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PIONEER

www.occc.edu/pioneer

Musical trio



Photo by Amber McBride

From left, Annie Gnojek, flute; Ellen Bottorff, piano; and Margaret Marco, oboe, of the Allégresse trio, perform in the OCCC theater. The group, brought in as part of the Cultural Arts Series, performs worldwide. While at OCCC, they also held a workshop where they talked about the joy of music. For more information on the workshop, see page 5. The next CAS performance is Feb. 26 with the Hot Club of San Francisco taking the stage. Call 405-682-7579 for ticket information.

Free tax help offered to lower income people

By Scott Glidewell
Staff Writer

Beginning Feb. 4, free income tax preparation will be available from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday through Thursday, in the Main Building across from the Student Life office.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is available to all families and individuals with a household income of less than \$39,000.

Don Wigley, VITA site coordinator, said there would be a total of five volunteers preparing tax returns this year.

"We prepare the returns and then e-file them so they don't have to do anything," Wigley said.

Wigley also said all of the VITA volunteers have years of experience with tax preparation.

"I have been involved with VITA, here at OCCC, for the last nine years, and we have one See "VITA," page 12

OCCC students older, more diverse

Preliminary report numbers also show slight enrollment decrease

By Chris Lusk
Editor

OCCC students are a few months older and more ethnically diverse compared to last year, college statistics show. Many also are returning for additional semesters.

Enrollment numbers show the average age of students has risen from 25.4 to 26, while the number of returning students has increased by 2.7 percent.

After a small increase last fall, enrollment has slightly decreased this spring.

Preliminary numbers show a 1.0 percent decrease from spring 2007. Total students went from 11,391 to 11,274 this se-

mester.

Total credit hours scheduled fell 0.5 percent, from 98,742 to 98,216.

Executive Director of Planning Stu Harvey said that enrollment has been on an overall decline the past few years.

"We have seen figures stay flat or slightly decline over the last two or three years," he said.

Harvey said that could change if economic conditions worsen. Typically, he said, when the local and

national economies slow down, enrollment increases — especially in older students.

"Although our numbers showed a slight decrease, we do show an older student body," Harvey said. "This indicates an increase in older student enrollment."

A big reason for the enrollment slowdown can be attributed to a large decrease in new student enrollment, Harvey said.

College statistics show an

18 percent decrease in the number of new student enrollments from spring 2007, from 2,028 to 1,662 this semester.

Harvey said a number of factors can explain the sharp decline, including local demographics.

"We have actually planned on a decrease in new student enrollment," he said. "Statistics show that there will be fewer high school graduates over the next decade, purely based on the fact that there just

aren't as many kids right now as there have been."

Harvey noted the college's emphasis in retaining students.

At the same time, forecasts show a large increase in older students should be expected over the next 10 years, Harvey said.

The college also experienced an increase in minority enrollment, Harvey said.

More than 30 percent of OCCC's students represent racial and ethnic minorities, he said.

The data showed Asian student numbers rose 4.4 percent, from 789 to 824. African-American numbers dropped 0.3 percent, from

See "Enrollment," page 12

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Textbooks costly, options available

The high cost of textbooks is something many students find distressing. They don't have a choice about buying them because, if they want to do their best, they will need the textbook.

Many times, when students go to buy textbooks they have to buy the new book as a packet, with computer software. This can get quite expensive.

For one computer science course, the packet is \$245.10, while the Organic Chemistry I textbook is \$170.25.

Some students may be able to get by using a past edition textbook for their class.

Some books that are past editions are not that different from the new ones. The old book may not be as good, but it sometimes will do.

Some students choose not to buy books at all because they just can't afford it.

Thankfully, some professors have their course textbooks on reserve at the circulations desk of the library.

Students may check out reserve textbooks for two hours at a time. A time limit is set because there are many students who come in and need to use the textbooks. The only disadvantage is that being a reserve textbook, you will only be able to use it while you are in the library.

What also doesn't seem completely fair is that when you turn in your textbook to receive cash back at the end of the semester, you may get a response that a new edition is being issued and you will not receive any money back for your book.

And if you are lucky enough to receive money back for your book, it is often drastically less than the price you paid for it.

Students may have noticed that new stores are being opened, such as Textbook Brokers, where you can sell textbooks, and buy books for much cheaper than what the college provides.

One girl announced to our class that she bought all five of her textbooks needed for the semester for under \$200 from Textbook Brokers.

Textbook Brokers also gives a 5 percent discount to students if you are on their MySpace "friends list."

This is just one place that has begun to receive business when it comes to buying and selling textbooks. There could possibly be more opening.

Textbook Brokers will buy back books all year round and sometimes will give you more money back than the college will. Students may also sell and buy textbooks from www.half.ebay.com and www.amazon.com. There may be a small shipping or processing fee.

It's not that students don't want to buy and sell their textbooks at the college bookstore, but a college student will want to save money any way possible.

And avoiding our own college bookstore to go elsewhere, sadly, is what some students are beginning to do.

—Yvonne Oberly
Staff Writer

New library resource available to students

To the editor:

The Library is pleased to announce the launch of a new online resource, Culturegrams.

With the ever growing diversity of the OCCC community and our focus on improving global and cultural awareness, Culturegrams is an excellent resource for both students and staff.

Culturegrams is an excellent starting point for research or quick facts about other cultures, daily life, history, food, people, countries and much more.

This new resource com-

pliments another resource the Library added last year called Country-Watch.

Culturegrams is currently the "Featured Resource" on the Library's website located at www.occc.edu/library.

It can also be found under "Find Web Sites."

Hopefully students and staff will find Culturegrams useful in answering a multitude of questions and inquiries relating to the various cultures around the world.

If there are any questions about this great new

resource, please contact the Library Assistance Desk at 405-682-1611, ext. 7251.

—Barbara King
Director of Library Services

PIONEER

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Stephen Sossamon.....Staff Writer
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Brian Schroeder.....Staff Writer
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The PIONEER welcomes letters to the editor and encourages the use of this publication as a community forum. All letters must include the author's name, address, phone number and signature. However, the PIONEER will withhold the name if the request is made in writing. The PIONEER has the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity.

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

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Comments? Opinions?

Let us know!

E-mail us at editor@occc.edu
or call 405-682-1611,
ext. 7409.

off the mark.com

by Mark Parisi



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Comments and Reviews



‘There Will Be Blood’ a gritty, dramatic movie

“There Will Be Blood” is a well-crafted, gripping drama loosely based upon Upton Sinclair’s 1926 novel “Oil!”

From the opening scene until the last line of dialogue the audience is drawn slowly, deliberately down the path of unchecked human greed and ambition to the destruction that ultimately accompanies ruthless determination.

“Blood” is the fifth movie from director Paul Thomas Anderson (“Boo-gie Nights,” “Magnolia”) and it is by far the best.

Intense, gritty, and dark the acting, cinematography, and score are all interwoven in meticulous fashion.

The film begins in 1898 in the bottom of a mine-shaft in Texas, but quickly transitions to the oil fields of California.

The story spans a 30-year time period during the early days of the oil indus-

try, but the movie is not ultimately about the oil industry. It is about the rise and fall of Daniel Plainview.

Daniel Day-Lewis’s performance as Daniel Plainview is truly mesmerizing.

As with anything it is control of the little things that really make a difference and Day-Lewis’s control of the smaller parts of his role are what make the whole package so complete.

His facial expressions, speech patterns and seething raw emotion allow him to assume the role with an authority, an entirety that is truly amazing.

Through Day-Lewis’s eyes and his mannerisms, we are allowed to see into the soul of Plainview, which seems as black and as explosive as the oil that he drills for.

Throughout the movie Plainview is seemingly consumed by tension, perpetually ready to explode into an animalistic rage.

Although at times he is reserved, this is only if it will help him get what he wants. Always the viewer can see the monster in his eyes—greedy, insatiable and unstoppable.

“I have a competition in me. I want no one else to succeed....”

With these words, Daniel Plainview best describes himself: a driven, obsessive man who alienates everyone around him and ultimately destroys the world that he creates.

The movie, while spectacular, is not necessarily easy viewing with a running time of approximately two and a half hours.

It requires that the audience pay attention and wait for the story to be told.

If you want an action flick, then go see Rambo, but if you want to see a great dramatic film go see “There Will Be Blood.”

Rating: A

—**Scott Glidewell**
Staff Writer

ADVISER 11

When is it perception and when is it reality? When someone hears the words Academic Advising, what does that really mean to them? Many believe Academic Advising is a one-size-fits-all approach. The reality is that each student’s needs are different.

It has been interesting to listen to some of the student responses as they visit with an Academic Adviser at our Triage desk. Here’s one example that I’ve heard several times:

Adviser: Hi, how can I assist you?

Student: Yeah, I need some classes.

Adviser: What type of classes are you interested in?

Student: I don’t care, just give me 12 hours.

Adviser: Have you taken any college courses?

Student: Not that I know of.

Adviser: What are you interested in for a degree?

Student: I have no idea; I figured you would pick some out for me.

Adviser: Why would you think this?

Student: Isn’t that what an Academic Adviser does?

Can you envision the donut shop with 100 different varieties on the wall and the customer asks for a dozen donuts and the baker turns to the donut wall and wonders where to start?

Of course, not all of our students have this approach. However, for the ones that do, we open the doors to the world of Academic Advising. We take the time and look with the student at the puzzle pieces.

We start with the course catalog, class schedule, credit hours, degree options and then move into the interview process.

The reality is the Office of Academic Advising serves many purposes. Many students go to advising because they are concerned with the class schedules.

However, students are encouraged to go to Advising and Career Services for other various reasons. For instance, students may need to:

- Confirm or change their program/major
- Request to be assigned a Faculty Adviser
- Request a Degree check
- Write a Diversified Studies Contract
- Obtain information on career exploration
- Get help with course selections
- Get their assessment tests evaluated

When students are looking for assistance with their class schedules or using MineOnline, we introduce them to a Peer Adviser.

A Peer Adviser is a fellow student who is successful in their courses, understands how to build a class schedule, and uses MineOnline for many of their academic record needs.

We want students to take ownership of their future and their education and we are willing to help them do this by putting the puzzle together one piece at a time.

—**E.J. Warren**
Academic Advising Director

Fall break proposed

By Lynsey Suchy
News Writing Student

Faculty Association members were divided in their view of whether OCCC should add a two-day fall break in October.

About half voted for the break with half voting against it.

The topic of fall break took a good part of the group's meeting Jan. 22 on campus.

FA Chairman and Math Professor Paul Buckelew told the group President Paul Sechrist had asked the Faculty Association for its opinion on adding a fall break.

Views were expressed on both sides. Several faculty members said taking off a Thursday and Friday in October would create problems in some classes.

Jay Malmstrom, math professor, said concerns are mostly for science and nursing students who have

labs. The labs are on a strict schedule and are hard to make up.

Other professors said their students need some time off earlier in the semester, that Thanksgiving week is too late.

Student Chris Stewart, chairman of The Leadership Council, said not having a fall break in October can be an issue for students who have children.

Public schools are out for fall break, meaning parents would have to pay extra money for their children to be watched or parents might even have to miss class.

The Leadership Council voted unanimously for a fall break on a Thursday and Friday in October and to take away one day of Thanksgiving Break.

Three options were presented to the faculty and voted on:

- Leaving the college calendar as it is, with fall

break being Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Thanksgiving week,

- Add a fall break by canceling classes on a Thursday and Friday in October when the public schools take a fall break, then conduct classes on the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week instead of having Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday off,

- Add a fall break by canceling classes on a Thursday and Friday in October when the public schools take a fall break, and keep the Thanksgiving holidays as they are now.

The faculty voted with 13 professors voting for leaving the schedule as it is and 13 voting for a change to be made.

Two voted to add the break in October without making any changes to the Thanksgiving schedule. The split decision will be given to Sechrist to review.

All fire alarms should be heeded official says

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Fire alarms on campus caused students to evacuate buildings 10 times last year, said Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director.

And, if the fire alarm does go off, everyone should head to the nearest exit, without getting on elevators, and proceed to the parking lot, according to the safety and security procedures poster.

"No fire alarm is a false alarm," Sloas said. "We don't question why an alarm goes off.

"It's very important everyone take fire alarms seriously and treat all of them equally."

Sloas's records show last year there were a total of 31 incidents involving a fire alarm.

If the alarm sounds, the building in which the alarm went off is evacuated immediately, Sloas said.

"Usually, if the library has to be evacuated, the Main Building doesn't necessarily have to."

Sloas said many of the alarms indicated an actual fire.

We investigated all of those alarms," he said. "I only remember four or five being something minor, like burnt popcorn."

All fires have the potential to be dangerous, Sloas said.

"Any fire in areas where chemicals are used or stored are extremely dangerous," he said.

Sloas said some of the most costly fires have been vehicle fires.

"They caused several hundred dollars in damage

to electrical systems," he said.

Sloas added that losses during building fires have been minimal.

Though the system is efficient, Sloas said the system sometimes goes off unnecessarily.

"Dirty smoke heads, and sometimes the water pressure, can cause an alarm to go off," he said.

Sloas said roughly \$50,000 a year goes to maintenance of all the fire detecting systems on campus.

"The annual inspection is done during spring break, when students are off campus," he said.

He also said that his officers do daily checks of the water pressure for the fire suppression systems.

Sloas said Simplex Grinnell is the company

Collisions result in minor damages

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Two accidents in three days resulted in slight damages to all the vehicles involved.

At around 7:35 p.m. Jan. 24, two vehicles were involved in an accident on the east side of J.L. Keels Boulevard according to a report by Officer Jacob Roby.

The first vehicle, a silver 1996 Saturn driven by Jonathan Hole, was traveling eastbound in the left lane when he was hit by Luke Westover, in a black 2003 Dodge Ram 1500.

According to the report, Westover was leaving Lot A when he failed to yield to oncoming traffic while making his left turn.

"My foot slipped off the brake and I couldn't stop," Westover told Roby.

Information was traded between Hole and Westover and pictures were taken.

Another non-injury accident occurred earlier in the week. At 5:10 p.m. Jan. 22, Officer Johnathan Walker was dispatched to May and Faculty Circle to investigate.

A 1991 Chevy Camaro, driven by Corbin Massengale, was heading eastbound on faculty circle and failed to come to a complete stop at the stop sign, according to Walker's report.

A second vehicle, a Chevrolet 1500 Extended Cab driven by Larry Barnes, was eastbound, about to cross Faculty Circle, when it was hit by Massengale on the driver's door and rear corner panel.

Both vehicles were able drive from the scene after both parties exchanged information and photos were taken of both vehicles.

Staff Writer Stephen Sossamon can be reached at onlineeditor@occc.edu.

"No fire alarm is a false alarm. We don't question why an alarm goes off."

—Ike Sloas

Safety and Security Director

that does the maintenance for the 1,000-plus alarms and detectors scattered around the campus.

The campus doesn't stage fire drills, Sloas said.

"We never have them because we aren't mandated to. We don't have dorms (which would force a fire

drill) and don't want to disrupt the classes."

Students should know to take the fire alarms seriously and evacuate the building immediately, Sloas said.

Staff Writer Stephen Sossamon can be reached at onlineeditor@occc.edu.

Have a story idea?
Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409, and tell Chris

Earn college credit while in Malaysia

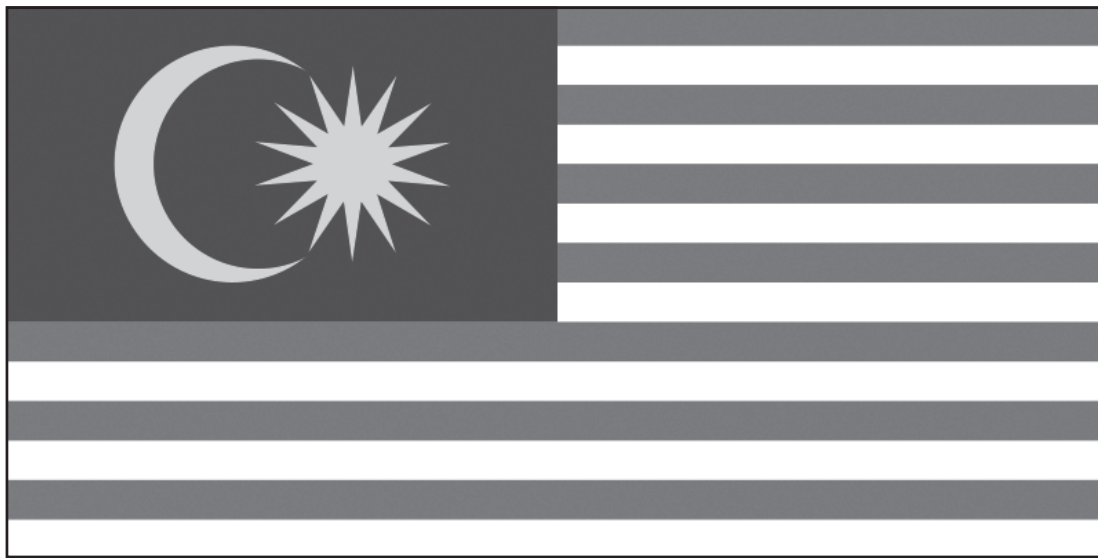
By Amanda McCutchen
Staff Writer

There is a first time for everything, and OCCC's Center for International Business has created its own first. OCCC students can now study abroad for a semester or even a year, and earn credits for graduation.

The college has recently signed two articulation agreements with colleges in Malaysia, said V.J. Ramachandran, center co-director and OCCC business professor.

An articulation agreement was signed Dec. 3 between Jim Schwark, OCCC business dean, and the business dean at the Management and Science University in Shah Alam, Malaysia.

Also, Schwark signed an agreement with the business dean at the University College Sedaya Institution in Taman Connaught, about six miles south of the capital, Kuala Lumpur.



"The first reason why I chose Malaysia is because I am from there," Ramachandran said.

He said the high-quality education in Malaysia and the fact English is spoken there figured into his choice.

He said the country is multi-cultural and friendly to foreigners.

Ramachandran recently took a two-week trip to Malaysia and met with six potential colleges for this

program. Ramachandran is spent 10 years there as a professor.

"I looked at colleges with similar business curriculums, matching classes and textbooks," Ramachandran said. "We don't take classes from just anybody. They need to be well qualified to teach our students."

There are eight business courses listed at both MCU and USCI that also are offered at OCCC. Classes will

be taught in English, and will consist of local and international students, as well as American students.

Ramachandran said speaking English is a requirement in schools and colleges in Malaysia.

The estimated cost for a 12-credit-hour semester is \$1,000 per month. That includes lodging, food, entertainment, classes and medical insurance. The two schools also offer internships and tours of compa-

nies.

The estimated cost does not include airfare. A round-trip flight will cost about \$1,200.

From Oklahoma, there are two layovers, Ramachandran said, and the total flight clocks in around 20 hours. Students will be picked up at the airport.

Malaysia is located in the southern Asia region near Indonesia. Malaysia has two primary territories — East and West Malaysia.

"Malaysia is a favorite vacation spot because of all the small islands, the weather is very tropical, and it is very similar to Hawaii," Ramachandran said.

Both MSU and USCI have campuses that are near the capital.

For more information, contact Ramachandran at vramachandran@occc.edu, or 405-682-1611, ext. 7220.

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

Trio shares joy of music with students

By Jessica Shadid
News Writing Student

"Discovering the Joy of Music" would be the title of choice for the lecture presented by Allégresse, the musical trio who performed at OCCC on Jan. 29. Allégresse is a trio that consists of Annie Gnojek, Margaret Marco and Ellen Bottorff.

They called it a play on words, seeing that Allégresse means "joy" in French. This trio of women create a unique classical sound produced by the piano played by Bottorff, the oboe played by Marco and the flute played by Gnojek.

The women said they have been close friends and colleagues for more than a decade. Allégresse, as a group, however, only has been together for a year. Residing in Lawrence, Kan., the trio has played all over the world.

During the educational lecture earlier in the day, the women performed pieces mainly from artists Johann Joachim Quantz from the

Baroque period (1600 to 1750) and Madeleine Dring, a modern artist of the 1960s.

Both outstanding performances, they created similar sounds, yet also unique melodies which relate to the times in which they were produced.

Many who attended the lecture would agree one of the most interesting parts was to watch Marco casually clean out the saliva build-up from inside her oboe with cigarette papers.

Smiles emerged across the room, as the group not only entertained the students and professors with their musical talents, but also with their charming personalities.

In an interview, they were asked where some of their greatest performance experiences took place.

Gnojek replied she had performed as a soloist in Beijing, China. Gnojek and the others said, as a group, performing at OCCC is always an honor.

The group is looking forward to

commissioning new work with artist Gabriella Frank, and plans to perform in Manchester, England, in 2009 at the International Double Reed Convention. Allégresse also is planning to have a CD available this spring.

After the lecture, Gnojek explained how the group came upon the name Allégresse, which she said came from her husband. He was inspired by one of his favorite artists, Maria Snyder, who had a song titled "Allégresse." The women noted, as a result of their success, the word is now associated with them.

"Now, when you Google 'Allégresse,' our group is the outcome of the search rather than Maria Snyder," Marco said.

The performers have years of musical training and experience to their credit.

Marco received degrees from Northwestern University, the University of Iowa and the University of Illinois. She currently is a co-

principal for the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra, and she often performs with the Kansas City Symphony, the Kansas City Lyric Opera, and the Kansas City Ballet Orchestra.

Bottorff is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Missouri Western University. She has traveled all over the United States and Canada. She also has performed on live radio broadcasts, regional and national conventions, and cruise ships. Bottorff presently is an interim piano professor at the University of Kansas.

Gnojek obtained undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Kansas. She manages a flute studio in the Lawrence and Kansas City area. Gnojek also won national titles at the Music Teacher's National Association Competition in 2003, 2004 and 2007.

For more information about the group, visit www.allegresse.com.

History-making black Oklahomans

Albert Comstock Hamlin
(1881 to 1912)

Hamlin was the first black to be elected to the state legislature in 1908. He was the only black to serve until 1964.

Roscoe Dunjee
(1883 to 1955)

Dunjee was the editor of Oklahoma City's only black newspaper, The Black Dispatch, and led the way in the struggle for civil rights in Oklahoma, and in the Oklahoma City black community.

Amos T. Hall
(1896 to 1971)

Hall is one of Oklahoma's most significant civil rights lawyers. He was the first black to be elected to a county-wide office, and the first to be elected as a judge in Oklahoma.

John Hope Franklin
(1915 to present)

Franklin is one of Oklahoma's leading historians. He has been president of numerous organizations including the Southern Historical Association. He has written and edited more than 10 books.

Charles Henry Christian
(1916 to 1942)

Christian contributed to the world of music in a big way with his skills on the electric guitar. He played primarily with the Goodmen Sextet.

Clara Shepard Luper
(1923 to present)

Luper is a recognized Oklahoma educator and Civil Rights leader. She became an advisor for the Oklahoma City NAACP Youth Council in 1957. She hosted her own radio show for 20 years.

Leona Pearl Mitchell
(1949 to present)

One of the nation's most-regarded opera singers, Mitchell is known for her performances in operas by Puccini and Verdi. She's the recipient of numerous Oklahoma awards, including induction in the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame in 2001.

J.C. Watts Jr.
(1957 to present)

Watts was Oklahoma's first black congressman, serving as a Republican in Washington, D.C from January 1995 to January 2003.

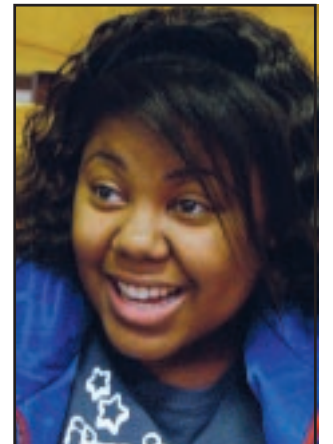
—Source: digital.library.okstate.edu

What does Black History Month mean to you?



"It means a lot to me, to us."
—Lavaris Henderson
Visiting former student

"It's about time we all learned more about each other. I was in a Martin Luther King Day parade and it make me feel great."
—Monique Barfield
Nursing



"... It is important to recognize all history, and not to be selective."
—Kristi Cox
Sociology

"Black History Month is a tribute. ... It means a lot to me."
—Corrion Martin
Psychology



Month has long, rich history

By Cynthia Praefke
Staff Writer

"Salvation for a race, nation or class must come from within. Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted and the struggle must be continuous for freedom is never a final fact ..." Those are the words of A. Phillip Randolph, a civil rights activist of the early 1900s.

The month of February has been set aside to celebrate the history of black America.

Why February? According to Infoplease.com, Black History Month began in 1926 when Carter G. Woodson, the second black man to get a doctorate from Harvard, objected to the way the black population was portrayed in history books.

He decided, because February was the birth month of Frederick Douglass and

Abraham Lincoln, it would be appropriate to study their influence on black history.

But, there are many other important historical events that happened in February.

- The 15th Amendment, granting blacks the right to vote, was passed Feb. 3, 1870.

- Hiram R. Revels, the first black U.S. senator, took his oath of office Feb. 25, 1870.

- The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded in New York City on Feb. 12, 1909.

- Feb. 1, 1960, a group of students from Greensboro, N.C. began a peaceful sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter with Martin Luther King.

- Three black Muslims shot Malcolm X to death on Feb. 21, 1965.

Woodson thought, because of the elimination or distortion of facts through

**For more about
Black History Month:**

www.infoplease.com
www.history.com
www.enchantedlearning.com

the years, there was a great deal Americans might not know about the impact of blacks in the country. He wanted Americans to know facts such as:

- During the Indian wars of the 1800s, black soldiers earned the respect of Native Americans who named them Buffalo Soldiers.

- Black soldiers were instrumental in critical wins in the Civil War.

In fact, many former slaves who had fought during the Civil War helped settle the state of Oklahoma thinking it to be a "black paradise."

Staff Writer Cynthia Praefke can be reached at adman@occc.edu.

Take me to your leader



Above: OCCC club representatives Rebekah Green, Philip Aken and Heather Creekmore hang out during the Leadership Workshop. Student Life hosted the workshop Jan. 19 at the new Human Body Exhibit at Science Museum Oklahoma.

Right: Among other displays at the museum, there was a life-size buffalo statue for representatives to learn about.

Bottom: Mia Diaz, Records and Graduation Services clerk, and Grace Spears, representative, also attended the workshop. At the workshop, representatives were able to get to know one another, as well as hear a speech on leadership.



Right: A unique staircase in the museum took travelers to their destinations.

Text by
Matt Bishop
Photos by
LaWanda
LaVarnway



Student Life hosted a Leadership workshop that provided an entertaining and education day for all student club members.

The workshop was held Jan. 19 at the new Human Body Exhibit at the Science Museum Oklahoma.

Chris Stewart, Leadership Council chairman, said the workshop was intended for training club leaders and to encourage members to take leadership rolls.

Stewart said 42 representatives from all the clubs and organizations from OCCC attended the event by way of a charter bus for \$5.

The \$5 also included a T-shirt, door prizes, drinks and a food buffet, Stewart said.

A conference was held for all club members to get to know one another better.

"TLC held an icebreaker," Stewart said. "It was called 'working a room' and was designed for everybody to get up and moving to meet new people."

Meredith Dake, guest speaker for the leadership workshop, went over different aspects of club leadership.

Dake won first place in the Business Professionals of American National Prepared Speech competition in 2007, Stewart said.

He said the workshop also covered the nuts and bolts of club leadership.

The guidelines taught club leaders how to plan for events and how to meet deadlines for certain occasions, Stewart said.

Along with the business part, Stewart said, everyone who attended had a great time.

"Most people explored the body exhibit," Stewart said. "Others went to the OmniDome or just walked around and looked at different stuff throughout."

"It was a very educational experience."

Isela Perez, TRIO peer mentor, said she thought the experience was interesting and would do it again.

"We got to know they new students and to what they do."

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**Feb. 5:** Intramural Basketball will tip-off its regular season. For more information about signing 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. 11:** Registration for Intramural Club Soccer will begin. For information about signing up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786, or K. B. Yeboah at 405-255-7735.

•**Feb. 13:** The Free Throw Hot Shot Basketball Contest will be held inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about signing up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 18 to 22:** Intramural Billiards Tournament will be held in the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

•**Feb. 20:** The 3-point and Spot Shooting Hot Shot Basketball contest will be held inside the Wellness Center Gymnasium. For information about how to sign up, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

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

Eyes on the rim

Student Jordan Jenkinson works on her shooting form inside the Wellness Center gymnasium.

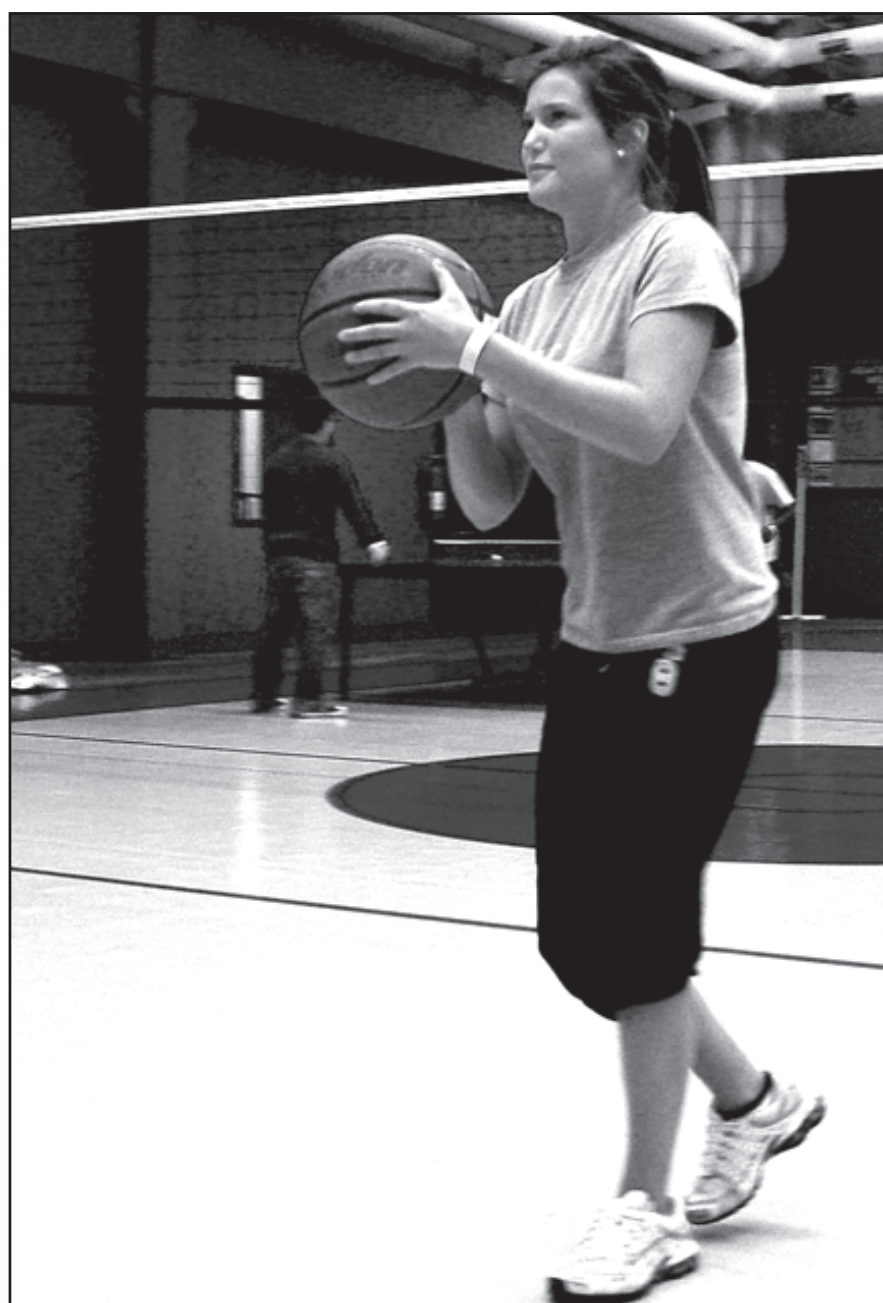
The Intramural Basketball season will tip-off on Tuesday, Feb. 5. For students wanting to test their shooting skills, OCCC will host two days of Hotshot Basketball.

The Hotshot Free Throw Contest will be held Wednesday, Feb. 13, and the 3-point and Spot Shooting Hotshot Contest will be held the following week on Feb. 20.

Students may check out basketballs with a valid student ID to practice their shooting or take part in a pick-up game.

For more information about signing up for these competitions, contact Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Photo by Amber McBride



Soccer team seeks playoff run

By Matt Bishop
Staff Writer

OCCC's Club Soccer is hoping to make a run at the playoffs this spring. Preparations are under way for the spring season starting in February.

K. B. Yeboah is returning for another year as the club soccer coach.

Yeboah said he is excited for the season to start and hopes to see the team make the playoffs.

The soccer team showed potential last season, but finished in a five-way tie for the three remaining playoff spots and were left out by way of tiebreakers.

"We put ourselves in that position for the tiebreaker," Yeboah said. "I think this year we can make the playoffs if enough people come back."

The soccer team had about 17 players who showed up to practice and games on a consistent basis last fall.

Yeboah said he encourages all his players from last season to return because the team had success.

"We had a good team going, and I hope we can get everybody back and pick up where we left off," Yeboah said.

"If they are in school, I hope they come and play again."

The date of the first game is undecided yet, he said.

Jalal Daneshfar, director of the Oklahoma Collegiate Club Soccer League, said the season will commence either Feb. 23 or March 1.

Registration for the season will start on Feb. 11.

Yeboah said he plans on starting practice on Feb. 11 as well.

Players may sign up by showing

up to the practices.

The soccer team holds its practices at the south field on the OCCC campus near the May Ave. entrance.

Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson said he will be posting fliers around the campus giving students information about how to join the soccer team.

Players interested can also contact Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786 or Coach Yeboah at 405-255-7735.

A schedule has not yet been released because the number of teams participating is not known, Daneshfar said.

"After the deadline for team registration passes, we will make a schedule as soon as possible," Daneshfar said.

Matt Bishop can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu

OCCC students offered résumé help

By **Brian Schroeder**
Staff Writer

While looking for a job, an OCCC student stumbled upon a free service that helped her in producing a résumé better than she imagined. After completing the résumé with the help of Career and Employment Services, she posted it online and was called by an employer soon after to schedule an interview.

On Feb. 12, career and employment services will be offering a free Optimal Résumé Creation workshop to help students prepare résumés and post them online.

Judi McGee, Employment Services coordinator, said the workshop will allow students to see how the Optimal Résumé software works, so they can come back at their leisure to draft a résumé.

"It's an easy way students can learn how to put a résumé together," she said.

"It also allows you to save up to five different résumés

"It's an easy way students can learn how to put a résumé together. It also allows you to save up to five résumés ..."

—Judi McGee
Employment Services
Coordinator

that can be changed and updated at the user's convenience."

Cathy Hutchens, Career and Employment Services assistant, said the software used for developing résumés and cover letters is extremely easy to use.

"We use the program every day," she said. "It walks the students right through and gives them examples to use if they get stuck or don't know how to word something. It is very user friendly."

The software is available to OCCC students free of charge. Students are welcome to use the software to write a résumé, and the staff at Career and Employ-

ment services is there to assist, McGee said.

"We are here to help anyone who needs the help," she said. "Anytime, if anyone needs assistance, there are four of us in this department who can help."

McGee said the software is not limited to people who are writing résumés for the first time. Those who have put together a résumé in the past can bring it in to get suggestions on how to make it stronger.

Lyndsie Stremflow, Admissions assistant, said she learned how to write a résumé by using tools found online. She said the class would benefit her résumé as well as résumé writing skills.

"I know I would learn how to write a more organized and professional résumé," Stremflow said.

"I would be able to include several things employees would want to see on a résumé."

Once a résumé is complete, students are able to post it on the OCCC job

website, as well as the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission website.

"I've had more people than anticipated call me and tell me they just got a job because they posted their résumé on our job board," McGee said.

"One student who posted

a résumé on our job board called and said the company that contacted her was one she had always wanted to work for, and the reason they contacted her was because her résumé was so well done."

Staff Writer **Brian Schroeder** can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.



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Spring 2008 Workshops

Tuesdays 12:30pm-12:55pm

Main Building Room 1F6

*Optimal Resume Creation	February	12
*Optimal Cover Letter Creation	February	19
*Optimal Interviewing	March	11
*How to Dress for Job Interviews	April	01
*Hot Occupations-Top Salaries	April	22
*Internships-Greater Grads, Tinker & Disney	April	29

Bring your lunch!

For additional information contact:

OCCC Career & Employment Services

Main Building - 1st Floor

Advising & Career Services

employmentservices@occc.edu or 405-682-7519

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你要看汉字吗? Want to read Chinese?

**ENROLL IN INTRO TO CHINESE
THIS SPRING!**

Highlights

Dates to tour other colleges

Students are invited to take a tour of colleges they might want to transfer to. Upcoming transfer tour dates: University of Oklahoma College of Journalism, Tuesday, Feb. 5; OU, Wednesday, Feb. 6; Oklahoma City University, Tuesday, Feb. 12; University of Central Oklahoma, Friday, Feb. 15; Southern Nazarene University, Monday, Feb. 18. There is limited space available for each tour. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Leslie Jones at 405-682-7567, or e-mail at ljones@occc.edu.

Help support Pathways Students

Pathways Middle College High School students will sell Blue and Gold sausage, bacon and chicken to support yearbook publication and senior class events. Blue and Gold products can be purchased in Room 3L6 in the Main Building beginning Feb. 7.

Free speed learning sessions offered to OCCC students

The Corporate Learning Department at OCCC will offer a four-hour speed learning course free to OCCC students. The course will be from noon until 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, and Wednesday, Feb. 13; or from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, March 1. All sessions will be taught in Room 407A of the Keith Leftwich Memorial Library. For more information, contact Francine Gissy at 405-682-1611, ext. 7856.

Make a difference in the life of a child

There are more than 12,000 children in the custody of the Department of Human Services who need loving and safe homes. If you can help by providing temporary care to a child in great need, contact Rita Williams, foster care recruiter, at 405-767-2657, or e-mail at Rita.Williams@okdhs.org

Free income tax assistance

Drop by and receive free income tax preparation assistance between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Feb. 4 through April 14 at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance booth across from Student Life. Bring your W-2s, 1099 tax forms, Social Security cards for all members of the household, a photo ID card, a copy of last year's return and any information concerning other income as well as information for deductions or credits.

Future Teachers Organization meetings

The Future Teacher Organization will hold meetings from 5 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 5, in the OCCC Coffee Shop and from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in the College Union Clubs and Organizations Room. The meetings will focus on welcoming new members and organizing activities for the spring semester. For more information, please e-mail faculty sponsor Dave Palkovich at dpalkovich@occc.edu.

Health Professions Club announces officer elections

The Health Professions Club will hold a general meeting from noon to 12:50 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 6, in Main Building room 1C4. Students will have the opportunity to join the club, pay dues, elect new officers and discuss spring semester activities. Free pizza will be provided. For more information, please contact Steve Kamm at 405-682-1611, ext. 7268.

Student newspaper seeks workstudy student employee

The Pioneer student newspaper has an opening for a qualified workstudy student employee to serve as circulation manager. The job entails picking up the newspaper from the Edmond printer on Friday, so a valid driver's license is required. The circulation manager places the newspaper on the stands and keeps the stands filled during the week. The job also requires some office and typing skills, and record keeping. Applicants must be certified for workstudy employment by the Student Financial Aid office. For more information, or to apply for the position, please contact Pioneer Lab Director Ronna Austin at 405-682-1611, ext. 7307.

All Highlights are due Tuesday by 5 p.m. for inclusion in the next issue.

Club smorgasbord



Photo by Amber McBride

Student Tina Naff helps herself to some free food provided by Baptist Collegiate Ministries on Monday, Jan. 28. BCM meets at noon every Monday and Thursday in room 3N0.

Lend a helping hand

By Scott Glidewell
Staff Writer

The Office of Student Life will host a Volunteer Fair from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12, in the College Union.

Community Engagement coordinator Jon Horinek said the fair is an opportunity for community service agencies to explain what their organizations do and to recruit new volunteers.

"The fair is designed to highlight opportunities for volunteer service where OCCC students are needed," Horinek said.

Horinek said he expects a turnout of between 12 and 15 different agencies this year.

The Regional Food Bank, American Red Cross and Habitat for Humanity, among others, will be present at this year's fair.

Horinek said volunteering is a great way for students to learn life skills and to challenge assumptions about the world around them.

"Participation in community service is the best way

"Volunteering is one of the few things people can do where they can make an immediate, tangible impact on people's lives."

—Jon Horinek
Community Engagement Coordinator

to become a well-rounded student and citizen," Horinek said. "Volunteering is one of the few things people can do where they can make an immediate, tangible impact on people's lives."

Horinek said students who volunteer report having a greater understanding of themselves and their community.

"Plus, it is often a lot of fun," he said.

Another way that volunteering can help students is with their résumés and college applications, Horinek said. Many applications now provide areas where applicants can fill in volunteer work. Horinek said many scholarships and employers are even beginning to require some volunteer work.

According to figures from the Office of Student Life,

OCCC has more than 2,000 students offering more than 10,000 hours of volunteer service each academic year.

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

Brown Bag Lunch Schedule

Test Taking Skills

12:30 p.m. - Tues. Feb. 5 - CU2
noon - Wed. Feb. 6 - CU3

Relationships

12:30 p.m. - Thurs. Feb. 14 - CU2

Mine Online

12:30 p.m. - Tues. Feb. 19 - CU2

Enrollment

noon - Wed. Feb. 27 - CU1
12:30 p.m. - Thurs. Feb. 28 - Oklahoma Room

Drop by and register to win a \$500 gift card from Wal-Mart.

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.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: '05 50cc Yamaha Zuma. Blue, less than 100 miles, garage kept, recently tagged. Great for quick trips to the store, or running errands around town. Approx. 60-65 miles per gallon. I am wanting a smaller scooter, but need to sell this one first. Asking \$1,500. Call Tammy Davis 405-524-9429 or 405-210-7438.

FOR SALE: '01 Toyota Camry LE, 4 cyl, maroon, 103k miles, 4 door, AC, power locks/windows, Automatic, AM/FM/CD, great tires, exc. condition \$7400. **ALSO** 1995 Green Toyota Camry, 4 cyl, Automatic, AC, power locks/windows, AM/FM, cruise control, great tires, in great condition \$3700. Call 405-255-5144.

FOR SALE: '93 GMC extended cab pickup. PW, PDL, AM/FM CD player, chrome mags, nerf bar. 198,000 miles. New transmission w/ 8000 miles, New crate motor 2003 w/ 60,000 miles. All documentation. \$4,875. Call Terri at 405-413-1058. Leave message.

CHILD CARE

Dependable Babysitter needed for 3 small children Tues 9am-11am while I am in class. Also occasional evenings. Good Pay Moore area Call: Melody at 405-922-7035

NANNY NEEDED: Trustworthy, dependable nanny service or live-in nanny to care for and love my 2-year-old son. Credentials, references and background check a must. Call Chris: 405-473-1267.

**Fax your ad to
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or e-mail
adman@occc.edu
attn: Cynthia**

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ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: 61-keyboard Casio. Like new, 137 tones, 100 rhythms, and more w/stand. \$95 Call Ray at 405-485-3382.

FOR SALE: Cannon scanner in good condition. Includes CD and cables. \$20. Lexmark printer in good condition. Includes CD and cables. \$20. Call Sherry @ 405-600-8605.

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Ask for Jane 405-525-3412.

Parish Secretary needed at **Trinity Lutheran Church, 57th and S. May, OKC.** 12 hours per week, commitment to Christ, computer, organized. Call 405-685-3432. Leave your name a call-back number.

HELPWANTED: Part-time shift mgrs., grill cooks and counter help needed for upscale food restaurant in Mustang. Friendly atmosphere. Both day and night shifts needed. Experience desirable. Please apply at: **Lino's Gelato and Grill**, 327 W. Hwy. 152, Mustang Victory Plaza, next to Carnival Pizza. Or, contact Rob at 405-326-8424.

FURNITURE

FOR SALE: Bunk bed w/4 drawers, bookshelf and desk. 3 years old. \$250. Lower bed frame needs minor repair but is usable. Call Sherry @ 405-600-8605.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Three-year-old Ludwig Doetsch violin with soft-side case. In excellent condition. A real buy at \$1,500. 405-306-3290 or 405-306-1396.

ATTN. SCRAPBOOKERS: Sizzux Die Cut Machine, Sizzlets Converter, "Girls are Weird" alphabet set, 16 Misc. Sizzlets in case, 3 misc. Sizzux dies. Over \$300 worth of equip. All for \$150. Call Barbara at 405-226-4004.

FOR SALE: Lady Trek Cruiser Bicycle. Red, Heavy duty, new in box. \$150. Call 405-677-3714.

FOR SALE: One used Lifestyle 300 multi-action rowing machine. Smooth rowing action. Call 405-326-8134.

Dark Room Equipment For Sale: Dry table, darkroom lights, cameras, Nikor lenses, large print projector, pans, darkroom timer, tarminating press. \$300 OBO. Call Patrick at 405-496-6529.

2 ROOM MATES WANTED: To share clean, 3 bedroom home with female student. Non smokers. 3min from OCCC. Quiet area. Washer/dryer. Garage available. \$250 monthly plus share bills. Call Ethel 405-361-0251.

FREE GIFTS AND DISCOUNTS on merchandise for hosting a Pampered Chef party. Student working p/t to bring you America's favorite kitchen items. Call for details on becoming a hostess or making some extra money selling part time. Call Jody 757-295-1517.

TEXTBOOKS

TEXTBOOK FOR SALE: I have an introductory & intermediate Algebra book, 3rd edition, for sale. Great condition! 405-206-4125.

TEXTBOOKS FOR SALE: Intro to Sociology \$45 and Living with Democracy \$45. Please call Terri @ 405-413-1058.

FOR SALE: Fundamental Accounting Principles, 18th edition, set of 2 books. \$75. Call 405-387-3629.

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**Classified Ads up to
7 lines are free to
OCCC students and
employees unless
business related.**

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Breathe hard
5 Cut of meat
9 Open a bit
13 Actress Burstyn
15 Locale
16 Java's neighbor
17 Wise saying
18 Suburban sight
19 Business attire
20 Actor Lowe
21 Important period of life
24 Fiber source
25 Poker stake
26 Like hot stuff
29 Handy
32 Corporate symbols
33 Mongolia's location
34 Luau decoration
37 Rock-band instruments
41 Minuscule
42 "Famous" cookiemaker
43 — down: move like an eagle
44 Part of a wave
46 — eyed: lifeless
47 Admirer
49 Glamorous wraps
50 "Shine On, —": old musical
54 Miniature, as a

dog

57 — Domini
58 Had debts
59 "A Doll's House," for one
61 Roman road
62 Citrus fruit
63 Fire alarm
64 Coating on iron
65 Psyche parts
66 Brother

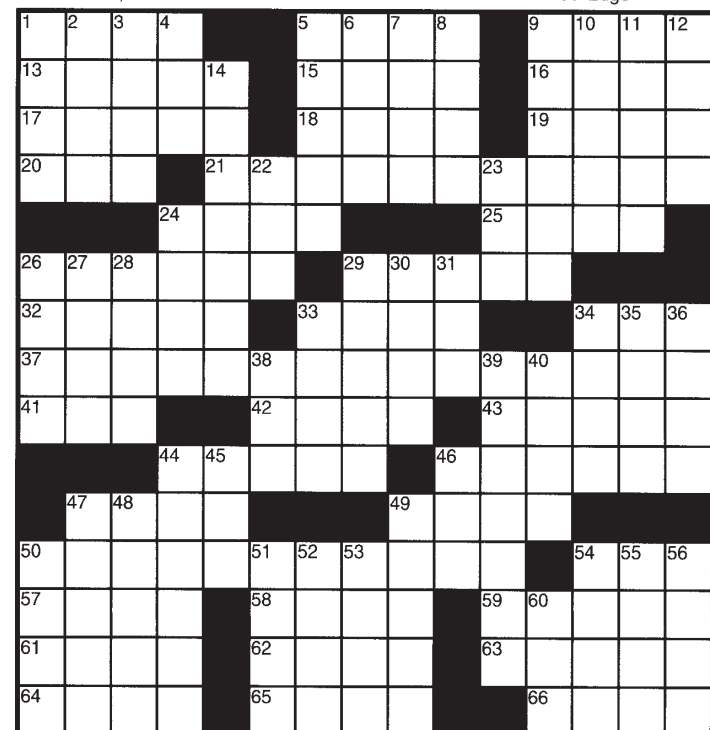
DOWN

1 Paraphernalia
2 Actor Ray
3 Thick slice
4 Wooden pin
5 Synthetic fabric
6 Russia's — Mountains
7 Pierre's mother
8 Cushions
9 Not there
10 Trip
11 "Looking Glass" girl
12 Ceremony
14 — and dearest
22 Newscaster
Rather
23 Lid
24 Coalition
26 Large number
27 Decorated tinware
28 Type of molding
29 Wide tie
30 Excavates

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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Enrollment numbers down slightly while student diversity increases

"Enrollment,"
Cont. from page 1

997 to 994. Native American students increased 8.1 percent, from 614 to 664.

Hispanic students increased 4.3 percent, from 828 to 864.

"Usually, the college's Hispanic population is the largest growing," Harvey

said.

"We saw a small growth this semester, but not as large as in the past.

"This can probably be attributed to House Bill 1804, among other things."

HB1804 is an immigration reform bill that went into effect Nov. 1 of last year.

He said at last check, the

college had approximately 150 to 200 undocumented students.

Although there was change among the minority numbers, gender numbers remained relatively consistent.

Female enrollment numbers rose 0.3 percent, while male numbers declined 3.2 percent.

Fifty seven percent of OCCC's enrollment is female.

Online enrollment also increased 15 percent, Harvey said.

He said the federal government estimates online courses will grow 10 times faster than all other college courses.

"[Online enrollment] con-

tinues to grow," he said. "More and more students are discovering that they can take college classes while balancing all the other areas of their life with ease through our online courses.

"It's an extremely important part of this college."

Editor Chris Lusk can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

Volunteer tax preparers to offer free assistance for those with low incomes

"VITA,"
Cont. from page 1

volunteer that has been here for the last 15 years

Because of their experience and training, Wigley believes the tax preparation VITA provides is just as good as any pay service out there.

"Every volunteer has to go through IRS training," he said. "We all have to be certified by the IRS before we can do anyone's tax return for them."

Wigley said it is important that anyone interested in using VITA to prepare their taxes this year should be sure to bring their W-2s, 1099 tax forms, Social Security cards for all members of household on the

return, a photo ID card and a copy of last year's tax return.

Student Life Assistant Marcy Roll said the VITA program has been available to students and local community members for more than 15 years.

She said the earlier in the day students come, the better.

"Because it's a volunteer service, there won't always

be five people to provide assistance," she said.

"Sometimes there may only be two or three volunteers at the booths."

Wigley said February is a very busy month for the VITA volunteers so long lines can be expected.

"Usually, people are antsy to get their refund because they have waited for it all year, he said. If they can wait until March the

lines are usually a little shorter."

Student Life Director Darin Behara said VITA is a great service for the people in the local community and for OCCC students.

Behara said he wants to caution students who might consider using a service that charges money for tax preparation or one that offers an instant refund.

"It's great to get a refund right away, but it is a service that you have to pay for," Behara said,

"If there is any way that a student could wait a few weeks for their refund I would advise them to do so, instead of giving up a percentage to receive the money immediately."

Staff Writer Scott Glide-well can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

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