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# PIONEER

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## The great outdoors

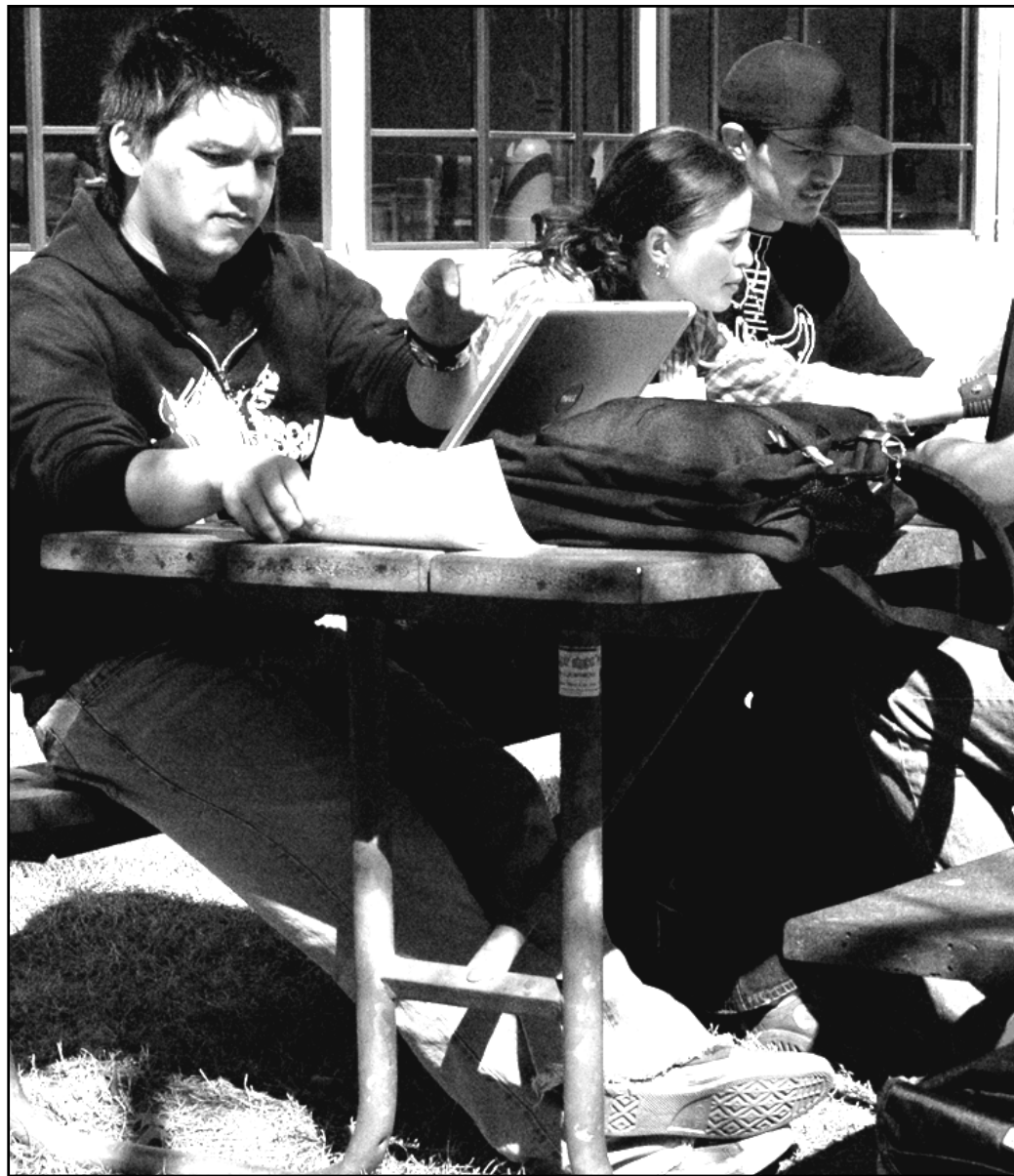


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Freshmen Josh Gallegos, Buffie Richardson and Brady Aunko study in the courtyard during the late morning on March 7. Mild temperatures and calm winds lured students outside with the promise of spring.

## Transferring an easy move for prepared OCCC students

By Valerie Jobe  
Editor

Anxiety, stress and just plain frustration can plague students when transferring to a four-year university. However, being prepared should help ease most of those emotions.

Counselor George Maxwell said students should gather all necessary documents, such as transcripts, shot records and applicable records, long before the admission deadline to the preferred college.

"If [students] are ... planning to transfer next semester, their first step is, of course, to contact the four-year institution and start the enrollment process," he said.

He said students also can prepare in other ways.

"I highly recommend going to any transfer days available."

The University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond is an option many OCCC students choose when considering where they will continue their higher education. See "Transferring," page 13

## Campus crime numbers rise

Security head says increase due, in part, to better understanding of reporting laws

By Amanda Bittle  
Staff Writer

An apparent increase in auto thefts and burglaries in 2005 as shown in the recently-released Student Right-to-Know report is not only indicative of increased criminal activity, said Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director.

Sloas said it's also partly the result of campus cops having a better understanding of crime and incident reporting criteria as outlined in the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.

The Clery Act takes precedence over state laws on college campuses when they differ, Sloas said.

The way in which crimes are classified within the act affects how the numbers are reported.

For instance, a three-year campus crime summary recently released shows there were four reports of motor vehicle theft in 2003 and two in 2004. That number climbed to 13 in 2005.

While the numbers reflect an actual increase in vehicle thefts, Sloas said, it also reflects a change in policy.

Sloas said the criteria for reporting vehicle thefts as outlined in the Clery Act, includes attempted thefts.

"If a car is broken into, and there is any indication that [someone attempted to steal the car], then it counts as a vehicle theft," he said.

However, he said, the bottom line is that Oklahoma City has had a greater increase in vehicle thefts than comparable metros, such as Tulsa or Kansas City.

"I attribute most of the number increase to a metro epidemic of stolen vehicles."

Burglary falls into the same gray area.

The Handbook for Campus Crime Reporting defines burglary as "the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft," which mirrors the wording of the Clery Act.

OCCC reported two incidences of burglary in 2003 and four in 2004. In 2005, 23 burglaries were reported.

While that is a large increase of burglaries, Sloas said, again, part of that can be attributed to the redefining of what a burglary is and when it can occur.

In 2005, the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators held a conference in Kansas City, Sloas said.

Until the conference, most campuses (including ours) reported See "Crime," page 16



Ike Sloas

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

# Parental responsibility

Someone big is in the news lately and his name is Connor McCready. This 8-year-old weighs in at an unhealthy 218 pounds. British child welfare officials have been wrestling with the idea of taking him away from his parents.

This doesn't come as much of a surprise after hearing stories about obesity and children in the United States, where we have similar problems.

This brings up the question — what can we do to stop or slow down the overweight problems with our children?

The University of Baltimore has put together a plan to stop the pounds from adding on to those children.

They have been working on an Obesity Report Card. The report measures how well states are addressing the obesity crisis. In the control of childhood obesity, California, Illinois, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Tennessee have scored an A.

American public schools right now serve tasty beverages and snacks filled with sugar and empty calories. With the university's report card, schools will be challenged to control the types of foods and beverages offered during school hours.

Vending machines may have to offer healthy snacks and beverages. In addition, state mandated recess and physical education will try to slim down the waistline on U.S. children. Steps also are being made, such as measuring the student's body mass index in school.

This report card will include obesity research, which will add legislative support for other institutions or groups to study obesity. There also is a plan to expand obesity treatment in health insurance, along with an obesity commission which will study obesity.

No matter how much attention the schools pay, parents need to realize schools can't do it all and those parents need to be involved so they can become more educated on obesity.

Parents have more authority over their children than anyone.

It's their job to make sure their children enjoy healthy childhoods and learn the importance of exercising and eating the right foods.

Safety always is on the minds of parents when they consider allowing children to play unsupervised outside. An organized sport is a great way to allow the children to get exercise safely. And, coaching or practicing drills can involve parents with their sons or daughters.

It's too easy to sit back and do nothing. Action needs to be taken to make sure our children have all the knowledge they can get about obesity and its dangers.

Parents owe it to their children to teach them about healthy lifestyles and exercise.

—John Savage  
Staff Writer

# College: watch what you say

## To the Editor:

What's wrong with this college?

Why do the teachers and administration allow obvious discrimination to go on every day in and outside the classroom?

What I'm referring to is the college allowing students to make fun of gay students in class and outside of class all the time. This has got to stop!

I can't tell you how many classes I've sat in this year where one student has said to another student, "That's so gay!"

I even sat in a class yesterday where a student right in the front row called another student "Faggy." You know what the teacher did? Not a thing. They never do! Have they ever stopped to think how gay students feel about this?

And when I was walking outside toward the library and within earshot of the college president's office,

just last week, one student said to another that he was going to kick some "queer-ass kid's butt because he won't shut up in class." You know what the president and his secretary did? Nothing!

It's 2007. Blacks, Hispanics, Asians and others can't be made fun of because it's not acceptable.

Women can't be made fun of because it's not acceptable. The disabled can't be made fun of because it's not acceptable.

So, why does the faculty and administration let students make fun of gay students without even batting an eyelash?

I was meeting with a member of the GALA group yesterday, and they are going to be holding a Gay Support Day March 30.

All students are encouraged to wear red shirts that day. I know I'll be wearing red that day.

I hope that if other stu-

dents, faculty and the college president want to show that discrimination has no place here at OCCC, they will wear red too.

Discrimination has no place in society, and it has no place at OCCC. Show it March 30, or don't raise a fuss if your specific group gets made fun of.

—David De La Rosa  
OCCC Art Major

## PIONEER

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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## Comments and Reviews

# Intentions, humor almost good enough in Warner's 'Farmer'

The best word to describe Warner Bros. Pictures' release "The Astronaut Farmer" is formulaic.

But that's not necessarily a bad thing when the formula used works time and time again.

"The Astronaut Farmer" stars Billy Bob Thornton ("Slingblade," "Monster's Ball") as Charlie Farmer, a rancher that spends his spare time building a rocket he plans to launch.

As he gets closer to fulfilling his dreams, he's also faced with increasing challenges.

First and foremost is the foreclosure on his ranch, on which he owes \$600,000 in back payments.

The other is the FBI, which is tipped off to his plans to launch when he tries to purchase 10,000 pounds of rocket fuel.

To speed up the launch, Farmer enlists the aid of his 15-year-old son as his mis-

sion control director and his two elementary-school-aged daughters, Sunshine and Stanley.

Charlie's dream faces another setback when his wife, Audie, played by Virginia Madsen ("Sideways," "The Number 23") discovers the imminent foreclosure that Charlie has hidden from his family.

As the movie progresses, Charlie faces one hurdle after another but he never loses focus or determination in his quest to enter space.

There are obvious flaws in the movie.

For instance, if any person tried to buy 10,000 pounds of rocket fuel, the FBI would probably take him or her into custody.

It's also hard to believe a bank would allow a rancher to be late on a land payment to the tune of \$600,000.

Despite the flaws, "The



"Astronaut Farmer" has enough humor and good intentions to keep moviegoers awake to support Charlie in his quest to reach for the stars.

Although this isn't a movie worthy of \$7, it is, however, a movie worthy of renting when it comes out on DVD.

**Rating:** C+

—**Scott D'Amico**  
Staff Writer

## Book offers retro look into future

Robert Heinlein's "Stranger in a Strange Land" is a difficult book to grok, but a simple one to enjoy.

The premise of the novel appears fairly simple at first — nearly two decades after mankind's disastrous first manned mission to Mars, an expeditionary force sent by the Earth's new world is shocked to discover the planet is already inhabited by intelligent beings.

As if this weren't enough, these natives had raised from infancy the sole survivor of the first mission — a young man named Valentine Michael Smith. With their blessing, Smith is returned to Earth ... where he causes vast, unforeseen complications for the powers that be.

Blissfully unaware of his predicament, Michael simply tries his best to understand a culture completely

alien to him.

He is soon liberated from his hospital prison by Gillian "Jill" Boardman, a nurse who later becomes Michael's traveling companion and lover.

The two of them find refuge at the palatial home of Jubal Harshaw, a painfully cynical philosopher, lawyer, medical doctor and popular writer with an anti-authoritarian streak.

Harshaw and his entourage of attractive and talented female secretaries finally secure Mike's freedom and safety ... while realizing just how unique the "Man from Mars" really is.

Throughout the course of the novel, it becomes clear that Smith is capable of things that ordinary humans are not — levitating and erasing objects from existence with a thought, for example.

When Michael realizes these skills are a product of the Martians' own culture and language, and finally groks (Martian for "knows and understands every aspect of") the human race after years of wandering, he decides to teach the language and philosophy to willing pupils by way of founding his own bizarre religion.

And things only get stranger from there.

As odd as the book is now, "Stranger" must have seemed far stranger when it was published in 1961.

"Stranger" also is a fairly long book, but is written well enough to bring readers back again and again.

For those not minding a little weirdness, "Stranger in a Strange Land" comes highly recommended.

—**Drew Hampton**  
Staff Writer

## YOU asked FOR IT

**Q:** How does Student Life select guest speakers to come to campus?

**A:** Guest speakers are selected based on cost and interest. We also solicit input from faculty and students.

—**Jon Horinek**  
Student Life Programs Coordinator

**Q:** Is there anywhere on campus students can print in color?

**A:** Color printers are available for students in certain multimedia classes. Other students may use these printers if their professor calls the Student Computer Center and explains the reason.

—**Gary Dominquez**  
Student Computer Center Supervisor

**Q:** In the situation of a tornado, where would students need to go for safety?

**A:** Most of the safer areas are any of the concrete stairwells and any of the hallways that are underneath the new Science and Math Center.

—**Ike Sloas**  
Director of Campus Safety and Security

**Q:** How tall are the ceilings in the Main Building under the stairs?

**A:** From floor to ceiling, the measurements are approximately 40 feet 6 inches.

—**Chris Snow**  
Assistant Director of Physical Plant

**Q:** Why are students required to take courses not related to their major?

**A:** The college degree is supposed to signify more than just the skills necessary to perform a job function. Incorporating these things will help an individual become a well-rounded, educated individual so they can effectively function in the world.

—**George Maxwell**  
Student Development Counselor

**Q:** Why are the elevators so slow, and does the college have any plans to upgrade them?

**A:** The elevators are 30 years old and working fine. We have had a company look at them and there is a plan to upgrade them with American Elevators. The timeline is unknown.

—**Gary Belcher**  
Building Maintenance and Operations Supervisor

**Q:** On average, how long does the enrollment process take?

**A:** Depending on how busy we are, about 10 to 15 minutes, 30 minutes for the counselors and then more if testing is required.

—**Lyndsie Stremlow**  
Admissions Assistant

## Comments and Reviews

# 'Borat' DVD extras lack substance

Situational comedy with meaning is a rare thing these days. In 2006, Sacha Cohen decided to delve into what it means to be comical and released (take a deep breath) "Borat — Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan." Now the film, with a handful of extras, is out on DVD.

To explain what almost everyone already knows, "Borat" is the story of a Kazakh reporter, Borat, who travels to America in order to make a documentary film.

While in the States, Borat and his producer, Azamat, visit a southern rodeo where they meet a homophobic redneck, learn how to wine and dine with high society, have a chat with feminazis, get drunk with racist frat boys and attempt to meet Pamela Anderson. All of that, and more, in a nearly 90-minute span.

With the movie, Cohen pokes fun at the various



facets of American culture. How he does it, however, is the comical genius — he acts like an outsider attempting to look in, and with that comes a hilarity rarely seen in modern films. While paying homage to comedic paragons, Cohen paints an alluring picture of our multicultural society, which forces us to think, "Do we really act that way?"

Does the DVD offer anything truly significant to the "Borat" experience? Not really, and that's where the disappointment sets in.

First, the good things

about the DVD. Starting with the basics, the picture and sound quality are pretty vivid.

Borat looks extra flamboyant in his trademark green thonged wetsuit, and the grunts, growls and cursing during Borat's totally-nude struggle with Azamat sound livelier than ever.

The extras themselves, albeit a handful, are funny. There's a newscast of the rodeo coverage, a Kazakhstan "Bay Watch" spoof, a movie promotion featurette and some deleted scenes.

The "Bay Watch" parody

is the funniest thing the extras have to offer. Imagine Borat wearing a "Bay Watch" one-piece, running on a beach. Now picture a hairy, 300-pound Azamat doing the same while wearing the same. Throw in some classic "Bay Watch" references and more characters from the movie, and you'll find yourself rolling with laughter.

The movie promotion featurette is just a compilation of all the stops Cohen made to promote his movie. He stops at the Cannes Film Festival, a comic book convention (where he makes women laugh by making fun of them) and a couple of late-night talk shows, in one of which Borat thanks Jay Leno for allowing him to bed Martha Stewart on his show.

No doubt funny, but the meat on the DVD's bones is kind of dry when it comes to the deleted scenes. Watching them, it's easy to see why they weren't left in the film — they simply don't

add to the strong social commentary Cohen fashioned. In a sense, they were pointless, but still fun to watch (kind of like some Eddie Murphy movies).

What I was hoping for I didn't get: funny audio commentary from Borat and Azamat, some making-of featurettes and the like. Nearly every DVD produced since the birth of the DVD has had audio commentary, and most of it is painfully boring. Some Borat commentary would have been appreciated, as it would have added some spice to the traditional recipe.

Alas, you get what you pay for: a funny movie with a modest side dish of extras. Is "Borat" worth the \$20 price tag? Sure thing, but keep both eyes open and fingers crossed, for a special edition in the future, hopefully with more features.

**Rating:** B-

—**Richard Hall**  
Contributing Writer

## Nine Inch Nails DVD is all it could've been

After 18 years of symbolically pounding nails of the nine inch persuasion into Jesus' hands and feet, Trent Reznor has swung the hammer again with the Halo 22 DVD release of "Nine Inch Nails Live: Beside You In Time."

The concert takes place during the winter leg of the band's 2006 North American tour, and may be close to the hearts of metro area NIN fans because it was partially filmed in Oklahoma City during Nine Inch Nails' March 28 performance at the Ford Center. The rest of the footage was shot the next day in El Paso, Texas.

During the first song, "Love Is Not Enough," a screen is dropped in front of the stage so the audience can see only silhouetted images of the band members, but by the second song the screen is raised, and a buff, shaved version of the once emaciated and dread-locked Trent Reznor appears.

The set is peppered with new songs from the "With Teeth" al-

bum, as well as classics such as "Terrible Lie," "Head Like A Hole," "Wish" and "Burn."

The intensity of the band and the crowd is present during older songs such as "March of the Pigs" and "Gave Up," but is not nearly as prevalent during the newer material, which signifies that the importance and effect of Reznor's music are waning.

Director Rob Sheridan does nothing extraordinary with the concert footage.

The typical close-up shots of the band members and the occasional shot of the crowd are used.

There are, however, three songs where the viewer can choose between two different angles by pressing the enter button on their remote during each performance, but the option doesn't really make for a better experience.

The lighting isn't out of the ordinary either. For the most part, it's fast, bright, and flashes on and off in sync with the music, as is com-

mon with most concerts. In some instances, the soft, thick colors of the light do create an ambience during some of the slower songs such as "Something I Can Never Have" and "Hurt."

The most intense and moving portion of the concert comes during the performances of "Eraser," "Right Where It Belongs" and "Beside You In Time" when the screen is again dropped down in front of the band.

Archival clips of war footage, disturbing nature scenes such as animals fighting with and devouring each other, and enlarged images of parasites moving around under a microscope lens are projected on the screen during these songs.

What seems to continually work for Reznor is the fact that he can take commonplace images such as a camera moving slowly at ground level through a field of tall grass and, when coupled with his music, make them eerily creepy.

As with all NIN concerts, this one

is entertaining, but lacks the overall intensity present with the "And All That Could Have Been" concert DVD.

The supplemental features include two music videos, three songs performed live during rehearsal, a stills gallery, the entire NIN body of work with selected audio and video clips, and English subtitles.

Die-hard NIN fans wanting to complete their collection of halos should pick up "Nine Inch Nails Live: Beside You In Time."

**Rating:** B

—**David Miller**  
Staff Writer

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## Light creates art

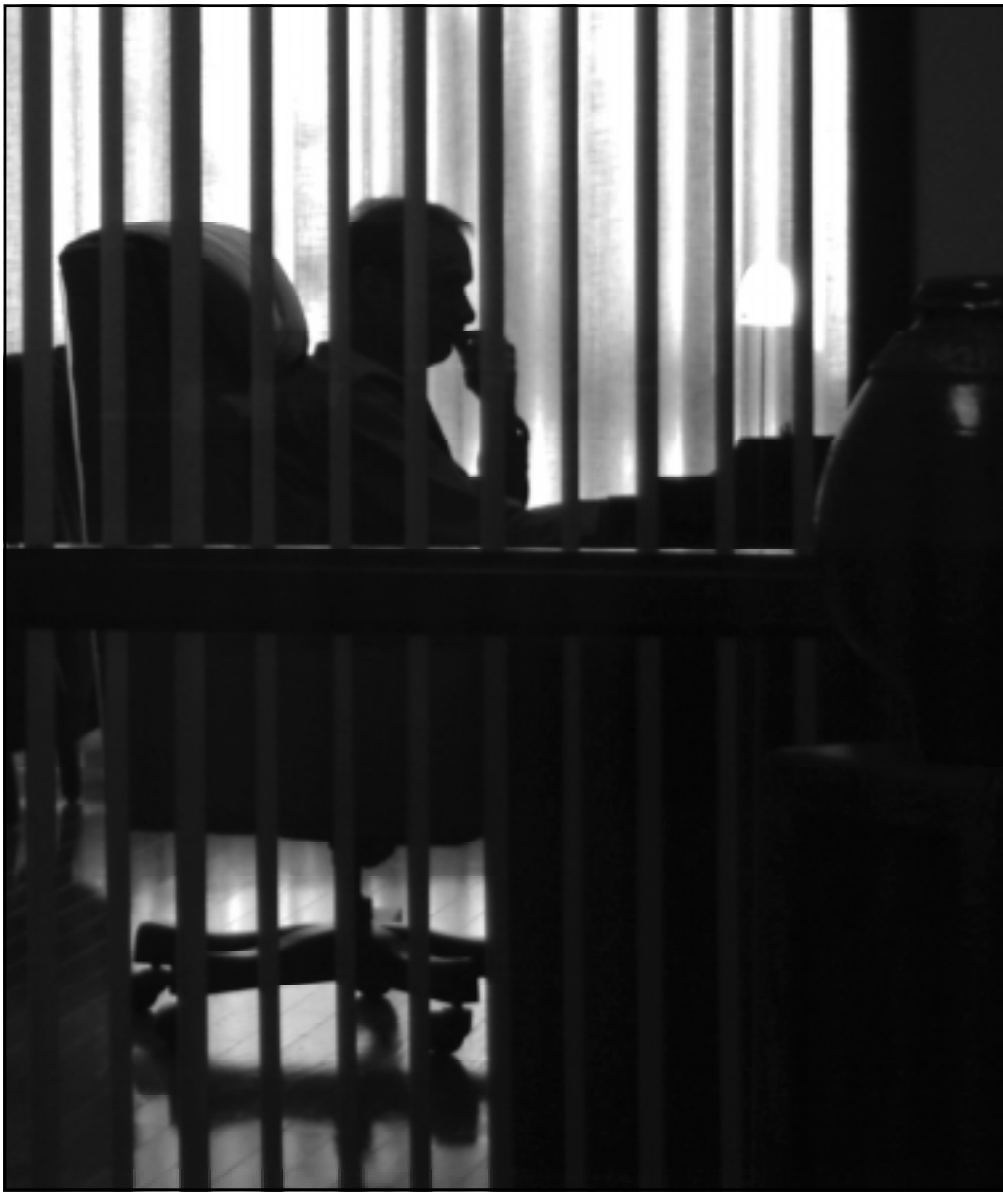


Photo by LaWanda LaVarnway

OCCC President Paul Sechrist is captured in a contemplative pose by the college's photography lab assistant. Light passing through partially open blinds created the silhouette effect.

## Cover letter writing workshop March 26

By Courtney Barrie  
Staff Writer

How to write a cover letter will be the topic at the next Employment Services workshop.

Coordinator of Employment Services Laura Choppy will conduct the workshop from noon to 12:25 p.m. March 26, in room 1F6.

"Cover letters are really the first impression an employer can get from a prospective employee," Choppy said.

It's important that the first impression be a good one.

Although the task of writing a cover letter can be intimidating, Choppy has broken down the process into some easy-to-follow steps.

When writing a cover letter, always include name, current address, phone number, an e-mail address and the date on which the letter was sent.

Use a proper greeting to the potential employer.

If the letter is being delivered to a specific person, address it to the correct

department and use the title of the person who will be reading it.

Include in the letter what job the applicant is applying for, and the reasons they feel they are qualified.

Let employers know that their time is appreciated, and assure them you plan to follow up with them at a later date.

The final step of cover letter writing is to proofread it, Choppy said.

According to Choppy, a well-written cover letter really does make a big difference.

"Since your cover letter is the first thing an employer sees, it can either entice them to read, or not read, your résumé," said Choppy.

"If you can master cover letter writing, you definitely have an advantage over the competition."

Choppy said last semester a similar workshop was held and students had a very positive response.

For more information, contact Choppy at 405-682-1611, ext. 7369.

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

## Rose Ensemble will bloom in College Theater

By David Miller  
Staff Writer

The Cultural Arts Series continues to nurture the college's artistic side with an act that blends stories with songs.

The next dose of culture arrives in the form of the Rose Ensemble, whose musical stylings include Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque.

"[The Rose Ensemble members] have proven themselves to be innovators in their field," said Scott Tigert, Cultural Programs and Community Development assistant.

The Ensemble will descend upon the college with their performance of "Slavic

Wonders" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 27, in the OCCC Theater.

The concert features early vocal repertoire from Poland, Russia and Bohemia (along with narrated legends of the lives of Slavic heroes and saints), according to the "Slavic Wonders" program.

Founded in 1996 by Artistic Director Jordan Sramek, the Rose Ensemble's musicians cast a harmonious spell with ancient music, intertwined with stories of old, according to the CAS press release.

Tigert said Linda Bosteels, acting director for the Cultural Arts Series, had the idea to bring the group to the college.

"Linda Bosteels heard about [the Rose Ensemble], reviewed their press kit, and thought [they] would be a wonderful, worthwhile act."

Rose Ensemble members also will conduct a free workshop open to the public at 11 a.m. March 27, also in the College Theater.

The workshop will include a lecture and demonstration on medieval Bohemian chant and 17th-century Polish and Russian vocal music.

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

For more information, contact Tigert at 405-682-



Photo courtesy of OCCC

The Rose Ensemble will perform at 7 p.m. March 27

1611, ext. 7579.

Staff Writer David Miller

can be reached at Staff Writer3@occc.edu.

# Brown Bag attendees get lowdown on alcohol

**By Katie Jones**  
News Writing Student

Sgt. Greg Giltner, a coordinator for Oklahoma City's Cops Helping Alleviate Police Problems, spoke to students on the effects of alcohol and the price you must pay when caught drinking and driving.

The Brown Bag Lunch seminar focusing on the use and abuse of alcohol was held March 1.

Giltner has been a part of the Oklahoma City Police force for 19 years. He said he has seen enough to know that drinking and driving is a problem in Oklahoma.

"Oklahoma City averages 300 DUIs a month," Giltner said. "And the average blood alcohol content is 1.5 percent."

The blood alcohol concentration for drunk driving in Oklahoma is .08 percent. Giltner suggested that

if people have one drink per hour, they should be able to drive without reaching this concentration.

"The problem is, kids like to go to a party, drink a few beers, have a couple mixed drinks and take a few shots," Giltner said.

"Then they try to drive home."

Giltner asked students to tell him the things that they have been told will "sober them up."

Students suggested eating food and drinking coffee or water. Giltner explained the error of these concepts.

"Alcohol leaves a person's body at .015 percent per hour," he said. "The bread, food, coffee or water will not take the alcohol out of your body."

Giltner said the smartest thing to do after a night of drinking is to call a friend or a cab to come pick you up and take you home.

**"Alcohol leaves a person's body at .015 percent per hour. The bread, food, coffee or water will not take the alcohol out of your body."**

— Greg Giltner

Cops Helping Alleviate Police Problems Coordinator

The national average cost for a person's first arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol is \$15,105. That includes ticket costs, court fees, lawyer fees and mandatory classes.

But the price could be so much more.

People who drive under the influence are not only putting themselves in danger, but also anyone else on the roadways at the same time, including other drivers and pedestrians, Giltner said.

"More people your age are killed in alcohol-related instances than in homicides and suicides com-

bined," Giltner told the students.

"I have put more victims of wrecks in jail for DUIs than people I've pulled over for drunk driving," he said.

Accidents are always possible and if you are driving with a blood alcohol level over .08 percent, you will be charged with a DUI and most likely go to jail, Giltner said.

Students also got the opportunity to wear "beer goggles" and try to take a sobriety test. This demonstrated to the students the police officer's point of view and how easy it is to tell whether or not someone has been drinking.

## Students put knowledge to test in Booze Jeopardy

**By Amanda Bittle**  
Staff Writer

How many drinks does it take for some individuals to fail a Breathalyzer test?

If you guessed one, you might have fared well during Booze Jeopardy. This question was one of many posed during the event on March 6.

Student Life hosted Booze Jeopardy in the College Union.

Jon Horinek, Student Life Programs coordinator, quizzed contestants Alex Trebek-style.

Topics ranged from the physical effects of various blood alcohol levels to celebrities who have been busted driving drunk.

Contestants were asked to identify celebrities such as Mel Gibson, Nicole Richie and Nick Nolte.

As for the Breathalyzer question, alcohol affects people differently.

Weight, sex, mood, metabolism and the presence of food in a person's stomach all affect blood alcohol levels, according to Booze Jeopardy answers.

**"[Booze Jeopardy] was something fun to do between classes."**

—Dominique Jackson  
Liberal Arts Major

Contestants were picked from the audience.

Christina Barger, first-year broadcasting student, received a \$50 gift certificate to the OCCC bookstore after winning Booze Jeopardy.

"I was just eating lunch in here," she said of her decision to compete.

Barger said she was most surprised by the effect blood alcohol levels have on motor functions.

For instance, when a person's blood alcohol concentration is 0.1 to 0.125, his or her balance, vision, reaction time and hearing are impaired.

When blood alcohol concentration reaches 0.25, an individual's mental, physical and sensory functions all are "severely impaired," Barger said.

A person whose blood alcohol concentration is 0.08 is considered legally intoxicated in the state of Okla-

homa, according to [www.health.state.ok.us](http://www.health.state.ok.us).

Barger's competitor, first-year liberal arts student Dominique Jackson, also said she was surprised by the physical effects of different blood alcohol levels.

She said she had a good time participating in the contest.

"It was something fun to do between classes," she said.

Jackson received a \$5 gift certificate to the bookstore for participating in the event.

Horinek said more Jeopardy games are planned for the future, but have not yet been scheduled.

For more information on activities sponsored by Student Life, contact Horinek at 405-682-1611, ext. 7697, or visit [www.occc.edu/StudentLife](http://www.occc.edu/StudentLife).

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).

## Chinese course stays, Vietnamese added

**By Katie Hilburn**  
News Writing Student

A new language will soon be taught at OCCC.

Following the success of the Chinese language class this semester, the Arts and Humanities division has decided to offer the class again, said Ruth Charnay, Arts and Humanities acting dean.

The college also is adding a new course, Introduction to Vietnamese.

OCCC decided to offer these courses because of the growing Asian culture in the Oklahoma City area.

School officials think the class will help students looking to improve themselves culturally, travel to Asia or go into business to communicate more easily.

There also has been a good response from the Chinese and Vietnamese cultures toward the courses. These heritage speakers are looking to improve their own language skills through the new classes.

"As a campus we are more interested in a variety of opportunities for students," Charnay said.

Adjunct Professor Ashlie Coakley, who teaches Introduction to Chinese this semester, will return in the fall to teach the class again. For the new Vietnamese class, OCCC has hired another adjunct professor, Truong Xuan Le.

These classes have already been placed into the fall schedule.

Introduction to Chinese will meet from 11 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Introduction to Vietnamese will be held from 5:30 to 6:50 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.

Charnay said, if the classes go well, they hope to offer more advanced versions in the future.



# Aquatic Center hosts regional diving meet

Nine men, 10 women qualify for NCAA Championships

**By Lee Johnston**  
News Writing Student

Swim teams from across the West recently competed at the OCCC Aquatic Center.

The NCAA Division 1 Zone E diving meet was held March 1 through 3. The U.S. Air Force Academy hosted the meet, where 15 universities from the Pac-10, Western Athletic Conference and Mountain West conference competed.

The men's winner was Arizona State's Michele Benedetti with 738.75 points. Benedetti edged out Hawaii's Mats Wiktorsson, who earned 669.35 points.

On the women's side, Tess Schofield of the University of Southern California, Los Angeles earned 524.45 points on her way to receiving the blue ribbon. Just behind her was the University of Southern California's Kimberly Popp with 513.85 points.

OCCC Aquatic Center Coordinator Roxanna Butler said there was a successful turnout of spectators to match the exciting competition.

This event was one of many leading up to the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships on March 8 through 10 for women and March 15 through 17 for men. The University of Minnesota will host the Championships.

There were 10 women and nine men who qualified for the diving championships with their performances at OCCC.

Women who qualified included Schofield, Cassidy Krug, Megan Farrow, Emma Friesen, Tawni Jones, Marisa Samaniego, Popp, Amanda Blong, Shana Karp and Sara Clark.

The men who qualified were Benedetti, Magnus Frick, Brandon Watson, Wiktorsson, Michael Hilde, Dwight Dumais, Kenny Jenkins, Sam Helvie and Kevin Bretting.

Any further questions regarding results can be directed to Meet Director Stan Curnow at 719-333-2331.

## Economics professor teaching from Africa

**By Chad Franz**  
News Writing Student

The OCCC Business Department is taking global education one step further with its newest macroeconomics professor.

Germain Pichop is not only teaching an online class; he is doing it from Tanzania, a country in Southeast Africa.

Pichop was born in Cameroon, Africa, where he earned his bachelor's degree in economics and business at the University of Yaoundé in 1994.

After completing his bachelor's degree, Pichop obtained a master's degree in international marketing and international relations at the International Relations Institute of Cameroon in 1997. Pichop also served as an intern at the Cameroon National Cocoa and Coffee Board.

Pichop came to the United

**"I became a teacher because I enjoy interacting and mentoring people."**

—Germain Pichop  
Macroeconomics Professor

States in 1998 after receiving a Fulbright grant. In 2003, Pichop completed the doctoral program in Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University.

After obtaining his doctorate, Pichop worked as a research associate at the Department of Agricultural Economics at OSU before becoming an adjunct professor at OCCC.

"I became a teacher because I enjoy interacting and mentoring people," Pichop said in an online interview.

Pichop said he believes teaching economics gives him the opportunity to make a change in people's lives.



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Sam Helvie of the University of California, Berkley, completes a dive during the men's 3-meter preliminary event of the 2007 NCAA Zone E Diving Competition on March 2 in the Aquatic Center. Though the event took place at OCCC, it was hosted by the U.S. Air Force Academy. Participating teams included Brigham Young University, the University of Southern California, Wyoming University, Arizona State University, Stanford University, the University of Hawaii and several others. Of the competitors, 10 women and nine men qualified for the NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships, which will be held later in March at the University of Minnesota.

## On the hunt



Photo by Carrie Cronk

Business sophomore Chris Stewart discusses career opportunities with Randas Honeman, staffing coordinator for The Hartford during the OCCC Job Fair in the College Union March 7. Advising and Career Services organized the job fair and brought in more than 100 employers from the metro and surrounding areas.

## Serving up green beer near OKC



The traditional day 'o' green is right around the corner. For those who are looking for a place to enjoy some green brew, read on.

The Oklahoma metropolitan area knows how to celebrate, with many local restaurants, bars and breweries serving up some of the best green beer around.

- **Bricktown Brewery** plans to sell 12-ounce green beer all day March 17 for \$1.50. The brewery is located at 1 N. Oklahoma in Oklahoma City. Contact them at 405-232-2739 or visit their website at [www.bricktownbrewery.com](http://www.bricktownbrewery.com).

- **Belle Isle Brew Pub** will offer all handcrafted beers for \$1.75, during Happy Hour from 5 to 7 p.m. on March 17. The pub can be found at 1900 N.W. Expressway in Oklahoma City. Contact them at 405-840-1911.

- **Henry Hudson's** will serve \$1 draws from 4 to 7 p.m. on March 17. Hudson's is located at 400 W. Interstate 240 Service Rd. in Oklahoma City.

- **Emerson Biggins Bar** at 800 W. Memorial Rd. has plans to serve green beer on March 17. Sixteen-ounce servings will sell for \$2.75 and 33-ounces will sell for \$4.75.

- **O'Connell's Irish Pub** will sell souvenir mugs for \$20. Refills will be \$7.25. O'Connell's is located at 120 E. Lindsey St. in Norman. Contact them at 405-364-8454 or visit their website at [www.oconnellsnorman.com](http://www.oconnellsnorman.com).

## Go green this St. Patrick's Day

Metro happenings offer good times

By Valerie Jobe  
Editor

Green socks, green shirts, green shoes and other green paraphernalia should promptly be donned for St. Patrick's Day 2007 festivities in Oklahoma City.

This year's event lineup has something sure to please the mischievous little green leprechaun in everyone.

Brewer Entertainment is sponsoring another St. Patrick's Day festival Saturday, March 17, with a performance by Brantley Cowen. He will be playing original music plus some of today's hits from bands such as Death Cab for Cutie, U2 and Coldplay, according to [www.oklahomacity.parentzone.com](http://www.oklahomacity.parentzone.com).

The annual parade that travels through the heart of Bricktown will still take its stroll. Green eggs and ham also will be served from 6 to 9 a.m. on March 17. There also will be a children's play area.

Bricktown festivities will go on until midnight.

If traditional Irish folk music gets your feet tapping, then prepare to spend the noon hour at Leadership Square listening to Celtic Call.

The performance is free to the public, said harpist Jill Justice. Celtic Call will play from 11:45 a.m. until 1:15 p.m.

Riverwind Casino also is hosting a concert where Suspicious Contra Band will play traditional Irish music from 8 p.m. until midnight. Musician Ian Bittle said, although he is Scottish, he is proud that he gets to represent his pan-Celtic heritage.

"[The band] is really excited to perform, and this will be a different audience for us," Bittle said.

Bittle said the band has performed at restaurants and coffee houses in the past.

"I'm always happy to get to play and then, when they pay me, it is even better," he said.

Another place to indulge in green eggs and ham is O'Connell's Pub in Norman. The green goodies will be served at 6 a.m. according to [www.okc.about.com](http://www.okc.about.com).

Editor Valerie Jobe can be reached at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu).

### Global green

- The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in New York in 1762.

- In modern-day Ireland, St. Patrick's Day has typically been a religious observance. Until the 1970s, Irish law mandated pubs be closed on March 17.

- The city of Chicago uses green dye to color the Chicago River, a tradition that began in 1962.

- The shamrock was a sacred plant that symbolized the rebirth of spring. Now, many Irish wear the shamrock as a symbol of their pride in their heritage and displeasure with English rule.

—Source: [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)



# Take a break from everything this spring

**By John Savage**  
Staff Writer

If this school year has got you feeling gloomy, snap out of it — spring break is almost here. The time off could be just what students need in order to de-stress and get ready for the next eight weeks.

Planning a trip couldn't be easier now that online search engines are dedicated to that task.

Although the prices are lower the earlier students start searching, some packages are still available if the students have the funds.

Several destinations can be found online at [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com), [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com) and [www.statravel.com](http://www.statravel.com).

These websites offer students a way to not only plan the trip themselves, but also to take a look at maps, pictures of the resort and information about the nightlife they will encounter.

Several of the packages found online can go for

more than \$1,000 per person for round-trip airfare and hotel accommodations to the Caribbean.

All prices include flight from Dallas to Jamaica for six days and seven nights.

The cheapest price for a spring getaway was found on [www.travelocity.com](http://www.travelocity.com), which offers a six-night stay with two round-trip tickets leaving Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport for \$750 per person.

Second cheapest was found on [www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com), which offered a similar package with two round-trip tickets and hotel for \$819 per person.

Statravel.com offered a package from Dallas to Jamaica for \$869 with hotel and airfare.

Some students might not want the sun and the sand. They, too, have several destinations to choose from.

Weekend trips to the snowy mountains might give spring breakers a break on their pocketbooks while not taking away from the experience.

[Reservations.snow.com](http://Reservations.snow.com)



Photo courtesy of Cancun Visitor's Bureau

Pictured is Cancun, one of the most popular spring break destinations. Cancun has more than 25,000 hotel rooms available, which get reserved quickly every year.

has several lodgings in Colorado near ski resorts.

The prices for lodging might be more affordable for students on a tight budget. Some of the ski lodges were found for \$149 a night.

OCCC student Daniel

Orren got started early to plan his South Padre trip.

"I figured the best way to do it is to get a two-bedroom condo and charge my friends a flat rate," Orren said.

"I just looked online and typed in South Padre and

Googled it," Orren said.

He said, when it comes time to plan the next trip, he plans to begin deal hunting much earlier than he did this spring.

Staff Writer John Savage can be reached at [StaffWriter2@occc.edu](mailto:StaffWriter2@occc.edu).

## Staying in state offers affordable getaway close to home

**By Scott D'Amico**  
Staff Writer

Being strapped for cash can limit where you go for spring break, but it doesn't have to limit the amount of fun you can have.

One of the options for affordable travel without leaving the state is found in the Arbuckle Mountains located off Interstate-35 near Davis, Okla.

There, visitors can take part in a myriad of activities, which include fishing, hiking, golfing and even hunting.

The Arbuckle Mountains also are home to a 77-foot waterfall — Turner Falls.

Visitors also have many lodging options in nearby Ardmore, Davis, Sulphur or Pauls Valley.

For those who can't escape the city area, there will be many events in the metro to choose from.

Oklahoma City's Ford Center will be the host to two concerts during spring break: Evanescence at 7

### Online Help

- [www.okfordcenter.com](http://www.okfordcenter.com)
- [www.okczoo.com](http://www.okczoo.com)
- [www.okcevents.info](http://www.okcevents.info)
- [www.okccvb.com](http://www.okccvb.com)
- [www.okclive.com](http://www.okclive.com)

p.m. on March 21 and The Who at 7:30 p.m. on March 23.

Tickets for both shows are \$35 and can be purchased through [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

For those who don't prefer rock 'n' roll there are a few other concerts around the area more suitable.

On March 23 and 24, the Oklahoma City Philharmonic will present Music of New Orleans with Byron Stripling at the Civic Center. Tickets are as little as \$12.

Music isn't the only fun escape for those staying in town for spring break.

For the few who desire educational fun during spring break, the Oklahoma City Zoo will have "Munch Madness" from March 19 to 25.

Throughout the week, different animals are selected for special feedings throughout the day.

A schedule of those feedings can be found at the Oklahoma City Zoo's website, [www.okczoo.com](http://www.okczoo.com)

The zoo also offers "The Oklahoma Trails," an eight-acre exhibit that houses more than 800 animals native to Oklahoma.

The cost for "Munch Madness" and "The Oklahoma Trails" is free with the general admission fee of \$7 for adults; \$4 for children over two. Children under two are free.

Oklahoma City also offers enter-

tainment at some of the city's mainstays.

Celebration Station off Interstate-40 and Meridian Avenue offers video games, miniature golf, bumper cars and bumper boats.

One of Oklahoma City's comedy clubs, The Looney Bin, located off N.W. Expressway and Rockwell Avenue, also offers entertainment for the financially strapped.

The club is open Wednesday through Sunday.

Ticket prices are \$6 and \$10 on Fridays.

For more information on events in and around the Oklahoma City area during spring break, visit [www.okcevents.info](http://www.okcevents.info).

Staff Writer Scott D'Amico can be reached at [onlineeditor@occc.edu](mailto:onlineeditor@occc.edu).

**The Pioneer wishes you a fun and safe spring break!**  
**Stay close to a computer and check out the Pioneer Online for any breaking news:**  
**[www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer)**

# 'Monologues' make for inspirational show

**By Valerie Jobe**  
Editor

Stomping, happy feet followed by large bursts of belly laughter and deep throaty sighs came from the audience as they watched the OCCC premiere of "The Vagina Monologues" March 2.

Director and Narrator Liz Shultz sat on a stool in a misty shadow on the right side of the stage as 13 women gave speeches touching on subjects from shaving to female mutilation.

V-Day started as a way for women to support an end to domestic abuse. The show has been going on since 1998.

At many times during the

show, viewers were thrust into uncontrollable fits of giggles or rested cautiously on the edge of their chairs as a woman's story of sexual abuse was played out in front of them.

Jessica Carabajal gave a performance about a female dominatrix. Her character's playful attitude, mixed with the humor of the script, made this scene.

Although the funny moments were many, the somber and sincere moments set the play's theme.

One story touched on the lives of the Comfort Women, who were from several Asian countries, and the sorrow they endured at the hands of the Japanese government that forced them into sexual slavery.

The survivors of this tragedy are older now, but Tiffany Calderon, Mindy Dieu and Lauren Poe told their story with passion and bold truth.

V-Day also interviewed a large number of women for the play. They were asked a variety of questions like "What does your vagina smell like?" and "If your vagina could wear clothes, what would it wear?"

The women interviewed ranged in age from six to 72.

More than \$1,300 was raised during the show, which will be donated to the YWCA and the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Editor Valerie Jobe can be reached at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu).

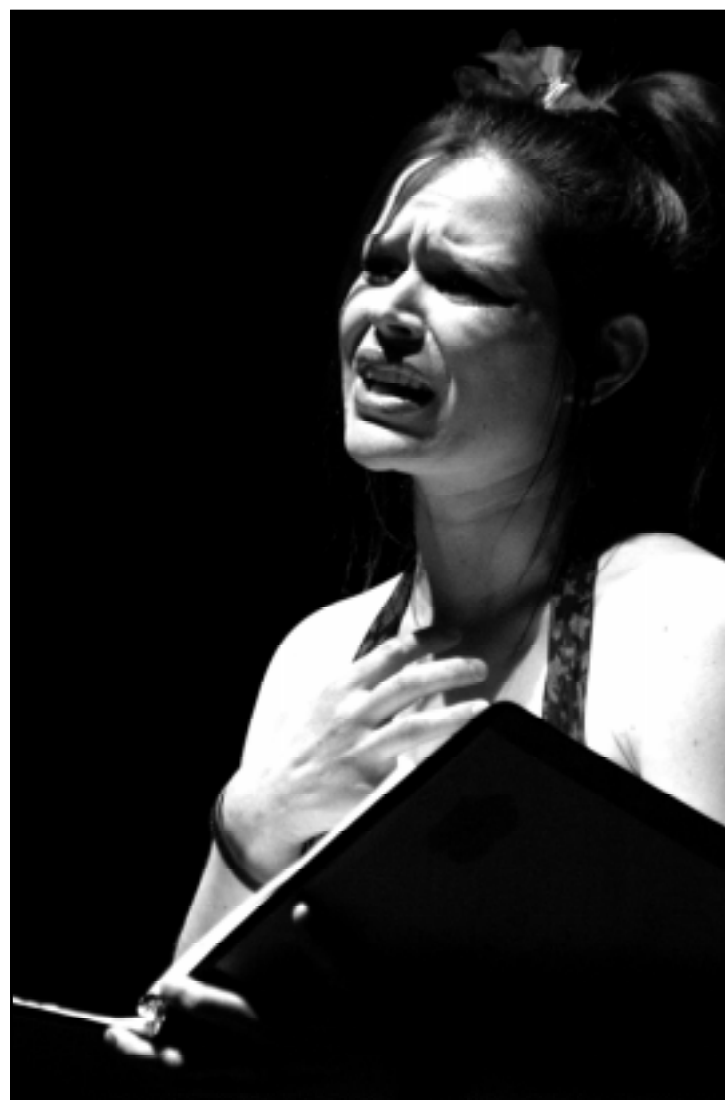


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Elizabeth Aven recites "Not So Happy Fact" from Eve Ensler's "Vagina Monologues" during the production's opening night March 2 in the College Theater. The production was sponsored by the Society of Performing Artists. All proceeds were donated to the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the YWCA.

## Crime continues to hit campus

**By Amanda Bittle**  
Staff Writer

A vehicle break-in, a public intoxication arrest and a stolen wallet were reported to Safety and Security in recent days.

Student Shelby Hart returned to Parking Lot A South on March 2 to find an unexpected visitor rummaging through his pick-up truck, reported Safety and Security Officer Larry Lundy.

Hart approached the man in an attempt to catch him. The suspect drove away in a white, four-door 1990s-model Jeep, according to the report.

Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director, said people who find thieves in their vehicles should contact officers rather than dealing personally with the situation.

Sloas said people should use Safety and Security's emergency line, 405-682-7747, to report crimes in progress. There also are call boxes in various areas of the parking lots, which call directly to security.

Taken from Hart's vehicle were a stereo valued at \$150, a sub-woofer valued at \$200, a backpack valued at \$25, a pair of jeans valued at \$30, a black ceremonial robe worth \$35 and a checkbook.

Another parking lot incident involved alcohol consumption on campus.

On Feb. 28, Jeffrey Scott Wells was arrested by Oklahoma City police for public intoxication, reported Safety and Security Officer Keith Thompson.

Wells was observed walking "irregularly" near Parking Lot E, Thompson reported. When confronted by Safety and Security officers, Wells admitted he had been drinking.

Wells was admitted as a student at OCCC but never enrolled in classes, according to college records.

A theft also was reported on Feb. 28.

Student Mayra Martinez's wallet was taken from her purse after the purse was left on a bathroom counter, reported Thompson. Missing items included a driver's license, school identification card, Visa debit card, savings account card, three gift cards and \$10 in cash.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).

## TRiO Day honors student achievements

**By Lexi Hoshall**  
News Writing Student

High school and college students from the Upward Bound program spent Feb. 21 at the State Capitol celebrating TRiO Day.

The students were able to speak and listen to legislators including Oklahoma State Rep. John Carey, Gov. Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation, Oklahoma Secretary of State Susan Savage, U.S. Rep. Tom Cole and Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

The Upward Bound program's purpose is to help students achieve their goals by helping them build skills, and gain motivation to succeed in high school and college, according to an Upward Bound pamphlet.

Federal TRiO Program is one of seven assistance programs funded by the U.S Department of Education. Upward Bound is included in these pro-

grams.

Shedarrah Smith, OCCC Upward Bound student, said Upward Bound is an excellent program that has helped her achieve many of her goals and has helped her become more self assured.

"TRiO let me know that everyone else is striving for the same as I am," Smith said.

"It makes me want to do it even more so I can be up there one of these days and tell everyone that Upward Bound is the best thing out there."

TRiO Day helped the students understand how people are able to achieve a high school and college education.

Upward Bound offers tutoring, workshops and activities to encourage students to strive for success, according to an Upward Bound pamphlet.

Carmela Pyle, OCCC Upward Bound director, said the program gives underprivileged students educational opportunities.

"Without this program, [students] might not get the chance to go to school," Pyle said.

# College students cautioned to be meningitis aware

By Kimberly Trotter  
News Writing Student

After two Oklahoma college students were hospitalized for meningitis this year, the Oklahoma County Health Department is encouraging young people — especially college students — to be vaccinated.

Irma Jean Eufinger, registered nurse at the Oklahoma County Health De-

partment, said meningitis is spread by sharing cigarettes, drinks, food, eating utensils and towels or by kissing, coughing and sneezing.

"Meningitis is a contagious brain infection caused by bacteria that attacks the meninges, the outside covering of the brain," Eufinger said. "In the past five years, this disease has killed four to 11

Oklahomans."

This year, two students were diagnosed with meningitis and are recovering because they received immediate treatment, she said.

"Unfortunately, last year a student at Oklahoma State University was diagnosed with this infection and was hospitalized for months, lost several fingers, had lesions on her legs and suffered from memory loss.

"Fortunately, she is regaining memory."

Symptoms of this infectious disease include but are not limited to: seizure, stiff neck, difficulty waking up, high fever, severe headache, extreme sleepiness, confusion and inability to wake up, skin rash, and lack of interest in eating or drinking.

Experts say people who experience sudden high fever and sudden illness should see a physician immediately.

Statistics show that 2,600 people in the United States are diagnosed with meningococcal disease



**College Students and Meningitis:**  
The one back-to-school supply that could save your life

Public Service Announcements such as this, encourage college students to get information and get vaccinated against the deadly meningococcal meningitis strain, caused by a bacteria that attacks the outside covering of the brain.

each year and, even after treatment, 11 to 19 percent of those lose limbs, become deaf or have an increased risk of problems concerning their nervous systems, according to a website sponsored by the Oklahoma Health Department.

"College freshmen that attend four-year universities and live in dormitories are at a higher risk because there is an increased chance of sharing food,

drinks and other personal items that can spread meningitis," Eufinger said.

She believes large and crowded classrooms have a lot to do with meningitis spreading as well.

The Oklahoma County Health Department offers a free vaccination for those between the ages of 11 and 18. For those 19 and older, the vaccination is \$96.

Many OCCC students said they wouldn't get the vaccine because the cost is too high.

"Meningitis is a serious disease and if gone untreated, it can result in death," Eufinger said.

Oklahoma State Law requires college freshman living on campus to get the meningococcal vaccination.

Although community college students are not at the highest risk, it is still imperative they receive the vaccination because it's still possible to get this infection, Eufinger said.

For more information, call the County Health Department at 405-419-4246 or visit [www.cch.doc.com](http://www.cch.doc.com).

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# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**March 12:** The Intramural Women's five-on-five basketball tournament will have its second team meeting in the gymnasium at 12:30 p.m. Registration is any time for this event at the Recreation Services office. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**April 4:** Intramural 5k run members will have a meeting at 1 p.m. April 4, in the gymnasium. Registration for this event is any time at the Recreation Services Office. This event is free for students and faculty. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**April 4:** The Intramural Home Run Derby players will have a meeting at 1 p.m. April 9, in the gymnasium. There will be a total of three meetings before this event takes place. Registration for this event is any time at the Recreation Services Office. The Home Run Derby challenge will take place at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 3. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**April 5 - 12:** The Intramural men's and women's Bench Press Contest will take place during the week of April 5 through 12. This contest will be spread out over three days. Registration for the event is open. Forms can be found in the Recreation and Community Services office. For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

**For more information on all sport classes and schedules, visit**  
[www.occc.edu/rcs](http://www.occc.edu/rcs)

## Soccer game canceled after players a no-show

*By Jonathan Greer*  
*News Writing Student*

For the first time in the five years OCCC has had a club soccer team the squad had to forfeit a soccer game due to lack of players. If more players don't sign up soon, the season may have to be canceled.

"We don't have a team," Coach K.B. Yeboah said.

Yeboah has been coaching soccer for about five years. He started coaching for OCCC in the spring of 2003. Although some of his former teams may not have had the numbers he was looking for, he didn't think the numbers would drop to zero.

"We usually have plenty of interest from the students," Yeboah said.

OCCC was scheduled to play the University of Oklahoma March 3, at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Yeboah held practice the previous week, but only four players showed up, so he had to cancel the scheduled game.

Two players who were a part of last year's team, and two new players, showed up for practice.

"I don't know why kids are not coming out for the team," Yeboah said. "I guess it is just lack of interest."

Yeboah said the plan is to schedule practice and play the next game if enough players join the team.

"I have asked the four players to spread the word about playing soccer," Yeboah said.

Yeboah said, he is going to send out fliers and hopes word of mouth will bring more players.

OCCC was scheduled to have a bye on March 10, but is scheduled to play UCO on March 17 at Griffin Park in Norman.

The forms for the soccer club can be found at the Wellness Center. The cost is \$30, which includes a team T-shirt. Interested students can contact Yeboah at 405-255-7735.

For more information, contact Community Education and Health Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or visit the Recreation and Community Services office located near Entry 7.

**"I don't know why kids are not coming out for the team. I guess it is just lack of interest."**

—K.B. Yeboah  
Soccer Coach

## Lap Swim Hours

### •Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays:

6 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
5 to 8:30 p.m.

### •Tuesdays, Thursdays:

6 a.m. to 10 a.m.  
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

### •Saturdays:

11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Swoosh

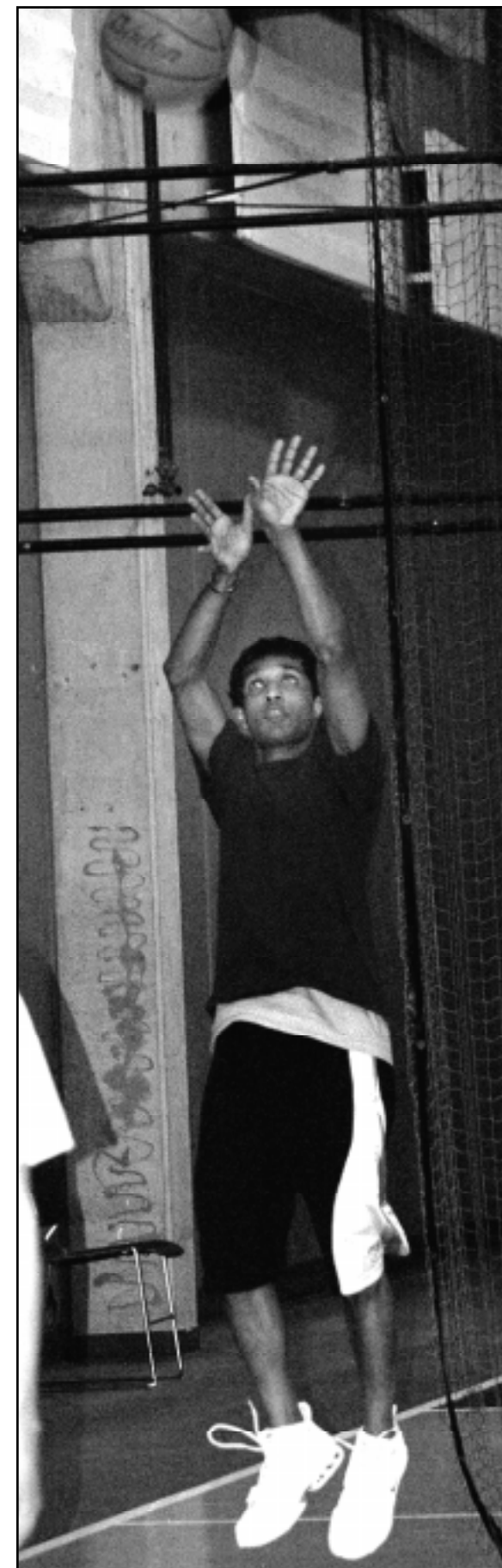


Photo by Carrie Cronk

Accounting sophomore Sancho Thomas warms up by shooting baskets past the three-point line before the intramural basketball game March 6.

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

# College transfer days one way to help students choose

*"Transferring,"*  
Cont. from page 1

education.

UCO does not require students to have been previously admitted prior to attending transfer days, said Transfer Counselor Abbey Edwards.

"On Transfer Fridays, we admit people on the spot," she said. "They can come, be admitted and we will give them a transcript evaluation. They will leave here knowing that they are accepted at UCO."

Transfer Fridays are the first Friday of each month, she said.

Edwards said students should bring a copy of the OCCC college catalog and a transcript copy, which does not have to be official, she said.

The University of Oklahoma has transfer days scheduled for March 28, 29 and 30 but students must already be admitted to OU to attend, said Michael Hoggatt, associate director of Prospective Student Services at OU.

Counselors will be available from the different colleges at OU to talk with students about their academic choices.

Deadlines for admission to OU are April 1 for summer and fall semesters, and Nov. 1 for next spring.

"[The students] need to have a good idea as far as what they are interested in as for majors," Hoggatt said.

"Have questions that you would like to ask the coun-

selors ready; have an idea of what you want to get accomplished at these transfer days."

One of the most important things to bring, Hoggatt said, is a current class schedule.

"The last thing we want them to do is have to take a class at OU that has already been taken at OCCC."

Hoggatt said new transfer students have the opportunity to pair up with an older transfer student who has already been through this process.

This allows students to feel more comfortable with asking questions, he said. This system is new this year.

Hoggatt also suggests students wear comfortable clothing and shoes because walking all over the campus can be a little tiring.

To register for OU transfer days, visit [go2.ou.edu/transferdays](http://go2.ou.edu/transferdays).

OU and UCO are not the only colleges of choice for OCCC students.

Oklahoma State University in Stillwater also offers help to transfer students.

Admissions Assistant Donna Byram said advisers will be available to talk to students about their prospective college from 9 to 10 a.m., April 9, 13 and 27, in OSU's Student Union Atrium.

"The Transfer Student Resource Center is a fabulous place for students to visit for more information on transferring," Byram said.

Transfer deadlines for admission to OSU are July 1 for the fall, April 15 for the summer and Nov. 15 for the following spring semester.

Going to a university can be a stressful event, said Maxwell, but doing your

homework can alleviate it.

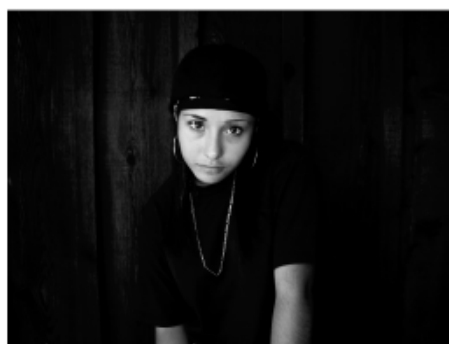
"Arrange to sit in on a class at your [transfer] college, meet students who may be in your field, and remember to just be yourself," he said.

Maxwell said further information on transferring

can be found outside the office of Advising and Career Services, on the red-carpeted wall on the first floor of the Main Building or by calling 405-682-7535.

Editor Valerie Jobe can be reached at [editor@occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu).

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More information is available at:  
**OCCC Employment Services**  
**First Floor, Main Building**  
**405-682-7519**  
[Employmentservices@occc.edu](mailto:Employmentservices@occc.edu)

# Highlights

## **GALA to discuss Gay Support Day**

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance is meeting from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 12, in the clubs room of the College Union. GALA will discuss sponsoring a Gay Support Day on March 30. For more information, contact Professor Mark Schneberger at 405-682-1611, ext. 7624.

## **International students offering scholarship**

The International Student Association is offering a \$500 scholarship available to all F1-International Students. Applications are available at Recruitment and Admissions, and at Student Life. Completed forms are due to the office of Sunshine Garner or Pat Berryhill by March 13. For more information, contact Sarah Chastain at 405-308-9006.

## **Photo Club to hold print sale**

The Photo Club will hold a print sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, in Foyer B of the Main Building. Mounted prints of club members' work, ranging in size from 4 x 6 inches to 8 x 12 inches, will be available for purchase. For more information, contact Carrie Cronk at 405-496-7941.

## **Future Teachers to plan fundraiser**

The Future Teachers Organization will meet from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, March 15, in room 2N3 of the Main Building. Members will discuss plans for a fundraiser and report on the results of the March 3 SOEA state convention. For more information, contact Maria Acevedo at 405-642-4538.

## **Business scholarship offered**

Application forms are available for the Connie Nieser Memorial Scholarship in the Business division office and the Institutional Advancement office. Applicants must have completed 12 or more credit hours at OCCC, have a GPA of at least 2.5, have declared a major in business and be intent on completing an associate degree at OCCC. The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. Friday, March 16. For more information, contact Business Professor Myra Decker at 405-682-1611, ext. 7332.

## **Psi Beta membership drive**

Psi Beta is looking for new members. Students who are interested must have at least a 3.0 GPA, have at least 12 hours of college credit completed, and must be interested in majoring in psychology. Three of the 12 hours must be in a psychology course. Induction will be held 6:30 p.m., April 13, in the College Theater. For more information, contact Peggy Jordan at 405-682-1611, ext. 7157.

## **Scholarships available**

The Office of Recruitment and Admissions has scholarship forms available for qualified applicants. There are currently 10 scholarships available. For more information, contact Linda Sapp, Prospective Student Services assistant, at 405-682-7580.

**Highlights are due by 5 p.m. each Tuesday for publication in the next issue of the Pioneer. Forms are available in the Pioneer office, located in 2M6, on the second floor of the Main Building, adjacent to the elevator. Highlights may be e-mailed to StaffWriter1@occc.edu using the word Highlights in the subject line.**

## Hands across the water



Photo by Carrie Cronk

English as a Second Language Students display their wax hand creations at the Hog Wild Entertainment booth on Thursday, March 1, outside the College Union. An employee of Hog Wild Entertainment said this was the first time the company had created a mold of three hands at one time. Students are (top from left): Cecilia Garcia, Sasha Protopopov, Dominic Antony, Nawaraj Parajuli, Sofia Dozmorova, Elizabeth Taylor, and Mariya Taranenko (bottom).

# Student Life to celebrate American Chocolate Week

By **Drew Hampton**  
Staff Writer

**"If it helps students have a better day, then we're all about it."**

—Jon Horinek

Student Life Programs Coordinator

Keep an eye out for the chocolate on Wednesday, March 14.

Each year, during a late week of March, a little-known celebration called American Chocolate Week rolls around — a low-key celebration of the nation's favorite confection.

While not a major holiday in any sense, Student Life will observe the celebration with free samples of chocolate from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the College Union, said Student Life Programs Coordinator Jon Horinek.

"It's really not a holiday," explained Horinek.

"We decided that for fun we'd hand out Hershey's kisses and other kinds of chocolate, as well as information about how chocolate is made and where it comes from," he said.

Student Life has already hosted several small-scale celebrations this year, from handing out beads on Mardi Gras to helping educate students about Eastern cultures during the Chinese New Year.

American Chocolate Week, which Student Life will observe for the first time this year, will be their last celebration before spring break.

While information on who started the obscure celebration and why, is scarce, Horinek said "chocolate day" is worth celebrating if it helps students get through the week.

Many at the college seem to agree.

In a brief survey of stu-

dents around the Main Building, nearly all of those questioned said they thought the celebrations were worthwhile — even though most rarely had the time to stop by the Student Life booth.

"It's just something silly, something social, something fun," Horinek said.

"Although it seems trivial, if it helps students have a better day, then we're all about it."

For more information about upcoming events, stop by Student Life office or visit their website at [www.occc.edu/StudentLife](http://www.occc.edu/StudentLife).

Staff Writer Drew Hampton can be reached at 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.**

## AUTOMOBILES

**FOR SALE:** '05 Ford Explorer. Black, 50,000 miles, good condition, DVD player, 8 seater, semi-new tires. Asking \$18,000. For more information please call 405-247-9539 or 405-274-2330 and leave a message.

**FOR SALE:** '99 Sportage Jeep 4x4. Nice car, manual tran., low miles, fully-tinted windows, very good condition. Asking \$2,700. 405-408-2828.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Honda Prelude. Black 2-door, manual trans., tinted power windows, anti-lock. Neat and clean interior. New tires and valves. New engine and alternator/battery. Work done at Eskridge Honda. 200k miles. Great condition with car alarm w/ remote. Needs clutch work. Asking \$700. Call 405-821-5675. For pics or more info: e-mail nneka.c.gadzama@email.occc.edu.

## 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 jenanie@hotmail.com.

## ELECTRONICS

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

**FOR SALE:** Durabrand 20" color TV. 2 years old/silver color. \$50, please call Rachel at 405-408-5327.

## EMPLOYMENT

**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.

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**FOR RENT:** 2 bed/2 bath duplex next door to OCCC. \$600 per month. Call Robin at 570-5310.

## FURNITURE

**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.

**FOR SALE:** Women's Hyperlite Diva 128 wakeboard. Never been used, brand new. Size small bindings included. \$100 OBO. 570-1499.

ings included. \$100 OBO. 570-1499.

**FOR SALE:** Sound system. 2 12" Cerwin-Vega subwoofers with ported box and a JBL 600 watt amplifier. Like new. Need to sell in order to upgrade car. Contact Logan at 405-740-4095. These are competition subs and are very nice. Call for price.

**VOCALIST, BASSIST, SYNTHESIST WANTED:** For Hardcore/Death Metal Christian band. Must be devoted to Christ and open to practicing 3 times a week regularly & playing shows. Contact Andrew Lopez: 350-1639 or 350-7501 or e-mail theandre.wlopez@yahoo.com.

**CHRISTIAN MUSICIANS NEEDED:** New Horizons Fellowship in OKC is in need of experienced musicians to assist in leading praise and worship. Playing by ear would be most helpful. If interested please contact Cheryl Flud at cpflud@aol.com.

**TRADE WANTED:** Yamaha 12 string guitar FG-410-12. Will trade for Japanese Fender 6-string and wah-wah pedal OBO. Call 670-9060.

**REWARD OFFERED:** LARGE REWARD for LOST WHITE GOLD SMALL HOOP EARRING with nine small diamonds in it. Lost Thursday, Feb. 8, in main parking lot or Main Building. First Christmas present from my husband and very sentimental. Please call Christina at 788-5258 or contact school security.

**TUTOR AVAILABLE:** I teach Math, French, and advise for good health and nutrition. You set your own schedule. Call for details and I will be glad to help you. You will enjoy it! 405-632-4111.

**CAREGIVER NEEDED:** For paralyzed lady in the Village-Nichols Hills area. Weekend split-shift available Saturday and Sunday. Morning 6AM-10AM & Night 9PM-10:30PM. Must interview with patient and be hired through agency. Call Sharmel at 752-9064. Leave your name and number and you will be called back.

## GARAGE SALE

To be Held in rooms CU1 and CU2 from 10 AM-2 PM on Saturday March 31. Money raised will go toward a scholarship for a high school senior member of Upward Bound.

## ADVERTISE ONLINE

See your ads and Classifieds and read the Pioneer online at [www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer). Contact [adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu) for details.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Check
- 4 Fresh, as lettuce
- 9 Neighbor of Mex.
- 12 Relocate
- 13 Red dye
- 14 Peel
- 16 Ken or Lena
- 17 To no —: useless
- 18 Take apart
- 19 Unfavorable
- 21 Languages
- 23 Senses
- 25 Chocolate dessert
- 26 Escargots
- 29 Actress Ekberg
- 31 Desert plants
- 32 Ugly Duckling, really
- 33 Knitter's need
- 37 Unlock, poetically
- 38 Kettle
- 41 "— Make Loving Fun"
- 42 Dry riverbed
- 44 Vendetta
- 45 Whale's habitat
- 47 Shapes
- 49 Chandelier parts
- 50 Loose dress
- 53 Cardinals and Blue Jays
- 55 Claims

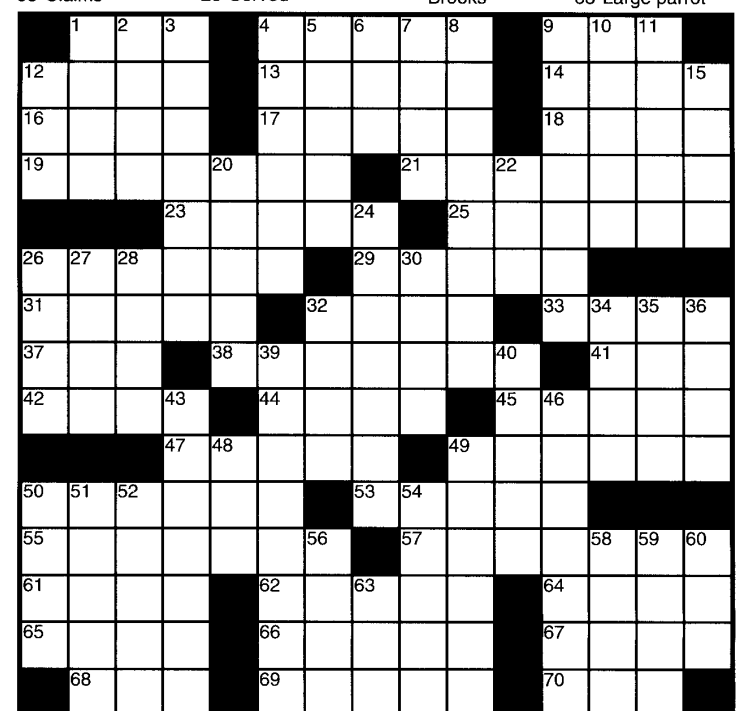
### DOWN

- 1 Rattled on
- 2 Tel —
- 3 Charity ball
- 4 Pursues
- 5 Take delight in
- 6 Once — while
- 7 Tizzy
- 8 Golden horse
- 9 Montevideo's country
- 10 Kind of headache
- 11 Incan Empire locale
- 12 Extinct bird
- 15 Give medicine to
- 20 Digger's find
- 22 Negative word
- 24 Wood shavings
- 26 Barge
- 27 California valley
- 28 Served

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

A	V	E	C	A	G	A	P	E	U	F	O	S
B	I	L	L	M	A	S	O	N	N	A	M	E
C	A	F	E	A	U	L	A	I	T	A	D	I
S	P	R	E	E	S	D	R	U	M			
D	I	R	E	C	T	P	R	E	T	E	N	D
R	E	E	D	S	A	L	A	D	D	U	O	S
A	R	F	L	A	W					T	W	O
G	R	A	D	D	O	N	N	E	A	R	N	O
A	B	A	L	O	N	E	N	O	T	I	O	N
W	R	A	P	U	P							
H	O	L	E	H	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	L
O	U	T	S	I	M	A	G	E	E	P	E	E
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# Increase in campus crime also can be attributed to reporting method

*"Crime,"*

*Cont. from page 1*

almost no burglary because they considered themselves to be 'always open.'

Burglary requires unlawful entry. At the conference, members developed a new interpretation of the criteria, Sloas said.

Now, officers must prove a suspect was in the building lawfully or the crime must be reported as a burglary, he said.

## Internal changes being made

Sloas said he believes other recent changes — made within his department — will lower all campus crime.

Although the official crime report for 2006 will not be filed until October 2007, Sloas said, he expects it will reflect decreases in the incidences of both burglary and motor vehicle theft since 2005.

"I attribute that mostly to going completely internal with our security staff," he said. "We basically doubled our staff at night."

Two officers now patrol during the overnight shift, he said, and as of now, the college estimates there has been a 50 percent decrease in burglaries and a 25 percent decrease in motor vehicle thefts since 2005.

"These estimates may change," Sloas said.

He said the college has until October 2007 to revise the reports.

For example, he said, if a vehicle reported as stolen actually was repossessed, that would affect the final numbers reported under the Clery Act.

## Students react

Many students said they feel relatively safe at OCCC.

Chemistry major Rachel Smith said she thought a lot of the crime on campus stems from people leaving their possessions unattended.

"You have to take extra precautions," she said.

Lars Shelton, first-year foreign language and art major, said she also feels

secure at school.

"I feel safe at night, walking around," she said.

## Right-to-Know

The Right-to-Know report provides a three-year summary of the nine crime categories the Clery Act requires colleges to report, Sloas said.

This year's report covers 2003, 2004 and 2005.

The required categories are aggravated assault, arson, burglary, forcible sex offenses, motor vehicle theft, murder and non-negligent manslaughter, negligent manslaughter, non-forcible sex offenses and robbery.

There was one aggravated assault reported during the period. It occurred in 2005.

OCCC had no reports of arson, forcible sex offenses, murder or non-negligent homicide, negligent manslaughter, non-forcible sex offenses or robbery during the 2005 reporting period.

In addition to the Right-to-Know Report, crime data can be found online at [www.occc.edu/Security/Reports](http://www.occc.edu/Security/Reports).

The site provides monthly reviews of the incident reports filed on campus, Sloas said.

"The reason I put the 'month in review' reports out there is because it gives [people] almost real-time ... information," he said.

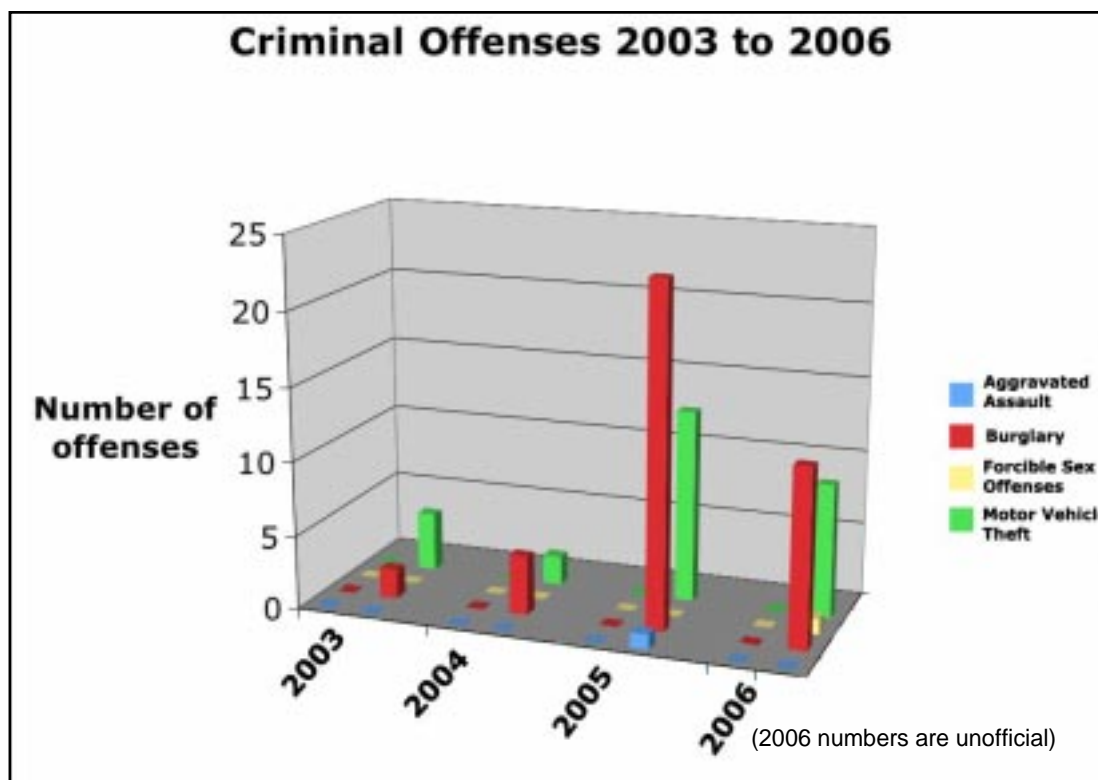
"We're not necessarily required to do that, but I think it gives [people] a better understanding of what's going on as far as crime, at least up until the last month."

Many of the crimes listed on the monthly summaries do not make it into the Clery Act report, Sloas said.

During 2006, 30 incidents of "theft of property" were reported to Safety and Security, according to the website.

There also were 27 cases of "larceny from a motor vehicle," seven "hit-and-run" accidents and three reports of public intoxication, according to the report.

Sloas said only burglary and robbery are reported



The graph above illustrates a four-year trend in campus criminal offenses since 2003. The largest increase can be seen in burglary in 2005, with 23 incidents. Also in 2005, there was a record number of motor vehicle thefts with 13. For more information about crime at OCCC, visit [www.occc.edu/Security/Reports](http://www.occc.edu/Security/Reports). The site provides monthly reviews of all incident reports filed on campus.

under the Clery Act. "Theft" and "larceny" are defined differently than burglary, he said.

The Clery Act can be found online at [www.securityoncampus.org/schools/cleryact/](http://www.securityoncampus.org/schools/cleryact/).

The site offers explanations of the reporting requirements and of the Clery Act's definitions of different crimes.

Staff Writer Amanda Bittle can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).

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