

- Students are customers, editorial, p. 2.
- Youngsters have fun at camp, p. 7.
- OCCC offers SCUBA lessons, sports, p. 8.
- New student orientation, clubs, p. 10.

Preliminary figures showing summer enrollment up 8.2%

College official says rise due to unemployment

By Justin Combs
Editor

The dragging economy has had a positive effect on OCCC's enrollment, according to Executive Director of Planning Stu Harvey.

Student body head count is up 8.2 percent from last summer and credit hours being taken are up 10.6 percent, Harvey said.

He said enrollment is related to the current rate of unemployment.

"If unemployment goes up, it tends to increase our enrollment."

Two ethnic groups in particular have seen large increases, Harvey said.

Hispanic enrollment is up 19

percent while African American enrollment is up 16.1 percent.

"These are two groups that have been historically under represented in higher education," Harvey said. "This follows a pattern we've been seeing over the last several years."

There also has been an enrollment hike in students age 25 to 39 — up 16.7 percent.

"Those are people that probably lost their jobs or have jobs and are wanting to upgrade their skills so they won't lose their jobs," Harvey said.

The demographic with the lowest count is 18- to 24-year-olds.

The percentage of new students is only at 5.5 per-

See "Enrollment," page 9

Emergency drill goes smoothly, as planned

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

The Oklahoma City Police Department Bomb Squad responded to a mock hostage situation and bomb threat Wednesday, June 10, at OCCC.

Safety and Security Director Ike Sloas said the college held the drill in conjunction with the OCPD as part of their yearly drills.

Students, faculty and staff met outside in the grassy areas on the outer limits of the college. Within 10 minutes, the ok was given to go back inside by Safety and Security Coordinator Keith Bourque.

Cordell Jordan, Media Relations coordinator, said the evacuation and presence of OCPD was well executed, and the drill was a success.

"They got here quick, and if this were real, you could bet they'd have everything on lockdown," he said.

Jordan gave the scenario to the media:

"Shortly after 10 a.m., there was a report of a disgruntled student in the college," Jordan said. "Safety and Security

tried to locate the suspect but he fled."

OCCC Administration called for an evacuation, Jordan said, and then proceeded to contact Okla-

"They got here quick, and if this were real, you could bet they'd have everything on lockdown"

—Cordell Jordan
Media Relations Coordinator



Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

Members of the Oklahoma City Police Department Bomb Squad prepare to take part in a drill designed to determine if OCCC is prepared in the event of an emergency. The college was evacuated for about 10 minutes. See page 6 for more pictures of the drill.

homa City police.

"[OCPD] searched the college and found no threat," Jordan said. "The suspect then took a hostage in the facilities shop."

The Main Building was then put on Shelter In Place, he said, which required all professors to lock their doors, get in rooms without windows and stay low until the "all-clear" was announced.

Jordan said college Safety and Security assisted the Bomb Squad with video surveillance through

campus security cameras.

Lt. Mike Jackson, Bomb Squad Commander for two years, said the squad is ready and willing to use the Bomb Squad's robot in real situations.

"We use [the robot] for surveillance and tactically handling an explosive device," he said. "We control him remotely."

Jackson said the bomb robot was not used in Wednesday's scenario, but might be used in a real-

See "Drill," page 6

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Customer service with a scowl

We have all experienced it — the rude waiter, the condescending drive-thru person, or the belligerent technical support representative.

In those instances we usually have a way to complain, typically by speaking to a supervisor.

However, customer service at OCCC is often rough at best.

Students should be the primary focus of every employee on campus. Think about the line, "If it wasn't for me, you people would not have a job."

Here at the college, that is very true. If there were no students, there would not be a college.

So, who is responsible for customer satisfaction here at OCCC? Simply put: everyone — from the professors to the first person a student may encounter when walking into an office or area at the college, to student workers even. We all have a responsibility to our customers, the students.

One student tells of a math professor who was so condescending and unhelpful it resulted in his failing the class.

Other students have become so frustrated with the advisers, they end up asking if they could just enroll online.

As a reporter here at the Pioneer, I've found the attitudes of the OCCC staff to have become even more hostile. It's been my experience that Student Life in particular seems determined to be as unhelpful as possible when asked for information to assist you, our readers.

It is the job of everyone working at this college to make sure every student has the best experience possible. As students, it is our right to have the feeling that our expectations of service is not only met, but also exceeded.

So, what should be done if a student has an issue with a staff or faculty member?

According to page 35 of the Student Handbook "the student must first informally discuss the action with the college staff member involved."

If that doesn't work, this step is recommended: "If the student is not satisfied with the results of the informal discussion ... they should discuss the matter informally with the staff member's supervisor."

Okay, getting better, but what's with all the informality?

Step three states if you are still not happy, you can finally bring the matter formally to the director of student relations.

However, when I tried asking about the process by phone so I could accurately report about it, I was directed to the Student Handbook.

Simply said, this grievance process for poor customer service is not appropriate and obviously has not curbed the trend of customer service with a scowl.

—W. Hoyle
Staff Writer

Spare a little consideration

To the editor:

I really should say "dear students."

I know that this is a college and there are many things going on to keep us all busy, but sometimes the noise level in the hallways is ridiculous.

I have been trying to study or read and cannot concentrate because of loud talking, hollering down from the upper floors and yes, even loud music coming from a computer game.

People yelling loudly into cell phones are one of the most annoying things of all.

The sound of talking does not bother me and I am not trying to be a hermit.

But, there is such a thing as consideration for others.

I was actually in a math class where other students were checking their e-mails and having conversations while the professor was lecturing.

I object to this rudeness because it is distracting when I am trying to pay attention and learn.

Most professors have rules about phones being off and not using a laptop to surf the web during class.

But, some expect us to be mature enough to realize that immature behavior is not acceptable during class.

There are also open classrooms and offices where people are trying to work.

I am sure these workers get upset when they are interrupted while doing their jobs too, although most of them would never say anything.

I have started to ask for quiet when I think the noise is getting out of hand, and have had several evil looks and a few gestures of disapproval, but that won't stop me.

Fun is fun, but being rude and inconsiderate of others is childish and self-

ish.

This is a college, not a grade school.

Let's act like students. Not all of us are here to waste someone's time especially, our own.

—Name withheld by request

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.

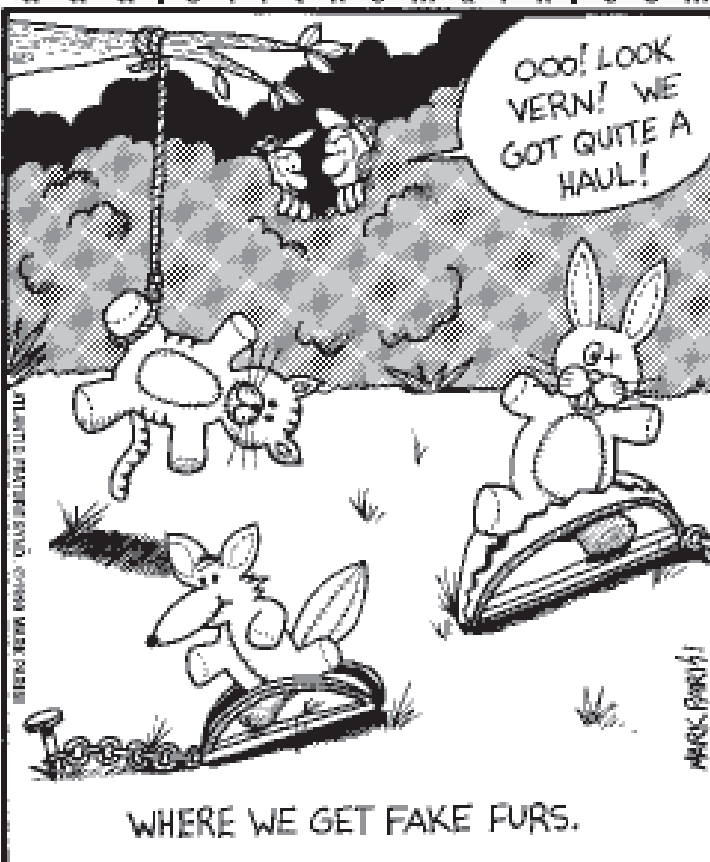
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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

off the mark by Mark Parisi



Comments and Reviews

Tom Hanks produces new comedy, 'My Life in Ruins'

"My Life in Ruins" is an appropriate title for a film about a young woman who is bad at her job, has no love interest and no kefi (joy) in her life.

She is fascinated with the history of her adopted country but does not embrace its happy-go-lucky culture.

Nia Vardalos ("My Big Fat Greek Wedding") is Georgia, an American, teaching in Greece. She loves the country so much she takes a job as a tour guide when her teaching job ends abruptly.

Unfortunately, she bores her tour groups with historical facts rather than fun and is in jeopardy of being fired as a result of many complaints.

Georgia also sets the tone for the stereotypical tourist from each country by describing what she has encountered in the past.

She finds an example of each in her group. Know-it-all Americans, beer



drinking Aussies, uptight Brits and elderly people who complain, are all represented in the mix.

Tourists do have a tendency to just want to look at the sights, eat the food, relax on the beach and buy souvenirs rather than be lectured on history.

However, on her last tour, she encounters Irv (Richard Dreyfuss). Dreyfuss' portrayal is heartwarming.

Irv appears to be the old jokester of the group, but he offers good advice to Georgia and eventually, to the entire group.

What begins as a predictable girl-finds-love sto-

ry turns into a very funny and multi-faceted story of life and love as each of the character's stories unfolds.

The movie has a PG-13 rating for sexual content, but is done in good taste.

There was much laughter from the audience during the exchanges between Georgia and bus driver Poupi (Alexis Georgoulis.)

Yes, his name is Poupi Kakka, and while that could be considered juvenile potty humor in a lesser film, it works in this context because of Vardalos' innocent attitude.

When the tour group and the guide become involved in each other's lives, it can become an endearing movie plot. Producers Tom Hanks and his wife Rita Wilson can be proud of their involvement in this movie.

Rating: B+

—**Cynthia Praefke**
Staff Writer

ADVISERS 11

Advisers available

Have you ever been told the class you wanted to take needed to be approved by your faculty adviser?

Do you sometimes feel like you are spinning your wheels, taking classes you're not sure will even count?

Are you wondering what you will do with your major?

Well, you're in luck.

Faculty advisers have taken up residence in the Office of Academic Advising for the summer.

Faculty advisers from Art and Humanities, Social Science, Math and Science, Business and Information Technology are here to help and answer your questions.

The new additions to Academic Advising will be in the office for all of June and July, and are available primarily by appointment.

They will be on hand to approve Faculty Approved electives, and will offer academic and career planning advice.

Any student wanting to meet with one of the Faculty Advisers should call 405-682-7535 or stop by Academic Advising to set up an appointment.

Make sure you specify that you want to meet with a Faculty Adviser.

—**Sara McElroy**

Transfer and Academic Advising Coordinator

'Valkyrie' displays mutiny inside the Nazi regime

I am not one to recommend a movie starring someone as commercial and pompous as Tom Cruise.

However, he really shined in the recent release to DVD of "Valkyrie."

Based on a true story, Cruise plays Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg, a colonel in the German army during WWII.

Stauffenberg is recruited by a group of German Generals who has formed a resistance to assassinate Adolf Hitler and end the war.

The movie flows at a pretty fast pace as not even 30 seconds into the movie, explosions and gunfire leave bodies dead and mangled on the battlefield.

Stauffenberg is one of Germany's most well-



known martyrs.

He captivated me with his extremely intricate plans to modify one of Hitler's own operations, "Operation Valkyrie," in order to assassinate Hitler, take control of the Nazi's and end the war he had started.

The movie reminded me

of a brilliant spy movie, leaving me sitting on the edge of my seat, wondering if something would go wrong and cause him to get caught.

"Valkyrie" packs an all-star cast including Kenneth Branagh ("Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets"), who plays Ma-

jor-General Tresckow, the man who convincingly recruits Stauffenberg for the retaliation against Hitler.

Unfortunately for Branagh, his role is over almost immediately after the movie starts.

Bill Nighy ("The Underworld Trilogy") plays General Olbricht, a mentor to Stauffenberg.

He does an excellent job showing how powerful he is to others yet, showing how afraid he is to get caught.

Tom Wilkinson ("Batman Begins") plays General Fromm, a backstabbing yet bumbling general of the reserve army and fellow conspirator.

Wilkinson does a good job making the viewer feel sorry for him and turns the emotion around in the

end.

The only downside to the film is the way Director Bryan Singer chooses to switch from German to well-spoken English within the first 30 seconds of the movie.

This linguistic adjustment didn't really allow the viewer to feel like they were in Germany.

The film is rated PG-13 for violence and brief strong language.

'Valkyrie' is highly recommended for anyone who likes history or simply wants to know more about the failed plots to kill Hitler.

It can be found at your local video store or anywhere DVDs are sold.

Rating: A-

—**Shawn Stawicki**
Staff Writer

Comments and Reviews

The Wedge Pizzeria offers delicious Italian food and friendly atmosphere in OKC area

There are decent pizzerias in the metro area but few great ones.

The Wedge Pizzeria falls into the latter category.

Not only is the food excellent but it is also reasonably priced.

Located at 4709 N. Western Ave., this unique little pizza parlor is a welcome refrain from its overpriced or unhealthy cousins.

The atmosphere at the Wedge is genuinely friendly.

While waiting for a table we were seated outdoors on an enclosed lawn, which included a bocce ball court.

Additional seating was also available on an outdoor patio.

Everything on the menu at the Wedge, excluding the soft drinks, is made from scratch from fresh ingredients. Their pizzas are baked in a brick oven

using pecan wood to add additional flavor.

Since there were five of us, we decided to order two appetizers and three pizzas, to get a sampling of what was available.

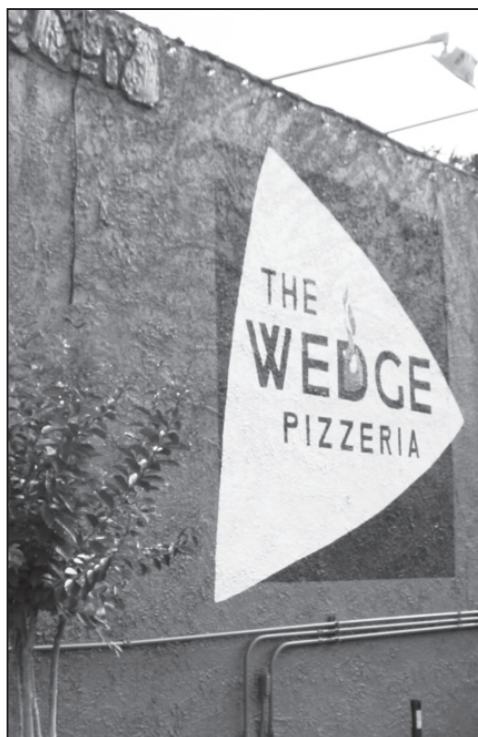
Their prosciutto wrapped pears with goat cheese and aged balsamic were wonderful, even if the portion was small for the \$6 price tag.

The Wedge Trio was a surprisingly flavorful plate of Italian flatbread with three choices for toppings; roasted artichoke hearts, roasted red bell pepper hummus, and kalamata olive tapenade.

It was a larger portioned appetizer and well worth \$8.

The pizzas are not very large but at eight slices are more than enough for 3-4 people.

We ordered the Italian Stallion pizza, which was



made up of roasted fennel, mozzarella, and Italian sausage with a port wine and sundried tomato sauce.

The Truffle Shuffle piz-

za was good as well.

It had truffle oil, sage, crimini mushrooms, spinach, parmesan, mozzarella, and roasted chicken.

If you like the flavor of mushrooms then this one is for you.

Lastly, we had the Prosciutto E Formaggi pizza, which was by far the best.

It had prosciutto, fresh arugula, mozzarella, parmesan, and figs.

It was excellent.

We left feeling full but without the weighted feeling that normally comes with Italian food.

We actually felt physi-

cally better, almost like we were healthier than before we ate.

With five people, our total was around \$45 not including tip and we all left feeling satisfied.

If all this weren't great enough at one location, a second location will soon be opening in the Deep Deuce area.

The Wedge's hours are: Monday through Thursday, lunch 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., dinner 5 to 10 p.m.

Friday, lunch is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., dinner is from 5 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, the Wedge is open from noon to 11 p.m. Sunday, they are open from 5 to 10 p.m.

For more information on the Wedge Pizzeria check out their website: www.thewedgeokc.com.

Rating: A

—**Luke Carter**
Staff Writer

Zorba's the place for Mediterranean cuisine

If you are a fan of Mediterranean food and have been looking for a good restaurant in the Oklahoma City area, then look no further than Zorba's.

Located at 6019 N. May, Zorba's is a different culinary experience in the metro area.

With a menu that unites the best from all the countries surrounding the Mediterranean, it is an experience not to be missed.

Zorba's has something for everyone no matter the price range.

From gyros, wraps, and falafel, at no more than \$5, to full kabab entrées ranging from \$9 to 11.

Their Baba Ghannouj, a paste of eggplant, garlic, and sesame seeds, has a great flavor and texture without either overpowering the palate.

My favorite appetizer is

the spanakopita.

This is feta cheese wrapped in spinach leaves then wrapped in thin dough and deep-fried.

Their entrées all fall in the price range of \$9 to \$11.50 but can be overlooked because of how generously they are portioned.

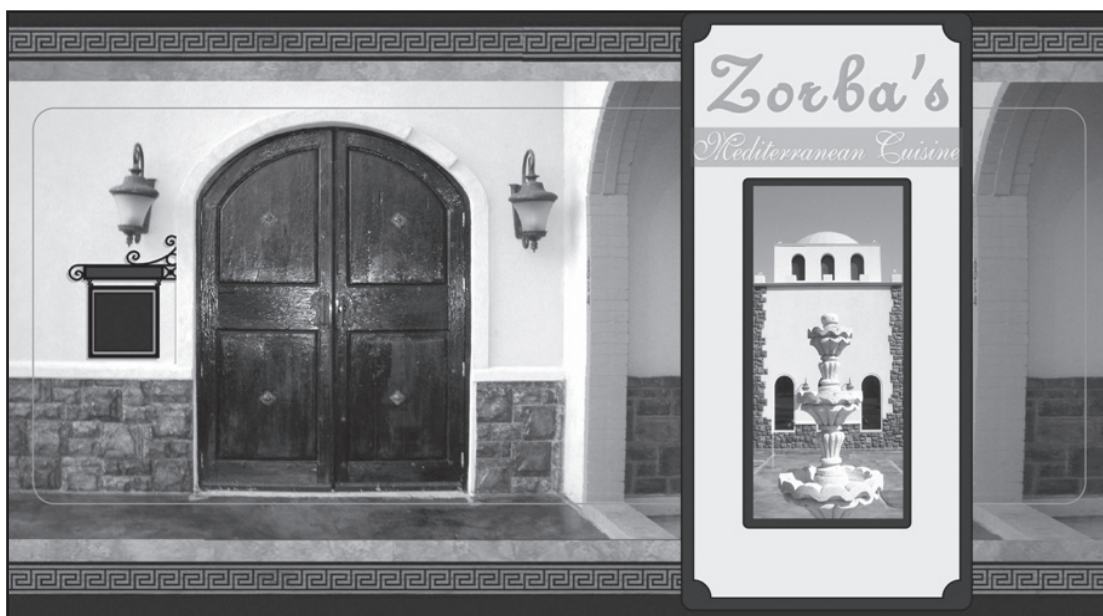
Almost all are more than one person can eat in a single sitting.

Each comes with bread and a choice of salad: Tabouli, Persian or Greek.

I personally prefer the Persian salad — made of fresh cucumber, tomato, red onion, and green pepper marinated in lime juice and extra virgin olive oil. It is a delight.

Two standout entrées on the menu are the chicken Bandari and the Moroccan chicken.

The chicken Bandari is



chicken thighs cooked in a tomato garlic sauce and served on a bed of basmati rice.

At \$10 it seems a little pricy but the cost is easily overlooked because the portion is enough for two people.

The Moroccan chicken is easily the best thing on the menu.

This dish is almost half a chicken in a sweet glaze served on a bed of rice. This memorable dish has a subtle flavor of currants, cardamom and cinnamon.

If you are a fan of Mediterranean food, or are looking to try something new, then Zorba's should be your next stop as it is well worth the visit.

Rating: A

—**Luke Carter**
Staff Writer

Film and video clinic 'Hollywood on the Plains' to benefit interested students

By Shawn Stawicki
Staff Writer

Hands-on experience while learning is the goal for any student who attends The Oklahoma Film Institute this summer at OCCC, said Greg Mellott, Film and Video Production professor and instructor for the institute.

The clinic is offered in a series of seven, three-day segments, and one six-day segment led by Academy Award winning film producer and OCCC Artist in Residence Gray Frederickson, Mellott said.

Titled "Hollywood on the Plains," the clinic will concentrate on teaching students production, directing, art direction, cinematography, lighting, screenwriting and makeup skills.

Also being taught is a six-day editing course, Mellott said.

Mellott, a successful writer, director and screenwriter for movies including Jackie Chan's "First Strike," will teach directing and writing, while Frederickson will focus on production, Mellott said.

The clinics are open to the public, said Mellott.

He said participants could be high school students and community members.

Students can register online at www.occc.edu/ofi by downloading a registration form and submitting it to the bursar Frederickson said.

Two sessions have already been offered for the institute but the third session begins June 18 with lighting courses, June 25 with cinematography and the remaining courses will offer art direction on July 9, makeup on July 16, editing on July 20 and script writing on July 23.

The classes average \$450 per session except the editing class, which is \$550 Mellott said.

He said this is the first time the college has offered these non-credit courses in the form of a clinic.

Previously the courses were taught in a single three-week segment that taught students all the aspects of production Mellott said.

The students would leave the institute with an end product, such as a film, in which they had all participated, he said.

Mellott said the new clinic approach allows students to commit only three days at a time instead of finding time to attend a three-week institute. Now, he said, a student can focus on one area of interest, instead of having to take all other aspects.

Mellott said some students might want to focus

on the Red camera for example.

The camera is the hottest digital camera in Hollywood right now and has been used on many movies such as "Jumper" because of its film quality appearance and definition, he said.

Mellott said OCCC is the only college in Oklahoma to have this equipment.

"High definition is good but Red cameras have 12 times the visual information as hi-def. So they have an incredibly sharp forte picture which is what makes it good for special effects."

Mellott said he feels use of the digital camera allows the filmmaker to save money on the cost of film and the cost to develop it. OCCC is the only college in Oklahoma to have this equipment.

Mellott said the editing course also will use the

only ISIS network in the area, which means all the digital editing is backed up on a network so there is no reason to worry about losing work due to a computer crash or because another student erased it.

Frederickson said he believes with everything constantly changing, it is important to stay on top of the newest and latest equipment.

Matt Skuta a student at the Oklahoma Film Institute, said he's enjoying the course.

"I am taking the production course because I have always loved movies and I have recently become interested in what is put into the 2 hours you see onscreen," he said.

For more information or to enroll, call 405-682-7847.

Staff Writer Shawn Stawicki can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Greater Grads to get the chance to impress

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

Fifteen students will represent OCCC and have the chance to experience an internship through Greater Grads this summer, said Debra Vaughn, Student Employment and Career Services director.

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce conducts the Greater Grads program in an effort to keep the best and brightest students in Oklahoma, Vaughn said.

"The program started six years ago on the East coast," she said. "We've been doing it [at OCCC] for four years."

Greater Grads is an aid for students to achieve the futures they desire, Vaughn said, and help them get their foot in the door.

"It's to help introduce

college students to greater opportunities," she said.

"[Greater Grads] want the best and the brightest."

Vaughn said every intern was either referred or looked to have the potential to be a good intern.

"We've all been impressed by [the students]," she said. "They will represent OCCC in good fashion."

Michelle Cole, a graphics design major, said she found out about Greater Grads from working in the Arts and Humanities office, where Judy McGee told her about the program.

"I'm looking for an internship involving graphics design," she said. "I'm really excited," Cole said.

"I was immediately interested."

Cole said her dream is to work with musicians and bands, creating websites



Photo by Stephen Sossamon

Pictured above are the fifteen Greater Grads students. Left to Right: Bishal Malla, McKlein Aguirre, Durell Carter, Alesha Spears, Christopher White, Alisha O'lague, Misty Hamilton, Michelle Cole, Jeremy Adams, Sylvia Corrujedo, Diana Trejo, Nayeli Faveli, Glenda Ainooson. The Greater Grads students will have the opportunity to gain internships this summer.

and graphics for them.

"I love music," she said. "It's what I'm interested in and I just want to work with people in that field."

Alisha O'lague, an accounting major referred by Anita Williams, said she is

excited to have an internship opportunity.

O'lague, the upcoming Business Professionals of America President, said she wants to eventually be a chief financial officer.

"I am going to take ad-

vantage of all opportunities," O'lague said.

"This is my first internship," she said.

"I'm here to be successful. I'm not nervous at all."

Vaughn said the 15 interns make up the largest intern class OCCC has had.

She said if the student s conduct themselves well, they may find themselves landing an internship.

For more information about Greater Grads, students can visit their website at www.greatergrads.com or contact the Student Employment and Career Services at 405-682-7519.

Students also can apply for Greater Grads — free to students — for a chance next summer, said Vaughn.

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

Bomb threat, hostage scenario played out

OCCC passes yearly test, officials say



Above: Lt. Mike Jackson, Bomb Squad commander, said the bomb squad robot is used for "surveillance and tactically handling an explosive device."

Right: OCCC officials meet with Oklahoma City Police Department Bomb Squad personnel using maps showing the layout of the college.



Left: Members of the Oklahoma City Police Department Bomb Squad stand ready to enact measures to deal with a bomb threat.

Below: The Oklahoma City Police Department Bomb Squad uses a variety of equipment, designed to keep them safe, when handling explosive devices.



Officials respond in bomb threat scenario

"Drill,"
Cont. from page 1

life situation.

"It depends on the tactics needed for the scenario," he said.

Jackson said the tactics team

feeds back pictures to the command post to keep the Bomb Squad informed. He said the Bomb Squad knows what to do and how to deal with bomb threat situations accordingly.

For more information about

Shelter In Place, or for information in the event an actual emergency happens, visit the OCCC website at www.occc.edu.

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

College For Kids helps children have fun while learning during the summer

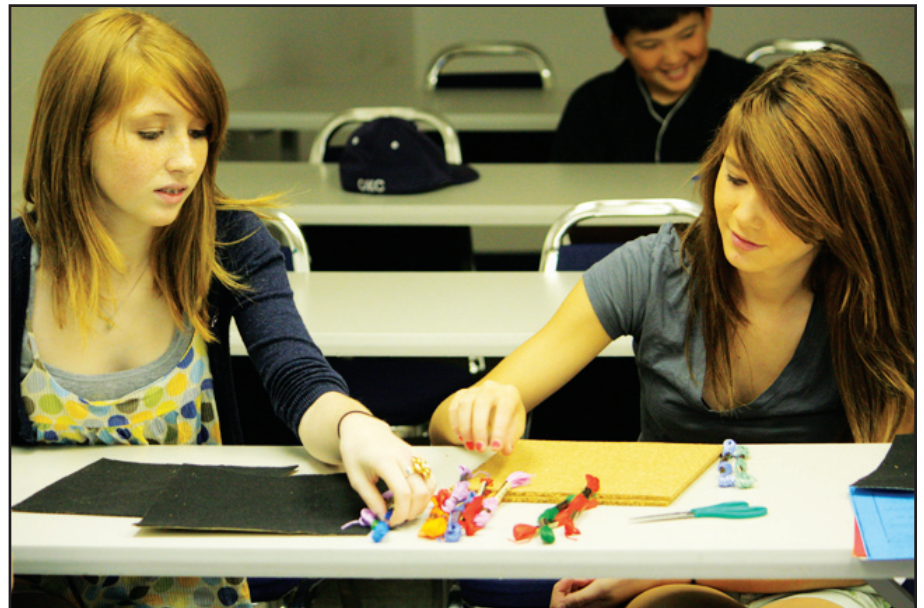


Joseph, 7, paints his sun yellow as a part of the week-long college for kids program. Here the children are building solar systems.



In publishing class, children ages 6 to 8 create books. They review the various step in storywriting such as, plot, characters, settings, and illustrations as part of College for Kids.

Children experience an array of activities on OCCC campus



Courtney (left), 13, and Sesily, 13, choose from a rainbow of string. In this class of children ages 12-13 geometry is being taught. The children will arrange string on a felt-covered cork.

While the end of the school year can be a time to rejoice, after the first week many children find themselves with little to occupy their time.

"School is out, summer is here and that means there will be many kids out there with nothing to do," said Martin Remeriz, Community Outreach assistant.

"That is why we offer College for kids as an outreach to keep the kids learning and busy."

From June 1 to July 31, OCCC sponsors approximately 275 summer day camps and classes for area children (grades 1 through 6) and teens (grades 7 and 8), according to the College for Kids website.

Class size is limited to 12 students.

The classes offered vary from sports and swimming to science and creative writing, according to website information.

The publication states the camps consist of mostly one-week classes taught by experienced instructors.

"I am confident my girls will be fine and have a good time learning how to swim," said Heaven Welch,

mother of 5-year-old twins. "They are excited about coming to the big school instead of going to day care all summer.

"It makes them feel like they are special," she said.

All members of the family can find something of interest to study or to make them feel more special, Remeriz said.

From music lessons and dance to Astronomy or the Human Skeleton class, OCCC College for Kids has something for everyone, he said.

For more information, go to www.occc.edu/coe or call the Community Outreach office at 405-682-7859.

Program Fees

All classes held at OCCC are \$50 each unless otherwise specified (supply fees are included).*

Individual Student Discount

Students who enroll in more than one class per weekly session will receive \$10 off each additional class.*

Family Discount

Families who enroll more than one child will receive \$20 off their first class for each student.*

*Source: www.occc.edu/coe, College For Kids

Photos by Joseph A. Moore II, Text by Cynthia Praefke

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC Summer Camps & EVENTS

• **June 29:** Junior Guard starts for youth ages 11 to 15 and is from 8 a.m. to noon on Monday to Thursday in the Aquatics Center. For more information, call 405-682-7860.

• **July 2:** Mako Shark Team beginning and advanced swim teams meet at 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in the Aquatics Center. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7442.

• **July 2-30:** Hatha Yoga classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays. The spinning program is 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. for both sessions and is on either Tuesdays and Thursdays or Mondays and Wednesdays in the Wellness Center.

• **July 3:** The Wellness Center will be closed in observance of Independence Day.

• **July 6:** Beginning Golf is 5:30 to 6:55 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at Earlywine Golf Course.

• **July 7:** Beginning Golf is 5:30 to 6:55 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Earlywine Golf course.

• **July 10:** Lifeguard games start at 6:30 a.m. at Whitewater Bay.

• **July 13:** Private swim lessons are available at 12:30 p.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., or 4:30 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more information, contact the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860

Have a Sports Story Idea?

Call W Hoyle at

405-682-1611, ext.7440,

or send an e-mail to

StaffWriter2@occc.edu



Photo by W. Y. Hoyle

John McCraw, SCUBA instructor of nine years at Blue Water SCUBA, instructs Vickie Hajek how to clear her regulator June 9 in the OCCC Aquatics Center. Classes meet at Blue Water's shop for classroom work and at OCCC Aquatic Center for water training. For more information, contact Allen Aboujeib, SCUBA instructor at Blue Water Divers of OKC 405-631-7733 or email allen@bluewaterokc.com

SCUBA lessons available at OCCC

By W. Y. Hoyle
Staff Writer

Learn to swim with the fish at OCCC. SCUBA diving is an offered course at the college since it teamed up with Blue Water Divers of OKC. The adventure of scuba diving that turns into a lifestyle for some is possible even here in Oklahoma, said Ed Guy, retired diver and PADI instructor.

Scuba diving is not just an oceanic sport, he said. Open water diving can be done in any open body of water such as lakes and rivers. Oklahoma is a state known for its lakes.

Professional Association of Diving Instructors certified classes teach students how to scuba dive in open water, Guy said. Upon completion students earn their open water diver certification card.

"Being SCUBA certified is a badge of honor," he said. "Once you have it you join a tight nit group of people who become your family."

Allen Aboujeib of Blue Water Divers of OKC, has been teaching scuba diving since 1997. He said

he started teaching his classes through OCCC in 1998.

Learning to scuba is not a difficult task, Aboujeib said.

"We have over 600 people go for their PADI certification a year, and only two or three fail to certify," he said.

"Most problems people have are troubles they put on themselves. When they don't properly prepare they fear the unknown and fail. When a person does properly prepare, they know what's coming and don't fear it" Aboujeib said.

The classes start from beginner and range to instructor. Most classes are under \$200 and equipment is provided. There is an additional fee for the open water test.

All classes offered are PADI certified and count as elective college credit hours, Aboujeib said.

Courses start every other week for beginners with classroom work on Mondays in at Blue Water Divers of OKC and pool time in the Aquatics Center on Tuesdays.

"I am so excited," said Erika Tiger, a student enrolled in the beginner class that started June 8.

"I've been wanting to learn how

"Being SCUBA certified is a badge of honor. Once you have it you join a tight nit group of people who become family."

—Ed Guy

PADI dive instructor

to SCUBA dive for long time."

"This is so cool," said SCUBA student Will Davis. "I can't wait to go to Cozumel and dive in the ocean."

Those wanting to enroll must sign up through the SCUBA shop, Guy said.

Call Blue Water Divers of OKC at 405-631-4433 or check out the website at www.bluewaterokc.com for more information.

The classes cost \$175 plus \$99 for the open water test. All payments are made through the shop.

Once students pass the open water PADI divers certification, there are many different dive clubs or dive trips around the world, Aboujeib said.

Staff Writer W. Y. Hoyle can be reached at StaffWriter2@occc.edu.

Youth camp action



Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

Two summer sports camp participants go after a soccer ball during a match on campus. According to the college's website www.occc.edu, "exciting half-day sports camps are full of action and training in a number of areas for children, ages six to 11, and 12 to 14. T-ball, cheer and dance, swimming and flag football are just a few activities on the summer schedule. Morning and afternoon camps are available, and each half-day camp lasts one week. The cost for each weekly camp is \$60, which includes the camp t-shirt. Each half-day camp lasts one week. For more information on the camps your child likes best, please call the OCCC Recreation and Fitness Department at 405-682-7860, or log on to www.occc.edu/rf."

Does your club have an exciting event or meeting coming up? If so, call Shawn Stawicki at 405-682-1611, ext. 7410, or e-mail Shawn at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

College official says college students less likely to experience poverty

"Enrollment,"

Cont. from page 1

cent, which, Harevy said, is related to the demographic of 18- to 24-year-olds.

"The number of high school graduates has been declining in Oklahoma for a number of years now," he said.

The number of full-time students is up 15 percent with average credit hours going up 2.3 percent.

Full-time equates to just six credit hours in the summer semesters, he said.

"I find the increase in number of full-time students striking," Harvey said.

"That's telling me that it has something to do with the economy."

Harvey said general education courses such as mathematics, science and humanities classes have the largest enrollment for this semester.

"Classes for health professions is up and has been up consistently for a number of years," Harvey said.

He said the number of returning students has gone up 9.3 percent.

"We like to see that number go up because that means they're staying in school and going to classes."

Harvey said summer semester is a little more idiosyncratic, that people

attend for a variety of reasons.

"They may be taking one class or a couple to fill in their schedule," Harvey said.

Sophomore business major Juan Torres said he is taking six hours this summer to have more free time in the fall.

"I'd rather take classes now, so I have more time to work in the fall," Torres said.

Freshman biology major Kaileigh Miller said she changed her military status from full time to part time so she could go to college.

"I transferred to the Oklahoma Air National Guard so I could go to school full time," she said.

"When I was full time in the military they kept deploying me while I was trying to go to school," Miller said.

"I thought I could easily get a job with my military credentials but the only thing that would help is going to college."

Harvey said college is a good idea for everyone and at any time, not just when the economy is suffering as it is now.

"A person who doesn't have any kind of college course work is four times more likely to experience poverty."

Editor Justin Combs can be reached at Editor@occc.edu.

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Highlights

Hiring at U.S. Census Bureau office

The Oklahoma City U.S. Census Bureau office is in the process of hiring temporary workers to gather information for the state of Oklahoma for the 2010 Census. Applicants must be 18 years or older, must have a valid Social Security number and be available to work 20 to 40 hours per week. For more information, call 405-254-9140 or 1-866-861-2010. For more information, visit the Census Bureau website www.2010censusjobs.gov.

New Student Orientation

Student Life will be presenting New Student Orientation at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, in CU1 in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Student Life Blood Drive

Student Life will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 23 and June 24 in CU1 in the College Union. For more information, contact the Student Life office at 405-682-7523.

Certificate of Mastery in International Business

The Business division will offer two of six classes related to the Certificate of Mastery in International Business in the fall semester. The 18-hour mastery program is targeted at men and women who have a college degree, as well as current OCCC associate degree-seeking students. For more information, contact the Business Division office at 405-682-7550.

TRIO Student Support Services summer events

Upcoming events for current TRIO students this June include:

- June 16 - Oklahoma History Center
- June 17 - Oklahoma Christian University
- June 23 - Wichita Mountains Refuge and Cameron University
- June 24 - Oklahoma City University and Myriad Botanical Gardens

Students can pre-register in room 1X7 in the Main Building or contact TRIO SSS at 405-682-1611, ext. 7723.

Faculty Association garage sale

The Faculty Association garage sale will take place Oct. 28 and 29 in CU 1, CU2 and CU3 in the College Union. Contributions will be taken throughout the summer. New health department rules will prohibit the sale of toys or jewelry that might contain lead. For more information, contact Linda Boatright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468.

HOPE to attend conference

The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education will attend the National Council of La Raza July 22, in Chicago, Ill. The NCLR is a hispanic civil rights organization.

Tuition Fee Waiver Information

Tuition Fee Waiver applications for the fall semester are available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. April 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525, ext. 7188.

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



Photo by Shawn Stawicki

OCCC Student Life Programs Leader Rebecca Whitson speaks about time management to students at a New Student Orientation held June 9 in CU2 in the College Union. New Student Orientation will be offered for free all summer by Student Life. Dates and times are posted in the Student Life offices.

Free orientation offered

Student Life assists new students

By Shawn Stawicki
Staff Writer

OCCC is offering New Student Orientation classes to assist students all summer for free, said Rebecca Whitson, OCCC Student Life program leader.

New Student Orientation is a one-time, two-and-a-half hour session Whitson said. Students can choose from 18 sections in June or July and 12 sections in August, and must enroll in the non-credit course, NSO 0500 she said.

Enrollment is free to new students. The next sections offered will be 2:30 p.m. June 16, 9:30 a.m. June 23 and 2:30 p.m. June 30 in CU3 in the College Union.

Students will have an opportunity to learn about topics such as parking, payments, budgeting, how to use the student e-mail system and time management, said Lori Harless, Student Programs

leader.

She said students would also learn about the used book board. Harless said she feels the book board is important for new students to know about.

"Students can post books without a fee so there is a greater return rate," Harless said.

Orientation classes are not required but are highly recommended to help students feel welcome at OCCC, Whitson said.

"We want [students] to be successful in college so we encourage they attend," Whitson said. "Starting in July and August, we will do them three and four days a week."

Wright said there are plenty of activities for students to participate in. Students will have an opportunity to take a 30-minute tour of the campus and listen to lectures from the Financial Aid office and the Bursar's office, as well as watch movie clips and other

various activities, she said.

"We do icebreakers to familiarize [students] with us as well as everyone else in the room," Wright said. "We also offer cookies and refreshments."

Centerria Wright, Student Life program leader, said more students graduate if they take the orientation course.

"I attended New Student Orientation when I was a new student," Wright said. "I thought it was beneficial and I hope students that attend feel the same way."

An Administrative Office Technology student who wished to go by only Sandra said she enjoyed the orientation.

"It was informative and they took us on a tour around the school which was nice," she said.

For more information, call Student Life at 405-682-7523.

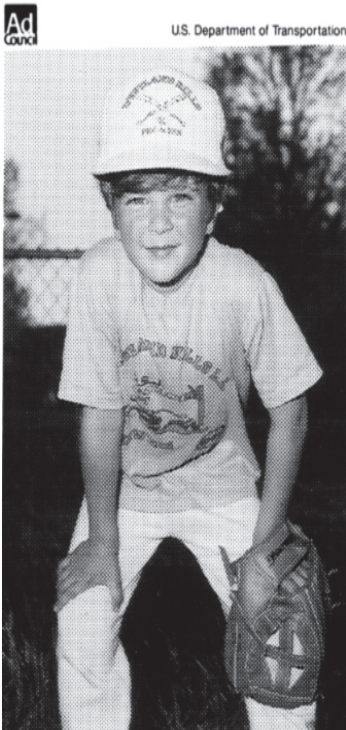
Staff Writer Shawn Stawicki can be reached at StaffWriter1@occc.edu.

Classifieds

Pioneer Classified Advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ads must be submitted in writing with IDs supplied or work area and college extension included. Deadline for advertising is 5 p.m. Tuesday prior to the publication date. For more information, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or adman@occc.edu.

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U.S. Department of Transportation

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Bath powder
- 5 Relaxation
- 9 Beginning for "corder"
- 12 Juliet's beloved
- 13 Pat dry
- 14 Sign of the future
- 16 Hamburger extra
- 17 Gondolier's song
- 19 Spanish hero
- 20 Not those
- 22 One who likes solitude
- 23 Study
- 24 Like doors or attaché cases
- 25 Tart
- 28 The fabulous Garbo
- 30 Mature
- 31 Decorate the tree
- 32 City in the "Iliad"
- 36 Con's room
- 37 Hairdos
- 38 Hawkeye State
- 39 Type of jerk
- 40 Western writer
- 41 — pole
- 42 Highways
- 44 "Gunsmoke" star
- 45 Comedian Sid
- 48 Greek god
- 49 Takes a chance
- 50 Blasts of wind
- 52 Space
- 55 Some dogs
- 57 Theater area
- 59 Throb
- 60 Take the bus
- 61 Chemical compound
- 62 Color
- 63 Square or slip —
- 64 Went fast

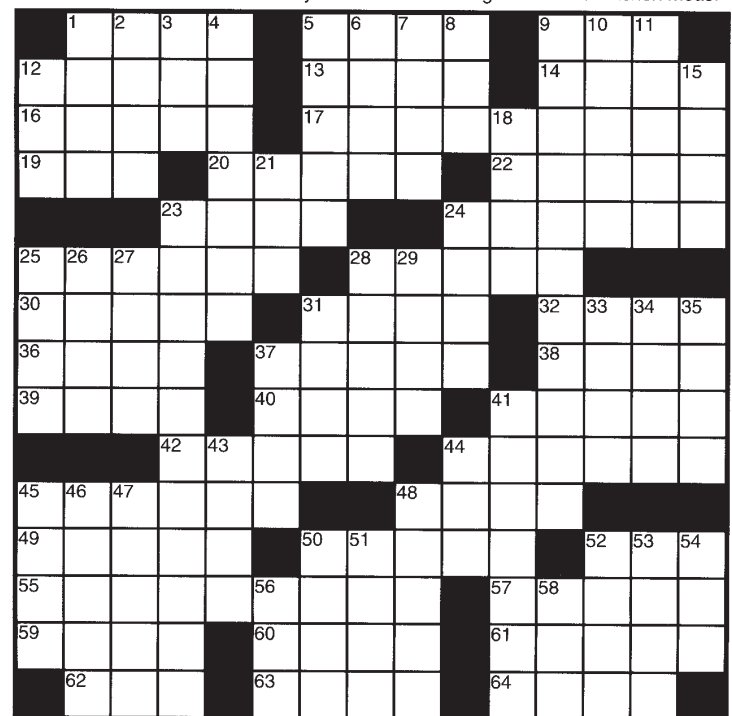
DOWN

- 1 Writer Morrison
- 2 Surrounded by
- 3 Baseball's Durocher
- 4 Satisfied
- 5 Receded
- 6 Cry of woe
- 7 Miffed
- 8 And so on: abbr.
- 9 Crowning ceremonies
- 10 In the thick of
- 11 Free-for-all
- 12 Mythical bird
- 15 Social misfit
- 18 Dismounted
- 21 It's for horses!
- 23 Use the rink
- 24 Skirt borders
- 25 Deficiency

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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Stephen at [editor@
occc.edu](mailto:editor@occc.edu) or call
405-682-1611,
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