational workshop on playing jazz within a group at 11 a.m., Jan. 23, in the OCCC Theater.

"[The workshops] average around 40 people for the educational activities," said Scott Tigert, Cultural Programs and Community Development assistant.

"This one will be held in the theater, so we could host up to 285 people."

Three more acts will round out the rest of the 2006-2007 season, which

also will include workshops by the performers.

The Chestnut Brass Company, which consists of trumpets, a horn, trombone and tuba, will perform Feb. 20.

Interviews and recitals of the Chestnut Brass Company have been featured on NPR's "All Things Considered," "Radiotimes" and "Fresh Air," according to the CAS press release.

If singing without the addition of musical instruments is your preference, the a cappella Rose Ensemble will perform March 27.

Mark O'Connor and the

Appalachia Walt Trio will finish up the series on April 10. This group consists of a violin, viola and cello.

All performances will be at 7 p.m. in the OCCC Theater.

Tickets are \$20 for the general public per performance and \$15 for students, faculty, staff, senior citizens and alumni association members, Tigert said.

Also, a general admission season ticket for all remaining performances is available to the general public for \$41 and to students for \$28, according to the CAS press release.

"We do encourage students to make [The Cultural Arts Series] part of their campus life," Tigert said.

He said one of the reasons this series was established was to give students the opportunity to broaden their cultural horizons.

"Everyone's welcome, and they'll have a grand time and see some wonderful artists performing."

For more information on the Cultural Arts Series, call Tigert at 405-682-1611, ext. 7579.

Staff Writer David Miller can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.

New Academic Affairs Vice President named in December

By Valerie Jobe, Editor
and **Scott D'Amico, Staff Writer**

OCCC has named a new Vice President for Academic Affairs, a position left vacant when Paul Sechrist became college president.

Felix Aquino joined OCCC Dec. 18.

"OCCC is a wonderful place to work and has an outstanding faculty and staff," Aquino said.

Aquino comes to OCCC from State Center Community College District in

Fresno, Calif.

Some of his former responsibilities include providing leadership in instructional education, serving as Chief Instructional Officer and supervising the Office of Grants.

"This college is about to embark on a very exciting quest: to improve the graduation rates of our students," Aquino said.

"Although our graduation rate is about par with other community colleges nationwide, we feel we owe it to our students and to our

community to try to do better."

Before serving as Vice Chancellor to Educational Services and Planning for SCCCD, and President of Continuing Education Centers for San Diego Community College District, Aquino was a dean at Hudson County Community College in New York.

Aquino worked as the Director of Institutional Research for the Dallas County Community College District from 1987 to 1993.

"I have always loved this

part of the country and its people," Aquino said.

"My wife and I look forward to putting down deep roots here."

Aquino earned his doctorate in anthropology from Boston University and has taught in this field throughout his career.

"I am looking forward to getting to know and enjoy the city and state," he said.

Editor Valerie Jobe can be reached at Editor@occc.edu and Scott D'Amico can be reached at OnlineEditor@occc.edu.



Felix Aquino

College welcomes spring students

Look to labs for extra academic assistance

Help with homework is available to students in the form of on-campus labs. Just make sure to bring your current OCCC ID.

The Science Center (right) is located in area 1C2 of the Main Building. Lab assistants in the center offer help with both biological and physical sciences. Spring semester hours are 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Friday and Saturday. The Science Center can be reached by dialing the college's main number 405-682-1611. Dial extension 7269 to contact biological sciences, or ext. 7711 for physical sciences.



The OCCC Student Computer Center (above) can be found on the third floor of the Library. The center offers students a place to work on assignments using up-to-date equipment and software. Spring semester hours for the center are 7:30 a.m. to 10:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Saturday. Students can reach the Computer Center by calling 405-682-1611, ext. 7397.

Photos by Carrie Cronk

Opening Day will kick off spring semester

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

Popcorn, cotton candy and faculty-guided tours are just a few things that will be offered to students between 1 and 4 p.m., Jan. 20 as part of OCCC's spring semester's Opening Day, said Sara McElroy, First-Year Experience and Student Life Coordinator.

She said tables will be set up by academic division. Student Life also will offer information on campus clubs and organizations.

Although Opening Day is geared toward new students, it is something that can benefit returning students, as well, said Susan Van Schuyver, Arts and Humanities Dean. She said students still wondering what to major in are welcome to come look at what each of the divisions has to offer.

Two family orientations will take place during Opening Day, McElroy said.

The first, at 1:30 p.m., will be in English. A Spanish version will be held at 3 p.m.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist will be one of the speakers at the family orientations.

Students also will be able to print out a schedule so they can be guided to their classes.

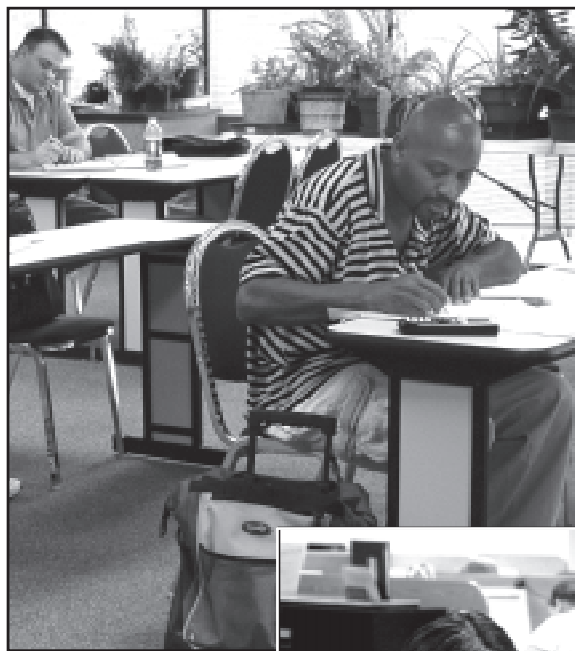
"The majority of them come just to get familiar with the campus," McElroy said.

She said last semester's Opening Day was a success.

"Last semester we had 1,000 students, easy," McElroy said.

For more information about Opening Day, contact Student Life at 405-685-7523.

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



The Math Center (left) can be found in the Mathematics area of the Main Building, near Entry 13. Spring semester hours are 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday. The Math Center can be reached at 405-682-1611, ext. 7291.

The Communications Lab (right) provides language tutoring and writing help. The lab is located in the Main Building near the cafeteria. Spring lab hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to noon, Friday and 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday. Contact the Communications Lab at 405-682-1611, ext. 7379.



OCCC offers Welcome Week of free activities

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

Wax hands and live music are just two of the events planned to help greet students during Welcome Week.

The event is a good way for students to have fun while coping with the stress of the first week of classes, said Sara McElroy, First-Year Experience and Student Life coordinator.

Student Life sponsors the event. Premed sophomore Raquel

Carranco agreed with McElroy, and said she feels Welcome Week is a great stress reliever.

"It's a distraction," she said. "It's like, 'Yay, I don't have to worry about the first week of classes.'"

However, McElroy said the goal of Welcome Week is simple.

"It's really just to make students feel welcome," she said.

McElroy said the events will kick off Monday, Jan. 22, with popcorn.

On Tuesday, Jan. 23, students will have the opportunity to make a wax replica of their hands.

Wednesday, Jan. 24, there will be a T-shirt exchange. McElroy said students can bring in an old T-shirt from any college and trade it for a new OCCC T-shirt.

McElroy said the T-shirts brought in by students will be donated afterwards.

Thursday, Jan. 25, will include three events.

Students will be able to make their own bookmarks and picture frames.

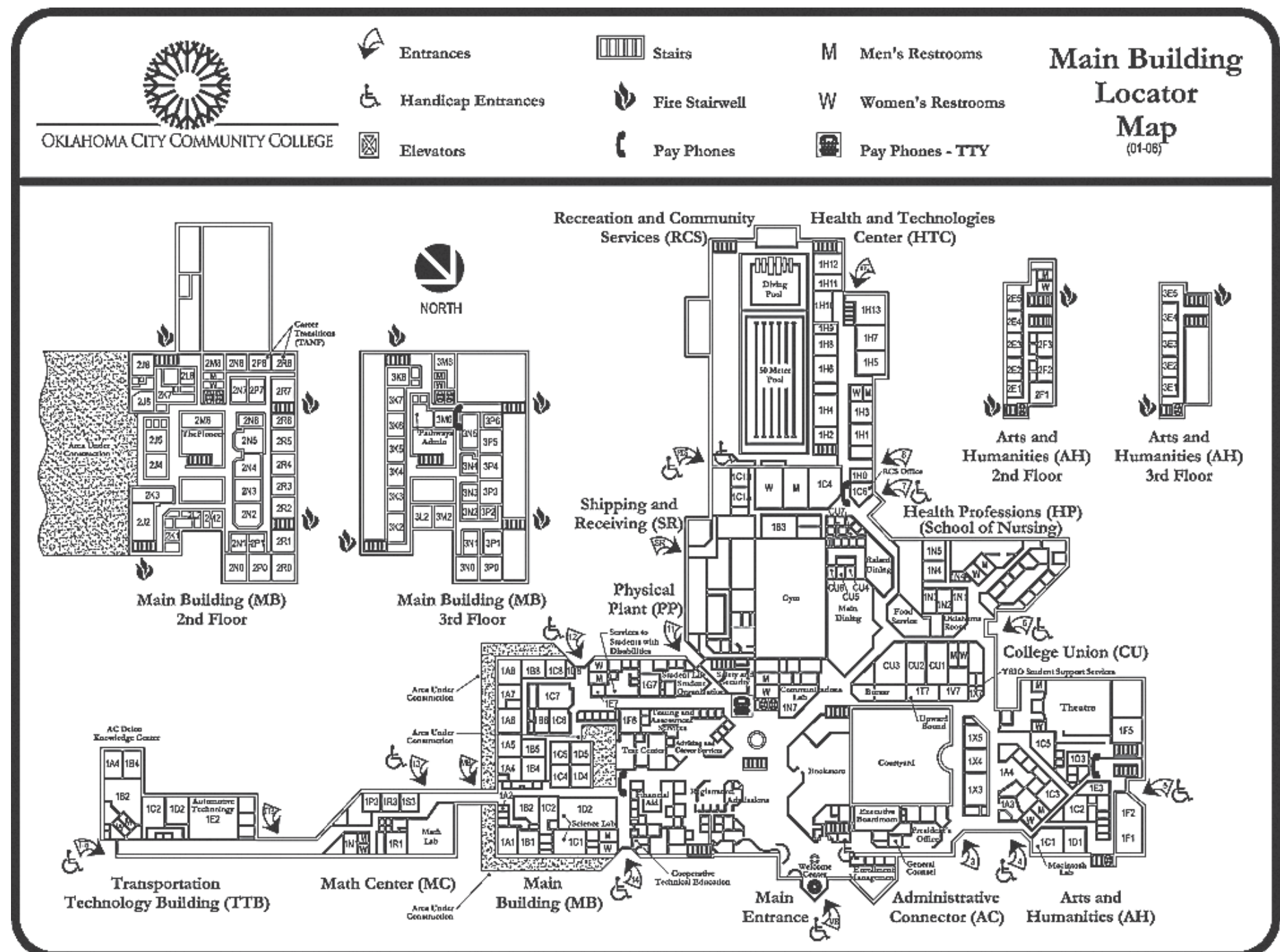
Students also will have the opportunity to listen to live music.

Singer-songwriter Doug Wood will play acoustic guitar from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the College Union.

Wood, an accomplished guitarist, was chosen as 'Best Music Act' runner-up by Campus Activities Magazine in 2005.

For more information on Welcome Week, contact Student Life at 405-682-1611, ext. 7523 or visit www.occc.edu/studentlife and click on the calendar link.

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



Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**Jan. 22 - 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.

•**Feb. 1 - March 9:** Youth Spring Basketball league is a competitive league for boys and girls. There are five age brackets for age 15 and under through 11 and under. The cost is \$180 per team and league play starts Mar. 31. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 1 - March 9:** The Spring Pee-Wee Soccer league will be gearing up for their season and accepting sign-up sheets for teams. This league is for boys and girls ages 4/5, 6/7, 8/9, and 10/11. Cost is \$60 and all games are on Saturdays. 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, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**April 2 - May 4:** Mighty Mites T-Ball League for boys and girls ages four through seven will be in session May 31. The cost is \$65 and game days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Club soccer returns for spring

By John Savage
Staff Writer

Last year's OCCC soccer club took one on the chin as they started strong but fell short of accumulating enough wins to secure a playoff spot.

With new members the club has a fresh start and another chance to prove OCCC belongs in the playoffs.

Soccer club kicks off the new spring season the first week of March.

Coach K.B. Yeboah has been coaching soccer for about five years and started coaching for OCCC in the spring of 2003.

Yeboah saw last year's team lacked communication. He said he hopes this year's team and members can be on the same page.

"I plan on making sure that everyone has each other's phone numbers," Yeboah said.

Some members from last year's team will be back to help this team win more games.

Yeboah said he expects there to be about seven former players to make it back for this year's team.

No schedule has been released but he said he expects to see it around the middle of February.

Yeboah is not making excuses and believes that last semester's team had the talent to make it to a playoff series.

He said in this year's practices he will switch up some of the drills the team will be working on.

"I know for sure it's going to be very different from last [year], but it is going to depend on the squad that I have," Yeboah said.

Last semester, Recreation and Community Services tried to start a new club that might have had members who could have filled some roster spots on the team, but the club couldn't get solid numbers.

Yeboah is hopeful about the team getting positive numbers.

"I really hope so," Yeboah said. "Eric Watson and Charles Tarver have been really helpful at the Recreation Office and I hope they continue."

Returning players do not pay a club fee but new players will need to pay \$30, which includes a team jersey.

Yeboah said the college needs to improve the surface of the practice

Bringing fitness indoors



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Christine Brubaker, Wellness Center attendant, Ivan Valkov, OCCC Recreation member, and Jennifer Lundy, Wellness Center attendant, take advantage of the Wellness Center's treadmills while the sidewalks and roadways were icy. The Aquatic Center and Wellness Center offer facilities, equipment and classes to OCCC students and staff as well as members of the community.

The OCCC gym offers students and staff a chance to get out and burn some calories. The gym has basketball goals set up on all sides of the gym and volleyball nets also are available for use. The Wellness Center hours are 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

field.

"The most important thing that the team needs now is a soccer field with grass on it. That is the main reason why the students don't want to come to practice. We don't have any grass on the field and it's really in terrible [playing condition]."

Yeboah said one official made the comment, "You guys are playing on concrete."

For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

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

OCCC Wellness Center Fitness Classes

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

Prices shown are for current OCCC students.

New classes start each month.

Several are offered in the mornings.

Most classes are 30 minutes.

For more information or to enroll, contact the Recreation and Community Services office or call 405-682-7860.

Students take class to learn about ecology

By Adam Rents
News Writing Student

Professor Anthony Stancampiano knows how to plan a vacation — he will lead two biology classes to the Gulf Coast and to the Rocky Mountains for a credited getaway during spring break and May intersession, respectively.

The intricate ecosystems of the Gulf Coast seashore will provide biology lab training for 12 students during spring break in March, Stancampiano said.

The Gulf Coast Ecology class offers students the chance to earn four credits in biological science and spend four days on the beach during spring break.

There, they will learn more about the region's ecology. On March 17, students will leave for Texas.

They will return March 23. The Gulf Coast Ecology class will go to Goose Island State Park near Corpus Christi. The class will meet once a week for eight weeks before leaving for the Gulf Coast, beginning in January.

The cost of the class is the price

of tuition and fees, plus an additional \$250.

For students who prefer the mountains, another special topics class will be offered. Students will meet in the classroom for four days prior to their departure to the Rocky Mountains.

From May 29 to June 6, students will camp in the Rockies. While camping, students will record and submit field notes from each daily excursion. They also will keep a journal. Cost is tuition and fees plus \$325.

"The Special Topics in Ecology courses are designed to offer a live-in classroom experience," Stancampiano said. "We meet in the classroom to discuss ecosystem dynamics, then we go in the field and see these various processes happen."

"Students can learn so much more about the environment when they can hear about it in the classroom, then see it in person," Stancampiano said. Students will also participate in a variety of events, including collecting organisms, or visiting local state parks



Photo courtesy of Anthony Stancampiano

A snow-covered mountain range greeted students on a previous biological outing. The upcoming for-credit spring break vacation will be to the Gulf Coast. The May Intersession outing will be to the Rocky Mountains.

and aquariums. A maximum of 12 students will be allowed to go on each trip. For more information, contact Stancampiano at 405-682-1611, ext. 7788.

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Highlights

Forum Theatre Project auditions on Jan. 24,25

Theater Professor Brent Noel is looking for people interested in exploring contemporary social issues through the stage. Auditions are at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, and 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25, in the OCCC theater. No experience is necessary. The cast will create scenarios to be presented and discussed with an audience. Performance dates are Feb. 15 through 17. For more information, contact Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246.

Career and Employment Power in 25 minutes

OCCC Career Services is holding a series of workshops geared at helping students make the transition from school to the workplace. The workshops will be held from noon to 12:25 p.m. weekly, beginning Jan. 29 in 1F6. Topics include "What Do I Want To Be When I Grow Up" on Feb. 12, "Discover Your Individual Career Interests" on Feb. 19 and "How Do I Really Fill Out a Job Application" on Feb. 26. Laura Choppy, Employment Services coordinator, and Debra Vaughn, career specialist, will host the events.

College Republicans start fresh

The College Republicans will meet at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6. The location of the meeting is to be announced. It will be a planning meeting to discuss meeting times, topics and special speakers. Future guest speakers will include Shawnee Mayor Chuck Mills on March 6 and Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett on May 1. For more information, contact Dustin Fisher at dustin_a_fisher@sbcglobal.net or 405-519-3716.

Date change for graduation ceremony

The date for the 2007 Commencement Program has changed 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.

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Getting back in the swing



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Sara McElroy, First Year and Student Life programs coordinator, uses rocks and sand to demonstrate the principles behind time management during the new student orientation. New students are provided with helpful tips to help them survive their first semester at OCCC as well as a tour of the campus during the orientation program.

Club fair offers involvement

By Scott D'Amico
Staff Writer

Spring semester's Clubs and Organizations Fair will be held over a two-day period beginning Wednesday, Jan. 31 and ending Thursday, Feb. 1, said Jon Horinek, Student Life programs coordinator.

The fair will be held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day.

Horinek said the goal of the fair is to promote clubs and organizations to students interested in getting involved on campus.

"It basically just gives a chance for our clubs and organizations to get information out," Horinek said.

During the fair, clubs and organizations will be set up inside the College Union providing information to potential club members.

One group that knows the importance of the upcoming fair is OCCC's College Republicans.

The College Republicans were not active on campus

last semester, but Business sophomore Dustin Fisher is one of the students trying to get the club off the ground. He said the group hasn't been active in the past several semesters.

He said the College Republicans will be ready to provide information to new students looking to join.

"We're going to have informational fliers, sign up brochures, and candy," Fisher said.

With the inactivity of the club last semester, he said it's imperative for the College Republicans to get information about their club out to the student body during the fair.

"It is [important] because this club has been dormant for a year now," Fisher said.

For more information

"It basically just gives a chance for our clubs and organizations to get information out."

—Jon Horinek

Student Life Programs Coordinator

about the Club and Organizations Fair contact the office of Student Life at 405-682-1611, ext. 7523.

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

Got club news?

Call Spencer at 405-682-1611, ext. 7410.

Or, drop off club highlights in the Pioneer office, located on the second floor of the Main Building.

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 are ready for a new home. 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 Lone Star edition. 23k miles, power all, loaded. Asking \$22,000. Call 788-0068.

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: '00 Toyota Camry SE. Nice cond., new tires 95k mi. \$5000 OBO. Call Rosa at 405-921-0816.

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 \$4800! Call 378-2337.

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.

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

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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.

FOR RENT: Have furnished room in my home wanting to rent & share my home. Single Christian Lady. Please call for details 405-378-2215.

ROOM FOR RENT: Homestay for Korean student. 20-25 minutes west of OCCC. All utilities, groceries, and house expenses paid. Delicious Korean and American foods served. \$800 per month. Contact Sun: 824-5430.

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 Cuddy, 280 HP 305 Motor, runs great. Call 788-0068.

FOR SALE: Tanning Bed for sale. Cheaper than some contracts. Save time and money. Great gift. Call Mark for details 405-802-3330.

FOR SALE: Queen mat/set (no headbd.), microwave, 20 in. TV, leather sofa, coffee table, side table, long table, & chair. All for \$300. Call Rosa at 405-921-0816.

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- 5 Large number
- 9 A twist of —
- 13 Volcanic flow
- 14 Cougar
- 15 — Seas
- 16 Consistent
- 17 Foray
- 18 Vote to accept
- 19 Ending for "auction"
- 20 Garden veggie
- 22 Cafeteria sights
- 24 Pullover
- 25 Plant pests
- 27 Scent
- 29 Freight boat
- 30 Mast
- 31 Expert
- 34 Mil. address
- 35 In the direction of
- 38 Snag
- 39 Noticed
- 40 Nutmeg spice
- 41 Topic
- 43 Chalkboard material
- 45 Halted
- 46 Pay attention
- 49 Some exams
- 50 Ill-mannered
- 53 Coffee container
- 56 Genetic copy
- 57 Harem rooms

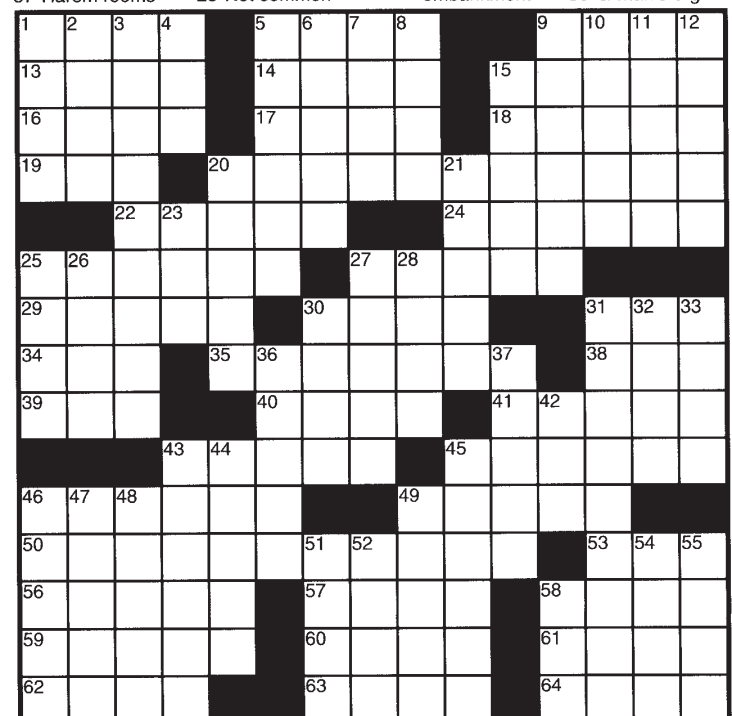
DOWN

- 1 Swiss painter
- 2 Church part
- 3 Topple (a government)
- 4 Prohibit
- 5 Mists
- 6 Hawaiian feasts
- 7 Jannings or Zatopek
- 8 Dry riverbed
- 9 Felt hat
- 10 Admits frankly
- 11 Plains dwelling
- 12 Vestibule
- 15 Oregon capital
- 20 West Point student
- 21 Norwegian bay
- 23 Eighteen-wheeler
- 25 Loose robes
- 26 "— Don't Preach"
- 27 Swiftly
- 28 Not common
- 58 Gratis
- 59 Gamut
- 60 Kind
- 61 Leaned over
- 62 Woolly animals
- 63 Large-antlered deer
- 64 — of March

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

DEFY	PODS	BRUSH
ERLE	ILIE	AERIE
BAY	WINDOW	NASTY
USE	CAIN	SAGAS
TERMITE	OONA	
ALA	IGUANAS	
WACKY	CORNS	BUS
OSLO	LOWED	VENT
EAU	GALAS	PESKY
PELICAN	JOE	
AVES	MESSAGE	
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Marquee brings college news to masses

By Amanda Bittle
Staff Writer

News from campus will reach a larger audience of motorists starting this semester.

Students and faculty may already have noticed the LED digital marquee on the southwest corner of S.W. 74th Street and May Avenue.

The price of the sign will be underwritten by sponsors whose ads will share space on the marquee, said Business and Finance Vice President Donna Nance. Sponsors also will share space on a billboard facing Interstate 44. "The contract basically says that if we allow them to set up a billboard sign on our property, that they would put up this marquee sign for us and they would sell sponsorships on the billboard sign."

OCCC is working with LightPoint Impressions to install both the marquee and the billboard on the campus, Nance said. LightPoint Impressions provides "digital signage" to colleges at no charge to the schools, according to the company's website.

The marquee features campus-wide messages, said Institutional Advancement Executive Director Pat Berryhill.

Software provided by LightPoint allows the Public Relations department to modify the marquee from computers inside the school, Berryhill said.

The department is responsible for the content of the messages. Berryhill said the college also is in the process of setting up a procedure to allow faculty and staff to request announcement space on the marquee.

Installation of the sponsor billboard has been delayed due to recent high winds, said Physical Plant Director J.B. Messer. San Antonio-based Keller Custom Signs, which manufactures the marquees, will complete the installation as soon as the weather permits.

The collaboration between OCCC and LightPoint began more than a year ago, he said.

The "tri-action" billboard facing I-44 will accommodate messages from up to six sponsors, according to literature provided by LightPoint. The billboard will stand 50 feet tall and feature 14-by-48 foot advertising space, facing both northbound and southbound interstate traffic.

Up to three sponsor messages will appear in rotation on each side, according to LightPoint.

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

"The contract basically says that if we allow them to set up a billboard sign on our property, that they would put up this marquee sign for us, and they would sell sponsorships on the billboard sign."

—Donna Nance
Business and Finance
Vice President

Data Center streaming right along after move

"Data,"
Cont. from page 1

puter took up approximately the same space as a small college classroom. The newly-installed central processing unit and other components now only occupy about a quarter of the space.

The new room also has a backup power supply.

"This entire machine room now, including the lighting system and everything, is now also on a motor generator," Riha said.

"The rest of Oklahoma City can be dark, including the college, and this room will be running and self-sufficient."

Existing fiber optic cables were split and now connect all of the various telecommunications components of the college.

The floors in the room where the mainframe used to be are concrete, so wires and cables rested on the floor. The new floor has been made to conceal the wiring, Riha said.

"You can't see anything now because all of the wires are underneath the floor, completely hidden," he said.

Along with being a noisy

room that resounds with a heavy hum, the temperature inside is kept extremely cool.

Riha said that's because computer processors heat up and need to be kept in a cool, humidity controlled environment.

"There is about a 20- to 25-degree difference between the air going in the front and coming out of the back," he said.

This move has also supported a new e-mail system that started in the fall. All college e-mail addresses were changed to better accommodate the students and the college, Riha said.

"By doing [this], the college is now in a position to more easily communicate relevant information to students, adjuncts, and regular faculty," he said.

"The other big advantage is that since all those accounts are issued by [the college], we can fully comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act."

Basically, Riha said, all information that is shared throughout the school's system stays on the same servers.

There have been no significant setbacks in any

areas of the college since the technical transition, Riha said.

"The only thing that took us a while was just to get the dial-up access because we had to rely on outside agencies," Riha said.

Psychology major Philip Aken has already had problems. He said he experienced a few problems with MineOnline.

"After the move, the connection kept fading in and out. I was experiencing puzzlement bordering on alarm," Aken said.

Vaneza Ceballos, biology major, said she waited until she returned to work at the Welcome Center to check her grades, and had no problems doing so.

Riha said spring break is the scheduled time when all of the college systems will be running with the newer Datatel version, Release 18.

Datatel is the college's integrated information system that stores all information pertaining to financial transactions, student information and faculty information as well as other college data.

One advantage of using the newer system is that technical support will be

offered for this version of Datatel.

"I'm really happy for the college, and this new equipment puts the college on a foundation to implement a lot of additional improvements," Riha said.

Editor Valerie Jobe can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

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