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## Students voice likes, dislikes about college

By Chris Lusk  
Editor

An informal poll across campus showed students know what they like and dislike about OCCC, and are not afraid to talk about it.

Quality education is what students like best, and inadequate parking what they like least about the college, according to a small sampling of about two dozen students.

Other likes included: the Aquatic Center, low tuition cost, small class size, the coffee shop, friendly environment and great facilities.

Dislikes include the small commons areas, lack of campus-sponsored activities, long lines, cafeteria prices and confusing classroom locations.

Many students also approved of the growing diversity in the student body.

"[I like OCCC because] it's a diverse school," said freshman Ana Perez. "We have lots of dif-

See "OCCC," page 9

## Hangin'



Students Johnny Anderson, Dustin Powell and Kelley Killinger enjoy the mild weather last week in the courtyard, located near the Bursar's office. Temperatures dropped near freezing the next day.

# Lawmakers propose tax break

### Students could realize yearly savings from House Bill 2493

By Scott Glidewell  
Staff Writer

A tax break may be in the future of Oklahoma's college students.

The Oklahoma House of Representatives will consider a bill this spring proposing the elimination of all state and city sales tax on college textbook purchases.

According to a press release from the Oklahoma House of Representatives website, State Rep. Wes Hilliard, D-Sulphur, said, "With tuition increasing every year, burdening college students with more debt, lawmakers need to offset some of the other costs of higher education."

**"If [state legislators] are really serious about saving students money then they should do something, and knocking off almost 9 percent from the cost of textbooks would be a great start."**

—Brenda Reinke  
Bookstore Director

Hilliard recently filed House Bill 2493 in hopes of reducing some these costs for college students in Oklahoma.

"With the rising cost of college education, every dollar saved is treasured — and needed," Hilliard said.

According to the College Board, students spent an average of \$853 on textbooks and supplies in the

2005 academic year at public four-year institutions, an increase of almost \$200 over the previous five years.

A study by the California Student Public Interest Research Group found textbook prices are increasing at more than four times the inflation rate for all finished goods and that wholesale prices charged by textbook publishers have jumped by

62 percent since 1994.

OCCC Bookstore Director Brenda Reinke said she thinks eliminating the sales tax on textbook purchases is a great idea.

"If [state legislators] are really serious about saving students money then they should do something, and knocking off almost 9 percent from the cost of textbooks would be a great start," Reinke said.

Shelby Hall, 22, OCCC special education major, thinks the bill is a great idea.

"For a lot of people, every little bit helps," Hall said. "Anything that would save on books would be great."

Marc Creaser, 20, OCCC

business freshman, agrees.

"Every little bit helps, but it seems miniscule to what [the government] could do," Creaser said.

Reinke said the average full-time student at OCCC spends about \$500 a semester on books.

With a cumulative sales tax of about 8.375 percent, the average savings for an OCCC student would be about \$41.88 a semester.

While the actual savings per student may not seem like much, in the eyes of some legislators the tax break could begin to add up quickly.

State Rep. Mike Jackson,

See "Textbooks," page 9

## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Pigskin over politics?

The American public, in 2008, was more interested in its favorite pastime rather than the starting stages of picking the next individual to run our country.

About 97.5 million viewers tuned in to watch the New York Giants mark the only blemish to the New England Patriots' path to perfection, by defeating them 17-14 in Super Bowl XLII.

Another impressive statistic is that this year's Super Bowl was the most watched Super Bowl of all-time, beating out the previous record of 94.08 million set by the Pittsburgh defeat at the hands of Dallas in 1996, according to the Associated Press online.

A mere 2.8 million tuned into CNN on June 3 for the first presidential debate of 2008.

Though the debate became the second most watched debate on a cable channel, those numbers aren't anywhere close to the ballpark for the Super Bowl's numbers.

This raises the question: does America care more about football than the growth of its nation?

Statistically speaking, it's an evident landslide.

Granted, there are over 303 million people in the United States.

But, this also means that almost one-third of the U.S. population tuned in to view the Super Bowl, while less than one percent tuned in for the debate.

Honestly, the worst part of it all is the Super Bowl happens every year.

Picking our president only happens every four years.

Wouldn't you think something that didn't occur as often, and that fills the most vital position in our country, would take top honors over a football game?

As you can tell, the statistics speak otherwise.

Maybe it's because the population of America is unaware of how to find such information on the Democratic and Republican candidates.

YouTube.com, CNN.com, MSNBC.com, Google.com, etc. have loads of information to get clued in, even for that person not really into politics.

Or could it be that most of America doesn't really care? It's a possibility.

On the other hand, Americans really seem to get into the presidential run when it comes time to vote. Then they flood the polls in hopes that their favorite will win.

We will just have to wait and see how many will participate in the voting.

Until then, the numbers, so far, prove the Super Bowl is the front-runner in this competition.

—Stephen Sossman  
Staff Writer

## Switchboard should be operated at all times

### To the Editor:

Am I the only person who notices that there isn't always an operator on duty at the switchboard?

Doesn't anyone else think this is a problem?

There have been many times I have called the college needing to talk to someone, yet no one is there at the switchboard to help direct my phone call.

I can only speak for myself, but shouldn't someone be at the

switchboard at all times?

Is that too much to ask?

I understand that a single person cannot feasibly operate the board every second during each day, but what could be done about getting a second operator or someone else trained?

If the switchboard operator is ill or has to leave for a few minutes, then another person should be available to take up the slack.

If I run into this problem all the time, then

other students, faculty and college employees must be also.

The switchboard should be attended at all times.

—Name withheld by request

## PIONEER

Vol. 36 No. 21

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Scott Glidewell.....Staff Writer  
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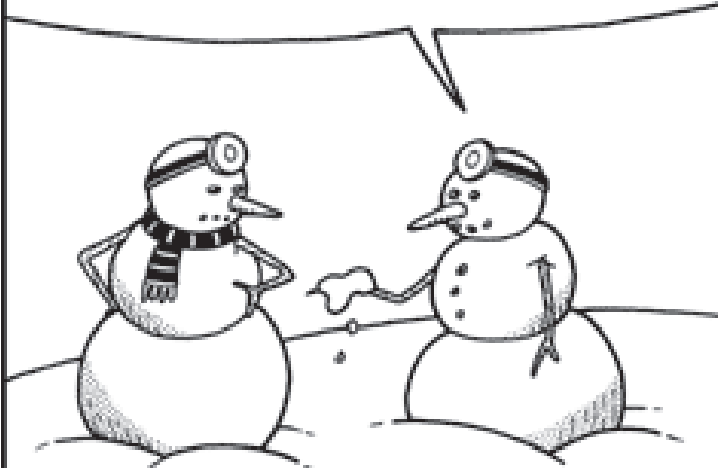
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## Comments and Reviews

# He said, she said, 'Over Her Dead Body' lukewarm

## He said:

"Over Her Dead Body" isn't the funniest movie ever, but it provides a few laughs before turning into your typical chick flick.

In the beginning, Kate (Eva Longoria Parker) is crushed to death by a statue on her wedding day.

It is almost a relief to see her crushed because of her constant nagging the first five minutes of the movie.

She gives the impression that maybe her wedding was planned on the wrong day of the month, one of those type of women.

A year later Kate comes back to haunt Ashley (Lake Bell), a psychic helping Henry (Paul Rudd) try to connect with his dead fiancée. In the meantime, Ashley and Henry start to fall for each other and Kate does everything in her power to stop it.

When Kate comes back, she is the same lady from the beginning of the movie, nagging and constantly playing her greedy game in hopes of splitting the two.

Many of the tricks Kate plays are funny and guaranteed to keep the viewers entertained.

The rest of the movie portrays the battle for Henry, but Kate is only in half the scenes and for just seconds at a time. When Parker is in a movie, she should be the star.

Add to that a predictable and corny ending that would make any guy cry tears of embarrassment for just being at the movie.

Limited screen time for Parker, few funny parts, and a predictable ending make this movie a slight disappointment.

However, I recommend giving it a chance when taking a girl out, because it is tolerable until the end. It's definitely not a movie you would want to see by yourself or with other guys.



## Rating: C

—Matt Bishop  
Staff Writer

## She said:

An unsurprising plot is not necessarily a bad thing if you want a pleasant bit of entertainment and a few laughs. "Over Her Dead Body" delivers just that.

When a tyrannical bride gets killed while running roughshod over the wedding caterers, her fiancée consults a would-be psychic to help him move on.

His sister Chloe (Lindsay Sloane) keeps saying Henry (Paul Rudd) needs to move on because he is "devastated" by the loss of his bride-to-be, but I never got that impression from his actions. Actually, Rudd acts as if he doesn't really care one way or another and does not put much emotion into the part. He seems to be relieved that Kate (Eva Longoria Parker) is gone.

I can sympathize as most of the audience sighed with relief when she was silenced for a few minutes.

Parker is as annoying in this role as her character is supposed to be. Her lack of acting ability, in addition to the aggravating nature of Kate's personality, makes the viewer glad she has limited screen time.

The combination of her character and her acting elicited the urge to slap her quiet.

Kate cannot even keep her mouth shut long enough to receive instruction from the angel assigned to her, so the angel (Kali Rocha) leaves. Kate decides on her own that her mission is to protect Henry by keeping him from falling in love with Ashley. Too late. So, instead, she tries to break them up by haunting Ashley.

Except for the fact I don't believe a nice, funny guy like Henry could possibly miss a nagging shrew like Kate and take as long as he did to fall for the sweet psychic, Ashley (Lake Bell), the plot is predictable.

Dan (Jason Biggs), the gay partner in Ashley's catering firm, is the type of character that makes you wonder why he is in the movie at all. Biggs is a better comedic actor than this script gives him credit for.

There are a few laughs, and some tender moments. There are also times when two young theater-goers felt it was more entertaining to play a game on their cell phone.

If you are expecting another "Ghost" you will be disappointed.

If you are content with "How I Met My Boyfriend's Dead Fiancée" you will have a pleasant hour-and-a-half.

## Rating: C

—Cynthia Praefke  
Staff Writer

## Counselor's Corner

**"You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do."** —Henry Ford (1863-1947)

Just a few weeks into the spring semester, some of you are already having some difficulty with classes or other aspects of college life. While not all problematic situations are avoidable, there are things you can do to help bypass certain woes.

Make sure your contact information, both address and phone number, are current. Various departments on campus regularly mail letters and make phone calls in order to provide you with information regarding your classes, bursar account, financial aid and so forth. Invariably, some students every semester are unhappy because information they needed didn't get to them. Writing the information on an enrollment form doesn't guarantee the new information will replace the old. Either make the changes on MineOnline or submit the changes at the Records counter.

I cannot stress enough to you how important it is to talk to your professors. These are the people with expertise in their disciplines, and they should be your first resource if you do not understand something in class. It is especially important to speak with them as soon after a poor test performance as possible. Sometimes, the difference between a passing test grade and a poorer performance is understanding what to study and how to study it.

This College has an abundance of resources to help you be successful. Your tuition and fees have covered the cost of these resources, so there are no additional out-of-pocket expenses. The learning labs all employ tutors, several courses or sections of courses utilize Supplemental Instruction leaders, the College pays for a certain number of hours of Smarthinking tutoring for each student each semester, various success workshops are offered by different departments, and the learning specialist works with students who have specific questions about how to study or take tests more efficiently.

Go to class and be receptive to learning. If you don't go to class, you miss out on opportunities to ask questions, and get feedback from peers and the professor. Holding negative thoughts about a professor, about the information in the class, or about your ability to be successful in the class, can interfere with success. As much as possible, believe in yourself and be open to learning information.

If you have difficulty staying focused, try setting shorter goals for yourself. Give yourself deadlines that are shorter than the ones your professors give so that you have a little cushion. Also, try setting specific goals for your study time so you can begin to see what you're accomplishing as you study. This can help you learn the information and can boost your confidence, too.

Greater success doesn't always require extreme changes in behavior. Tweaking what you are doing can yield great rewards.

—Mary Turner  
Learning Support Specialist

# Learn secrets of love language

**By Colin Mendenhall**  
News Writing Student

OCCC Counselor Maurisa Mahan will host a seminar on love relationships as part of the Brown Bag Lunch Series at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 14, in room CU2 in the student union.

Mahan said the seminar will consist primarily of discussions about the book, "The Five Love Languages," written by Gary Chapman, a Christian marriage counselor and radio talk show host.

"The book is about how different people give and receive love in different ways, such as gift giving or hugging," Mahan said.

Mahan said she, during the luncheon, she will show that, while some actions can be interpreted as actions of love by some, others might see those actions differently, depending on the person's personality type.

Gary Chapman has written more than 20 books since 1979. "The Five Love Languages" has sold more than four million copies in English, and has been translated into 36 languages.

Chapman also has made numerous appearances on television programs and his daily radio program, "A Love Language Minute," can be heard on radio stations across the country.

# Speed learning classes to be offered at OCCC

**By Lee Johnston**  
News Writing Student

OCCC's Corporate Learning Department will offer a Speed Learning class free for all students from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 1.

Francine Gissy, Corporate Learning consultant, said the class is designed to teach students to improve their study skills, retain information better and build good habits for success.

So far, more than 100 students have completed the four-hour course in past years, she said.

The three sessions will be held in the Library in rooms 407 A and B.

Walk-ins are welcome.

Corporate Learning was awarded a grant through Academic Affairs to promote student retention and

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development, allowing the Speed Learning class to be free of charge, Gissy said.

"Students who have been out of school for some time, who have many obligations in their lives, or feel overwhelmed by classes are especially encouraged to come," she said.

Peter Vail, Adult Training and Consulting specialist, will conduct classes.

For more information, contact Gissy at 405-682-7856 or fgissy@occc.edu.



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First Floor, Main Building  
405-682-7519**

**[Employmentservices@occc.edu](mailto:Employmentservices@occc.edu)**



# Learn how to dress for job interviews

By **Brian Stansberry**  
Staff Writer

If you had an important job interview, would you know what to wear?

The Student Employment Program is hosting a luncheon titled "Dress for Career Success" from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, in College Union 3.

The free luncheon focuses on dressing professionally for interviews, said Judi McGee, Employment Services coordinator.

McGee said Employment

Services is trying to teach students about the various facets of professionalism:

- tasteful clothing
- well-fitting clothing
- classic clothing
- polished shoes
- comfortable shoes
- conservative accessories
- immaculate personal grooming

"One complaint employers have had was people didn't look like they were looking for a job," McGee said.

Employers tend to judge

a person's seriousness based on how they're dressed, she said.

Lunch will be barbeque, and students are asked to RSVP by calling 405-682-1611, ext. 7369.

This is the second time this workshop has been held. About 40 people are expected to attend.

A fashion show will be held at the end of the luncheon to exhibit professional dress, McGee said.

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

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## Bring your lunch!

For additional information contact:

**OCCC Career & Employment Services**  
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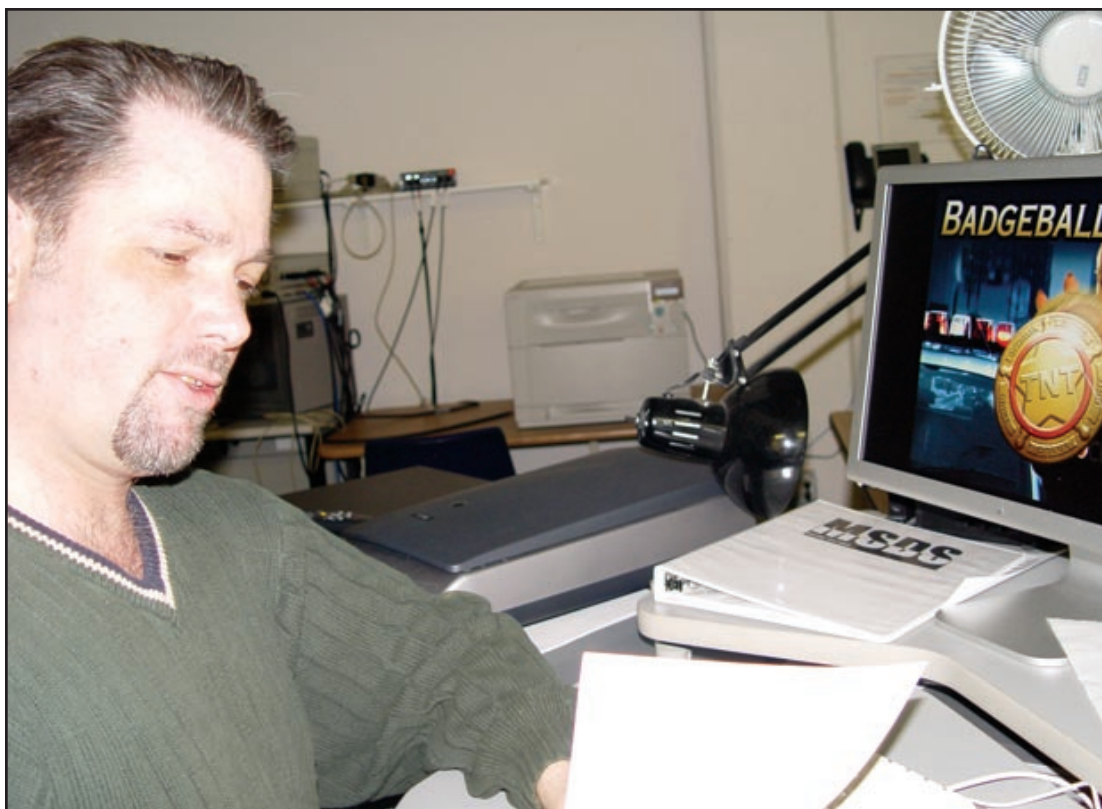


Photo by Amber McBride

Sean Gleeson, Graphic Communication professor, created "Badgeball" for the TNT show "Saving Grace."

## Professor designs video game for hit TV show

By Amanda McCutchen  
Staff Writer

Graphic communication professor Sean Gleeson is in the process of designing an online game called "Badgeball" for the show "Saving Grace" on the television channel TNT. The game will soon be launched on the TNT website.

"The game was created to reward people who come to the website with something fun to do, and also it promotes the show," Gleeson said.

Gleeson got the idea for Badgeball from another casual game called Happy Pill. A casual game is a simple game played online to kill time.

In the game Happy Pill players shoot a pill at sad faces to make them happy and obtain points; in Badgeball you shoot a badge at criminals and arrest them to obtain points.

Gleeson said TNT contacted him a month ago about the idea of a game for the show. At first they do a lot of talking, then they work out contracts and that takes some time.

Gleeson has been working on the game for three weeks now and still has more work to do.

"Every game conforms to the highest standards of artwork, animation, music and sound effects," Gleeson said.

He said the game will have lots of sound effects like clanks, thunks, water effects, street noises, and yelps from the criminals.

After the game is complete, Gleeson said,



the game then has to be approved by TNT.

"Everyone involved must say yes."

Gleeson worked at ad agencies for years. Over time he learned about animation and programming, then he began creating websites.

Gleeson created his first online game in 2004: "Wichita Faro." He put the game on his personal website, Gleeson.us.

"The game garnered attention from museums and universities all over," said Gleeson.

Gleeson also has created educational games and training games for corporations, a jigsaw puzzle for the Oklahoma City Ford Center and A Very Funny Texas Hold'em Poker game for the television channel TBS.

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

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**Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?**



# Valentine's Day is coming

## Don't feel pressured

By **Matt Bishop**  
Staff Writer

As Valentine's Day approaches, many a single or taken person can feel the pressures of this commercialized holiday.

Many people feel the need to be with someone special, or give the most amazing gift for their loved one — but that is not what the day should be about.

Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner said, "There's not any reason to feel compelled to pay attention to Valentine's Day."

However, many people feel there is an obligation to make the day one to remember.

"The pressure comes from the marketers because they want people to feel a certain way so they can sell us stuff," Turner said.

"You don't have to go out and buy diamonds.

"The important things in life aren't going to cost a lot of money."

Turner encourages people who are single this Valentine's Day to do something with friends.

"Get with friends and do something fun," she said.

"Friends can go out to lunch or see a movie, and even exchange gifts."

For people who are single, there is no need to feel down about the holiday, Turner said.

"Some individuals feel there is something wrong with them because they haven't found the right person yet," she said.

"They just haven't found the right person yet."

She said if any students feel left out by the holiday, counseling help is right around the corner.

Turner said students could talk to Kari Workman, Student Support Services counselor, if they are feeling blue around this time of year.

Turner also said men and women may also take Valentine's Day with different perspectives.

"I think that men and women may look at it differently due to the hype built up," she said.

"If you are really with the right person, you will have a stronger connection and not feel the pressure."

Staff Writer **Matt Bishop** can be reached at [SeniorWriter@occc.edu](mailto:SeniorWriter@occc.edu).

## What students say...

**"I kind of feel pressured because my girlfriend may kill me if I don't do something."**

—Spencer Sakurai, taken  
Film and Video

**"I don't feel like I need presents or diamonds. It's a day to celebrate our love."**

—Lacey Schat, taken  
Science

**"I guess you could say I feel pressured to [do things on Valentine's Day]."**

—Craig Tsotigh, taken  
Engineering

## Be sweet without emptying your bank account

- A bouquet of flowers is one of the most traditional gifts to give on Valentine's Day. But at the prices some vendors want, you're better off making one yourself. So, buy a vase, usually about \$5, and then buy single flowers to put in the vase. A beautiful bouquet can easily be had for around \$20, if not less.

- The traditional homemade card is never a bad idea. It's personal and has a bit of you in it, and men and women alike eat them up. Supplies can be found around the house, or for relatively cheap prices at local art supply shops. Just put a little heart and creativity into it, and you're set.

- While not the traditional dinner — I know, I know, it can be expensive, especially with dessert involved — why not make it yourself? Take a unique and romantic recipe and cook it up. Toss in some low lighting, cheap candles (unscented, as it takes away from the food's aroma) and a dessert, and you're good to go.

- Be sweet while giving something sweet. Buy a cake and pour your heart out onto it with colorful icing and a romantic message. Cakes from local bakeries aren't too expensive, and the time and effort put into the decoration will be acknowledged.

- The mix CD will never die. So, how about making one of those? Blank CDs can be found for about \$1 and can last a long time. Take the time to choose his or her favorite tunes, drop them onto the CD and present it with a bow. Or, if your loved one uses an mp3 player like an iPod, make a custom playlist and surprise them with it the next time they put the earbuds in.

- Create a gift basket with all of his or her favorite things in it. Maybe some candy, some cards, and so on. There's no such thing as a basket being too full, so just fill it with things that signify how well you know him or her.

- Have a DVD fest. Let him or her go crazy at the local rental store, where they can pick their favorite romantic movies to share with you.

- It's been a chilly February, so stock up on various teas and coffee blends. Have an evening sampling the goods, all while keeping warm.

—Staff contributions

# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

•**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. 15:** Intramural Basketball Schedule. On Court 2, Go Home Now vs. Ice Cream at 2 p.m. and Mixed Powers vs. White Outs at 3 p.m. On Court 3, Semi Pros vs. Spartans at 2 p.m. and Zilla vs. Geek Squad at 3 p.m.

•**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.

•**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.

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



Photo by Chris Lusk

A high school swimmer races to the finish in the Mid-State/Metro Conference Swim Meet on Feb. 1 and 2. OCCC hosted the competition for 13 high schools from the Oklahoma City metro area competed in team and individual events. Edmond North High School placed first in both the boys and girls team standings. In the girls division, Edmond Memorial and Putnam City North finished second and third, respectively. In the boys division, Norman North took second and Edmond Memorial taking third. OCCC also will host the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association Swimming and Diving Championships Feb. 15 and 16. For more information about Aquatic Center events, contact Roxanna Butler, Aquatics and Safety Training coordinator at 405-682-1611, ext. 7425.

## Olympic hopeful breaks three records at conference swim meet

By Matt Bishop  
Staff Writer

Edmond Memorial senior swimmer, and 2008 Olympic hopeful, Samantha Woodward drowned the competition en route to four first-place finishes on Feb. 1 and 2.

OCCC hosted the 2008 Mid-State/Metro Swimming Conference Championship, which included 13 high schools from the metro area.

Woodward broke two individual records during the meet and helped break one team record.

She shattered the record in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:49.94.

The previous record was 1:57.20, more than a seven-second difference.

Woodward also claimed the record for the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 50.34, beating the old record of 51.21 by .87 seconds.

The Edmond Memorial girls team

broke the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Kaitlin Kliewer, Jill Enge, Rachel Prince and Woodward put together a time of 1:41.38 to beat the record set by the 2007 Edmond Memorial girls team of 1:42.78.

Woodward's other relay team won the 200-yard medley with a time of 1:54.66.

Woodward said she has been swimming for about 10 years and her dream is to compete in the Olympics.

"It's been in the last couple years that I have realized my dream could come true."

She is less than six months away from the Olympic qualifiers that will be held in June at Omaha, Neb.

Woodward said she will compete in a preliminary round, then semi-final round, and then a final round where the top two finishers will compete in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing.

Woodward competed in the 2007 Summer Pan-Am Games and said

it was motivation to keep her dream alive.

"Competing in the Pan-Am games was a great experience and made me want to keep going for more."

Woodward will continue her run for the Oklahoma State Championship when she comes back to OCCC Feb. 15 and 16.

"I am happy with my performance at this point and I am really excited for state," Woodward said.

Although Woodward contributed to much of her teams success, the Bulldogs of Memorial finished second in the team rankings with 526, just three points shorts of the crosstown rival Huskies of Edmond North, who took first with 529.

Edmond North also took first in the boy's rankings with 567 points, 154 more than the second place Norman North.

StaffWriter Matt Bishop can be reached at SeniorWriter@occc.edu.



# Students hopeful proposed textbook tax break will pass

*"Textbook,"*

*Cont. from page 1*

R-Enid, said he is interested in looking into the bill and its possible effects.

"I would want to know the financial impact on the state's budget, especially in a fiscally-tight year like this one."

Reinke said the OCCC Bookstore's estimated state sales tax for the first half of January was \$63,000

with about 80 percent coming from textbook sales.

The loss of tax revenue would not only affect the state's budget but also could have adverse effects on cities like Norman and Edmond.

Captain Leonard Judy, primary press information officer for Norman, said, given the current high cost of textbooks, the tax loss associated with eliminating sales tax on textbook sales

would be significant.

"In my opinion, there would be a noticeable decrease, but because of the continued growth of Norman as a community, it is unlikely that the effect would be large enough to cause a tax increase in other areas."

Edmond City Council member David Miller said he isn't sure what the exact financial impact on a city like Edmond would be.

However, he said, given the current costs of a college education, "Any help we can give students to make it less expensive seems like a good idea ..."

Even though the bill has raised some financial questions, it seems to be getting support from both parties.

On Jan. 25 Rep. Lance Cargill, R-Harrah, announced he would co-sponsor the bill.

"We have always said we

want to support good ideas, regardless of which party they come from," Cargill said. "We need to do all we can to make college as accessible as possible for all Oklahoma students."

Hilliard said the bipartisan support the bill is garnering is evidence that education is an issue that goes beyond party lines.

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

# Students like professors well enough but want better parking

*"OCCC,"*

*Cont. from page 1*

ferent cultures and age groups. That makes it special."

With the college's quest to continually increase campus diversity, this observation from students came as pleasant news for President Paul Sechrist.

"With an increasingly global society, it is important for us to understand and appreciate the diversity that not only exists here in Oklahoma but also throughout our world," Sechrist said.

"Creating an atmosphere on campus that welcomes all people — students, faculty, staff, guests — has resulted in increases in diversity among our students and also among our employees.

"In the end, I believe the increase in diversity will help more students from all backgrounds succeed as students and succeed as global citizens."

Most students reported their teachers are what make the college enjoyable.

Theater arts major Elizabeth Shultz said she appreciates the quality of instruction she receives from her professors.

"The teachers," Shultz said, "are very understandable and willing to work with students in order for them to get the best results from the class."

Eden Simon, physical therapy major, echoed

these statements.

"I like it here because the school is small and the teachers are really helpful," Simon said.

When told about student appreciation for them, professors expressed their delight.

Accounting professor Kayla Fessler was thrilled to hear the student comments, but was not overly surprised.

"Based on the people I work with, I think [the student answers] are true," Fessler said.

"I believe we have a very qualified and caring faculty."

Aside from the professors themselves, many students

listed the quality of education they receive as the most enjoyable feature of the college.

"Not only are our professors extremely nice and helpful," sophomore Marcia Cooper said, "but they provide us with a high quality education."

"We have such great facilities and small class sizes, it seems to maximize what students get from their teachers."

But not all students shared these feelings regarding college employees.

Sophomore Samir Elyoubi raised the concern of a shortage of academic advisers, saying there was not a proper number on campus

to work closely with the students.

"I do not think that our advisers spend quality time with the students," Elyoubi said.

"More advisers would help this."

Based on student responses, parking was the most criticized aspect of the college.

A majority of students questioned pointed to the stresses of parking, especially in the morning.

Business major R.J. Williams said parking was his least favorite thing about the college.

"I know that we don't have the problems like the larger schools," Williams

said, "but our parking situation is pretty messy at times. I've lived by the college for five years, and I'm always seeing big building projects and expansion of the college, but I don't ever hear about expansion of our parking lots."

"As our campus grows, shouldn't our available parking grow also?"

When asked to name their dislikes about the college, other students said they liked everything about the college.

One student said poor cell phone reception was the only negative she could think of.

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

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# 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: 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](mailto:ljones@occc.edu).

## Help support our 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 beginning Feb. 7 in room 3L6 in the Main Building.

## 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 held from noon until 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 13, or from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 1. Both 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.

## 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-2's, 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.

## Student newspaper seeks work-study student employee

The Pioneer student newspaper has an opening for a qualified work-study 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. For more information, or to apply for the position, please contact Pioneer lab director Ronna Austin at 405-682-1611, ext. 7307.

## Scholarships available for area students

The Cox Connects Foundation, sponsored by Cox Communications, is offering up to \$60,000 in scholarships to local students who plan to attend college or career tech in Oklahoma. OCCC will be matching two \$2,500 scholarships from the Cox Foundation. Two deserving OCCC students will receive \$5,000 in total scholarship monies. Cox Connects Foundation 2008 scholarship applications are available online at [www.coxconnectsok.com](http://www.coxconnectsok.com) or by contacting Elizabeth King at 918-286-4546. Application deadline is March 3.

## Baptist Collegiate Ministries Noonday Lunch

Free lunch and spiritual encouragement are available at noon on Mondays and 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays in room 3NO. All students are encouraged to attend. The goal of the meeting is to promote fellowship among students. For more information, contact Mike Barnett at 405-323-0583.

## Career and Employment Power workshops

OCCC Career and Employment Services will host a series of workshops this semester designed to help students make the transition from school into the workforce. The next topic is "Optimal Cover Letter Creation" on Feb. 19. All workshops will be held from 12:30 to 12:55 p.m. on Tuesdays in Main Building Room 1F6. For additional information, contact Career and Employment Services at 405-682-7519, or e-mail [employment\\_services@occc.edu](mailto:employment_services@occc.edu).

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

## You can't win if you don't come

Business Management major Glenda Kelsey signs up for the Brown Bag Lunch drawing at the end of the test taking workshop Feb. 5. A \$500 Wal-Mart gift card will be given away at the end of the semester. All students who attend a Brown Bag workshop have the opportunity to sign up.

Upcoming Workshops include:

•Relationships  
12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 14  
CU2

•MineOnline  
12:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Feb. 19  
CU2

•Enrollment  
noon  
Wednesday, Feb. 27  
CU1

Photo by Amber McBride



## Flower power to help fund club trip

### Native American group plans to attend N.M. powwow

By Scott Glidewell  
Staff Writer

Members of OCCC's Native American Student Association will be selling carnations for \$1.50 in the Main Building on Thursday, Feb. 14.

All proceeds raised will be used to help fund a trip to the Gathering of Nations Powwow.

The event will be held Thursday, April 24 through Saturday, April 26 in Albuquerque, N.M.

Native American Student Association Club Sponsor Kristi Fields has been once before and said it is a great opportunity for students to experience Native American culture.

"Being able to experience something like 'the gathering' is amazing ... it's like nothing you've ever seen before and it's like no other experience you'll ever

**"Being able to experience something like 'the gathering' is amazing ... it's like nothing you've ever seen before and it's like no other experience you'll ever have."**

—Kristi Fields  
Native American Student Association  
Club Sponsor

have," Fields said.

She said one of the most memorable parts of last year's event was the Grand Entry. During this part of the gathering all of the Native American dancers and singers, dressed in full regalia, fill up the floor of an arena the size of the Cox Convention Center.

She said the sight of all the different styles of tribal dress is just overwhelming.

"It's just not something that you can be exposed to, here in Oklahoma," Fields said.

According to the Gathering of Nations website, over 3,000 Native American

dancers and singers representing more than 500 tribes from Canada and the United States come to Albuquerque each year to participate socially and competitively.

Native American Student Association meetings are held at noon on Wednesdays in room 2P7 of the Main Building.

For information about the Native American Student Association or the trip to the Gathering of Nations Powwow, contact Fields at 405-682-1611, ext. 7550.

Staff Writer Scott Glidewell can be reached at [StaffWriter1@occc.edu](mailto: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.

## 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, 4cyl, maroon, 103k miles, 4door, AC, power locks/windows, Automatic, AM/FM/CD, great tires, exc. condition \$7400.

**FOR SALE:** 1995 Green Toyota Camry, 4cyl, Auto, 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

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See your ads and classifieds and read the Pioneer Online at [www.occ.edu/pioneer](http://www.occ.edu/pioneer). For details & rates contact Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail [adman@occ.edu](mailto:adman@occ.edu)

## 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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**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.

**TUTOR NEEDED ASAP:** For World Regional Geography (Prof Marlow) and Intro. to Computers (Prof. Reeves) On campus Tue. and Thurs. Pay commensurate with knowledge of subject and tutoring skills. Call John at 405-844-4142.

## FURNITURE

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

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**MALE MED-TECH STUDENT** Seeking roommate to share home or apt near OCCC. Call Martin @ 405-713-5758

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

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

**2 ROOMMATES 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.

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

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**attn: Cynthia**

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Fine horses
- 6 — monster
- 10 Shock
- 14 Insert mark
- 15 Kind of exam
- 16 Toledo's lake
- 17 Frostier
- 18 Overwhelming defeat
- 19 Pekoe and mint
- 20 Loud
- 22 Flower or vegetable
- 23 Zoo favorite
- 24 Christmas or Easter
- 26 "Bam!"
- 29 Floor covering
- 31 Actor Ameche
- 32 — Khan
- 33 Grand —: bridge term
- 34 Hole for a shoelace
- 38 Actress Chase
- 40 Knight's title
- 42 Type of model
- 43 Sewing-kit item
- 46 Singer McEntire
- 49 Corn crib
- 50 Witch
- 51 "Go, kitty!"
- 52 Type of meal
- 53 Not domestic
- 57 Nick and Nora's

### dog

- 59 Squirrel food
- 60 Frog, e.g.
- 65 Entertainer
- Danny —
- 66 Brilliant move
- 67 Minister's home
- 68 Verve
- 69 Henri's girlfriend
- 70 — Park, Colorado
- 71 It's in a shaker
- 72 It's in a cage
- 73 Baby pig

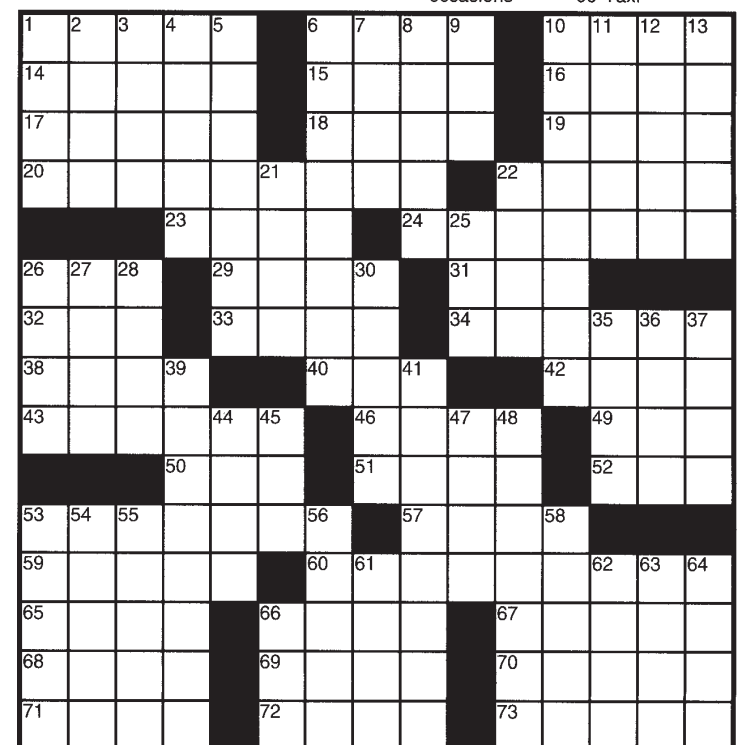
### DOWN

- 1 Sour
- 2 Marathon
- 3 Diva's song
- 4 Complaints
- 5 Avenues
- 6 "— in the Mist"
- 7 Press
- 8 Chuckle
- 9 Elev.
- 10 O'Hare vehicle
- 11 Mountain nymph
- 12 Tropical vine
- 13 Snappish
- 21 Hammer's target
- 22 Ruse
- 25 Poem of praise
- 26 A — in the neck

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

G	A	S	P	R	U	M	P	A	J	A	R
E	L	L	E	N	A	R	E	A	B	A	L
A	D	A	G	E	Y	A	R	D	S	U	I
R	O	B	A	D	O	L	E	S	C	E	N
S	T	O	L	E	N	A	D	E	P	T	
L	O	G	O	S	A	S	I	A	L	E	I
E	L	E	C	T	R	I	C	G	U	I	T
W	E	E	A	M	O	S	S	W	O	O	P
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A	N	N	O								
I	T	E	R								
R	U	S	T								

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