

OCCC making plans to become a green college

Employee and student influence led to decision, officials say

By Mark Smith
News Writing Student

OCCC is preparing to become more environmentally friendly starting this fall, said OCCC Executive Vice President Jerry Steward.

He said a group called Green Task Force met May 18 to discuss ways the campus can become less wasteful, conserve water and recycle.

The idea for the task force was influenced by examples staff and students have set by placing recycle bins around campus, and using their time and personal finances to promote environmental awareness, Steward said.

"The employees who have taken their own time and resources to put out recycle bins and made efforts to help the environment, has been a great inspiration to me," he said.

He said he expects the group to focus on how to make the campus a more environmentally-effective place, review what the college is doing that hurts or helps the environment, be as environmentally friendly as possible, and encourage students, staff and faculty to be more involved with environment protection efforts.

Steward, who came up with the task force concept, said the college community must come together to do more. He said he believes all people have a responsibility to the planet.

He said the group is just getting organized so no projects or plans have yet been started.

It's expected that plans and recommendations will emerge from the group as more meetings are held, he said.

Steward said he believes large changes can be made to the campus at a slight cost.

"As of now no funds have been needed," he said.

"However, as projects are recommended, we will request a minimal amount of money to fund these projects."

Funding for the task force projects will come from outside grants and campus funds, he said.

Several students, faculty and staff members attended at the first task

"The employees who have taken their own time and resources to put out recycle bins and made efforts to help the environment, has been a great inspiration to me."

—Jerry Steward
OCCC Executive Vice President

See "Green," page 9

Life-saving generosity



Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

Chase Langley, liberal studies sophomore, donates blood at a recent blood drive. The Oklahoma Blood Institute held the blood drive June 23 and 24 in the College Union in an effort to replenish blood supplies that typically drop off in the summer, said Cindy Houck, OBI tech. She said the supply of blood drops during the months of May through September but the need remains the same. "People are vacationing and enjoying the summer," she said. "They are not thinking as much about giving blood." OCCC donors contributed 51 units toward that need.

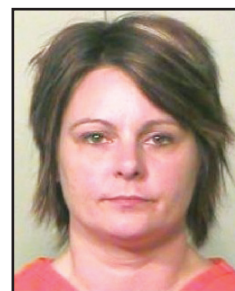
Former student gets five years in stun gun attack

An OCCC graduate who pleaded guilty to the stun-gun attack on a Putnam City North High School cheer-leading coach was sentenced to five years in prison yesterday, according to court documents.

LeShawn Cathlene Fisher, 37, who admitted her role earlier this year

in the attack of Bethany Lorenz had asked for no jail time, but the judge gave her the multiple-year sentence, noting he believed she had lied last week in defending her friend and former OCCC adjunct professor

Julie Bell, according to NewsOk.com.



LeShawn Fisher

Bell was acquitted of charges implicating her in the attack.

During Bell's trial June 17, Fisher told the court she acted alone when she approached Lorenz in the Putnam City North High School parking lot last year.

Fisher used a stun gun on Lorenz's neck after Bell's daughter did not make the

See "Attack," page 9

Editorial and Opinion

Editorial

Amendment attacked

The First Amendment establishes the absolute separation of church and state in the U.S.

Yet, this spring, the Oklahoma Senate, House of Representatives and Gov. Brad Henry launched an assault on this principle by passing and signing a bill into law allowing for the construction of a monument of the Ten Commandments on state capital grounds.

The constitutionality of this bill needs no debate as the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 3-0 that a similar monument located at the Haskell County Courthouse in Stigler was unconstitutional.

How the bill became a law, however, requires discussion.

Ignorance regarding the Constitution and the basic workings of government on the part of Oklahomans allowed and encouraged this blatant attack on the First Amendment.

Proposed by Rep. Mike Ritze (R-Broken Arrow), and sponsored by in the senate by Sen. Randy Brogdon (R-Owasso), the measure passed in the House 83-2 and in the Senate 38-8 before Henry signed it into law.

With most of these lawmakers holding some type of degree and all of them having first-hand knowledge in the workings of government, they could not be unaware that this bill will probably be declared unconstitutional in the courts.

In this case, the ignorance of Oklahomans was the root of the problem, but this is only reflective of the ignorance of most Americans.

Only one in 1,000 Americans can name all five rights guaranteed to them by the First Amendment, according to a poll by the McCormick Tribune Freedom Museum.

Another poll, conducted by the First Amendment Center, found 55 percent of Americans believe the U.S. Constitution establishes a Christian nation.

In passing the Ten Commandments bill, these lawmakers obviously were hoping to appeal to uninformed voters. The reelections of the legislators and Gov. Henry depend on the appeasement of a population that is unaware of their own rights and does not understand the document that established their government.

In a hope to keep their seats, the lawmakers wasted valuable time passing a bill they know will probably be struck down in the courts.

The passing of unconstitutional measures such as the Ten Commandments bill must stop, but in order for that to happen, we must better educate ourselves.

Civics needs to be stressed as a core subject throughout the education process, from elementary school through college. Without well-informed voters, any democracy is doomed to fail.

—Jon Weis
Staff Writer

Take caution, the heat is on

To the editor:

As Oklahoma and Oklahoma County enters into the summer months and predicted periods of severe heat, the Oklahoma City-County Health Department reminds everyone that this intense heat can kill.

Most victims of heat stress are the elderly.

Heat stress is the burden hot weather places on the body, especially the heart.

If the burden is too great, heat can cause you to be very sick or even kill you.

Crowded living conditions may increase this danger. Your body needs time to adjust to hot weather.

A sudden increase in temperature, especially in early summer, is particularly dangerous because your body is unprepared for the strain.

It doesn't take a heat wave to kill you. If you are feeling hot and uncomfortable, take steps to avoid heat stress.

Heat stress can cause many medical problems including heat exhaustion, heat stroke, heart failure and stroke.

Proper precautions can make you more comfortable, prevent illness and even save your life.

Many medications can make you much more vulnerable to the heat.

If you take medicine for high blood pressure, nervousness, depression, poor circulation or sleeplessness, you should check with your doctor or pharmacist for advice.

Here are some serious signs of heat stress:

- Dizziness
- Rapid heartbeat
- Diarrhea
- Nausea
- Throbbing headache
- Dry skin (no sweating)
- Chest pain
- Significant weakness
- Mental changes
- Breathing problems
- Vomiting
- Cramps

Take it easy, especially at the start of hot weather when your body is less prepared for the heat.

Take it easy, especially at the start of hot weather when your body is less prepared for the heat.

—Harold Holman
Oklahoma State
Department of Health

PIONEER

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off the mark.com by Mark Parisi



Comments and Reviews

Harrison songs re-mastered

George Harrison is dead and incapable of actually recording a new album, but that doesn't mean his old songs can't be re-mastered and re-released.

Harrison's new album, "Let it Roll: Songs by George Harrison," includes songs that are re-mastered and re-recorded by Giles Martin of EMI Abbey Road Studios.

Abbey Road Studios is the same studio where Harrison's band, The Beatles, record most of their work and where Harrison recorded his solo work as well.

The album, released June 16, includes 19 tracks and a 28-page booklet featuring rare images, artwork and collections of writings from Harrison and friends.

This record is a wonderful collection of the best of Harrison's solo career, including three live recordings from a 1971 Madison Square Gardens concert, in New York City, N.Y.

This compilation of songs



redefines the brilliance of Harrison, even for those who may not be familiar with his work.

Some of the more recognizable songs on the record are "Here Comes the Sun," "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" and "Something."

The album also includes a previously unreleased Bob Dylan cover, "I Don't Want To Do It."

This album definitely isn't lacking anything.

Harrison was an excellent songwriter. He had a purity about him that couldn't be defined merely by spoken word.

Rather, a better expression of Harrison's passion can be sought out by lis-

tening to the music.

Dubbed the so-called "Quiet Beatle" Harrison may have been overlooked while sharing the spotlight with fellow band mates John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

However, "Let it Roll" is just the kind of album to showcase Harrison's talent.

"Let it Roll" is a great album for those who enjoy classic, original music.

"It's very difficult to express how you feel by simply talking," Harrison said in an interview posted online on www.amazon.com.

"In a song, however, you have the addition of the music and the value of added sound, and that can stir you from a much deeper level."

"Let it Roll" is a great summer album and a must-have for George Harrison fans and new fans as well.

Rating: B+

**—Matt Montgomery
Staff Writer**

Johnnie's, always a pleasure

Normally, I don't find chain restaurants much more than the generic. However, there are a few exceptions.

The most recent exception is Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler. Johnnie's has been an Oklahoma City must since 1971.

Johnnie's is a local chain with four locations in the metro area.

They also have three additional locations of Johnnie's Express, which is a smaller version of Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler that also serves breakfast.

Their specialty is a thick and tasty burger at a reasonable price.

Their highest priced burger is their #10, the double cheeseburger, for \$5.79.

From basic additions like bacon and cheese, to their homemade Caesar

salad, dressing or their signature Johnnie's sauce, Johnnie's has a burger for just about everyone, even a veggie burger.

During my most recent venture to Johnnie's, at 421 SW 74th St., I ordered the #19, the bacon cheeseburger and onion rings.

It is a basic burger with bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo, but it is the little things that make it a great burger.

For instance, their cheese isn't sliced. It is freshly grated cheddar.

Also, it would be easy to allow the charcoal to overpower the flavor of the burger, but the smoky taste adds to the already mouth-watering taste.

The onion rings are sliced fresh and hand battered every morning.

They are definitely on my list of the top five best

burger joints you can get in Oklahoma City.

If you aren't a fan of burgers, Johnnie's also has a selection of salads and deli sandwiches that are equally delicious, although you might pay a little more than the burgers.

The prices range anywhere from \$2.99 to \$7.89.

Their basil chicken flatbread sandwich, at \$7.59, is an excellent alternative to their burgers. Made of grilled chicken, provolone, tomatoes, lettuce and Balsamic Basil Vinaigrette, served on seasoned flat bread, this sandwich doesn't disappoint.

As long as Johnnie's continues to do what they are doing, they won't be going anywhere any time soon.

Rating: B+

**—Luke Carter
Staff Writer**

JOB&CAREER POWER

OCCC has many number one ranked health professions programs. Students interested in the Nursing, Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) or Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) programs will compete academically for acceptance. So, grades are important.

The following information was developed by Claire Echols, academic advising coordinator for Health Professions, and Mary Ann Bodine, Academic Advising assistant director.

Health Professions: (*Admissions based on Preference Point System)

*Traditional RN Pathway

Average GPA Admitted: 3.42

Applied: 318

Admitted Yearly: 144

*Career Ladder Pathway

Applied: 91

Admitted Yearly: 60

Average GPA Admitted: 3.07

(Open to Licensed Practical Nurses & Licensed Paramedics)

Baccalaureate to Associate Degree Pathway

Applied: 82

Admitted Yearly: 40

Average GPA Admitted: 3.40

(Admissions based on GPA)

Occupational Therapy Assistant

Applied: 42

Admitted Yearly: 20

Average GPA Admitted: 3.03

*Physical Therapy Assistant Program

Applied: 69

Admitted each Fall: 20

Average GPA Admitted: 3.23

Emergency Medical Sciences

Open enrollment program

Required GPA: 2.00

Career Technology Cooperative Alliance Programs include: Medical Assistant (3 locations), Surgical Technology (2 locations), Respiratory Care, Orthotics and Prosthetics, and Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

Prospective students should visit Academic Advising, Health Professions Advising or the Student Employment and Career Services offices for more details.

Coming soon is a brand new Health Professions advising web page at healthproadvisor@occc.edu.

Good Luck.

**—Debra Vaughn, Director
Student Employment and Career Services**

Students find success at deadCENTER fest

Former and current OCCC students have films screened; two win awards

By Matt Montgomery
Staff Writer

OCCC graduate, Rogelio Almeida, won the top award at the deadCENTER film festival this year, the Grand Jury Award, for his feature-length narrative film, "Yvette."

The festival, held in Oklahoma City June 10, showcased four films from both former and current OCCC Film and Video Studies students.

The festival was founded to promote independent films in Oklahoma.

It has been attracting filmmakers from across the nation since 2001, according to the deadCENTER website www.deadcenterfilm.org

Almeida's Spanish-language film was up against 90 other films, he said.

Almeida said his film portrays the story of a Mexican-American girl who was born in Texas and has problems with her identity.

She moves to Mexico for the first time with her mother and has to cope with her new culture and surroundings.

"When she moves to Mexico, she begins to discover her Mexican culture and in turn, her identity," Almeida said.

"So, it's kind of about self-discovery and identifying new culture," he said.

"At first she feels she doesn't belong, and then after a while she develops a relationship with her grandmother and friends she meets while in Mexico."

Part of the film was shot in Duncan, Okla. and the rest of the film was shot in Zacatecas, Mexico, Almeida said.

He said he, his wife Nora and one other person actually moved to Zacatecas, Mexico for two months to film.

Almeida said, in total, the pre-production, production and postproduction took almost one year to finish.

He said his wife Nora and he didn't really have any proper training when they first began to write the film.

"We actually bought [the books]

"Filmmaking for Dummies" and "Screenwriting for Dummies," and we read them on the way to shoot the movie in Mexico," he said.

He said he didn't start attending OCCC until he finished making the movie.

"I started going to OCCC when I got back from Mexico."

Almeida said he learned a lot about filmmaking when he attended OCCC, especially post-production aspects.

"It was an eye-opening experience."

"I learned a lot about the editing aspects of filmmaking while at OCCC."

He said they spent close to \$10,000 making "Yvette."

Almeida said he also is working on a documentary about former OU football quarterback and Heisman Trophy winner, Jason White.

He said his biggest inspirations in film are filmmakers Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino.

"My Little Mascot"

OCCC student Jay Sheldon said he had been trying for several years to get his film screened at deadCENTER.

He said his film, "My Little Mascot" was screened to an audience of more than 300 people and the response was positive.

Sheldon said his film is about a former high school mascot who can't find work and is forced into early retirement.

"Being a mascot was kind of like his dream job and not being able to do that made him depressed and he stops speaking," Sheldon said.

He said, although the film is kind of sad, it is still considered a quirky comedy-drama.

Sheldon said the movie was shot in Oklahoma City in October 2007 and was finally finished just in time for the recent deadCENTE film festival.

Sheldon said he wrote the film for his school capstone project just like Leland did with her short

film.

Sheldon said he has learned a lot from the OCCC film department and considers it one of the best programs in the state.

He said unlike a lot of schools in Oklahoma, the teachers at OCCC are more hands on, and most of the experience is learned while actually making the film.

"I don't remember much from the classroom," Sheldon said.

"I learned a lot from going out and making short films that were class assignments."

He said that is the biggest thing he learned from the film department at OCCC — going out and doing the work.

"In film, the best way to learn is to actually go out and do it," he said.

"The Starvation Doctrine"

Zac Davis is another OCCC filmmaker whose film was screened.

Davis' film, "The Starvation Doctrine" won the deadCENTER film award for the best documentary short film.

He said he worked on the film since 2007 and just recently completed the 54-minute piece.

Davis said his film is about the Mexican population living in Oklahoma City and the struggles they have to live with here including lack of health care and immigration laws.

"In the film there is a girl named Karina who can't get health care because of her immigration status," he said.

Mainly, he said, this film is a direct correlation between State House Bill 1804, which deals with immigration and health care, and the effect it has on Mexican immigrants, who are trying to make an

honest living in America.

For more information about the film and to see a trailer, visit www.burningbuffalofilms.com.

"Foods For Thought"

Another OCCC student, Stefanie Leland, also screened her documentary short film at deadCENTER.

The film is called "Foods For Thought," and it is a 15-minute documentary film about alternative ways to get food, Leland said.

She said her film is about different ways to get food other than from

commercial grocery stores.

Leland said she is three credit hours away from graduating, and for her last three hours she is going to work on another film at OCCC.

She said her goal is to make films to encourage future generations to live better and healthier lifestyles.

Leland said she was inspired to make this film because of the environment she was raised in.

"I grew up out in western Oklahoma, and I think that had a huge part in it," Leland said.

"Out there, people are more likely to provide their own food, and I grew up eating things my father hunted for, that weren't bought in grocery stores."

Leland said she is the only actor in her film.

She said it is her own personal journey to discover alternatives to commercial consumption.

Because her film was a student project, she didn't have much of a budget to work with, she said.

For more information about deadCENTER, visit www.deadcenterfilm.org.

Staff Writer Matt Montgomery can be reached at StaffWriter3@occc.edu.



Rogelio Almeida



Stefanie Leland



Jay Sheldon



Zac Davis

Read the **PIONEER ONLINE** for breaking news and in-depth stories

www.occc.edu/pioneer

OCCC emphasizes youth fitness with eight-week summer program

Fitkids Camps aim to teach children healthy living through games

By Jay Lulla
News Writing Student

Children between the ages of 6 and 12 gathered in the OCCC gymnasium last week to sculpt their bodies, as part of the college's Fitkids Camps.

The camps consist of fun activities, fitness classes, swim time and outdoor activities that promote health, wellness and physical fitness, according to the college's website — www.occ.edu.

The program runs through July 31 and is divided into eight separately themed weeks at the cost of \$30 per week, according to the website.

The children who attended camp the week of June 15 were there for Yoga, Pilates and Body Sculpting, said camp instructor Jordan Frazier, 20.

Frazier, an elementary education major from Oklahoma City, said the children were taught the basics of the exercises.

She said the children seemed to enjoy the camp.

"The feedback that we are getting from the kids is very positive," Frazier said.

She said the children not only enjoyed learning yoga, but also seemed to be challenged by the pilates.

Pilates are a mix between cardio and yoga, Frazier said.

The exercise system in pilates emphasizes core exercise, burning calories, abdominals work, and balance, she said.

"The camp was rough at first, some of the kids did not want to come back because the exercises are tough," Frazier said.

"Learning pilates is difficult. It is not natural for your body to move that way."

Frazier said she also has received positive feedback

"The feedback that we are getting from the kids is very positive."
—Jordan Frazier
Camp Instructor

from the parents.

"When you have more to offer and when you set expectations, the children will rise to the occasion most of the time," she added.

Fitkids Camps are not all about games and exercise, however.

Austin Foley, 13, of Moore, said he has learned many new games to play, but he also has learned a lot about science.

Newton's Laws of Motion and chemistry are some of the things being taught at the camp, he said.

Although he said he enjoyed learning about science, Foley said he liked playing games better.

"My favorite part is still dodgeball though," he said.

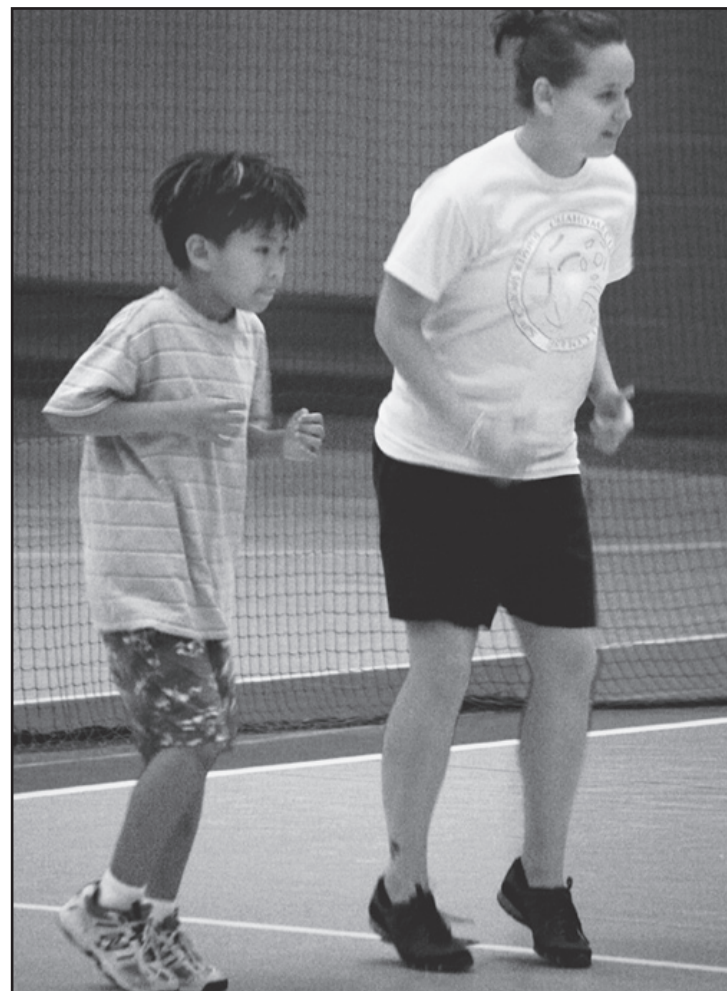


Photo by Joseph A. Moore II

Jonathan, 6, and Jordan Hazelton, camp instructor, practice their football stance. Children ages 6 to 12 have signed up to participate in OCCC's Fitkids Camps this summer.

New Gay-Straight Alliance president confident in ability to rebuild club's on-campus presence

By Devin S. Davis
News Writing Student

A bill moving through Congress, the "Uniting American Families Act", could be a watershed moment for gay rights in the U.S.

If passed, the act would allow gays and lesbians to sponsor their overseas partners to become U.S. residents the same way heterosexual partners can.

Some claim the bill opens the door for Federal recognition of same-sex unions, according to the *New York Times*.

However, James Harris, OCCC Gay-Straight Alliance president, said he is pleased but wants more.

"It's good and all but it's dis-

tracting us from the real issue of gay marriage laws, same-sex union laws and don't ask don't tell," Harris said.

The bill is another step in the long walk for equality happening in the country, he said.

The states of Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine will all begin allowing same-sex marriage toward the end of the year. Iowa has made same-sex marriage legal and Washington D.C. is debating the issue this legislative session.

Harris said he and the GSA have been anxiously awaiting the next state to allow same-sex marriage.

"One day, it'll come to us," he said while crossing his fingers.

The GSA is an organization open to both gay and straight individu-

als, Harris said.

It has been a campus club for almost a decade under various names.

Harris said the GSA's function is to fight for equality for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered students on campus.

He said the GSA has not done its best in the past at fighting for equality, but he assures the organization will do so as it reinvents itself.

"We're basically having to start from scratch," Harris said.

Club members said they believe that with Harris at the helm, the GSA is will be more successful than former versions of the club.

One member of the organization who did not want his name to be

published said Harris has his full support.

"I believe that James truly has our best interests at heart and can make our small organization into something fabulous," he said.

Harris said he believes he can leave a lasting impression on the GSA, but he needs help to do so.

"To do this we need more members than ever before," he said.

Meeting times for the summer are not set, but the club hopes to meet monthly.

Harris said he recommends students to check the bulletin boards around campus for updates on the club.

For more information, e-mail Harris at james.m.harris@email.occ.edu.

INDEPENDENCE DAY | Fireworks watching is the popular activity on July 4

Students reveal plans for Fourth of July



“Unfortunately, I’ll be studying for Anatomy and Physiology II. Luckily, I can see fireworks displays from my house.”

—Shane Osborn,
nursing sophomore



“I’m probably going to be studying. Then, later in the evening, I’m taking my kids to see fireworks.”

—Janet Skannal,
nursing sophomore



“Fourth of July is my favorite holiday because I get to eat good food, hang out at the pool with friends, it’s in the summer and you don’t have to buy anything for anyone.”

—Shane Martin,
nursing sophomore



“I’m going to a friend’s house to watch fireworks. It’s going to just be a big group of my friends all hanging out.”

—Tabby Castellano,
photography freshman



“I’m going to my lake house in Eufala to set off fireworks, ski, fish and just hang out.”

—Matt Secrest,
pharmacy sophomore

Practice firework safety July 4

By Stephen Sossamon
Staff Writer

This Fourth of July, the fun of shooting off fireworks should be done by the professionals, Assistant Oklahoma State Fire Marshall Joanne Sellars said.

“Let somebody else shoot them off,” Sellars said. “Go to a public fireworks display.

“You can still have fun while keeping yourself out of danger.”

The only city that allows the selling and use of fireworks is Mustang, she said. Fireworks are illegal in Oklahoma City.

Some fireworks, she said, can get hotter than 1,200 degrees when lit.

The hot temperatures also don’t help, she said, especially if someone decides to handle the fireworks, as it can burn their hands.

She also said fireworks need to be used in an open area and not in a place with things easily ignitable.

“You need to keep a water source nearby for assistance, too,” Sellars said. “And if you light a firework, don’t try to reignite it.

Sellars said fireworks being set off could also start a fire near houses and structures.

She said if people do plan on igniting fireworks, they should follow a safety plan.

“Keep the shooting fireworks a good distance away,” she said. “Also, don’t ever point or throw fireworks at anyone.”

Sellars said even sparklers could cause seri-

ous burns, so every firework should be used with caution.

“Once you use the firework, soak it in water.”

Jacob Saccom, pre-med major, said he didn’t plan to light fireworks this year.

“I’ve done it previously, but I really don’t feel like getting in trouble for them,” he said. “I just don’t want to take the risk.”

Sophomore Leslie Aynes said she is probably going to set off fireworks, but at the lake.

“I’m going to do it safely, so I don’t really see any problem in it,” she said. “It’s all for entertainment.”

For more information on fireworks laws, visit www.fireworks.com/fireworks_laws/laws_oklahoma.asp.

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



Fourth of July happenings

===== what’s going on around town?

• **Fourth of July Celebration** — Downtown Oklahoma City; all day.

• **Oklahoma City RedHawks vs. Nashville Sounds with fireworks celebration** — Bricktown Ballpark; 7:05 p.m.

• **Annual Norman Day Celebration** — Reeves Park; noon.

• **LibertyFest** — University of Central Oklahoma, main campus; all day.

• **Moore Fireworks Display** — Buck Thomas Park; all day.

• **Bethany Centennial Celebration** — Eldon Lyon Park; 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

• **Nichols Hills Fourth of July Parade** — Kite Park; 9 a.m.

• **El Reno Fireworks Display** — Lake El Reno; 9:45 p.m.

• **Red, White & Blue Celebration** — Shawnee; fireworks at night.

The Pioneer staff wishes everyone a safe and happy Independence Day!

Biology students spend week studying wildlife at Yellowstone National Park

College offers course credit through Rocky Mountain Ecosystems class



The Rocky Mountain Ecosystems class encounter a grizzly bear during an excursion in Yellowstone National Park. The class, offered by the biology department, visited Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone May 23 to May 30.



During their trip to Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park, Rocky Mountain Ecosystems students explore the parks' landscape. Waterfalls and pools were just two of the landforms students witnessed. OCCC's biology department offered the course as an intercession class to fulfill four biology credits.

OCCC's biology department hosted a May intercession class May 23 to May 30 where students studied wildlife at Yellowstone National Park, said Max Simmons, Science and Mathematics Division dean.

The class, Rocky Mountain Ecosystems, was led by Anthony Stancampiano, biology professor, said Simmons.

Kristi Hendricks, biology major, said she joined a group of nine students in the class.

Hendricks said the students left OCCC in a small bus at 6 a.m. May 23.

During the week-long trip, she said, the students stayed in a cabin at Grand Teton National Park and also spent two days at Yellowstone.

Hendricks said she appreciated the opportunity to observe animals interacting in the wild and to see the landforms throughout both parks.

"Seeing Yellowstone itself was a privilege," she said.

Hendricks said this trip reiterated her love for nature and its animal inhabitants.

She said she plans on earning an associates degree in biology and furthering her education in Florida, studying ecology.

Hendricks said the class spent two days at Yellowstone observing animals that they came across while hiking through the national park.

"When we saw an animal, such as a bird species, we stopped and observed it with our binoculars," Hendricks said.

She said the class took field notes of each species they found inhabiting the park.

"We wrote down what time we saw it, the location, what species it was and what it was doing," Hendricks said.

She said they later used the information from their field notes to complete a daily journal about their findings.

"The journal was like a species account of its habits," Hendricks said.

She said the class saw many types of species, but the most exciting animal they encountered was a grizzly bear.

"We saw a grizzly bear right across the road from us from our van," Hendricks said.

She said they left the van to take pictures of the bear but the bear began to get closer to them, causing them to return to the van for safety.

Grizzly bears are capable of outrunning a horse and can grow up to a height of 8 feet, according to www.yellowstone.net.

"We also saw [a] bald eagle, a golden eagle, moose, bison and elk," Hendricks said.

Hendricks said she earned four biology credit hours and the experience exceeded her expectations.

"In the classroom you learn the basics, but this excursion taught you what you can endure out in the wild," she said.

She said the trip was well worth it and hopes she can do again.

"If I get the chance to do something like this again I definitely will," Hendricks said.

"I really enjoyed the trip and bonding with students that shared a love for wildlife."

Text by Justin Combs

Photos provided by Kristi Hendricks

Sports

UPCOMING

OCCC INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **Currently active:** Summer Sports Camps featuring T-Ball on OCCC campus and baseball at Sante Fe South have begun. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **Currently active:** Soccer camp and girls basketball have begun. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **Currently Active:** Tennis, golf and FitKids camps have begun. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **Currently Active:** Boys basketball and swimming camps have begun. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 6-10:** Coed basketball gets underway. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 13-17:** Next session of Fit-kids and swimming start. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 20-24:** Volleyball and indoor soccer starts. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

• **July 27-31:** Summer camps for cheer and dance as well as flag football starts for ages 6-11 and 12-14. For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness Specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

All camps are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Shootin' hoops



Children in advance skill training summer basketball camp on June 23 take turns shooting baskets. Basketball camp is one of the many summer sports camps open to the community through the months of June and July at OCCC. Sports camps are \$60 for children ages 6 to 14, which includes the cost of a camp T-shirt.

Photo by Shawn Stawicki

Cardio Boot Camp helps students shed the pounds and stay healthy

By Shawn Stawicki
Staff Writer

Students, staff, faculty and community members who want to begin working on a personalized fitness plan may want to enroll in Cardio Boot Camp, said Eric Watson, Recreation and Sports specialist.

The camp is just one of the many classes offered at the OCCC Wellness Center, Watson said.

Wellness Center attendant Kevin Tran said it's a four-week course designed to increase lean muscle while utilizing equipment such as the stability ball, hand weights, tubing, body bars and steps, as well as one's own body weight.

Watson said the class is recommended as a beginner's class for anyone who wants to get an introduction to working out before taking more intense fitness pro-

grams.

"[Students] can expect to get a good workout and the class will help them get started on a fitness program," Watson said.

Tran said the program has three different courses for the summer.

It meets from 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. Monday and Wednesday from June 1 to June 29, July 1 to July 29, and Aug. 3 to Aug. 31, he said.

It costs \$30 for non-students and \$20 for current students, staff and faculty, Tran said.

Watson said the program has varying instructors but has been active at OCCC for many years.

Sally Diaz, a community member, said she is taking the class to lose about 10 pounds.

"I brought my kids to sign them up for swim classes and saw the class," she said.

Another member of the class

Cynthia Roberts said she just wanted to get "fit and healthy," one step at a time.

Once this course is completed, students may want to move on to something else the college offers such as aerobics classes, Watson said.

A list of courses offered is listed at www.occc.edu/rf/wellness or on the Wellness Center tab on the left side of the OCCC website.

Students also can learn more by stopping by the Wellness Center desk, located in the Main Building by the Aquatic Center, just past the College Union.

To enroll in Cardio Boot Camp classes or to receive more course information, contact the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310, or visit www.occc.edu.

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

OCCC Regents welcome newest member

Rachel Ramsey
News Writing

Teresa Moisant was sworn into office as OCCC's newest Regent May 29 during the Oath of Office ceremony held on the OCCC campus.

Moisant, appointed to the post by Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry, replaced Regent Candy Hines whose term had expired.

"I am very excited," she said.

"I am flattered to be a part of such an impressive team. I want OCCC to continue to achieve the recognition on the state and national level."

Moisant owns Moisant Promotional Products that provides products imprinted with company logos

to businesses across the state.

She said she is involved in Leadership Oklahoma City and the inaugural class of South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce's Team South Leadership program.

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said because Moisant is a member of the Oklahoma City community, she will be able to represent not only all of the south Oklahoma City but all the greater Oklahoma City area.

"She understands that education has the power to lift people and a community up financially as well improve the quality of life," Sechrist said.

"Moisant will help keep the 'community' in Oklahoma City Community College and will be a great

addition to the Board of Regents," he said.

"Moisant can bring a fresh perspective on the issues facing the Board."

Moisant said she has lived in Oklahoma City her entire life.

She said she graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in and later took some classes at OCCC when she took an interest in a different career.

"I can take on the role of keeping [the business and civic leaders' of Oklahoma City] informed as to OCCC's accomplishments," Moisant said.

"The more they learn about OCCC, the more they will become involved in the school programs, expansion, etc."



OCCC Regent Teresa Moisant

Roof replacement funded

By Justin Combs
Editor

At their regular meeting June 15, the OCCC Regents voted to replace a 37-year-old leaky roof.

The Regents awarded a \$231,269.60 contract to Oklahoma Roofing and Sheet Metal, Inc. for the replacement of the roof that covers the Career Transitions administrative area, and several classrooms and faculty offices located on the second floor under the north slope of the Main Building.

The roof is leaking and irreparable according to the meeting agenda. The agenda shows work would include design, materials, equipment, supervision and labor to demolish the 24,700 square feet of existing roof.

"The proposed replacement will be similar in style, but constructed with the improved technologies of an extruded vinyl weatherseal strip and rolled strips," the agenda reads.

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

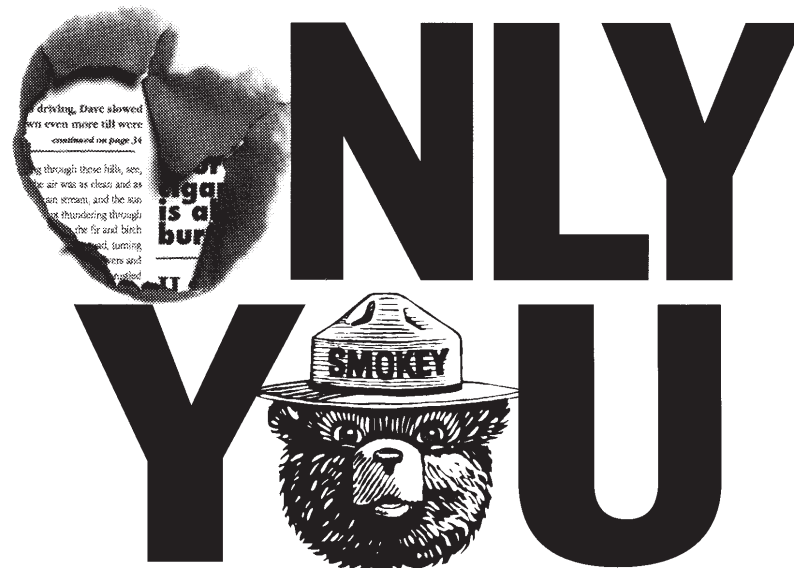
Do you have news you'd like to share?
Maybe you know of an OCCC student
worthy of a mention. If so, contact
Stephen at editor@occc.edu
or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

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Highlights

New Student Orientation

Student Life will present New Student Orientation at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 and Wednesday, July 31, in room CU3 in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

TRiO Student Support Services summer events

Upcoming events for current TRiO students include:

- July 7 — University of Tulsa and Oklahoma Aquarium
- July 8 — Mid America Christian University and Southern Nazarene University
- July 21 — Southwestern Oklahoma State University and the Ropes Course
- July 22 — TRiO SSS Day of Service

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

H.O.P.E. to attend conference

The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education will attend the National Council of La Raza conference 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. Monday, July 20. For more information, call Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-1611, ext. 7525.

Child Care spots open

Several full-time child care spaces will be available for 3- and 4-year-olds beginning in August at The Child Development Center and Lab School. The CDCLS is open from 7 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Monday through Friday for students, employees and the community, and from 5 to 10 p.m. for students. Contact Lee Ann Townsend, CDCLS lab supervisor, at 405-682-1611, ext. 7423 if you or someone you know would be interested.

Land and the Law for Non-Landsmen Workshop

OCCC, in conjunction with Professional Development Institute, will host a Land and the Law for Non-Landsmen Workshop from 9:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, at the John Massey Center, located at 11919 S. I-44 Service Road in Oklahoma City.

Key Topics to be discussed will include:

- Laws that affect land in oil and gas
- Clauses of a lease
- Mineral ownership
- Responsibilities and duties of the land department
- Legal description
- Lease negotiations

Cost to attend is \$299, which includes instruction and eight hours of continuous professional education credits. To register, contact Corporate Learning at 405-682-7562, or visit www.occc.edu/corporatelearning. Also contact Linda Meux with PDI at 940-565-3354, or e-mail lmeux@pdi.org.

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

Fifty-eight international flags hang from the second floor of the Main Building, overlooking the lobby, welcoming new international students. The world flags were moved to the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City for commencement services in May and were returned June 17 by Student Life Student Program leaders. Each flag represents a country at least one enrolled international student is from.

International flags return to display in Main Building

By Shawn Stawicki
Staff Writer

Students who enjoyed seeing the international flags hanging from the second floor lobby area above the OCCC Coffee Shop in the Main Building can see 58 of them hanging again.

The flags were taken down in May and transported to the Cox Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City to provide backdrop during the 2009 commencement ceremony, said Rebecca Whitson, Student Life student programs leader.

Whitson said the college counts how many countries are represented by OCCC's international student population and they hang each country's flag in honor of these students.

"Student Life puts [the flags] up as a way of welcoming students to

OCCC and to show we're glad they're here."

Whitson said every spring semester, the college determines how many students from foreign countries are enrolled in classes.

She said they then update which flags are displayed.

This past spring semester, OCCC had 58 countries represented, Whitson said, which is why there are 58 flags currently hanging up.

More than 506 international students from 62 countries are expected to take classes spring 2010, she said. Of those 506, 166 students enrolled are from Nepal.

Other countries include South Korea, Pakistan and Vietnam, Whitson said.

She said Student Life wants to show respect to each student's culture and make sure students feel

welcome and respected.

"It is the least we can do to help welcome the visiting students here, not only to America but to Oklahoma as well," Whitson said.

Insook Kim, an international student from Korea, said she enjoys seeing the flags.

Kim said she came to OCCC to study nursing.

"The (nursing) program is pretty short and it costs less money," she said.

Kim said the nursing program at OCCC is very competitive and is hard to get into, but believes it is an excellent program for the money.

She said she plans to complete her degree at OCCC.

For more information on the international flags, contact 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.

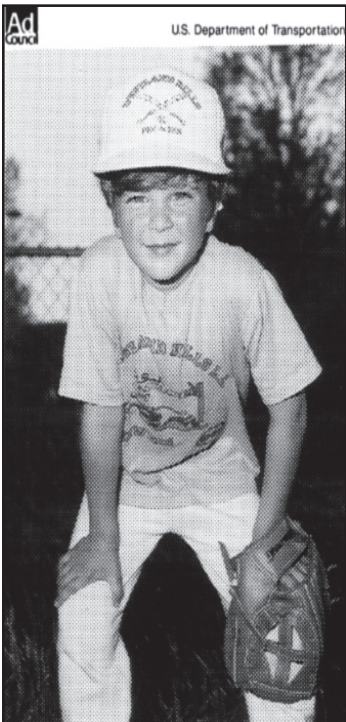
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ACROSS

1 Fish bait
5 Pine tree
10 Near or Far —
14 Sector
15 Luau greeting
16 Type of bargain
17 Rip-off
18 Type of case
19 Sharif of films
20 Spaghetti
22 Grew, in a way
24 Tycoon Onassis
25 — Hashana
26 Car part
29 Annoying
33 Wash off
34 Brink
36 Loud noise
37 Film's
38 Move rapidly
39 Strange
40 Marsh
41 Rind
42 Small canyon
44 Foot pedal
47 Tossed
48 Tropical snakes
49 Thunder Bay's
50 Nothings
53 Developer's
58 Honolulu's
island

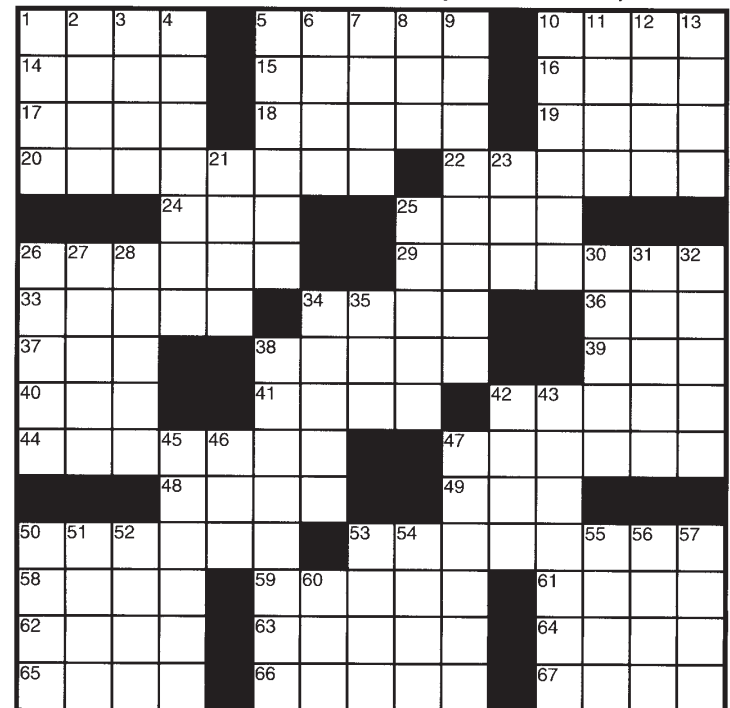
DOWN

1 Stinging insect
2 Killer whale
3 Back
4 Warm-blooded
animals
5 Highland girl
6 Claudia —
Taylor ("Lady
Bird" Johnson)
7 Reddish-brown
horse
8 Greek letter
9 Gave refuge to
10 Noteworthy
periods
11 — mater
12 Sewing line
13 Weight of a
container
21 Novelist —
Stanley
Gardner
23 Arctic dweller:
abbr.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

AGA	AMEBA	VETS
ERG	PITON	TETRA
GANG	PLANK	ANTON
IDEAL	ELONGATE	
SESSION	ERNE	
PETAL	BEFORE	
GOD	DIVER	DUDES
EMIR	SAGAS	LEAP
MIKES	LAVAS	AMY
STEPPE	LEMON	
RARA	SECEDES	
LABORERS	KARAT	
ALIAS	ITINERARY	
DANCE	AUDIT	MEL
SIGH	SNAPS	ADE

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Math conference adds up to good time for all

By Ky Humble
News Writing Student

The Oklahoma Council of Teachers and Mathematics joined together for their annual meeting at OCCC June 12.

Math teachers from around the state gathered to discuss and share ideas on how to better improve the mathematic sector of schools and universities.

According to the OCTM website, their main goal is to “promote better teaching of mathematics in the schools of Oklahoma by holding meetings for the presentation and discussion of papers.”

Every summer for the past 15 years, OCTM has held its conference at OCCC where members

— made up of Oklahoma K-12 math teachers, and college and university professors — come together to collaborate their leading edge ideas for the education system, said Linda Knox, conference chairperson.

Tamara Carter, OCCC mathematics director and OCTM treasurer, said the summer conference is a great time for mathematics teachers in the state to gather together and leave the conference with new ideas they want to try in their classrooms.

“In my opinion, the conference was a success,” Carter said. “There were approximately 275 attendees, presentors, OCTM board members, and exhibitors in attendance

Knox said members went through

a series of sessions during the conference.

“Some were informational with the latest updates in K-12 mathematics,” she said.

“Some were hands on activities to use in the classroom and some were how to use the latest technology available.”

She said those who attended were apparently excited to be

there.

“It is always a wonderful experience when you see the excitement and enthusiasm of the conference attendees,” Knox said.

Knox said she has been involved with the conference for the past 13 years, acting as the liaison between the organization and the college, and serving as chairperson for the past five years.

College gets prepared to go ‘green’

“Green,”
Cont. from page 1

force meeting, Steward said.

Students were supportive of the newly-founded task force and excited that the school has officially

endorsed a group that will make changes to improve the environment, he said.

The efforts of one person may not add up to much, Steward said, but the efforts of many can make a large impact.

Former student gets five years

“Green,”
Cont. from page 1

cheer squad.

“All I wanted to do was to go and confront her — just tell her that she needed to make it right,” Fisher said.

Fisher testified that when Lorenz asked to borrow a pen, she reached into her purse and pulled out a mini stun gun, which she then used against the cheer sponsor.

“I wasn’t trying to hurt her,” Fisher said through tears. “I just wanted her to listen, that’s it.

“I didn’t think about it,” she said. It just happened.”

When asked by a prosecutor how she felt about the case and its implications on the Bell family, Fisher answered in one word: “Horrible.”

“They were family,” she said of Bell and her daughter.

Fisher told the court she was not acting with a sound mind in when the attack occurred.

She said she had multiple back surgeries, for which she takes pain medicine that, she said, causes her to have memory loss.

Fisher said she also has been

raped, divorced and is dealing with a custody battle of her two children.

In addition to jail time, Fisher must serve five more years of probation once she is released, according to court records.

Fisher, who earned an associate degree in 2007, could come back to OCCC and take classes as there is no policy against felons enrolling at the college.

She may return to court later this year to face a \$10,000 civil suit filed by Lorenz for emotional distress.

News Writing students Rachel Ramsey and Whitney Knight contributed to this story.

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