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# PIONEER

[www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer)

## Help available to students all over campus

From jobs to tutors, students can find assistance throughout college

By Chris Lusk  
Editor

The beginning of a new semester can be overwhelming to all students — new and returning.

Several campus offices have a variety of helpful services available to all students, ranging from counseling to employment to recreation. Receiving the right service starts at knowing where to look.

### Academic Advising

Academic Advising director E.J. Warren said the Advising office provides students advisement in a one-on-one environment and works to develop relationships with students to provide guidance for their education.

"We review the student's academic goals and help the student with proper placement in courses for their specific degree plan," Warren said.

The Academic Advising office will plan an "Advising Month" this semester where they will promote their services to students, she said.

"We work with the students to teach them how to fish for themselves and be able to take control of their education."

### Transfer Center

Another service offered within Advising and Career Services is the Transfer Center, which helps students prepare to transfer to senior-level institutions.

Transfer and Distance Advising Coordinator Leslie Jones said the Transfer Center provides space for university and college transfer representatives to meet with OCCC students, and to provide information and applications for numerous universities, both in state and out of state.

"We [also] are offering to take

current OCCC students to the University of Oklahoma, OU-College of Journalism, University of Central Oklahoma, Southern Nazarene University, Oklahoma City University and University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma for a campus tour, information on transferring and getting admitted, and opportunity for a question and answer session," Jones said.

"Students can contact me if they are interested in going on ... the tours."

The Transfer Center also is hosting a Transfer Fair March 3.

### Employment Services

Students looking for help building résumés and finding jobs will find the help they need in the Employment Services office.

The office will provide several different workshops throughout the semester focusing on topics such as how to dress for success, how to apply for jobs and more.

Students can visit Employment Services at the back of the advising area and request to speak with an adviser, no appointment needed.

### Student Support Services

The Student Support Services office provides students with learning support, personal counseling and disability services.

Pat Stowe, Student Support Services director, said they help build a support place for students by networking them with the various services they need across campus.

The mental health counselor can meet with students who feel they are experiencing a level of stress interfering with their ability to learn, Stowe said.

"If there are more severe problems, we help con-

See "Students," page 9

## Preparation is the key



Photo by Amber McBride

Transferring student John Potts fills out some of the necessary paperwork to take classes at OCCC. Spring enrollment is open until Jan. 18. Students may enroll in person or online at [www.occc.edu/Spring](http://www.occc.edu/Spring).

## Language center opens

By Cynthia Praefke  
Staff Writer

The six clocks on the wall above the computers and the world map set the stage for OCCC's newest lab.

Located in the Main Building on the second floor, the new World Languages and Cultural Center opens its doors Jan. 14.

Students studying foreign languages will be introduced to the lab by their professors for use as a study aide.

The facility, open to all students, offers DVDs and books for information concerning languages.

"We are compiling all the information we can in the lab," said Chiaki Troutman, lab



Photo by Amber McBride

OCCC's newest lab, the World Languages and Cultural Center, opens Jan. 14.

assistant.

"If we do not have a resource here, we hope to be able to tell the student where it is available to them."

Troutman said the program also will attempt to pair students learning languages with students fluent in that language or from the country of origin.

World languages offered on the spring

schedule are; Chinese, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese.

For more information, consult the OCCC spring schedule or Professor Abra Glenn-Allen Figueroa at [afigueroa@occc.edu](mailto:afigueroa@occc.edu).

Staff Writer Cynthia Praefke can be reached at [adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu).

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Will ignorance prevail?

In the 2004 presidential primaries, youth voter turnout in Oklahoma was 44 percent.

Forty-four percent? Where was everyone else that day? You know, that oh-so-important day when we, the citizens of the United States, begin the process of making arguably the biggest decision we make every four years?

Apparently we all had something really important to do.

I'm positive more than 44 percent of Oklahoma's youth voters have something to complain about regarding our current government.

In fact, I hear it all the time. These last couple of years, bashing our president seems to have become the popular thing to do.

When conversations arise concerning the state of our nation, everyone seems to have an opinion, and a negative one usually.

Browse through MySpace and Facebook, I promise you will find a lot of anti-Bush material.

Now I am not sitting here defending our president. In fact that's the last thing I'm doing. The problem is so many people have a problem, yet so few of us do anything to fix that problem.

Ignorance is a huge problem in politics. We don't know what's going on and we don't seem to care when it matters the most.

Look at the large discrepancies between voter turnouts for the primaries and the national election.

I don't know about you, but when I'm choosing someone to lead me, I would rather choose from a large pool of candidates than from two.

I want to be able to evaluate the candidates' ideas and their platforms. I want to have a hand in deciding who will represent my party in the national election.

Too many people depend on others to make that decision for them. They don't make an effort to understand their options. Instead, they vote for the 'Democratic one' or they fill in the bubble for the 'Republican one' because well, that's how they are registered.

That's stupid. It's called thinking for yourself, ever heard of it? The time for action is now. The 2008 Presidential election is rapidly approaching and there is an energy surrounding this election that is exciting.

Change is imminent, but we will decide the type of change. Youth voters carry a lot of weight; we are a large and, sadly, a largely untapped demographic.

Why sit back and watch things happen when we have the ability to stand up and make things happen?

You've got three weeks until the Feb. 5 primaries. Surf the web, turn on your television, or even – gasp – read a newspaper. However you want, just educate yourself.

Prepare yourself to act.

It is not only our right, but our responsibility.

—Chris Lusk  
Editor

## Well balanced diet, exercise key to health

### To the editor:

What was your New Year resolution?

If you're like many Americans, getting into shape is a favorite resolution.

However, a survey by Shape Magazine found 33 percent of resolutions are broken within two days. Only 16 percent lasted all year long.

Living in Oklahoma City can make resolutions even harder to keep since we were ranked 15 of America's fattest cities in the latest survey done by Men's Fitness.

While there are many diets and theories about dieting, health professionals recommend a simple formula — cut back on calories and increase exercise.

Nutritionists discourage quick fixes like skipping meals, cutting out a whole food group or taking diet pills not prescribed by a medical doctor.

The key to success is a well balanced diet and daily exercise.

A diet rich in a variety of foods provides essential nu-

trients needed and allows one to maintain a healthy weight or lose weight gradually.

Here are some healthful eating tips that might help kick start that New Year's resolution:

- Mix up food groups
- Focus on fruits
- Vary your veggies
- Eat calcium-rich foods
- Eat whole grains
- Go lean with protein
- Cut out the soda

Along with healthy eating, exercise is imperative for lasting weight loss.

Oftentimes individuals will diet but not exercise at the same time.

Employees at OCCC are fortunate to work for an organization that provides free membership to its workout facilities, swimming pool and group fitness classes.

I challenge each of you to enroll in a group fitness class, or get involved in the weight room or cardio room.

The Recreation and Community Services Department employees can help you start an exercise pro-

gram that will get you results!

—Lisa Vaughan  
Coordinator of  
Environmental Health  
and Safety

## PIONEER

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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.

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



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### off the mark.com by Mark Parisi





## Comments and Reviews

### '27 Dresses' is witty, predictable, but fun for all

The film "27 Dresses," is a great girls movie. It centers on Jane, played by Katherine Heigl, a woman that has always, always, always been a bridesmaid, with her closet full of 27 dresses she has collected over years of weddings.

Kevin Doyle, played by James Marsden, is a writer who is tired of writing about commitments in the paper he works for.

Kevin meets Jane by luck at a wedding he is covering. Unfortunately, Jane is in two weddings at once.

While running back and forth between the weddings, you watch as Jane tries to make each bride happy on her special day. Finally, after trying to catch

some flowers, Jane gets knocked off her feet.

Jane and Kevin then exchange remarks, which not only are funny but also show were most men and women stand on marriage issues.

The plot thickens when Tess, played by Malin Akerman, meets Jane's boss George, played by Edward Burns.

Jane is tossed into an emotional cycle as her sister and the boss that she has been in love with for years decide to get married. Jane is pushed to her limits with putting a wedding together in three weeks.

The situations become funnier as Jane tries to play nice, while Kevin tries to teach her how to say no.

The acting was remarkable, not seeming forced in any scene. The wit and charm sparked between each character made them all engaging.

There was perfect moods set to each scene by the director, which I believe was one of the best things about the movie.

Chick flicks are rather predictable and this one doesn't stray away from the typical mold.

Yet, with it's predictability it still maintains it's own identity. The film "27 Dresses," is not only a movie for girls to enjoy but can be tolerable by boys.

**Rating: A+**

—**Amber McBride**  
Staff Writer

### 'Mad Money' a safe, clean bet for a load of laughs

Place strong actors such as Dianne Keaton, Queen Latifah, and Ted Danson in the position of being strapped for cash and an interesting story is born.

Add a ditzy Katie Holmes, Adam Rothenberg as her equally inept boyfriend, and the dry humor of Stephen Root as the head of the Federal Reserve and you have a good comedic/robbery not unlike that of Oceans 11.

It seems that Ted Danson's character has been downsized and rather than share the news with his wife, Keaton, he puts their house up for sale in an effort to pay the bills.

Keaton's character, Bridgett, decides to get a job, but finds being an upper middle class housewife, with a degree in literature does not qualify her to do much.

She takes a job as a housekeeper at the Federal Reserve and is amazed at the amount of money being destroyed each day. The

boss catches her staring at the procedure and warns her "not to want." She doesn't listen to his advice.

She begins to devise a plan to get the money, but decides she also needs help to pull it off. Enter Nina, played by Latifah, a single mom who wants more for her kids than the ghetto life and Jackie played by Holmes, a young fun seeker. These two are convincing as her coworkers and eventual partners in crime.

Latifah is a realistic single mother without being stereotypical. Holmes is a bit too dingy at first, but settles into the role and comes across well in the end.

Keaton is the consummate actor, and is Bridgett from the beginning of the movie. Although one does wonder how a woman unaware of her husband's situation, and unable to qualify for other than a janitorial position, could come up with such an elaborate scheme to

rip off the Federal Reserve, the plot is justified by being likeable.

Unlike the preconceived notion aroused by the posters and previews, this is not just a movie for women. The young men in the theater laughed at the comedy exchanges between characters as much as the women.

The ending contains a few twists and has the viewer sympathizing with the criminals, which happens in comedies of this sort.

There is no sex, violence or bad language. It is not for small children because they wouldn't understand the premise, but otherwise this is a fun movie for all ages.

A pleasant fantasy in the Robin Hood genre, 'Mad Money' is worth seeing.

If you have a little cash stashed away, you might want to spend it on this movie.

**Rating: B**

—**Cynthia Praefke**  
Staff Writer

## Counselor's Corner

*"Desire creates the power."*

—**Raymond Holliwell**

A new year is upon us, and with it, a new semester. Whether it's your first semester in college, your first semester at OCCC, or the end of your academic career, you should want to do as well as you can academically.

While some folks seem to go through life never needing anything much from anyone else, most of us need some occasional support to navigate life's rapids.

Fortunately for those students, OCCC offers a wide array of support.

We offer you resources to help you smoothly transition into the life of a college student, resources to help you persist and be successful in your academic program, and resources to help you transition onward.

Why, then, would anyone not take advantage of these resources? This is a complex issue, but one reason is "desire."

Many things compete for our time and attention every day. Research tells us that one of the characteristics of successful people is their ability to delay gratification.

In other words, successful people can resist the temptation to do one thing so they can do something else. They have the desire to be successful, so they invest themselves in behaviors that lead to success.

This doesn't mean that they give up everything fun, but it means they must weigh what that activity will cost in terms of completing necessary tasks later.

Successful students go to class. They probably aren't sitting on the edge of their seats awe-struck at every meeting, but they recognize that it's important to show up.

Successful students meet with their professors. Office hours may not be convenient, but students who desire success are willing to live with a bit of inconvenience.

Successful students use the learning labs and the library. Watching a movie or having a beer with friends might be more fun, but they don't yield the same benefits.

Successful students seek the advice of faculty and staff. They also take that advice to heart rather than summarily dismissing it because it requires their time and attention.

As Holliwell said, "Desire creates the power." Having the desire to succeed can help you succeed. If you need help identifying campus resources and/or ways to mold yourself into a more success-oriented person, come by and see us here in Student Support Services.

Have a great (and successful) semester.

—**Mary Turner**  
Learning Support  
Specialist

# Student wins big on 'Deal or No Deal'

**By Amber McBride**  
Staff Writer

In December 2007, physics major Efren Afante walked out of "Deal or No Deal," the television game show with \$148,000.

Afante was featured in two episodes that aired Dec. 12 and Dec. 13.

Afante said life for him has changed since the episodes aired.

"The majority who have approached me have just said that both shows were amazing," Afante said.

The show that aired on

Dec. 12 had 16.1 million, and 16.8 million watched on the Dec. 13 episode.

Despite the excitement of Afante's national television appearance, he said he must make plans for his winnings.

"I now have all the college money for my physics degree at OCCC.

"All my debts are going to be paid off and the rest will go toward savings," Afante said.

After the first show aired Dec. 12, Afante said that his phone didn't stop ringing for 30 minutes.

After the phone stopped ringing, and the outcome of his show was known by everyone, Afante said he was relieved.

"I actually slept for the first time comfortably. I hadn't been able to sleep the last two-a-half months since I taped the show," Afante said.

There was no shock from the people around Afante said. There wasn't a single person that he didn't tell that he was going to be on "Deal or No Deal."

"High executives from my company watched my show at a bar, and had everyone in there screaming," Afante said.

Afante went to Hollywood in September, thinking he was trying out for the show.

"Deal or No Deal," had a list of surprises for Afante.

"They knew they were going to have me on the show, but hid it from me from the first minute. So, getting me on the show was

a surprise," said Afante.

It didn't stop there, with Afante's parents being flown out to the show from Thailand.

"I hadn't seen my parents in a year," said Afante.

The last thing added to his surprises and shock: "Howie had the ladies on stage and told them to say 'hi, Efren.'"

"When they all said it, I felt like a 12-year-old boy that just got kissed for the first time," Afante said.

"Deal or No Deal" is a game show hosted by Howie Mendel. Contestants play the game on luck, with 26 cases for them to pick with varying amounts ranging from a penny to \$1 million.

Contestants pick one case to keep hoping it to be \$1 million, from there they try to knock out as many lower amounts as they can. From there contestants are offered money based on the odds of them getting \$1



**Efren Afante**

million in their case by the elusive banker.

The offer will go up if they continue to keep large amounts in game, and knock the smaller amounts out.

If they knock larger amounts out the offer will go down.

Staff Writer Amber McBride can be reached at [pioneerphotog@occc.edu](mailto:pioneerphotog@occc.edu).

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Career & Employment Services  
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## Play auditions to be held

**By Erica Tatum**  
News Writing Student

Auditions for the play "The Resistible Rise and Fall of Arturo Ui (A Gangster Spectacle)" will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15 and Wednesday, Jan. 16 in the OCCC Theater.

There are five women and 15 men needed for the play's 35 characters. Some actors will need to play more than one role, said Director Brent Noel.

"The play itself is one of metaphors," said theater program Director and Professor Brent Noel.

The first is in the title itself, which, when looked at metaphorically, can be seen as U plus I equals WE (Ui is pronounced "we," Noel said).

Set in 1930s Chicago, the play follows the life of gangsters, with Arturo Ui being the main character.

However, the play is more than a story about gangster life.

"It is a thinly disguised story about Adolph Hitler and the Nazis rise to power," Noel said.

The play, by Bertolt Brecht, was written in the 1940s after Brecht had been forced by Nazis to leave his home in Germany.

Auditions are open to everyone and no experience is needed.

Production dates are Feb. 21, 22 and 23. Rehearsals are scheduled to begin Monday, Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246, or by e-mail at [bnoel@occc.edu](mailto:bnoel@occc.edu).

## College closed Jan. 21 for MLK Day

The college is closed Monday, Jan. 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Classes resume Tuesday, Jan. 22.



# Campus visitor caught inhaling aerosol fumes

By **Stephen Sossamon**  
Staff Writer

Campus security officers arrested a visitor on campus Jan. 4 after she was observed inhaling fumes from an aerosol can of dust remover in the college bookstore.

Adrianna Boswell was arrested by Oklahoma City police for shoplifting and inhaling a dangerous substance.

Boswell was arrested in a college parking lot after bookstore employees alerted security officers to her behavior.

At about 5 p.m., Security Officer Sgt. Kevin Tipton was notified by Bookstore Security Officer William Busby that an employee noticed a lady that was "huffing" aerosol cans of dust remover, according to a report.

"On the can, it says that the dust remover is extremely dangerous," Tipton said.

According to the incident report, Tipton and Officer

David Shriver made contact with the suspect and questioned her about being the bookstore, to which she replied she had not.

Tipton then asked Boswell to stick out her tongue to check for any freezer burn marks, but none were visible, he reported.

He then asked her for an I.D., but Boswell didn't have one.

Tipton then told Boswell they would head back to the bookstore, and if she were identified as the suspect, they would deal with the situation then.

The report said the driver of the car then took Boswell to the entry to wait for suspect confirmation.

Busby then confirmed Boswell as the suspect huffing the aerosol cans.

Boswell was then detained and identified by bookstore employees.

Boswell pointed out where she had left the aerosol cans, which she disposed of in the same place she got the aerosol cans, just behind the T-shirts in

the bookstore.

"She inhaled one full can and got another, but didn't inhale any of the second," Tipton said.

Tipton said Boswell was not a student of the college,

but she was just tagging along with a friend who was enrolling.

Boswell had two warrants out for her arrest, one for traffic fines out of Oklahoma City, and larceny of


merchandise in a retail store out of Tulsa.

Boswell had no comment on the incident.

Staff Writer Stephen Sossamon can be reached at [onlineeditor@occc.edu](mailto:onlineeditor@occc.edu).

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3-TO-6 PM HAS BECOME A FRIGHTENING TIME FOR CITY PARENTS.



While city parents work to make ends meet, there's a problem back in the neighborhood. Not enough after-school programs. So kids hang around. Exposed to the temptations of the street. To keep vital after-school programs going, the Urban League needs your support. So desecrating kids aren't left alone or vulnerable, but keep on learning and growing after school. Join us to make that happen. Call toll free 1-888-365-YOUTH. That way, you're not just talking about the street. You're beating it.

**TIME TO BEAT THE STREET.**



NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

# Chiming in on voting, state primaries

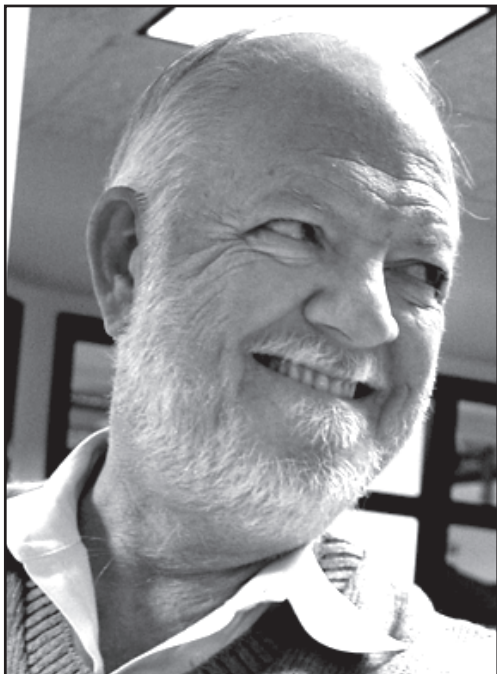


Jenny Atteberry, public relations major, said she's been closely watching the goings-ons in Iowa and New Hampshire, and she's already decided the Democratic Senator Hilary Clinton is her choice.

**"She has the most experience and it's time for a woman,"** Atteberry said.

John Hughes Jr., armed security officer for the campus' security department, is a registered voter and plans to vote in Oklahoma's primary. He said he has paid attention to the primaries in Iowa and New Hampshire but hasn't picked a candidate yet.

**"In my job, it's best that I remain objective and keep [my political views] to myself. But yes, I plan on voting,"** Hughes said.



John Hughes Sr., OCCC political science professor, said he's definitely voting Feb. 5, but anticipates waiting until closer to the election before choosing his candidate.

**"It's a little too early to tell [which candidate I'd pick],"** Hughes said. Hughes said he's responsible for some of his students registering to vote.

Cassidy Oliver, 19-year-old OCCC nursing student, hasn't picked a candidate yet.

**"I haven't been watching the primaries,"** Oliver said. She said she intends to vote in Oklahoma's primary on Tuesday, Feb. 5.



## Huh? Voting time already? How to register

The Oklahoma Primaries are fast approaching — the polls will be open **Tuesday, Feb. 5.** In order to vote, you must be registered.

If you aren't already registered, it's too late to register to vote in the primaries.

However, later this year, general elections will occur so be sure to be registered by then.

### Eligibility

A person who is eligible to register to vote must be: **at least 18 years old, a United States citizen and a resident of Oklahoma.**

However, a person who has been: **convicted of a felony may not register until a period of time equal to the original judgment and sentence as expired, adjudged to be an incapacitated person may not register and adjudged to be a partially incapacitated person prohibited from voting may not register.**

### How to register

You must fill out a voter registration form. They're available at your local County Election Board, post offices, tag agencies, libraries and many other public locations. You can also download an application form by visiting **www.ok.gov. Registering to vote is free.** The application form asks for: name and address, political affiliation, birth date, driver's license and last four digits of your Social Security Number (required if you have no driver's license).

### When to register

Registration applications can be submitted at any time. However, voter identification cards cannot be issued during the 24 days prior to an election. If you become 18 during the 60 days before an election, you can apply for voter registration between 25 and 60 days before the election.

### Voter identification card

You do not become a registered voter until the county election board in the county where you reside has approved the application. When your application is approved, the county election board will mail a voter identification card to you. It lists your name, address, political affiliation and the polling place for your voting precinct. When you receive the card, look it over and report any errors to the county election board. Take it with you when you go to vote.

For more information about voting in Oklahoma, visit **www.ok.gov** or call the State Election Board, located in Oklahoma City, at 405-521-2391.



# Parking spots do exist!

## You just have to look for them

**By Stephen Sossamon**  
Staff Writer

Students should have no difficulties finding a place to park — if they look.

Ike Sloas, campus Safety and Security director, said there are 2,775 parking spaces on OCCC campus. But, there are 12,000 students.

“Most students park in lots A and C,” Sloas said.

Parking lot A Main has 554 spaces and A South has 325 spaces. Sloas said he believes these spaces are usually filled first because they are close to main entrances.

“Most students pull into the main campus around those two lots, so they are the most convenient for them,” he said.

Sometimes, it seems as if students don’t realize there are other spaces.

Parking lot B has 283 spaces, lot C has 548 spaces and D has 232.

Parking lot E has 273 spaces, parking lot F has 20 spots and G lot North has 206 spaces, while G lot South has 104 spaces. Finally, H lot has 92 spaces available.

Sloas said certain times during the day promise a better spot than others.

“When looking at percentages, from 10 a.m. to noon are the worst times for parking on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays,”

### Some fines are...

- Failure to stop at a stop sign — **\$25**
- Going the wrong way on a one-way street — **\$25**
- Unsafe driving — **\$25**
- Parking in a fire lane — **\$100**
- Parking in a handicapped spot without permit — **\$100**
- Parking in a faculty/staff area without permit — **\$15**
- Improper parking — **\$3**
- All other parking violations — **\$5**

Sloas said. “And from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.”

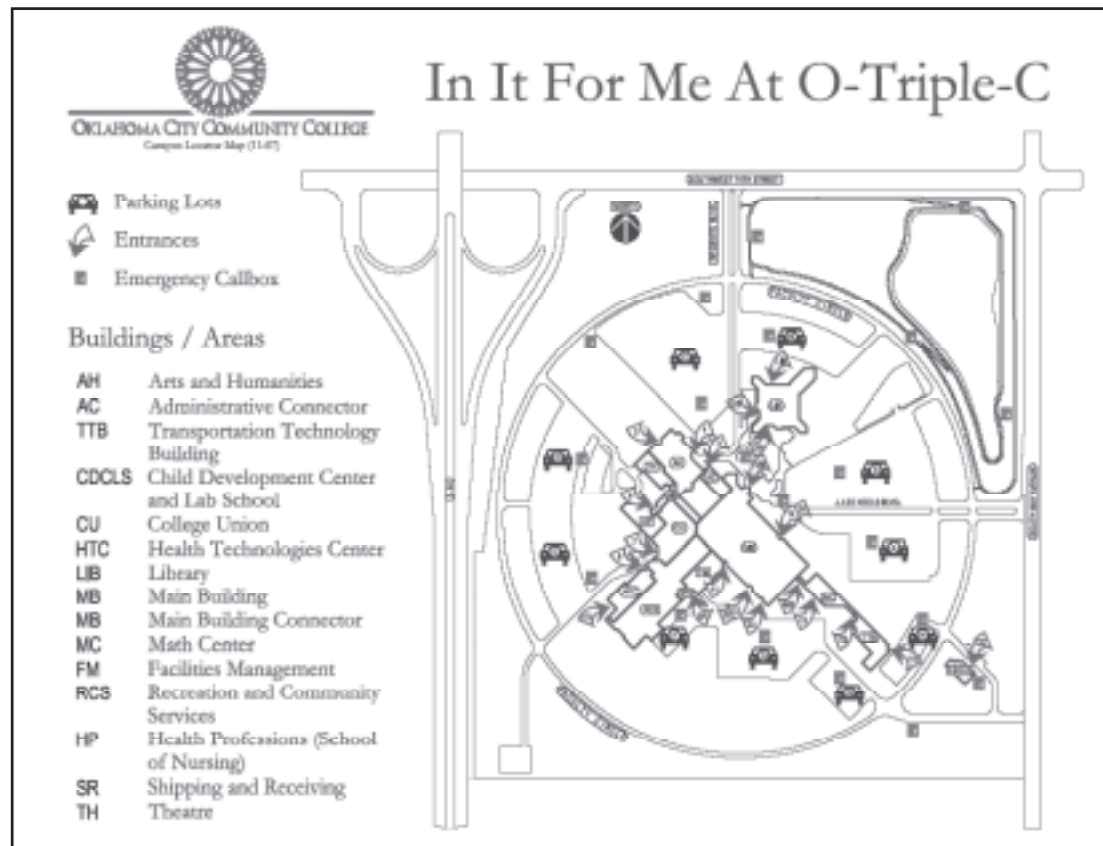
Sloas said getting to campus early, before 10 a.m., is the best time for a good parking space.

“Parking for the evening students is usually also really good,” he said.

Even with all of the parking spaces allotted for students, there are those times, such as big events, when it seems impossible to find a spot to park.

Sloas said there are some tricks to finding a good spot.

“First, check the Arts



Festival’s parking lot, there is usually something over there. If there isn’t, check lots D and E,” Sloas said.

When all slots to park are full, Sloas noted the overflow parking is just south of the Aquatic Center.

“There will be security to traffic the activity over into the overflow area when there isn’t enough parking,” he said.

Nevertheless, some drivers will try to find a refuge in spaces not allowed to students, or that require a permit some don’t have.

According to Campus Traffic and Parking Regu-

lations brochure, parking in a faculty and staff area without a proper decal will cost a fine of \$15, while parking in a handicap space without a proper permit will cost \$100.

Safety in the parking lots is a big thing at the college, Sloas said. He mentioned that, though break-ins have been declining since July, students and faculty alike should still be cautious.

Sloas said the decline has stemmed from new surveillance equipment.

“We have new vehicles and cameras positioned in

various places, which is probably the reason there hasn’t been as many break-ins,” he said.

Sloas said people can prevent themselves from becoming a target by hiding away valuable items and by locking their doors.

If a student does happen to have their vehicle broken into, Sloas urges them to contact security immediately, so they can assist quicker.

Call boxes with a direct line to the Safety and Security office are set-up around campus and in the parking lots.

## Parking lots watched carefully by security

**By Chris Lusk**  
Editor

Criminals beware — OCCC campus parking lots are under the surveillance of 10 Sony RX550 security cameras.

The cameras are located outside on building walls across campus, said Safety and Security Coordinator Keith Bourque.

Bourque said the cameras were installed this past July and have become an important investigative tool for campus security.

“[The security cameras] have helped us establish and solve some crimes,” Bourque said. “We can monitor the parking lot from the office.”

Bourque said the cameras feed back to a main computer station

in the Safety and Security Office where officers can keep an eye on the entire parking lot at once.

The cameras have an all-pan tilt feature which allows a wide range of movement that can be controlled from the Safety and Security Office, said Bourque.

Safety and Security officers are able to utilize the cameras even during the evening, said Bourque.

“They see reasonably well in low-light situations,” Bourque said.

Bourque said the cameras provide a deterrent to car break-ins and thefts, which had been a problem last year.

“We are looking for anyone who appears out of place or suspicious,” Bourque said.

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

# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**Feb. 4:** The Intramural Hotshot Basketball contest will be held inside the Wellness Center gymnasium. This three point shooting contest will be for students, both men and women. For more information on Intramural sports, contact Recreation and Sports specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 5:** Intramural Basketball will start its regular season. For more information on how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 9:** Registration for Power Volleyball League ends. This is a competitive league open for all men and women ages 18 and up. The league starts on Feb. 19 and games will be held on Mondays. The league fee is \$200 per team. For more information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 23:** Registration for Men's Spring Basketball League ends. This basketball league is open to all men ages 18 and up. Game days are on Thursdays and the league cost is \$230 per team. For more information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

**Have a great sports story you want to share?**

**Contact Matt at 405-682-1611, ext. 7675 or e-mail SeniorWriter@occc.edu**

•**It pays to advertise in the Pioneer, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674•**



Nursing student, Christie Ezell, uses one of the many treadmills and running machines that can be found in the Wellness Center. Many students can be found in between classes staying fit with the variety of machines and activities the Wellness Center provides to help students stay healthy and active.

The Wellness Center is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and is free to all students with a valid student ID.

The Aquatic Center is also open to all students with a valid student ID and offers open swim, water basketball and volleyball, and diving. The Aquatic Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Photo by Amber McBride

## Basketball set to tipoff soon

**By Matt Bishop**  
*Senior Staff Writer*

Basketball will tip-off the intramural sports season with the Hotshot Basketball contest on Monday, Feb. 4.

In this event, participants will have their skills tested in three different categories of shooting including the three-point shot, free throws and spot shooting in various areas of the court.

Intramural basketball is slated to start the next day, Feb. 5.

Eric Watson, Recreation and Sports Specialist, said both basketball events will be co-ed.

Watson also said information on other upcoming intramural sports will be available on Monday, Jan. 14 and Wednesday, Jan. 16. A

table to recruit players will be set up in the foyer outside of the Wellness center, Watson said.

There, students interested in playing any of the intramural sports can gather information on the dates to signup and play.

The information table will be set up from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 14 and 16, outside the Wellness Center.

Information on other sports such as soccer, dodge ball, bowling, billiards, chess, volleyball and table tennis will be available at the table.

Watson said that there are plans of possibly having a faculty, staff and student volleyball league.

RCS is hoping to get the different departments around campus to put a team together for the league, Watson said.

He said the teams wouldn't have to be students versus faculty, but that the two could join up and play on the same team together.

Watson said he hopes that RCS can gather enough participants to get a full league.

The league would need at least six teams of eight players to be big enough to hold, Watson said.

The volleyball league would be planned for after spring break, most likely in April.

Any student wishing to use the Wellness and Aquatic Centers for recreational use can do so for free by presenting a valid student ID at the front desk in the Wellness Center.

Senior Staff Writer Matt Bishop can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.



# Students can find variety of support, help around campus

*"Students,"*

*Cont. from page 1*

nect them to community resources in order for them to receive long-term counseling or [if needed]."

Disabilities Services provides equipment and assistance in accordance with the American Disabilities Act, Stowe said.

Some of the services provided include interpreters, captioning, audio instruction materials, note takers and voice synthesizers.

## TRiO

The TRiO office also provides assistance in a similar fashion as Student Support Services.

TRiO serves a targeted group of students who must apply and be accepted to the program.

In order to qualify, the student must be financially disadvantaged, disabled, or

a first-generation college student, meaning neither of the student's parents completed a bachelor's degree.

TRiO offers services including tutoring, mentoring, counseling, information and assistance with financial aid and scholarship applications.

Students can find the TRiO office on the first floor of the Main Building across from the College Theater.

## International Students

Students looking for help transitioning into not only a new school, but also a new country can find help inside the Recruitment and Admissions office.

International Student Admissions counselor Sunny Garner said the services provided for international students are broader than simply learning to transition to a new culture.

Garner said they provide

students with assistance with legal documents and helps maintain the students' international status while they are studying in the United States.

The office provides cultural adjustment information, helps coordinate admission efforts, produces immigration documents for students to obtain a student visa and meets all reporting requirements for the Department of Homeland Security.

## Student Life

Students can learn about and join various clubs and organizations through the Student Life office.

Student Life holds Brown Bag Lunch workshops, open to the entire student body, which cover topics such as study skills, stress relief and test taking.

The office also gives students the ability to do com-

munity service through their Service Saturdays.

Student Life also will document student's community service, leadership and club membership and provide a Student Activities and Recognition Transcript.

## Recreation and Community Services

The Recreation and Com-

munity Services office provides students with an outlet to stay physically fit.

Students have free access to the gymnasium, weight room, cardio room and Aquatic Center.

In order to use the facilities, students must present a valid student ID.

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

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# Highlights

## Opening Day for new students

Opening Day for new students will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12. It is a chance for new students to find their classes, explore campus resources and meet some faculty and staff. In order to volunteer, please contact Darin Behara in Student Life. Student Life will provide lunch at noon, for the volunteers. You can contact Behara at 405-682-7596.

## Casting call

Auditions for the play "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" (A Gangster Spectacle) by Bertolt Brecht will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, and Wednesday, Jan. 16 in the OCCC Theater. Five women and 15 men are currently needed. All are encouraged to audition, no experience necessary. Production dates are Feb. 21 to Feb. 23 and rehearsals will be held 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, contact Brent Noel at 405-682-1611, ext. 7246, or e-mail bnoel@occc.edu.

## Career and Employment Power workshops

OCCC Career and Employment Services is hosting a series of workshops this semester designed to help OCCC students make the transition from school to the workforce. Workshop topics include: "Career Exploration through Discover" Jan. 22; "Job Search through OCCC Job Board" Jan. 29; "Optimal Resume Creation" Feb. 12; "Optimal Cover Letter Creation" Feb. 19; "Optimal Interviewing" March 11; "How to Dress for Job Interviews" April 01; "Hot Occupations — Top Salaries" April 22; "Internships — Greater Grads, Tinker and Disney" April 29. All workshops will be from 12:30 p.m. to 12:55 p.m. Tuesdays, in Main Building room 1F6. For additional information, contact Career and Employment Services at 405-682-7519, or e-mail employmentservices@occc.edu.

## New transfer tour dates for Oklahoma campuses

This semester the OCCC Transfer Center will offer tours to OU, UCO, SNU, USAO and OKCU. Tour dates: OU College of Journalism, Tuesday, Feb. 5; OU, Wednesday, Feb. 6 and Tuesday, March 4; OKCU, Tuesday, Feb. 12; UCO, Friday, Feb. 15 and Tuesday, March 11; SNU, Monday, Feb. 18; USAO, Friday, March 7. Tours are designed to answer your questions and make the transition to your next school easier. There is limited space available for each tour. To reserve your spot or for more information, contact Leslie Jones at 405-682-7567, or e-mail at ljones@occc.edu.

## Study abroad course offered

A course trip to Mexico's Yucatan will begin May 24. The trip is open to the public and may be used to earn 3 Humanities credits (but not required). Students will return May 31. The costs for this trip will be \$1,606 for those 22 and younger, and \$1871 for those 23 and older. The cost covers the program and departure but not the passport, though you may include it in the package. For more information, please contact Catherine Kinyon at 405-682-1611, ext. 7233.

**All Highlights are due Tuesday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue. Highlight forms can be picked up in the Pioneer office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator.**

**Read the Pioneer Online at [www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer). The Pioneer is YOUR newspaper. Check it out online for breaking news and extra features.**

## Popcorn man



Photo by Amber McBride

Jon Horinek, Student Life Community Engagement Coordinator, serves popcorn to students waiting in line to enroll for classes. The last day to enroll for the spring semester is Jan. 18.

# Office of Student Life welcomes students

By Scott Glidewell  
Staff Writer

For most students, the first weeks of class are rather stressful. Buying books, trying to find classes, adjusting to new professors and just getting back into the groove of school can be difficult.

In an attempt to alleviate some of the stress associated with this time of year the Office of Student Life is sponsoring several activities in the upcoming weeks beginning with Opening Day on Saturday, Jan. 12.

Opening Day activities begin at 1 p.m. and continue until 4 p.m. Volunteers will be available to help students find their classes and to answer any questions they might have.

Students will have the opportunity to take campus tours, explore campus resources and meet OCCC staff and faculty.

An optional family orien-

tation is available at 1:30 p.m. and a family orientation for Spanish-speaking students will be offered at 3 p.m. Those wanting to attend either family orientation should call 405-682-7523 to reserve a spot.

Darin Behara, Director of Student Life, said the goal of Opening Day is to help new students find their classes and ease some of the tension from the first day of class.

After the festivities of Opening Day come to a close, Welcome Week will begin when classes start Monday, Jan. 14.

Students are invited to stop by the College Union to take part in various activities throughout each day.

On Monday students can get their name painted on a grain of rice. Creative bead art will be offered on Tuesday. Students can get dog tags made on Wednesday.

Thursday will bring the musical stylings of acoustic guitarist Joe Rowan to campus.

Rowan is set to perform at noon near the OCCC Coffee Shop.

Once Welcome Week has come and gone, the Student Organization Fair is the next big event on the Student Activities Calendar.

From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23, and Thursday, Jan. 24, more than 40 student groups and organizations will have booths set up in the College Union.

Behara said the organization fair has two goals.

"It is an opportunity for the clubs to gain exposure and to recruit new members," Behara said.

Behara said it's important for students to get involved.

Staff Writer Scott Glidewell can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.



# Classifieds

**Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all 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.**

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### ACROSS

- 1 Door handle
- 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

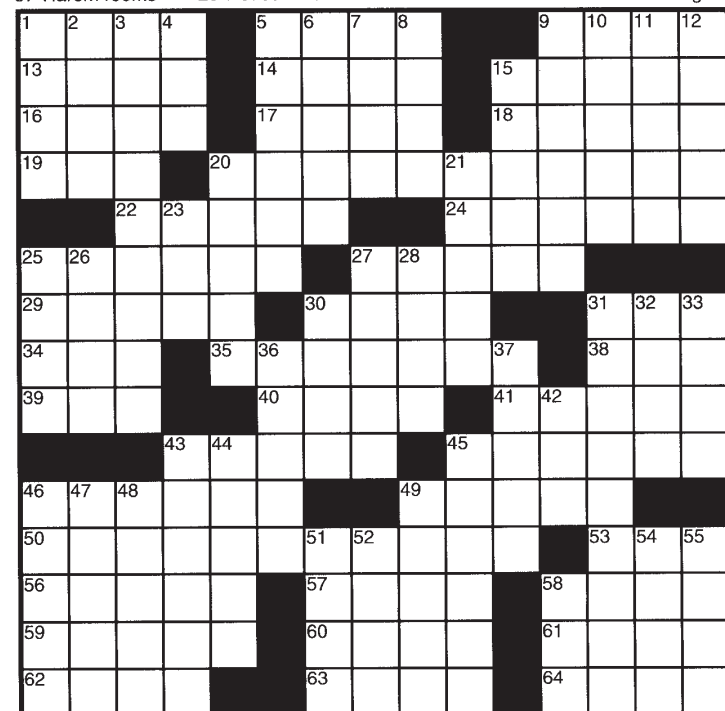
### DOWN

- 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

### 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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