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PIONEER

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Current events



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Brandon Rawson, pre-pharmacy major, reads an issue of the Pioneer during his free time between classes. "I read it every week ... It's pretty good," he said. The Pioneer also publishes an online edition at www.occc.edu/pioneer. There, readers can find archives dating back to 1998 as well as online exclusive stories.

Certain jobs can withstand bad economy

Business, nursing, sales top list

By Matt Montgomery
Editor

In a struggling economy, some jobs are more recession-proof than others.

Sales representative and business development, software design and development, and nursing are the top three most recession-proof jobs for 2008, according to a list released by jobfox.com.

Those results were based on information gathered over an eight-month period dating from November 2007 through July 7 of this year, the site reports.

OCCC offers both business and nursing degrees.

Economic professor Germain Pichop said OCCC's marketing and business communication courses prepare students for success in the business arena upon graduation.

"The Academic Division of Business does offer marketing and business communication courses that can provide sales people with the skills they need to perform their jobs with high levels of success," he said.

Pichop said OCCC's business division has the capacity to respond to the demands of the job market.

Accounting sophomore Njeugoue Camille said he chose to major in accounting because he thinks there is mismanagement going on right now in big businesses.

"I'm from Cameroon, Africa, and just like there, countries across the world need accountants to solve mismanagement problems," he said. "I love the idea of being able to manage a company and make a difference."

Like business, nursing is among the most popular professions out there.

According to jobfox.com, the nursing profession continues to face a shortage due partly to aging baby boomers and ironically, advances in medicine.

Also, according to the report, fewer women are entering the predominantly female profession because of growing career opportunities elsewhere.

Nursing sophomore Emily Stephens said she chose nursing because she loves helping people and making a difference.

"I considered nursing even before there was a shortage of nurses," Stephens said.

"Being a nurse is something that I am passionate about. Despite how much money they make, I chose that major because I enjoy the profession."

OCCC nursing program director Rosemary Klepper said nursing is a unique profession for students to

See "**Recession**," page 9

Finals week upcoming

By Daniel Martin
Staff Writer

Spare yourself the all-nighters, disappointing grades and high-octane stresses that accompany finals week by getting organized early. Many college students tend to let the semester's end creep up on them.

Math professor Charles Nunley said students need to start studying for finals before Thanksgiving break.

"Realistically, you are not going to study during the break and after the break it will most likely be too late."

He said students need to study when they are alert and can focus.

"Rest, find a method that

works for you and work in a distraction-free environment," Nunley said. "Try group study sessions if you haven't."

Another thing that can help students during finals week is visiting OCCC's departmental labs.

The labs offer helpful insight, free tutoring and help with lab exercises.

Nursing junior Krystina Stolberg said she has already started studying for finals so she will be well prepared.

"No joke, I actually had my cable turned off because I can't study with distractions," Stolberg said.

She said the most important thing for her is to take breaks and try not to get overwhelmed.

"Organize your notes and

make flash cards," Stolberg said. "Bring a study buddy or go to the lab if you need help."

"Some students like the library, but I see too many people I know there and I always get distracted."

Stolberg said she has to be in a quiet spot to concentrate well.

"That is why I like studying in here. The study labs put me the right mentality."

Lab times

The Biological Science Center lab is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday through Saturday.

The Center for Engineering and Advanced Tech

See "**Finals**," page 9

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

What happened to the holidays?

Welcome to December. Home of Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and other winter holidays, it's reportedly the most wonderful time of the year.

According to retailers, however, December started before Halloween this year.

That's when stores started putting out Christmas baubles for sale, putting up holiday decorations and playing holiday music over the public address system.

This all seems like a marketing scheme to get customers in earlier every year.

Shoppers looking for a Halloween costume at Target had to face a bombardment of Christmas tchotchkes on the other side of the aisle.

Wal-Mart set a record by offering holiday merchandise for sale on Oct. 1.

Once upon a time, Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, marked the beginning of the holiday shopping season.

No longer.

At the rate things are going, it won't be long before Santa and the Easter Bunny share shelf space.

Retailers defend their decision to begin December in October by pointing out that for budgetary reasons, many people are beginning their Christmas shopping earlier this year.

What harm is it, they argue, if they provide holiday shoppers with a bit of Christmas cheer while they're buying presents for friends and family?

The harm is that the Christmas cheer is hardly genuine, and customers know it.

Holiday mania in the stores is a naked ploy on retailers' part to separate consumers from a few more of their dollars.

The crass over-commercialization of the holiday season, extending it until it covers nearly a quarter of the year, robs Christmas of the meaning it should have.

Stores should pledge to leave Christmas for Christmas and save the holiday decorations until Dec. 1.

Customers are not incapable of completing their holiday shopping without the aid of blaring carols and tinselly decorations. If people want to buy holiday gifts early, they will.

Retailers, instead of celebrating the Spirit of Commerce, how about celebrating the Spirit of Giving instead?

Spend October and November collecting donations for the needy.

That's the true way to make this the most wonderful time of the year.

—Meagan Bradley
Staff Writer

Chancellor appointed to committee

To the editor:

Oklahoma State System of Higher Education Chancellor Glen Johnson was recently appointed to the State Higher Education Executive Officers Federal Relations Committee.

The Federal Relations Committee is responsible for shaping SHEEO's federal priorities and strategies and leading its communications with Congress during the transition period and over the next four years.

"I look forward to working with the rest of the members to ensure our nation's higher education system is first-class, producing qualified graduates who are equipped to compete in a global economy," Johnson said.

SHEEO President Paul Lingenfelter said, "While both the states and federal government are clearly challenged by current economic conditions, our long-term prosperity and national security depend, more than ever, on the knowledge and skills of the

American people.

"A strong, effective partnership between the states and the federal government in higher education is essential to our future.

"I am grateful to each member of SHEEO who has agreed to serve on this committee."

The committee also will pursue the implementation of the recommendations outlined in an open letter SHEEO sent to the presidential candidates this past year.

The letter urged the candidates to commit their campaigns and administrations to reestablishing and sustaining a higher education system second to none in its quality and productivity.

This is in order to meet a growing demand for postsecondary education in the labor market and increasing global competition for higher-wage jobs.

The letter provides specific recommendations for federal policy.

SHEEO, the national as-

sociation of the chief executives of statewide governing boards and coordinating boards for postsecondary education, works to assist its members and the states in developing and sustaining excellent systems of higher education.

—Ben Hardcastle
Oklahoma Regents for
Higher Education

PIONEER

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

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

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



OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

off the mark by Mark Parisi

www.offthemark.com



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Comments and Reviews

OCCC's latest play excellent

Walking in to the OCCC Theater last weekend was like being transported to a cozy middle class home of the 1930s. The set design was a perfect picture of the era.

The Pulitzer Prize winning play "You Can't Take it With You" was presented by the OCCC Theater Nov. 13, 14 and 15.

Originally written in the 1930s by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, the play is a Romeo and Juliet-like love story hidden in a melee of eccentricity.

While several of the character portrayals were victims of over-acting and more than one of accelerated speech patterns, the play itself was enjoyable due in part to its content and to several outstanding performances.

Jace McKenzie Henley gave a fabulous presentation of the scatter brained mother/playwright/artist, Penelope Sycamore. Henley and Philip Aken, who played her husband Paul, did an excellent job of drawing the audience into the family insanity which is tempered with kindness and love.

Boris and Olga, two family acquaintances who happen to be deposed Russian royalty, were played by Jonathan Allen and Vivian Le.

Allen's booming voice and flamboyant actions, as well as Miss Le's "royal" demeanor, brought these characters to life.



When Alice, daughter of the eccentric Sycamores, falls in love with her boss's son Tony Kirby, the union seems doomed from the start.

The rich Kirby family and the nutty Sycamores seem to have nothing in common.

The Sycamores decide to invite the Kirbys to dinner, but they arrive on the wrong day.

There is no dinner, only much insanity ending in the entire party being arrested for a misunderstanding.

The main characters, Tony and Alice, didn't come across as being in love enough to make the dinner fiasco a real problem.

Lauren Amber Thomas and Matthew Glass, who played Alice and Tony, finally came alive in the last act.

Before that, it was sort of a mechanical relationship.

Then there was Grandpa Martin Vanderhof, the patriarch of this band of

gentle loons.

Played by retired Professor Richard Rouillard, grandpa was portrayed as both maverick and philosopher.

He walked out of his business many years prior in order to enjoy his life. He feels his granddaughter's proposed father-in-law, Mr. Kirby, is working too hard.

The exchange of ideas between Rouillard and Nicholas McDaniel, who played the elder Kirby, was eloquent.

Both remained true to character and brought meaning to the title of the play.

Director Jaque Hocking captured the feeling of the era.

You may not be able to take IT with you, but the audience was able to take home a smile and a few happy memories of another well-done play.

Rating: B

—Cynthia Praefke
Staff Writer

Gamers pleased with 'Left 4 Dead'

One of the most anticipated and arguably scariest video games hit stores Tuesday, Nov. 18.

"Left 4 Dead" is about four people who survive an infection that leaves its victims undead and attempting to find safety in the world.

Everyone likes a good zombie game but a criticism many gamers have

had with previous zombie games is single-player platforms.

"Left 4 Dead" allows up to four gamers to play in a cooperative mode to battle and survive.

The infected victim characters are brilliantly created. The motions are fluid and the scenery is morbid.

Probably the finest aspect

is that the infected aren't alerted to the gamer's presence automatically. Lights and sounds draw their attention.

The game also focuses a lot on teamwork, as it is the staple of the game.

The team members have to rely on each other for support as the hordes of infected come fierce and in packs at times.

YOU asked FOR IT

Q: When does the spring semester begin?

A: The spring semester starts Tuesday, Jan. 20. The January intersession is from Jan. 5 to 16.
—OCCC website

Q: How many active clubs are there on the OCCC campus?

A: OCCC has approximately 35 student clubs and organizations.
—Karlen Grayson
Student Clubs and Organizations Assistant

Q: How do I get a job on campus?

A: If students visit Student Employment and Career Services on the first floor of the Main Building, we will help them with the application process. They need to apply online through the OCCC Human Resources website. The application requires the student to submit a résumé, a cover letter and perhaps a copy of their transcript.
—Debra Vaughn
Career and Employment Services Director

Q: Can anyone write a letter to the editor? If so, how do you submit one?

A: Anyone can write a letter to the editor and e-mail it to editor@occc.edu or by going to the Pioneer office in 2M6 MB and dropping a letter in the letter to the editor bin on the editor's desk.
—Ronna Austin
Pioneer Lab Director

Q: Why don't we have more recycling on campus?

A: It's actually a financial issue. OCCC meets the requirements of the state's recycling program. The only products they address are paper and cardboard products. To put recycling bins in the school would cost approximately \$65,000. Recycling is the right thing to do but the state can't allocate enough money for it.
—J.B. Messer
Facilities Management Director

The game controls are easy to figure out and the graphics are crisp.

Gamers looking for an intense first-person shooter dealing heavily with teamwork should look no further, "Left 4 Dead" is

their game.

For a more in-depth analysis of "Left 4 Dead," visit the Pioneer Online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Rating: A

—Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Downtown College offers humanities courses with focus on local art scene

By Esther Chong
News Writing Student

Two eight-week humanities classes will be taught in downtown Oklahoma City's arts and entertainments district during the spring semester, said Downtown College Consortium director Gus Pekara.

Most associate degrees require six hours of humanities and these courses would meet the criteria, Pekara said.

One course will focus on performance art while the other will concentrate on visual arts.

The two courses, called the Arts in OKC Series, are general education humanities courses that will take the students to the local art scene, he said.

The Performing Arts section, "OKC Arts Alive," will be taught by Ruth Charney, Department director for Communications and the Arts. The class will be held on Friday evenings starting Jan. 23 and ending March 13.

The class will meet at the Oklahoma City Civic Center and other venues, Pekara said.

He said this is only the fourth time the class has been offered.

Students will attend a variety of art, music and drama events ranging from a ballet to a tour of the Downtown Oklahoma City Civic Center.

Being able to attend such a variety of art venues will further students' appreciation for art, as well as expose them to the talent in

Oklahoma City and show how art can be expressed in powerful ways, Charney said.

The Visual Arts section presents "Understanding Art in OKC."

It's a new course being offered from March 26 to May 14.

The class will meet Thursday evenings at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art with field experiences at local galleries and Festival of Arts.

The students will study exhibitions at the museums. Retired OCCC Arts Professor Carolyn Farris will teach the course.

Farris assisted OCCC Visual Arts professor Mary Ann Moore and students in creating the mosaic for downtown Oklahoma City's Bricktown canal, which was completed in 2007.

These are dynamic courses to teach the understanding of the arts.

"There are many advantages to enrolling for these classes," said Pekara.

"It will teach students to learn how to visualize, perceive and critique different types of art, whether it be visual or performance art."

The Downtown College Consortium is an alliance of five colleges and universities, which includes: the OCCC, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City, Redlands Community College, Rose State College and the University of Central Oklahoma. They offer credit and non-credit classes in downtown Okla-

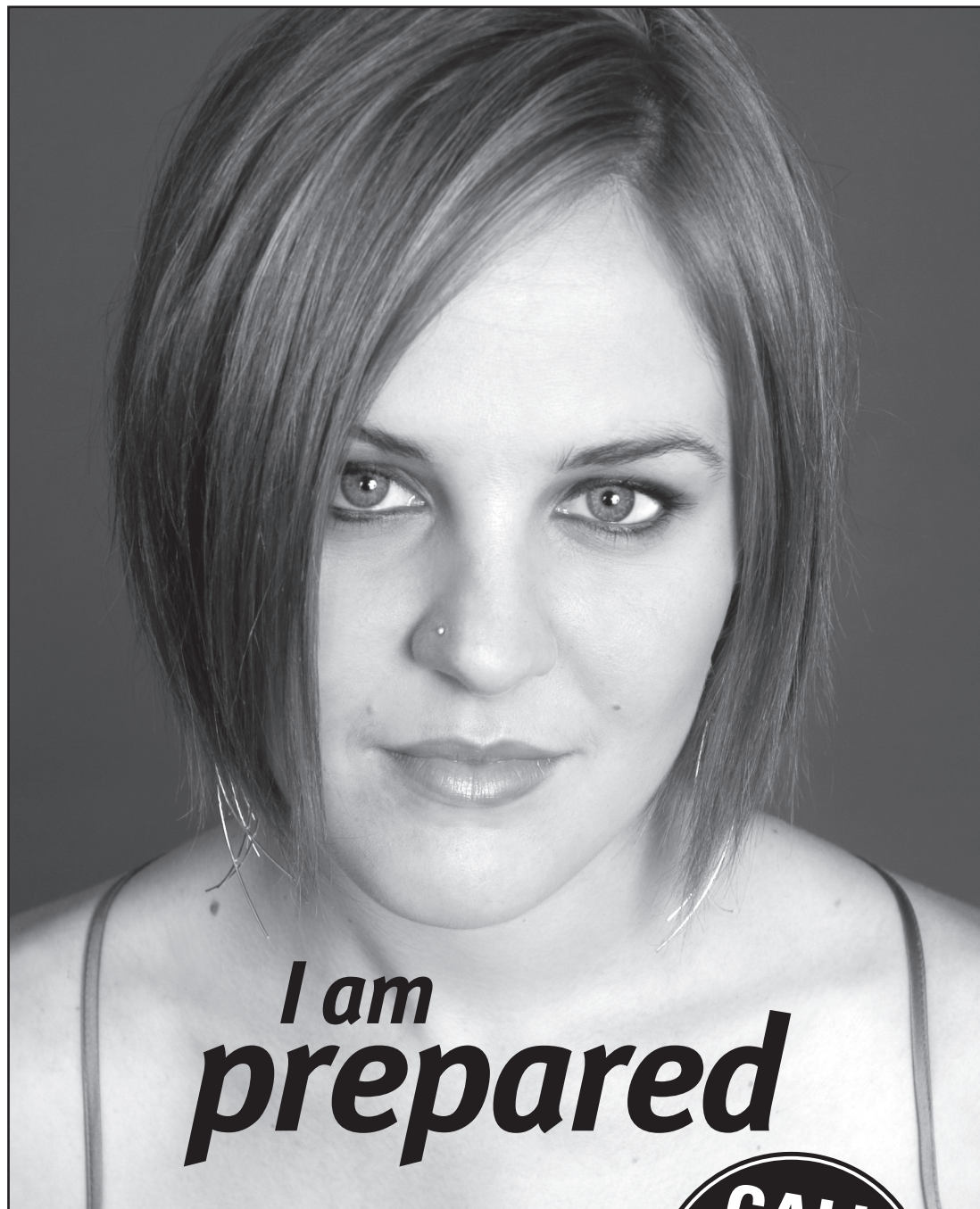
homa City.

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For more information, call Pekara at 405-232-

3382 or e-mail him at gpekara@downtowncollege.com.




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Cadavers a part class for science prof

By Drew Hart
News Writing Student

For most people, it's rare to come in contact with a human corpse, but for biology professor Julian Hilliard, it's just another day at the office.

Hilliard has taught anatomy at OCCC for five years, but what sets his class apart is the use of human cadavers.

Hilliard is more than a professor. It is his responsibility to order the three male and three female cadavers used each semester, he said.

The cadavers come from the Oklahoma State Anatomical Board's morgue, located at the Health Sciences Center. Hilliard said this is the only place to legally obtain cadavers for education purposes in the state of Oklahoma.

The cadavers are obtained through the Willed Body Program. The cadavers used through this program are individuals who donated their bodies to be used for educational purposes, as stated in their wills.

Hilliard said the cadavers are sold to various universities across Oklahoma for about \$750 each, but with the added cost of shipping and handling, the price

comes out to around \$850 dollars.

Hilliard said he places an order a few months in advance, as it takes the state about a month to deliver the bodies.

The ordering and keeping of cadavers is not without its problems, he said.

Hilliard said once, he received a male cadaver that was too large to fit into the stainless steel holding tank. The cadaver was too wide at the shoulders.

The solution, graphic as it may be, was to detach one of the arms in order to fit him into the tank.

This dilemma worked to Hilliard's advantage, however.

"It was kind of neat because we had a mobile arm we could move around the lab," he said.

The severed limb turned out to be a great learning tool and may be something done again in the future, Hilliard said.

Various morticians throughout the state embalm the cadavers. Hilliard said it is important the cadavers be properly embalmed because, if not, they may start to decompose early.

Since Hilliard does not refrigerate the bodies, it is crucial they are embalmed correctly. A properly em-

balmed cadaver can be kept for months.

Hilliard said there have been a few cases when he had to send back cadavers with premature signs of decay.

The cadavers also are hydrated frequently with a solution called Bio-perm to keep them from drying out.

"If we didn't hydrate, they would turn into beef jerky," Hilliard said.

He said the embalming process replaces the cadaver's body odor with a strong chemical smell and the flesh becomes much more firm than living tissue.

"That's how we know about the quality of embalming," Hilliard said. "If the embalming quality is poor, the flesh will be far too soft."

Hilliard believes his students gain better experience by dissecting humans than they would through the dissection of cats or fetal pigs.

"Humans are more like humans than cats are like humans," he said.

He also said students with hands-on cadaver experience seem to gain a better understanding of human anatomy.

Hilliard's students are expected to dissect an en-



Julian Hilliard

tire cadaver. This entails dissection of the back, buttock, leg, arm, thorax (heart and lung cavity), abdominal cavity and the head.

Hilliard said that allows students to see a wide variety of health issues such as the effect on one's body from eating fatty foods, and the various levels of wear and tear on the joints of the body.

Dealing with corpses every day is a job that satisfies Hilliard.

"I love teaching at OCCC," he said. "People often ask me about my job and I tell them that it beats working for a living, because most of the time this job doesn't really feel like work."

"I just really love science, and it's extremely fun for me to get people enthused about science."

U.S. diplomat speaks to students about job opportunities

By Kelly McGill
News Writing Student

Rick Roberts, a U.S. Department diplomat assigned to the University of Oklahoma, spoke Nov. 18 on "Foreign Service and International Education."

The discussion centered on the process of becoming a working member of the State Department, including what is needed to be a representative of the U.S. in foreign service.

"The agency is looking for talented young people to join the department," he said.

Roberts said he joined the Foreign Service in 1984 as a Public Diplomacy officer with the U.S. Information Agency. He now speaks to college students to help recruit talent for the State Department.

"A true diplomat resides in the Foreign Service and serves as a representative of the U.S. overseas," Roberts said.

"Public diplomacy in-

volves the government talking to people of other countries and looking out for the interests of American citizens."

He said there are three requirements to become a diplomat. A person must be a U.S. citizen, be 21-to 59-years-old and pass an examination.

The exam usually takes one year from start to finish. It begins with a written exam and ends with an oral exam.

Although the tests are

an important measurement tool, the Qualifications Evaluation Panel ultimately makes the final decisions.

"The QEP wants to see a three-dimensional individual who is exceptional in many ways," Roberts said. "Those are the people the department needs to represent America."

He said most applicants fail the English Usage portion of the written exam.

"The reality is most people will not pass the first time," he said. "So make sure to revisit the English language for the written

exam.

"If you are not sure if Foreign Service is what you want to do, department internships may be the way to investigate if your career lies within American diplomacy," Roberts said.

"No matter what you decide to do, public service is a great way to change the world and help change history."

"Serving your country is a great career field that I highly recommend."

For more information, visit careers.state.gov or e-mail Roberts at rick.roberts@ou.edu.



Rick Roberts

Scholarships available

By Esther Chong
News Writing Student

Dec. 3 is the deadline to apply for the Jean and Ralph Gamel Scholarship for the spring semester. More than \$15,000 will be awarded, said Julie Corff, speech professor.

Eight students were awarded a \$1,000 scholarship this semester.

The recipients this semester are Beri Bamnjo, Damaris Castro, Christian Djipsu, Crystal Gazaway, Melissa McLerram, Bachir Mohamad, Serge Maurel Djimi Mgassa and Aaron Victor.

A luncheon was held to honor the recipients in October. Ralph Gamel and OCCC President Paul Sechrist attended, said Executive Director of Institutional Advancement Pat Berryhill.

The scholarship money is awarded to students experiencing difficult times who are committed to furthering their education, Berryhill said.

The scholarships are awarded each semester and \$25,000 is awarded annually. However, many students are not aware of the opportunity.

"We wish that more students would apply each semester," Corff said.

Corff said when she became a full-time professor at OCCC three years ago, her long-time family friend Ralph Gamel chose OCCC to be the recipient of the scholarship funds.

She said Ralph and Jean lived exciting lives filled with many obstacles along the way. They were strong and determined for their future.

Jean and Ralph Gamel married in 1946 and were together for almost 60 years.

Jean died in May 2006, and because of her character of good will and giving nature, Ralph Gamel dedicates the scholarship in honor of her memory.

To be eligible for the Jean and Ralph Gamel Scholarship, students must be in need of financial assistance to attend OCCC and have a 2.0 GPA.

Students also must be committed to completing an associate degree at OCCC.

Students must include an essay in the application addressing their educational goals, career and employment goals, and how an education at OCCC will help to achieve these goals.

For more information, call Berryhill at 405-683-7591.

Apply to intern at Disney

By Mara Nelson
News Writing Student

Students interested in working at Disney World in Florida this summer can find out how to apply for an internship by attending an electronic presentation Dec. 3, said Debra Vaughn, Career and Employment Services director. The presentation will be from noon to 1 p.m. in CU 3.

"They look for all kinds of majors," Vaughn said, including business, fine arts and journalism.

"They place a student as close to their college major as possible," she said.

Interns live in fully furnished apartments with 24-hour security. Transportation to and from work is provided.

This opportunity would give students a chance to take classes recommended for college credit and gain skills and training from top Disney leaders, Vaughn said.

While having fun, meeting new contacts and earning credits, the best aspect would be to get paid for the job, she said.

Not only would this experience help build a résumé, but it also gives students the experience of working



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for one of the world's most admired entertainment companies, Vaughn said.

Kaycee Clark is a former student who took advantage of the Disney intern-

ship.

"Disney was such a great experience," Clark said. "I met people from all over the world. It was truly a magical place to work."

Disney helps prepare people for their career after college, Clark said.

For more information, call Vaughn at 682-1611, ext. 7362.

Free HIV testing scheduled Dec. 1

Sexual Health Week to be held at OCCC in conjunction with World AIDS Day

By Meagan Bradley
Staff Writer

Free HIV screening will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, in room CU3, said Katie Treadwell, Service Learning and Student Life Programs coordinator.

The college is offering the free test as a part of

Sexual Health Week.

"It's something we're doing to promote student health and responsibility," Treadwell said.

She said the test is quick. Results will be available in two weeks at RAIN Oklahoma, OCCC's partner for the testing. Students will have to make an appointment to pick up their re-

sults.

"RAIN Oklahoma is a great organization for education," Treadwell said. "They're great to work with."

Treadwell said information about HIV, AIDS and sexual health in general will be made available to students throughout the week of Dec. 1.

The college is holding Sexual Health Week to mark World AIDS Day.

World AIDS Day began in 1988 as a means of raising awareness about HIV and AIDS.

"We wanted to provide a platform so that people who were working on the issue at any level could get involved," said Tom Netter, in a press release.

Netter was involved with organizing the first World AIDS Day.

According to the World AIDS Campaign website — www.worldaidscampaign.org — the theme is "Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise."

The campaign calls upon governments to enact public policies that help pre-

vent the spread of AIDS.

According to the UN Program on HIV/AIDS, more than 30 million people worldwide are infected with HIV.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate more than one million people in America are living with HIV/AIDS. As many as 27 percent are unaware that they are infected.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health estimates that more than 4500 Oklahomans have HIV/AIDS.

For more information about HIV/AIDS and HIV screening, call RAIN Oklahoma at 405-232-2437 or visit rainoklahoma.org.

Prevent sexual diseases with safe sex, abstinence

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

One of life's natural actions is sometimes barred by fear.

This fear is getting a sexually transmitted disease, or STD.

The chances of contracting an STD through sexual intercourse are "pretty high, but not absolute," said Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner, and it depends on the STD.

Turner said STDs are primarily transmitted through sexual contact, but can also be transmitted through alternative methods.

"They can also be transmitted through blood products," she said.

"HIV and hepatitis can be transmitted through needles."

Turner said the deadliest STDs are HIV and hepatitis, both of which can kill. Chlamydia is one of the worst for women because it causes infertility.

HIV, one of the most well-known STDs, damages the immune system, which may allow numerous infections and cancers to develop and may result in AIDS, according to the Oklahoma Department of Health.

Those with HIV infection may experience severe flu-like symptoms, swol-

len glands, cough, night sweats, specific cancers and infections.

Turner said most STDs are curable; however, some are not.

"Herpes, HIV and Hepatitis C are not curable," she said.

"They sometimes respond well to treatment if you're aware of the disease."

Turner said the easiest way to prevent getting an STD is to practice abstinence, which is to refrain from sexual activity.

"It's the only sure-fire way," she said. "But if you do engage, you should practice safe sex with a condom."

The problem with condoms, she said, is many people may not know how to use them properly and end up using them wrong. Or, people may just use the wrong product.

Turner said it is important to take care and store condoms properly.

"You need to check the expiration date," she said. "Heat isn't good and will break the condom."

"Don't use petroleum products, as it also makes the condom thin."

Turner also said people don't take STDs seriously because of a denial factor.

"The stereotype is the person who does things with a lot of people will get

an STD," she said. "Anyone can get it."

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

Top 20 condoms by overall performance according to Consumer Report

#	CONDOM BRAND	STRENGTH	RELIABILITY
1	Durex Extra Sensitive	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
2	Durex Performax	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
3	LifeStyles Ultra Sensitive	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
4	Trojan Extended Pleasure	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
5	Trojan Non-lubricated	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
6	Trojan Ultra Pleasure	EXCELLENT	EXCELLENT
7	LifeStyles Dual Pleasure	EXCELLENT	Very Good
8	Beyond Seven	EXCELLENT	Very Good
9	Class Act Ultra Thin	EXCELLENT	Very Good
10	Trojan Her Pleasure	EXCELLENT	Very Good
11	Trojan Shared Sensation	EXCELLENT	Very Good
12	Planned Parenthood Lollipop	Very Good	EXCELLENT
13	Kimono Micro-Thin	Very Good	Very Good
14	Trojan Magnum	Very Good	Good
15	Trojan-Enz	Very Good	Fair
16	Inspiral	Good	EXCELLENT
17	LifeStyles Ribbed Pleasure	Very Good	Good
18	Durex High Sensation	Good	EXCELLENT
19	Planned Parenthood Assorted Colors	POOR	EXCELLENT
20	Planned Parenthood Honeydew	POOR	POOR

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **Dec. 6:** OCCC Aquatic Center will host the Joe Stocker High School Swimming and Diving Invitational. For more information about upcoming Aquatic Center events, call Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 405-682-1611, ext. 7662.

• **Dec. 12:** Deadline to register for the Junior Basketball League. This league is for boys and girls, ages third through sixth grade. For more information about this league, call Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Dec. 18-21: OCCC Aquatic Center will host the Chesapeake Elite Pro-Am Meet. For information about upcoming Aquatic Center events, call Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 405-682-1611, ext. 7662.



Photo provided by Eric Watson

Devil Dogs players are shown from front, left to right; Tyler Hamilton, Nick Pinkerton, Brian Back, Matt Edmonds, Colin Gentry, Charlie Tarver and Zach Pinkerton. In back, from left to right, Aaron Rigsby and Matt Bassinger.

Devil Dogs make run to regional semi-finals

By Matt Bishop
Staff Writer

Intramural flag football champion Devil Dogs made it to the semi-final round at the 2008 National Campus Championship Series Regional Flag Football Tournament at Southeast Missouri State University, on Nov. 14 through 16, in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

The Dogs played against the region's finest teams before being knocked off by Southern Methodist University 12-0, said Wellness Center assistant Charlie Tarver.

Devil Dog team captain Zach Pinkerton said he believed the offense was close to putting it away, but came up just short in the 12-0 loss.

"[In the semi-finals] we were stopped three times in the red zone," he said.

The Dogs lost the first game by one point, 24-23, to Arkansas State University.

The Dogs bounced back to win their next two games against

Southeast Missouri State University 30-15, and avenged their first loss to Arkansas State University with a 35-13 victory.

The Dogs went to Missouri after a statewide tournament scheduled in Stillwater was canceled.

Tarver said the team looked online for tournaments to play in and went for the one in Missouri.

Tarver said he thought Missouri was a better tournament to attend since it was a regional tournament, instead of just a statewide tournament.

Pinkerton said it was a good tournament and really organized.

"We had fun and I think we could have won," Pinkerton said.

The Devil Dogs had nine players, eight of whom were original members of the team during the OCCC flag football season.

"[I'm thankful for] all the guys who went up there for the tournament," Pinkerton said. "We all had fun."

The Devil Dog roster included Zach Pinkerton, Colin Gentry,



Photo provided by Jason Lipe

Colin Gentry, Devil Dogs player, races toward the endzone during a 35-13 win over Arkansas State University in Cape Girardeau, Mo. The Dogs went to Missouri to compete after a statewide tournament was canceled.

Matt Bassinger, Brian Back, Matt Edmonds, Nick Pinkerton, Aaron Rigsby, Tyler Hamilton and Char-

lie Tarver.

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

Engineering students learn about trade firsthand

By Bishal Malla
News Writing Student

More than a dozen OCCC engineering students went on two field trips in November.

The students attended the Oklahoma Biofuels Conference at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel Conference Center in Oklahoma City Nov. 12 and 13.

The Biofuels Conference was a two-day event on the latest developments impacting the biofuels industry in Oklahoma.

Engineering professor Gregory Holland said bio-fuel is a solid, liquid or gas fuel produced from plant matter, and mostly used in transportation and electrical power generation.

That field trip was barely over before the students went on a second trip to Bergey Windpower in Norman Nov. 14.

Bergey Windpower is one of the world's leading suppliers of small wind

turbines which are used to generate electricity, Holland said.

While there, students got to see many practical things, he said.

Holland said the workers at Bergey Windpower showed students how to build a 10 kilowatt turbine and showed them what is involved in making turbines.

"The demonstration that the students saw at Bergey Windpower helped them to learn about the projects that they have to do when they come to the arena of professional engineering," he said.

Holland said students got to see different types of blades and machines that are used to make turbines during the trip to Bergey Windpower. They also discovered the different kinds of designs that are used in manufacturing turbines.

OCCC Engineering Club President Donna Schruben attended both field trips.

She said the trips were worthwhile as the students learned so many things which they have done only on paper, not in real life.

"The Biofuels Conference gave students a chance to know more about chemical engineering as it was focused on chemicals," Schruben said.

"The Bergey Windpower trip helped us to learn all the practical things that are used in different aspects of engineering."

Former Engineering Club president Johnny Bension said he came away with a greater knowledge of his field.

"The field trip was very informative and it gave students some practical experience," he said.

Petroleum engineering major Bachir Mohammad said he hopes to go on more trips in the future.

"These kinds of field trips should be organized every semester as they help students to get out of the

books and come to the real world of engineering."

Holland said the students came away from both trips having learned a lot.

"Both of the field trips were very worthy and stu-

dents got lots of knowledge from these two trips," he said.

"It gave students a chance to see the impact of engineers and the sustainable green energy projects related to Oklahoma."

Choirs join together for musical night

By Christa Stewart
News Writing Student

"It's the most wonderful time of the year."

The words of this famous carol ring true for music professor Ron Staton, as he looks forward to more than 500 students, parents and friends of the college attending the annual OCCC Christmas Concert.

This year's program is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Mid-America Christian University Auditorium, 3500 S.W. 119th Street in Oklahoma City.

OCCC's Symphonic Community Choir, Concert Choir and Chamber Singers will all make special appearances at this celebratory event, Staton said.

The groups will perform an assortment of holiday compositions.

"We try to have a real variety in the program," Staton said. "I want to have something in there for everybody."

Moved off campus to accommodate the large crowd, the free performance will include traditional Christmas hymns and carols, contemporary music and non-traditional Christmas tunes.

Staton said dress is casual.

"Come as you are."

Contact Staton at 405-682-1611, ext. 7249, or e-mail him at rstaton@occc.edu for additional information.

Some jobs not affected by bad economy

"Recession,"
Cont. from page 1

choose for many reasons.

"Men and women interested in exciting careers that combine human touch with science and technology should consider nursing," Klepper said.

She said nursing knowledge is continuously evolving as new developments in science and technology prompt changes in the field.

Klepper said there are many opportunities for students who choose to go into nursing.

"An important factor to consider is job availability," Klepper said.

"I have been a registered nurse for many years and I have always had many career possibilities."

Recession or no recession, Klepper said, the nursing program will provide opportunities to stu-

dents for years to come.

The nursing program has had great success with its graduates she said.

Klepper said many of her students consider the nursing program to be too difficult but rewarding at the same time.

"Many of our graduates come back and say, 'Wow, you were right ... this is more than just an eight-to-five job.'"

"As graduates, they tend

to understand just how important it is to learn to make clinical decisions in timely ways that can literally save a person's life," she said.

Nursing professor Jacqueline Frock agrees with Klepper. She said the nursing occupation remains in strong demand despite economic fluctuations.

Editor Matt Montgomery can be reached at editor@occc.edu.

OCCC finals week hours set by individual labs

"Finals,"
Cont. from page 1

nologies Education is open from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The Accounting Lab is open from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays

and Thursdays and from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fridays.

The Communications Lab is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Math lab is open from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

"One of the most important things is that students stay optimistic with finals, have fun and don't let them scare you," Nunley said,

"It should be a learning experience rather than a stressful burden."

He said students should prioritize their time, study diligently, and prepare often and early.

Finals week begins Dec. 9 and continues through

the last day of classes, Dec. 13.

For more information, visit www.occc.edu/LabsCenters-Menu.

Staff Writer Daniel Martin can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

Read the Pioneer Online
for breaking news
and online exclusive
stories!
www.occc.edu/pioneer

Highlights

Fall Writing Workshops held

The Communications Lab will have the final fall writing workshop, "Writing A Rogerian Argument Paper," from noon to 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, in Room 2F3. For more information, call Nick Webb at 405-682-1611, ext. 7678, or e-mail nwebb@occc.edu.

Absolute 2009 looking for entries

Absolute 2009, the college's literary journal, needs poetry, essays (non-academic), short stories, screenplays, plays and musical scores. OCCC students and staff are invited to submit their work. Deadline for all submissions is Monday, Dec. 1. Submission forms are available on the table outside of the Arts and Humanities office. For more information, contact Clay Randolph at crandolph@occc.edu or Marybeth McCauley at mmccauley@occc.edu.

College Poets and Writers meet

The College Poets and Writers will meet from 1 to 1:50 p.m. on Wednesdays, in room 1C3 in the Arts and Humanities area. For more information, contact Chris Verschage at 405-682-1611, ext. 7140.

Graduation Application Information

The end of the semester is fast approaching. Those who are completing degree requirements this semester or next semester need to go to the graduation office to apply. All students, whether getting a certificate or degree, must apply for graduation.

Students win Faculty Association Scholarships

Twelve students will be receiving \$300 Faculty Association scholarships for the fall 2008 semester. The recipients are Tuyen Doan, pharmacy; Maria Engel, biotechnology; Tanith Heesch, nursing; Sharon Kersey, political science; Julie Lewis, nursing; Brenna Littou, history; Dawn McCraney, business; Zach Pinkerton, business; David Ramirez, political science; Danielle Shuman, biotechnology; Rachel Smith, biotechnology; and LaVonne Wixon, business. The Faculty Association Scholarship committee wants to congratulate all the winners. For information about scholarship for spring, e-mail Linda Boatright, committee chairwoman, at lboatright@occc.edu or call her at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468.

Santa's Silent Auction

OCCC Nursing Student Association presents the anti-recession Christmas. Christmas-themed items will be available for purchase in the new Health Professions Center lobby from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 1 and 2. All proceeds will go directly to the NSA scholarship fund. Bidding opens at 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 1 and closes at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2. Winners must pay for and pick up auction items by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5.

Santa's North Pole Annex Christmas Sale

Don't want to bid? Then just come buy! The OCCC Nursing Student Association will hold a Christmas gift sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 1 and 2, in the commons fountain area near the cafeteria. Christmas gifts at budget-minded prices will be for sale. All proceeds go to the NSA activities fund.

Classical Guitar Concert

OCCC will have a classical guitar concert at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the theatre. The concert is free to the public. For more information, call Terry Isaacs at 405-691-6376.

The Four Freshman to perform

The Four Freshman, one of the top vocal groups of the 1950s, will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 2 in the College Theater in the last Cultural Arts Series concert of the fall semester. Call 405-682-7579 for ticket information.

Collecting dough



Photo by Kenny Hilburn

Business major Bao Pham sells some baked goods as a fundraiser for the Business Professionals of America. The BPA reportedly raised more than \$150, which will fund club trips and activities.

OCCC works with Food Bank to provide for hungry citizens

By **Bonny Blackmon**
News Writing Student

OCCC students volunteered their time Saturday Nov. 15, providing food for hungry Oklahomans at the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank, said Kaite Treadwell, Student Life coordinator.

"I think it's good that students learn to give to others," Treadwell said.

Students worked inside and out. Some worked for about four hours in the cold, shoveling compost off to a future garden and insulating green houses.

"Student Life plans Service Saturdays once a month for the students who want to help the community," said Lori Harless, first-year program leader.

The students who volunteered worked with the Urban Harvest Program Director, Bruce Edwards.

The Urban Harvest Program provides fresh produce for various organizations such as the Jesus

House and other church pantries in the Oklahoma City area.

The students outside helped the Urban Harvest staff move compost that had been sitting since last year, to a new site for the spring garden.

Volunteer Radika Shonyo raked the dirt in order to make the garden ready for spring planting.

Shonyo said she was working for her Advocates of Peace class and the students in her class had to have three hours of service time and a written paper over it afterwards.

"I have to do service hours because of my football scholarship at [the University of Central Oklahoma]," said Kevin Lasater, volunteer.

Lasater is a student at UCO and OCCC who has volunteered at Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma four years in a row.

Some students helped out in the greenhouse, putting insulation in the doors.

"We are putting insulation in the doors because it needs to be warm in here so the plants and fish won't die," said volunteer Tino Ceballos.

"There are 1,000 tilapia fish in the greenhouse in order to keep the plants alive," Edwards said.

He also said they plan on eventually selling the fish to local companies once they get too big for the tank.

Other students worked inside the building putting together boxes of food to be sent to various food pantries in the area.

"The volunteers sorted meals and different items for families to send to other smaller branches associated with the Food Bank," Treadwell said.

Some students volunteer because they have to, others volunteer simply because they want to.

For more information on Service Saturdays or to volunteer, contact Treadwell at 405-682-1611, ext. 7683.

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 adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOBILES

FOR SALE: 1992 Chevy Lumina. Needs some work. \$800 OBO. Call 405-881-7783.

FOR SALE: 1983 Ford Mustang. 4 cylinder. New transmission and carburetor. Drives fine. \$1,500 OBO. Call: 405-603-3576.

EMPLOYMENT

NEED SOME DOUGH?

Big Sky Bread Company is looking for an energetic, reliable person to help customers, slice bread and bag granola. Apply in person at 6606 N. Western Ave.

Independent Film: Accepting applications for an independent film shoot that will be in March and April of 2009. It will be filmed primarily in Oklahoma with some locations in Austin. The positions being offered are: FCP Editor, Key Grip, Grip 1, Grip 2, Grip 3, Best Boy, Camera Operator, Second A.C., Art Director, and Location Sound Recordist. Resume, references and photo required. Contact: Rockhousecinema@mac.com.

PART TIME EMPLOYEE NEEDED:

Bilingual, reliable, energetic person to work at Cricket Wireless store. 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. weekdays 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Saturday. Apply in person at Bucks, 2724 N Santa Fe Avenue. Moore Southwest 104 St and Santa Fe Ave.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE: Playstation two, seven games, memory card, one wireless controller, with internet connection. \$100. Call: 305-802-1858.

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Letterhead feature
- Use a rink
- Lodges
- Leave out
- Dark
- Condo alternative
- Fresh
- of the ball
- Tiny bit
- Approve
- Scout
- Barnyard sound
- Nothing
- DiCaprio movie
- Natural gifts
- Soon
- Tag
- Achy
- "— overboard!"
- Tear
- Glamour wrap
- Oklahoma city
- Cornbread cakes
- Type of pudding
- Acoustical measure
- Holes for shoelaces
- Rower's need
- Extinct bird
- Fedora's place
- Not well-known

- Workers-protection agcy.
- Zoo denizen
- Prima donna's song
- Polite cough
- Merman or Kennedy
- Bar bills
- TV Princess
- Climbs (a rope)
- "What — is new?"

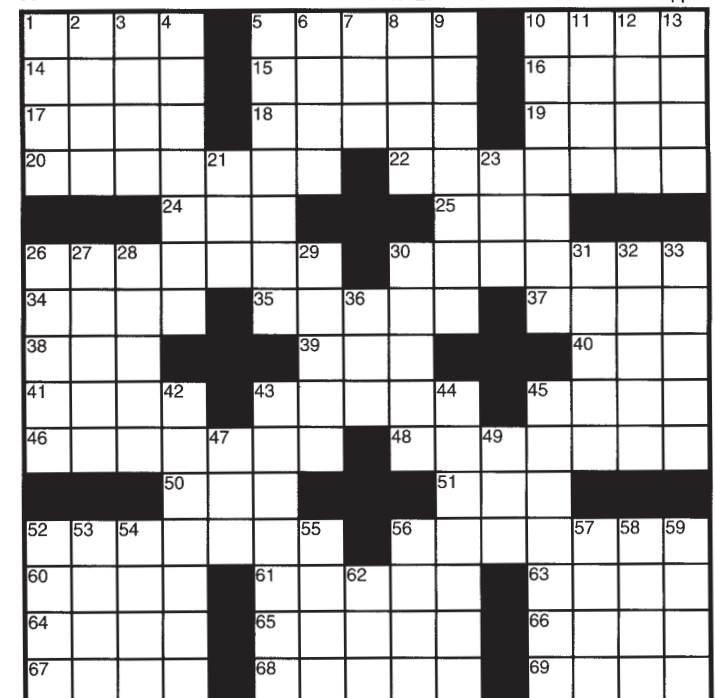
DOWN

- Stride along
- Portent
- Encircle
- Hassock
- Farmer's concern
- Type of jerk
- Everything
- Lean
- Timeless
- Winter sights
- Cozy corner
- Observe
- Practice boxing
- Reagan's nickname
- Feel ill
- Domesticated
- Silly
- Gin and —

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

SWAM	ROOFS	YOYO
KATE	EDDIE	IRON
IGOR	CIDER	PERU
PENGUINS	APPLES	
EFT	AGEE	
MONROE	CLIENTS	
AMASS	SARI	YEA
CAR	CAMEO	LAB
ANC	OTIS	PROSE
WISEGUY	WIENER	
PURR	ANY	
HERONS	ORIENTAL	
AVEC	INPUT	ARGO
LEAH	NOISE	ROUT
ERRS	GREED	DYES

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Fake \$100 bill passed

By **Stephen Sossamon**
Staff Writer

A counterfeit \$100 bill kept security officers busy early in the month.

On Friday, Nov. 14, campus armed security officer Larry Lundy received a call from the Bursar's office about a counterfeit bill, according to a report.

The money belonged to Ebu Ocran-Essuman who said he received four \$100 bills after cashing a check at the Bank of Oklahoma.

A bursar teller discovered one was counterfeit after checking each of them with a special pen, according to the report.

The Bank of Oklahoma was notified and a spokesperson said they would check into the matter, according to the report.

On Nov. 8, an iPhone was reported stolen from the pool deck.

Angela Whinnery said her son's phone was taken during a swim meet, when he left it in a storage bin behind the timers while swimming his heat.

As of Nov. 18, the phone had not been located.

A man was reportedly looking at pornography on a library computer Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Leon Edwards said he was looking at an e-mail that had a link to a porn site. Edwards was notified that regardless of how he ended up at the site, it was still against college guidelines to view pornography on a college computer.

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



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