

- CLEP a well-kept secret, editorial, p. 2.
- Students visit Capitol, p. 6 & 7.
- Soccer games canceled, sports, p. 8.
- Easter baskets for sale, clubs, p. 10.

# PIONEER

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

## April Fools fun



Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

An OCCC theater student who wanted to be known only as Spider-Man poses on a table in the OCCC Coffee Shop area. The student, who said he dressed the part as an April Fool's joke, handed out Hershey's kisses, Hershey's miniatures and chocolate eggs to passersby.

## OCCC talks of being smoke free by 2010

If policy passes, tobacco products would be banned from campus

By Ryan Campbell  
News Writing Student

OCCC being a tobacco-free campus could become a reality in 2010 if a proposed policy is adopted by the OCCC administration, said Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director, at the Leadership Council meeting March 26.

"You wouldn't be allowed to smoke or have tobacco products anywhere on campus," he told the students who make up the council.

"All of the ashtrays would also be removed from campus grounds."

Sloas has been rallying support for a tobacco-free campus by talking to the student council and the Faculty Association. Sloas asked them to support a resolution "to ban all tobacco products from our 166 acres here on campus."

He has been accentuating many of the positive effects this policy would have on the campus.

With the no-tobacco policy, workers at OCCC would no longer be asked to painstakingly scour the grounds in search of cigarette butts left behind by smokers.

See "Smoke Free," page 9

## Withdrawal deadline nears

By Kara Cline  
News Writing Student

According to the AOCSS Spring Academic Calendar, April 17 is the last day to withdraw from classes. Students choosing to drop this late in the semester will not be given a re-fund for these courses.

"Withdrawing from classes and receiving the grade of W will not negatively affect

a student's GPA or academic standing," said Registrar Alan Stringfellow.

"But a grade of F in a non-developmental course will be used to calculate a student's GPA," he said. "It could negatively affect a student's academic standing."

Stringfellow said students with a cumulative GPA lower than 2.0 will be placed on

See "Drop," page 9

## 'Best of Broadway' hits stage April 14

By Stephanie Pham  
News Writing Student

For one night, the Bruce Owen Theater will experience Broadway's dazzle from three of its highly accredited Big Apple performers.

"The Best of Broadway," produced by the Entertainment Company, will come to OCCC at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14. The concert is part of the Cultural Arts Series.

Performers Raymond Saar, Diane Ketchie and Scott Harlan will entertain the audience with selections from Andrew Lloyd Webber's musicals that have been a slice of Americana pie



for ages, said Scott Tigert, Cultural Programs assistant.

Webber composed the musical "Phantom of the Opera."

The musical gave "Music of the Night" a whole new meaning when it was adapted into a film. Webber's prolific compositions also include "Evita," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Cats," and many more iconic gemstones.

All of the performers have starring credits in musicals such as "Les Miserables," "Phantom of the Opera," and "The Music Man," plus many more film and stage credits.

"Students should attend 'The Best of

Broadway' not only because it is great exposure to the music of Broadway, but also because they can broaden their musical knowledge," Tigert said.

He said Broadway not only influenced popular groups, but also is America's cultural landmark.

Tigert said unlike the big Broadway productions audiences normally see at the Civic Center, this one will be intimate and personal in the Bruce Owen Theater, which seats 285.

"It's like a conversation between two people," he said.

See "Best," page 9



## Editorial and Opinion

## Editorial

## Testing out an option?

If time is of the essence, and the economy is so bad, one would wonder why there are not more students taking advantage of CLEP, College-Level Examination Program.

CLEP is a college examination test that allows students to test and obtain college credits instead of taking a 16-week course. Although this may seem like a way to save time and money, students need to study and prepare for these exams.

CLEP allows students who are returning to school the ability to compete with the traditional, or fresh-out-of-high-school, students.

It also helps students who have been home-schooled to bypass unnecessary classes and fees.

High school students use CLEP to test out of subjects such as algebra and government, since algebra and government never change, said Paul Roudebush, testing specialist.

"Returning students usually go for Microeconomics or Macroeconomics," he said.

Lack of exposure could be one reason why, of 13,000 students enrolled at OCCC, only 622 have taken a CLEP exam to this semester.

Sophomore Leanna Montgomery said in her two years at OCCC, she has never heard of CLEP.

"It feels mysterious, hidden even," she said. "Considering this is such a valuable asset, I feel that the school has an obligation to make me aware of ways to enhance my future."

There is not a lot of mention about CLEP around campus, and no posters or fliers informing students of this cost-efficient, time-saving exam are in sight.

During my tenure at OCCC I have not heard anyone talk about CLEP like all the other awareness campaigns that have been present at OCCC, like the "Brown Bag" lunch lectures put on by Student Life.

There haven't been promotions or advance notices alerting students of this valuable tool like the "Book Buy Back" campaign.

One can agree that OCCC and its staff prepare students for their futures.

However, OCCC is not high school and if you want information, you have to do research.

Students are responsible for doing the necessary research to put themselves in a position to succeed.

It would be helpful to students if programs such as CLEP received a little more attention since it can directly impact students' futures.

Going forward, I hope the level of communication between OCCC and the students continues to improve.

—Derek Jones  
Staff Writer

## Lack of skill hurts students

### To the editor:

A survey of OCCC English Composition I students revealed an interesting and somewhat alarming statistic: a larger-than-expected number of students cannot read cursive English handwriting.

They can't read the teachers' comments on tests or essays; they can't read the half-cursive-half-print notes on the marker boards and they can't read cursive writings from the ADA required note-taker's notes.

Many students who reported they can't read the connected-letter-writing form are those who are international students who came from Asian, South American and African countries.

However, many non-readers of cursive reported they were born within the U.S.

These students are not only in English classes.

They are in history, government, science and math courses as well.

The reasons students

cannot read cursive are varied — some were only taught block-style English in other countries.

Some have grown up in the digital age of e-mail, word process and texting where a hand-written note is unheard of, and others come from states where cursive writing is not mandated in schools.

What's more certain, however, is the full marker board of amazing information that must be copied and memorized in our classrooms is nothing but loops and scribbles to many OCCC students.

Unfortunately, not being able to read cursive isn't just an interesting side-dish in our OCCC stew.

For these students, class-related cursive is causing them to miss important information and potentially fail tests and assignments.

Professors could print notes on the board or give word-processed handouts after lectures.

Of course, we could just do nothing and hope for the best.

But I hope we don't. Rather, I hope we will all see (and will all be able to read) the writing on the wall and make the best decision we individually can for the students at OCCC.

—Mark Schneberger  
English Professor

## 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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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



## Comments and Reviews

# Stolen action-figure spurs wish for comic book chats

### To the editor:

On March 24, the plastic Spider-Man action figure tacked on the bulletin board outside my office was stolen, or as the note left in its place read, "Mr. Spidey was kidnaped [sic]."

Initially, I was shocked and angered.

But I remembered what a young Peter Parker learned in *Amazing Fantasy* #1: "With great power, there must also come great responsibility."

Accepting my own responsibility for this inci-

dent, I humbly offer a confession.

As a first-year faculty member, I am painfully aware of the lack of comic book-related activity on campus. I have tried to alleviate this by telling all my classes, every chance I get, that comic books are super, super cool.

But it has not been enough.

With a student body this large thirsty for heroes, it was only a matter of time before a protest occurred.

After all, isn't the theft of

my Spider-Man action figure the symbol of the absence of superheroes here at OCCC?

Therefore, the gauntlet has been cast, and I stand ready to accept the challenge.

All students are welcome to come by my office with their proposals for comic book-related clubs, organizations, and classes.

And if someone wants to come by just to talk comics, then that's cool, too.

—Jeffrey Cleek  
English Professor

# Reeves thrills in 1951 remake

Keanu Reeves strikes back with a remake of the 1951 science-fiction thriller "The Day the Earth Stood Still."

Reeves, Jennifer Connelly, Kathy Bates and Jaden Smith, turn the 1951 short story into a 2008 thriller for all audiences.

The movie starts when the earth is threatened with what appears to be an enormous meteor that would totally devastate the planet earth if it lands.

Helen (Jennifer Connelly) is a scientist who receives a phone call requesting her assistance.

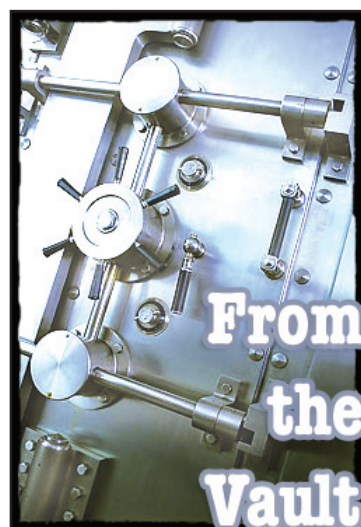
The voice on the phone tells Helen a car should be there to pick her up immediately.

As soon as she hangs up the phone, the door-bell rings.

Federal agents ask Helen to come with them but she refuses because the agents will not inform her on what is happening.

Another reason Helen is reluctant is because she doesn't have anyone to babysit her stepson Jacob (Jaden Smith, son of famous actor and director Will Smith).

Next-door neighbors who see and hear all the commotion approach Hel-



en and ask her what is wrong.

They agree to keep Jacob. Helen is then taken to a briefing with the Secretary of State (Kathy Bates).

Helen is informed they have 98 minutes to decide how to destroy the meteor or Earth will cease to exist.

When Helen and other scientists realize they cannot stop the meteor, they prepare for the worst.

As the 98 minutes tick down to zero, everyone embraces for the end, but it doesn't come.

What was thought to be a meteor turns out to be a space-craft from another planet.

Soldiers, who had been

tracking the space craft, begin shooting at the ship.

Klaatu (Reeves) is shot and falls to the ground.

With no hesitation, an enormous robot, named Gore, exits the space-craft to protect Klaatu.

Klaatu orders Gore to stop. Klaatu is taken by the military for questioning and observation.

Helen is supposed to sedate Klaatu for transporting but instead she injects Klaatu with water and helps him escape.

Helen asks Klaatu what he wants and why is he on Earth.

Klaatu explains he is a protector of the Earth and he is here to save the Earth from humans because they are destroying it.

The movie continues with Helen's attempts to find a way to convince Klaatu that humans are worth saving and that they can change so he won't destroy life on earth.

I believe this movie displays an unofficial look at the way one might look at the human race and the self-inflicted damage we cause to each other and the earth.

Rating: A  
—Derek Jones  
Staff Writer

## YOU asked FOR IT

**Q:** Does the school just drop students after they graduate?

**A:** "We will always be tied to the students and assist them after they are alumni. We will inform alumni about job fairs available. It doesn't cut off when you graduate."

—Judy McGee  
Student Employment and  
Career Services Coordinator

**Q:** How does the new stimulus package by President Obama help students who have financial aid? Or is it just for students whose parents pay for their college?

**A:** "Higher education applies to all students. Pell grants have increased for everyone. Federal funds are not age based, gender or race based."

—Harold Case  
Student Financial  
Support Services Dean

**Q:** When does enrollment for the summer intersession begin?

**A:** "For returning students, the enrollment for the summer intersession began March 30. For new students, the enrollment begins April 6."

—Darla Allen  
Admissions Assistant

**Q:** Why do smokers have to smoke in designated areas?

**A:** "Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of the entrance or exit of all buildings owned and operated by the state."

— Senate Bill No. 1553  
"Smoking in Public Places"

READ the Pioneer online  
[www.occc.edu/pioneer](http://www.occc.edu/pioneer)

Comments? Opinions?  
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## Comments and Reviews

# 2009 Final Four championship has all ingredients for instant classic

The stage is set for the 2009 Men's Final Four in Detroit. It promises to be memorable.

It may be hard to live up to last year's Championship when Kansas erased a 9-point deficit in the last two minutes to defeat Memphis for the title, but it sure has all the ingredients to live up to it.

Let's start off with the No. 1 seed from the South bracket, North Carolina Tar Heels.

The Heels went through the first four rounds with ease. They were the pre-season favorite to win it all and by the way they are playing, they are the popular pick to win the championship.

Although their players have experience on the court, head coach Roy Williams isn't exactly known for getting his team ready to win the big game.

They won the title in 2005, but that was with Matt Dougherty's recruits. It will be interesting to see if Williams can get his first title with his own players.

Also, maybe 1985 will ring a bell. That was the last year the No. 3 seed from the East bracket, the Villanova Wildcats, made the Final Four. That year the "Cinderella" Wildcats upset Big East foe Georgetown in the championship.

Despite a slow first half in the first round of this year's tournament against American University, the Wildcats roared past traditional powers UCLA and Duke, before beating No. 1 seed Pittsburgh by way of a last-second shot.

The Wildcats may be the hottest team right now and have an opportunity to play Big East foe Connecticut Huskies in the championship.

If it wasn't for two losses to Pittsburgh during the season, the Huskies, the No. 1 seed in the West, may very well be the outright favorite to win the championship.

A recent recruiting violation investigation by the NCAA on UConn hasn't affected their performance

so far.

An interesting fact about UConn is that, in their only two previous trips to the Final Four, the Huskies came out of West bracket and won the championship five years apart from each other in 1999 and 2004. Now, five years later in 2009, will history repeat itself?

Last but not least, the Michigan State Spartans.

Head coach Tom Izzo leads his Spartans to a fifth Final Four since 1999, the most of any team since then.

The Spartans, No. 2 in the Midwest bracket, defeated the overall number one of the entire tournament, the Louisville Cardinals with ease.

Don't forget the Spartans have a perfect 12-0 record this year when their starting five are healthy.

Did I mention the Final Four was in Detroit? That's a mere 90-mile trip for Spartan fans.

You better believe a sea of green will take notice inside Ford Field.



So, will history repeat itself, homecourt advantage win, "Cinderella" dance or will Roy choke again?

There's only one way to find out. Tune into CBS for the national championship game at 8 p.m. Monday, April 6 and the Final Four matchups on Saturday April 4.

Any sports fan will love

the match-ups and everything is in place for exciting games.

By the way, the only history that will repeat itself will be Roy Williams choking.

Michigan State 81, North Carolina 78. Stay tuned!

**Rating: A**

—Matt Bishop  
Staff Writer

## 'Stand By Me' displays brotherly love in old classic

There is always that movie that tugs at the heart.

In this case, it is the 1986 classic "Stand By Me," based on a short story called "The Body," written by Stephen King.

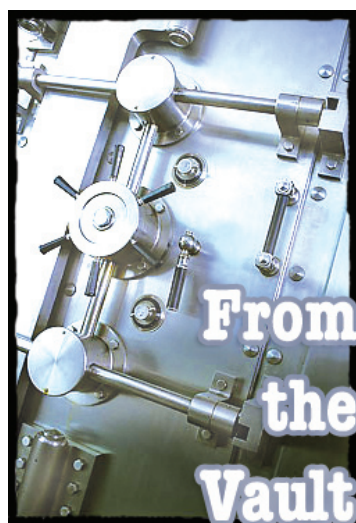
One would assume Stephen King's horror stories — which he is most known for — are his best work.

I beg to differ.

"Stand By Me" offers an emotional journey of four boys doing what boys do — looking for something they believe is cool.

In this case, it is the missing body of Ray Brower.

The four boys each lead different lives.



Gordy (Wil Weaton) aspires to become a writer, Chris (River Phoenix) wants to get out of the small town and make a

new life for himself, Teddy (Corey Feldman) lives in the shadow of his mentally ill father and Vern (Jerry O'Connell) is an overweight kid who always seems to be the center of everyone's jokes.

The friends find themselves in bad situations: escaping a train, swimming in leech-filled waters, being chased from a junkyard by an angry dog and an even angrier old man.

Through all of the struggles the friends face, they get through it together. This is the essence of this classic film.

When the boys finally find the body, they begin

to build a stretcher to haul it off in hopes of letting the local media know so they can be heroes.

Their efforts are stopped short by local thugs, led by Ace (Kiefer Sutherland).

After a brief confrontation, the boys decide to abandon Brower's body. It's later said they made an anonymous phone call to report its whereabouts, so no one becomes the local hero.

Afterwards, the narrator recounts the journey, letting the viewers know what happened to the boys.

The film is a masterpiece of sorts as each boy is depicted in a unique way.

They are an unlikely group of friends, but each shows a brotherly love toward the other, even if they don't admit to it.

There is odd word usage in the film and considering it is from the 1980s, viewers should be prepared for something they may never have heard.

Although the movie is sad, it has a good message behind it.

It is a possible tearjerker, so keep the handkerchiefs close by.

It is sure to at least tug at the heart.

**Rating: A**

—Stephen Sossamon  
Editor

# Blue ribbon tree for child abuse awareness

**By Shawn Stawicki**  
News Writing Student

OCCC will participate in Child Abuse Prevention Month by adopting a Blue Ribbon Tree, said Cecilia Pittman, Child Development program director.

During April, students and faculty are invited to show their support by tying a blue ribbon, a symbol recognized for child abuse prevention, around the tree, Pittman said.

Free ribbons will be supplied at a display in the foyer of the Main Building by the fountain. It will be there the entire month of April, Pittman said.

Four children die every day in the U.S. from child abuse, according to the website [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org), a child abuse awareness group.

Childhelp is a group dedicated to meeting the physical, emotional, educational and spiritual needs of abused and neglected children, according to the site.

This is the first time OCCC has helped sponsor awareness for the prevention of child abuse, Pittman said.

She said her goal is to make people aware "that it only takes a minute to save the life of a child."

The display will include ribbons — which students can write on — and statistics, handouts and fliers.

"Please make a difference," Pittman said.

She defines child abuse as harm or threatened harm to a child's health or safety.

April 14 is Oklahoma's annual Child Abuse Prevention Day at the Capitol.

This is where constituents and supporters for the prevention of child abuse meet and speak about legislation and programs to help with the education about, and awareness of, child abuse, Pittman said.

Supporters include: Rainbow Fleet, Sooner Care, Sooner Start and OCCC, Pittman said.

Rainbow Fleet is an Oklahoma non-profit organization that is oriented at providing education and training of childcare providers.

Sooner Care is an Oklahoma sponsored Medicaid program that provides health assistance to Oklahomans. Those who receive assistance are primarily children.

Sooner Start is an early intervention program designed to meet the needs of

infants and toddlers with disabilities and developmental delays. They are sponsored by the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

Pittman said OCCC is getting involved because it is the college's responsibility.

"We're part of the community, we need to be involved," she said.

Involvement can be as simple as speaking up for a child, Pittman said.

"Reporting is a huge part of it," she said. "The public needs to step up for children and report any cases of abuse"

For more information, contact Pittman at 405-682-1611, ext. 7159, or e-mail [cmpittman@occc.edu](mailto:cmpittman@occc.edu).

## CLEP exams a fast-track opportunity

**By Derek Jones**  
News Writing Student

Students searching for a way to finish college faster have an opportunity with the College-Level Examination Program, commonly known as CLEP.

CLEP has been offered at OCCC since 2003. A total of 622 students have taken a CLEP exam with 426 passing since 2005, said Paul Roudebush, testing specialist. That is a 69 percent passing rate.

"High school students use CLEP to test out of subjects such as math and government since these two subjects primarily stay the same," he said.

Through CLEP tests, students can earn up to 45 credit hours toward a degree at OCCC and also save a lot of time and money, Roudebush said.

"If you had advanced placement classes in high school, why waste that money and time (retaking them)," said Craig Dawson, a former student who is now a junior at Oklahoma City University. "I took

a CLEP exam and it really helped me make up time and save money. I think it's great."

There are 34 examinations with a minimum score of 20 and maximum score of 80 currently available. Most require a score of 50 for satisfactory completion, Roudebush said.

Business, foreign language, science and math are among exams that are available to students.

Roudebush said all CLEP exams take 90 minutes and must be done on a computer. All tests are multiple choices except when taking the Freshman Composition with Essay Exam, which requires students to take a 90-minute multiple-choice test and a 90-minute essay section.

At the end of the test, students receive an unofficial score. Students receive their official score one week after taking the exam, said Jim Ellis, Testing and Assessment Services director.

Students can take a CLEP exam from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays

through Thursdays, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fridays in the Testing and Assessment Services office.

Cost per exam is \$70 plus a \$15 administration fee.

There are a few guidelines and regulations students must follow.

According to the College Board of Education, a student taking a CLEP exam cannot retake an exam of the same title within six months. If a student does, those scores will be thrown out with no refund.

Students must set an appointment with Testing and Assessment Services prior to taking the exam. Students must complete 12 credit hours at OCCC before they are eligible to earn CLEP credit.

Credit cards are the preferred method of payment, said Ellis. However, a student can pay with a check or money order made payable to College-Level Examination Program.

For more information about CLEP, contact Testing and Assessment Services at 405-682-7531.

## OCCC plans Japanese workshop

**By Joshua Perry**  
News Writing Student

Chiaki Troutman will offer an introductory taste of her native language, Japanese, in a free workshop from 1 to 2 p.m. April 8, in room 1X5.

She said this is her first chance to help others learn a little Japanese. Troutman has taught English as a Second Language for 14 years overseas.

The Conversational Japanese Workshop will focus on using Japanese in conversations.

This is the first workshop of its kind hosted by the World Languages and Cultures Center, said Troutman, who is the center assistant.

The Japanese workshop will include exercises Troutman used when teaching English as a Second Language.

Although it is only an hour-long workshop, the students will get to take part in three different activities, she said.

The first will be a conversational activity where students will pair up and go over Japanese phrases that are printed out for each of the participants.

The second game will be played using only the numbers 1 through 10, Troutman said.

The third game will use everything they have practiced throughout the workshop in an obstacle course where each participant will have to move over each area of the workshop, completing tasks assigned by the instructor.

Troutman said she believes methods that have taught Japanese students English should help students here learn a little Japanese.

One of the biggest advocates of Troutman's upcoming workshop is Professor Keiko Shafer. She and Troutman are friends who have shared many ideas in their teaching methods.

"The encouragement alone has helped me gain confidence in doing this workshop," Troutman said.

The World Languages and Cultures Center staff is hoping for a good turnout so they can begin planning other conversational workshops such as Spanish and French, she said.

Students can sign up for the workshop by e-mailing [wlc@occc.edu](mailto:wlc@occc.edu), or in person in the World Languages and Cultures Center on the second floor of the Main Building.

For more information, contact Troutman at 405-682-1611, ext. 7104, or e-mail [ctroutman@occc.edu](mailto:ctroutman@occc.edu).



# International Student Awareness Day

More than 400 students from different parts of the world cheered and applauded when state Rep. Shane Jett (R-Tecumseh), thanked all the international students for coming to Oklahoma to earn their college degrees.

Jett spoke at the 17th Annual International Student Awareness Day March 30 at the State Capitol.

He said Oklahoma is delighted to have international students as the part of the state.

"This is an opportunity for the state of Oklahoma to say that we appreciate all the international students for choosing Oklahoma among all 50 states in the nation," Jett said.

He said international students play a vital role in the economy of Oklahoma.

"International students bring \$1 million to \$2 million every year to promote the economy of the state," Jett said.

The event featured various speakers from state government, exhibitors showcasing Oklahoma products, and local entertainers.

Thirty six students from OCCC participated in the event, said Sunny Garner, International Student Services coordinator.

Garner said it's the 17th year Oklahoma has honored international students in the state for their importance and their presence.

She said she believes every international student is an ambassador for his or her respective country.

Garner said OCCC's international students did a good job representing the college at the event.

About 500 international students are enrolled at OCCC this semester, coming from 63 different countries, she said.

One student said he had been unaware of the economic impact of international students.

"I am very amazed and surprised because I didn't know that we were that valuable for the government of the U.S.," said Camille Njeugoue, International Student Association president, after attending the event. Njeugoue is from Cameroon.

He said he felt good knowing the government of Oklahoma really cares about him.

He not only attended the event but also met with some important government officials in the process, he said.



Top: Patricia Brooks, modern languages professor, poses for a picture with OCCC international students inside the State Capitol during the 17th Annual International Student Awareness Day. The event was attended by 36 OCCC international students.



Left: (L-R) Rep. Shane Jett, (R-Tecumseh); Rep. Anastasia Pittman (D-Oklahoma City); and Camille Njeugoue, OCCC student, stand together for a picture during International Student Awareness Day. Njeugoue is an international student from the African country Cameroon.

**Text by Bishal Malla**  
**Photos by Joseph A. Moore II**



# International students recognized at State Capitol



Before leaving the 17th Annual International Student Awareness Day, OCCC international students stop to take a picture together. Thirty-six students from OCCC attended the conference March 30 at the State Capitol. International Student Awareness Day was an event presented by the Joint Legislative Committee on International Development as a way to express gratitude for international students choosing to pursue their education in Oklahoma.



International students from Oklahoma gather together for a group picture inside the Capitol building. More than 400 students from different parts of the world attended the conference.

## OCCC students who attended International Student Awareness Day

Yongwon Ahn (Korea), Rommel Barrot (Phillippines),  
Phuong Bui (Vietnam), Dung Dao (Vietnam), Ziyong  
Gao (China), Dalal Hamwi (Syria), Heejung Kwag  
(Korea), Jinpat Moollasat (Thailand), Chearone  
Moulombi (Gabon), Nhu Nguyen (Vietnam), Trinh  
Nguyen (Vietnam), Jiyong Park (Korea), Anas  
Sghiouer (Morocco), Sheng Ping Shi (China),  
Peng Song (China), Chi Tran (Vietnam), Thuy L.  
Vu (Vietnam), Thuy N. Vu (Vietnam), Long Zhao  
(China), Cecilia Le (Vietnam), Thanh Thai (Vietnam),  
Hermilo Borges (Mexico), Minhee Digriz (Korea),  
Natalia Hale (Russia), Jiyong Jung (Korea), Heesun  
Kang (Korea), Soonmi Kim (Korea), Kyunghee  
Lee (Korea), Eunshil Lim (Korea), Mariana Sarur  
(Mexico), Thai Pham (Vietnam), Gilene Bibalou  
Koumba (Gabon), Camille Njeugoue (Cameroon),  
Gerson Mejia (Mexico), Bishal Malla (Nepal), Mitesh  
Amin (India)



# Sports

## UPCOMING

### OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **April 11:** OKC Kayak Day Trip. For more information about kayaking and the trip, contact Dave Lindo at 405-830-9689.

• **April 12:** Club Soccer plays Oklahoma Panhandle State University at 1 p.m. on the University of Central Oklahoma campus. For more information, call Club Soccer coach K.B. Yeboah at 405-255-7735.

• **April 17:** 4-on-4 Intramural Flag Football tournament. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **April 18:** Club Soccer plays the University of Tulsa at 5 p.m. on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater. For more information, call K.B. Yeboah at 405-255-7735.

• **April 25 :** Intramural soccer playoffs to be hosted on the field of the top-ranked team. For more information, call Jalal Daneshfar at 405-974-2377.

• **May 2 :** Intramural soccer championships to be hosted on the field of the top-ranked team. For more information, call Jalal Daneshfar at 405-974-2377.

**Have a sports story idea? Call Justin Combs at 405-682-1611, ext. 7440, or send an e-mail to StaffWriter2@occc.edu.**

### OCCC Club Soccer Schedule and Results

Feb. 28 vs. OU Lost 0-2  
 March 7 vs. OSU Lost 0-3  
 March 8 vs. Rose St. Won 6-3  
 March 27 vs. OU-Colsa PPD  
 March 28 vs. UCO PPD  
 April 5 vs. OBU @ UCO 5 p.m.  
 April 12 vs. P'handle St. @ UCO 1 p.m.  
 April 18 vs. Tulsa @ OSU 5 p.m.

## Like a fish in water



Photo By Joseph A. Moore II

Rafael Cifoni, freshman biology major, puts in a few laps at the pool in the Aquatic Center. The Olympic-sized pool is free to students to use. For more information about pool hours and aquatic activities, call Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley at 405-682-1611, ext. 7662.

## Weather cancels soccer match-ups

### Playoffs scheduled for April 25

**By Justin Combs**  
*Staff Writer*

OCCC Club Soccer missed two games March 27 and 28 due to bad weather.

Club Soccer was scheduled to play on campus against the University of Oklahoma-Colsa team and University of Central Oklahoma team.

Jalal Daneshfar, Intramural soccer league organizer, said this is the first cancellation they've had to make this season.

The weather looked to be cooperative on Sunday, and they were hoping to get a game in, but had to be canceled, he said.

"Friday and Saturday were canceled due to the weather, but Sunday was canceled due to field conditions," Daneshfar said.

He said the games will be rescheduled and teams can decide how they would like to make them up.

"We're giving them options," Daneshfar said.

"They could play doubleheaders, make it up during the week or we could do a tournament

style make-up."

He said making up the games on the weekend is unlikely because game times are taken up for the season and the games need to be made up by April 24, a day before the playoffs.

"It's easy for teams in the metro to make these games up," Daneshfar said.

"It won't be as easy for teams farther out like Oklahoma Panhandle State University and Oklahoma State University."

OCCC Club Soccer beat Rose State College, 6-3, March 8 and is currently in sixth place behind OSU.

Club Soccer has two losses, one to OSU, 0-3, and the University of Oklahoma, 0-2.

The team's next face-off is scheduled for 5 p.m. April 5, against Oklahoma Baptist University on the UCO campus in Edmond.

Club Soccer will face Oklahoma Panhandle State University at 1 p.m. April 12, on the UCO campus.

The team will then head north to Stillwater and play Tulsa University at 5 p.m. April 18, at the

Oklahoma State University campus.

Playoffs are scheduled for April 25, on the turf of the top-ranked team.

The top-ranked team also will have home field advantage for the championships May 2.

For more information about the Intramural soccer league, contact Daneshfar at 405-974-2377.

For information about Club Soccer, contact K.B. Yeboah 405-255-7735.

*Staff Writer Justin Combs can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.*

**The Pioneer Online is the place to go for up-to-the minute sports news and weekly sports vodcasts!**

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# Officials propose OCCC may become a tobacco-free campus by 2010

**"Smoke Free,"**  
Cont. from page 1

"It makes our campus look bad," he said.

Some OCCC students said they support this idea.

"A tobacco-free campus would lessen the amount of litter on campus," said Allan Cruz, accounting major.

"And we wouldn't have to pass through all of

the smoke as we walked through the outside doors to go to class."

Sloas said the plan would eliminate the use of all tobacco products on campus, beginning as early as 2010.

Students who violate this policy could be disciplined by receiving a citation.

"It's kind of like a parking ticket," Sloas said. "You would have an appeals process, just like you do with

a parking ticket.

"It would be a year out before we even start writing tickets ... it's progressive."

For staff members who violate this policy, disciplinary measures would be taken.

Campus visitors would be given a verbal warning reminding them of the policy, Sloas said.

Not all students agree with the proposed policy or the enforcement of it.

Marco Castro, a concurrent enrollment student, said the policy is biased.

"I think it's unfair to give a warning to visitors and to discipline students.

"They can read the sign too."

Other students question why the topic has been

brought to the forefront of school policy discussion.

"I think this school has got much bigger problems than smoking," said Nicole Slosky, pre-education major.

But one point of agreement can be found between advocates of either point of view: this new policy should not be enacted without programs and assistance from the school to those who struggle with a tobacco addiction.

"If they are going to take away the opportunity for tobacco use, they need to have support programs," said Sharla Moore, undeclared major.

Sloas said stop-smoking training would be provided, and people would be edu-

cated on the benefits of not smoking.

Eventually, Sloas believes, the State Regents for Higher Education will prohibit smoking on all college campuses, perhaps two or three years from now.

While using tobacco products on school grounds would be prohibited, smoking in a vehicle in school parking lots might be overlooked if the smoker does not leave the car.

"Your car is your property," Sloas said.

"When you're driving to and from (OCCC), but once you step out of that car ... you're free game."

OCCC security doesn't have the authority to search vehicles for cigarettes or any other items, he said.

## Broadway comes to campus

**"Best,"**  
Cont. from page 1

Founded in 1995, "The Best of Broadway" has been touring the nation to bring "first-class entertainment to audiences all across America," according to the website, [www.thebestofbroadway.com](http://www.thebestofbroadway.com).

With their expertise, the group also will host a seminar for aspiring performers on the same day of the performance at 11 a.m. in the Bruce Owen Theater.

They will coach students by critiquing song selec-

tions and by helping them relax during the rigorous audition process.

Ticket prices are \$10 for students and children 17 and under, \$17 for staff, alumni and senior citizens, and \$22 for general admission.

The tickets can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Cultural Art Series office located in 1G1 of the Main Building and at the OCCC Bookstore.

For more information, call 405-682-7579 or visit [www.occc.edu/CAS/Best-of-Broadway](http://www.occc.edu/CAS/Best-of-Broadway).

## Drop classes by April 17

**"Drop,"**  
Cont. from page 1

academic probation.

Once placed on academic probation, a student must achieve a semester GPA of 2.0 or higher to avoid being placed on academic suspension, he said.

"The grades students receive at OCCC are a part of their permanent document and will follow them from institution to institution," Stringfellow said.

Program or degree requirements at transfer schools will dictate whether a student must retake a course, he said.

Stringfellow said certain competitive programs and some degree requirements may require a minimum grade being made prior to moving forward.

"Instructors do not have the option to withdraw stu-

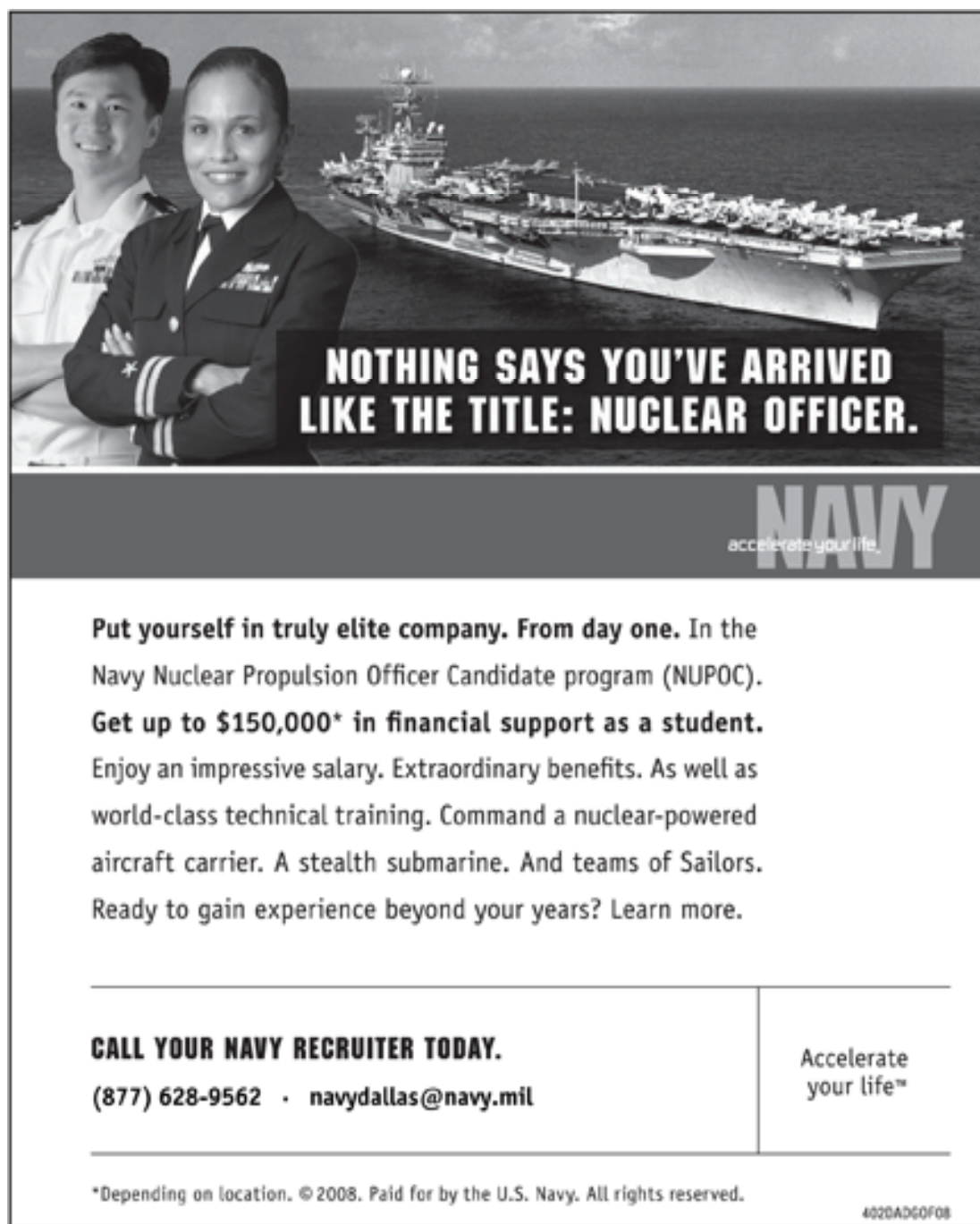
dents from class," Stringfellow said. "It is the sole responsibility of the student."

A student who wishes to still attend a class without turning in work can decide to audit a course during the same period in which a student can withdraw. However, this can only be done on campus through the Registration Office, Stringfellow said.

This could negatively impact a student's financial aid, so it is important to contact a Financial Aid adviser prior to making this decision, he said.

Students may drop classes on MineOnline, or in person at the Records Office where records assistants are available to assist students with withdrawals.

MineOnline can be accessed at [mineonline.occc.edu](http://mineonline.occc.edu).



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# Highlights

## Conversational Language Workshop

The World Languages and Cultures Center is having a Conversational Language Workshop in Japanese from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, in room 1X5, located in the Main Building. All students who are interested in learning foreign languages are welcome to attend the workshop. For more information, contact lab assistant Chiaki Troutman at 405-682-1611, ext. 7560, or e-mail [wlcc@occc.edu](mailto:wlcc@occc.edu).

## Student Life Events

The Student Life office is doing a workshop on "Career Exploration, Hot Occupations and Top Salaries" from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, in room 1G7, located in the Main Building. For more information, contact Katie Treadwell at 405-682-7523 or e-mail [ktreadwell@occc.edu](mailto:ktreadwell@occc.edu).

## Health Professions Club

Health Professions Club members will visit the J.D. McCarty Center for an Easter Egg Hunt from 2:15 to 5 p.m. Friday, April 10. The club members are spending the afternoon with the children with developmental disabilities, helping them decorate and find Easter eggs. For more information or to sign up, contact HPC Public Relation officer Jessica Sack at 405-535-3888.

## Oklahoma Electronic Game Expo

The Computer Aided Technology Department and Computer Arts and Technology Society of OCCC are organizing the Oklahoma Electronic Game Expo from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 11, in the College Union. The program includes information about new game software, programs in video game development and design, and the latest video game tournaments. It is free for all students, faculty and the public. For more information, contact Computer Aided Technology professor Akram Taghavi-Burris at 405-682-1611, ext. 7498.

## 'Best of Broadway' on campus

Three starring Broadway veterans will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, in the Bruce Owen Theater, located in the Arts and Humanities Building. They will perform music from Andrew Lloyd Webber's greatest hits. To purchase tickets, visit the Cultural Arts Series Tickets office in the Main Building, room 1G1(A), or call 405-682-7579.

## Student award ceremony

OCCC is organizing the 33rd Annual Student Awards Ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. Friday, April 17, in the general dining area. For more information, contact Katie Treadwell at 405-682-7523 or e-mail [ktreadwell@occc.edu](mailto:ktreadwell@occc.edu).

## Tuition Fee Waiver

The tuition fee waiver applications for the summer semester are now available in the Financial Aid office. Students can submit the completed applications until 5 p.m. Monday, April 20, in the Student Financial Support Services office. For more information, contact Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7524.

## Collar Drive

Central Oklahoma Humane Society Adoption Center is hosting a month-long collar drive for animals in adoption program beginning April 1. They are asking everyone to bring new or slightly worn collars which can be any size for both dogs and cats. Student and Faculty can drop off collars at the Student Life Office.

## Helping others



Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

Shay Omokhomion, Black Student Association president; Alycia Brown, BSA historian; and Lauren Jones, BSA member, collect clothes with Tino Ceballos Jr, co-chair of the Leadership Council, during the clothes drive for battered women April 1 in the College Union.

## Easter basket fundraiser to provide nursing scholarships

By Destanie Ellis  
News Writing Student

Games, candy and stuffed animals are the perfect recipe for one of the 75 Easter baskets that will be for sale April 7 when the Nursing Student Association hosts a fund-raiser in the hallway outside of Health Professions Room 226.

The money earned at the sale will go to NSA and will help pay for student scholarships, traveling expenses and the Nursing Student Foundation fund, said Professor Jacqueline Frock, NSA faculty sponsor.

She said all of those things are crucial to the success of the students.

For instance, Frock said, the nursing student foundation fund is emergency money, used to financially help nursing students who may have to drop out of school because of a personal issue.

An example, she said, would be if a parent had to have caretaker help be-

cause of a medical issue.

The club members also go to seminars and conventions, she said.

"We have a couple of people going to Nashville for the national NSA meeting," Frock said.

The seminar lasts for four days, she said.

Frock said all students — not just nursing majors — are welcome to join NSA.

She said the club is for anyone who has an interest in what nurses do and would like to be a part.

Membership is free.

Just log on to the Student Life page and click "Join a club," Frock said.

From there, she said, a list will appear naming all of the college clubs. Type the word "nursing" into the search bar, hit enter and the club name will appear.

Click on the square next

**"We're not doing this for profit and it all goes to a good cause."**

—Jacqueline Frock  
Nursing Professor

to the name and click "join."

The 70 members of NSA meet once a month and bring in speakers from different areas of the health professions field, Frock said.

The guest speakers talk about what they do and the experiences they have had in their career.

NSA also holds numerous fund-raisers where they sell T-shirts, jackets and other items.

Frock said she isn't expecting to make a large amount of money with the Easter basket fundraiser.

"I'll be glad with just \$500," Frock said.

"We're not doing this for profit and it all goes to a good cause."

For more information about the Nursing Students Association, e-mail Frock at [jfrock@occc.edu](mailto:jfrock@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 [adman@occc.edu](mailto:adman@occc.edu).

## ANIMALS

### FOUND:

Female Boston Terrier in the lobby of OCCC. She is brown and white; six to eight years old. Please contact Mary at 405-682-7515.

## AUTOMOBILES

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**FOR SALE:** 2002 Midnight blue Mitsubishi Lancer. 167 K miles. \$3,500 OBO. Call 405-301-6814.

**FOR SALE:** 1998 Corolla LE, 144K miles. MP3/CD player. A/C, all power, mint condition. \$4,000 OBO. Call: 405-863-9982.

**FOR SALE:** 1998 Volkswagen, GOLF GTI VR6, 2-door hatchback. 129K miles. Great condition. \$5,200 OBO. E-mail me at: [talharizwan85@yahoo.com](mailto:talharizwan85@yahoo.com).

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## TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### ACROSS

- 1 Coarse file
- 5 Debonair
- 10 Flaps
- 14 Mexican pot
- 15 Judge's demand
- 16 Parisienne's friend
- 17 Climb
- 18 Beneath
- 19 Huron, for one
- 20 Largest
- 22 Household pests
- 24 Ultimate
- 25 Capri, e.g.
- 26 Egg-laying mammal
- 30 Factory worker
- 35 Actor Holbrook
- 36 Fit
- 37 Silly
- 38 Bans
- 41 Wished and hoped
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- 54 Asian taxi
- 58 Natural

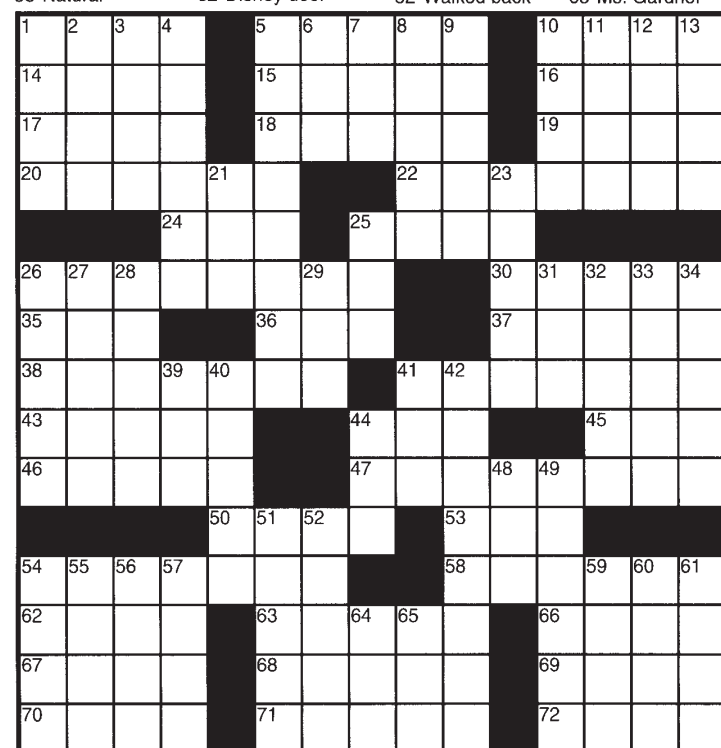
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- 5 Lefty
- 6 Coffee server
- 7 Do math
- 8 Swerves
- 9 Actor Flynn
- 10 Nursery item
- 11 Nursemaid
- 12 Two-wheeler
- 13 Notices
- 21 Farm home
- 23 Eagle's nest
- 25 Ending for "social"
- 26 Passport need
- 27 Author Ingalls
- 28 Choir voices
- 29 FedEx rival
- 31 Stop — dime
- 32 Disney deer

### PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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## Glitch sets off alarm

By Cynthia Praefke  
Staff Writer

A fire alarm caused the evacuation of the Main Building March 30, sending students and staff outdoors for 31 minutes while officials searched for the cause.

The alarm turned out to be the result of a dirty smoke head that set off an alarm in a professor's SEM Center office, said Ike Sloas, Safety and Security director.

"The smoke head reads the particles in the air," he said. "That is why it sees the dust as smoke particles."

Sloas said the Oklahoma wind also plays a part in this scenario.

"Things get dusty," he said. "Sometimes we can use canned air to help clear the smoke head."

In this case that was not effective and the smoke head in 2E6 had to be replaced.

Sloas said while there is no cleaning maintenance on these heads, there is regular testing.

"Testing took place during spring break," he said.

He said extra smoke heads are kept on hand.

"We have surplus heads in the office so we can replace them and reset the system quickly."

The alarm went off at 11:21 a.m. and the all clear sounded at 11:52 a.m.

Sloas said while the system was being repaired, security systems were still intact.

"Even while the system is being repaired, we can see the alarms on our office computer. This has only happened a couple of times recently."

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

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