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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

MARCH 19, 2010

WWW.OCCE.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCE SINCE 1978

Communication breakdown top concern at forum

ETHAN HENDRICKS

Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occe.edu

Problems related to communication breakdowns between college administrators and faculty, staff and students was an issue raised repeatedly at a public forum March 4 on campus.

OCCE President Paul Sechrist moderated the forum, which was designed let everyone speak about the shooter scare Feb. 26.

Audience members discussed the confusion caused by the lack of communication. Several speakers said they were worried this breakdown could cause injury to students in the event of a real shooter on campus.

One speaker noted that students were still entering the college while the theoretical gunman was still on the loose.

Pat Berryhill, Institutional Advancement executive director, said more than 100 people attended. Every person was given the chance to speak.

Oklahoma City Police Department Major John Gonshor fielded questions regarding the accidental gunshot and why the college wasn't immediately cordoned off when officers arrived.

In a situation like what happened Feb. 26, Gonshor said everyone is calling 911.

"Because of this massive inflow of information, the operators don't have the time to sift through it all," he said.

As a result, he said, when police arrived, they went where everyone was running from.

"Our number one priority is to find the shooter and deal with him first," Gonshor said.

Other considerations are secondary, he said.

The confusion caused by the erroneous fire alarm was another issue raised. An audience member mentioned that students evacuated the building when the fire alarm activated and went back inside when it stopped.

See **FORUM** page 9

Money deal



THEA SLAVIN/PIONEER

Ebony Webb, physical therapy major, celebrates after winning \$50 to the OCCE Bookstore after playing Deal or No Deal in the general dining area. This was just one in a series of events sponsored by Student Life for Student Appreciation Week.

CONSTRUCTION OF 1,000-SEAT CENTER SET TO BEGIN IN THE FALL

College moves forward with new theater plans

ETHAN HENDRICKS

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Construction should begin in late fall for the new 1,000-seat theater in the Visual and Performing Arts Center, said Pat Berryhill, executive director of Institutional Advancement.

The project will be completed in 2012, Berryhill said.

The theater will have orchestra and balcony seating, along with a major lobby at the entrance with an art gallery, Berryhill said.

She said it would be a definite improvement over the Bruce Owen Theater.

"I think it's a most exciting project for the campus," Berryhill said.

"It will be a great facility for the college and the

community."

OCCE dedicated the VPAC on Feb. 26, 2009. Immediately afterwards, college officials began planning for Phase 2, Berryhill said.

In fact, she said, the center was designed in a U-shape to allow the theater to be built in the empty space.

Berryhill said Triad Design, the college's architect, would design the

new theater.

The Bruce Owen Theater will continue to host small performances, but it will be converted into a learning lab for drama students, she said.

Some theater students expressed excitement for the new performing arts center, even though it won't be built until after they leave OCCE.

The new center will raise the theater program's

profile and cause people to view the college's program differently, said Cheyanne Strickler, theater major.

"We're glad it's finally being done," Strickler said.

"I don't think people respect OCCE's theater program."

Philip Aken, who has performed in more than a dozen plays, agreed with

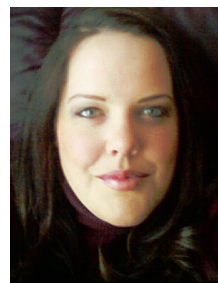
See **THEATER** page 9

OPINION

STAFF COLUMN | Is the banking institution used by OCCC to disperse funds the right choice?

There is no reason HigherOne should charge to use debit card

To a college student, \$61.75 is a lot of money. This is the amount that I have paid in fees in three months to HigherOne, the banking institution chosen by OCCC to process all student refunds and financial aid payments.



JENNIFER MASSEY

I've paid these fees, not because I have overdrawn my account but because this particular bank charges outlandish fees for the simplest transactions.

HigherOne's Web site states the company strives to offer a fairly-priced banking alternative to its customers. If 50 cents for every debit card purchase is considered fair, then HigherOne has not compared itself to the competition.

Representatives from Oklahoma banks including Bank of America, Chase Bank and Bank of Oklahoma confirm their customers are never charged for using their debit card as a debit card.

HigherOne combats this by encouraging its cus-

tomers to "swipe and sign," a free service. Those who prefer to use a personal identification number, or PIN, as a method of security must pay the 50-cent fee for each transaction.

Anyone can sign for a purchase, but not everyone knows my four-digit PIN.

In addition, only the two automatic teller machines on campus can be used for free.

With the closest physical bank located in Connecticut, it is virtually impossible to do banking business anywhere but the OCCC campus.

Using any other ATM requires a \$2 withdrawal fee. And the fee goes both ways. If I use the Bank of America ATM to withdraw funds, I am charged \$2 by HigherOne and by Bank of America.

Does this sound fair? Financial expert, Suze Orman doesn't think so.

"If your bank's fees are considerably higher than other banks, it may be time to take your business elsewhere," Orman said on her Web site.

Unfortunately, it is not that simple.

Because HigherOne is contracted with OCCC, it is the college's recommended way of processing financial



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

aid refund checks and student employee paychecks.

Campus advertisements for HigherOne say using its debit card is faster and easier than the old-fashioned method of waiting for your refund to come in the mail.

It may be more cumbersome to wait for a paper refund check and deposit it into your personal bank account, but in the long run it seems to be the more cost effective choice.

The second best choice would be to withdraw all of your funds from HigherOne and deposit them into your regular checking account, but of course, that would require another fee.

YOUR VIEW | OCCC Safety and Security 'best in the state' and deserve praise

Media has distorted the shooter incident

To the editor:

Friday's "armed intruder" incident, I feel, was negatively reported in the media. I feel this perspective was unfair and undeserved to a great degree.

Yes, some mistakes were made. Many more things went right, however.

While I would not have wanted the incident to

occur, it provided an excellent opportunity for us to locate weaknesses in our system and where and how miscommunication can occur.

We now have a chance to fix these areas. Should a "real" incident occur (God forbid), we will be better prepared and more effective in our response.

Most importantly, I

want to offer my total confidence and support for our safety and security system and personnel.

I feel we have the best people in the state who do an outstanding job and do not deserve to be maligned for the missteps of [Feb. 26].

Our college is an outstanding place to work and I personally appreci-

ate the sense of safety and being looked after that is afforded by these terrific people.

Our system works and will work better as a result of what we learned. Our security people deserve to be lauded for their responsiveness. I appreciate them all.

—LINDA COWAN
NURSING PROFESSOR

Comments? Opinions? Let us Know!

E-mail the Pioneer at

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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. E-mail letters should include all but the signature. The **PIONEER** will withhold the author's name if the request is made in writing. The **PIONEER** has

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Letters to the editor can be submitted to the **PIONEER** office, located on the second floor of the Main Building, across from the elevator, mailed to 7777 S. May Ave., Oklahoma City, Okla. 73159, faxed to 405-682-7843, or submitted via e-mail to editor@occc.edu with a phone number for verification included. The **PIONEER ONLINE** also can be accessed on the Internet at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

FILM REVIEW | Director's focus on effects leaves 'Alice in Wonderland' with bland plot

Burton's film beautiful, but not great

Tim Burton's "Alice in Wonderland" is like a beautiful balloon cake. It looks appetizing to the eye but when you bite into it, you realize it's full of nothing but air.

Burton's sequel to Disney's story of Lewis Carroll's timeless classic was advertised heavily and hyped by the media for the past several months. Unfortunately, Burton sacrificed an engaging plotline in favor of eye-candy graphics.

Alice (Mia Wasikowska) is 20 and all grown up. It has been 13 years since she last dreamed of falling down the rabbit hole. Her widowed mother, Helen (Lindsay Duncan) and older sister Margaret (Jemma Powell) are forcing her into an arranged marriage with Hamish (Leo Bill), a nitwitted aristocrat.

At the engagement party where Alice expects to accept his proposal, she once again sees the White Rabbit (voiced by Martin Sheen) skittering through the garden. Leaving a befuddled Hamish on his knees in front of everyone, she chases after the rabbit.

Following the rabbit to a hole in the ground, she falls in and once again finds herself in Underland, which Alice had mistakenly called "Wonderland" on her first visit which she now only remembers as a dream.

It is soon revealed to Alice that her return to Underland has been foretold. Not only that but she also must lead the residents in Underland to battle against the Red Queen (Helena Bonham Carter), Knave of Hearts, Stayne (Crispin Glover) and the Jobberwocky (voiced by Christopher Lee), the queen's evil pet dragon.

The movie centers on Alice coming to terms with the fact that her visit to Underland is not a dream — both the trip in the past and present — and she must accept her fate and save Underland.

Along the way she meets up with old friends, the



PHOTO COURTESY WALT DISNEY PICTURES

Mad Hatter (Johnny Depp), the March Hare (voiced by Paul Whitehouse), Tweedledee and Tweedledum (Matt Lucas), Cheshire Cat (voiced by Stephen Fry) and the hookah-smoking caterpillar (voiced by Alan Rickman).

She also meets some new friends, the White Queen (Anne Hathaway), Dormouse (Barbara Windsor), the hound Bayard (Timothy Spall), and the Dodo Bird (voiced by Michael Gough)

The graphics are stunning but the actors rarely interact with their surroundings. Depp's performance as the Mad Hatter is spot on and comical. Carter does a wonderful job of playing a grown queen with the petulance of a child.

Overall, "Alice in Wonderland" is a little like "Avatar" in terms of having a disengaging storyline. It's not the crowning achievement of Burton's career it was hyped up to be. Despite this, I still recommend it as worth seeing. Just don't expect a delicious angel food cake.

Rating: B-

—ETHAN HENDRICKS
STAFF WRITER

DVD REVIEW | '2012' chock full of special effects but lack of substance dooms movie

Disaster film disastrous on DVD, big screen alike

The Mayans warned about the end of the world. Unfortunately, they didn't warn about this disaster of a movie.

"2012," an apocalyptic thriller about the ancient Mayan prophecy that predicts the world will end in 2012, was released to DVD on March 2.

The film focuses on Jackson Curtis (John Cusack), a flop of an author trying to juggle his estranged family and his infinitesimal book sales.

When he and his two children, son Noah (Liam James) and daughter Lily

(Morgan Lily), go on a road trip to Yellowstone National Park, the family finds its usual camping spot occupied by government scientists monitoring temperature changes in the Earth's core.

Rattled, the trio returns home in time for a chain of catastrophic earthquakes to hammer California, sending much of the San Francisco Bay area to a watery demise at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean.

Of course, our so-called hero and his family miraculously survive the ordeal that leaves mil-

lions dead, setting off an epic adventure that takes them across a rapidly crumbling world.

All the while, about a dozen other side stories run rampant, including several world leaders hatching a plan to ensure the continuity of human life and government officials killing off anyone compassionate enough to warn others about the imminent apocalypse.

The real catastrophe at hand, however, is not the end of the world — it's this disastrous movie.

"2012" is a smorgas-

bord of plot holes, bad acting, laughable dialogue and a script that is about two hours too long.

The abundance of cheesy humor throughout the flick is not only annoying but also a touch disturbing, especially when the main characters crack tacky jokes as bodies pile up around them.

There are a few bright spots to be had.

The special effects are haunting and mesmerizing. Unfortunately, they aren't enough to make up for this train wreck.

The DVD itself is gener-

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For additional information, please visit the Student Employment and Career Services office located in the Main Building, first floor, next to Student Life, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7362, or e-mail dvaughn@occc.edu.

—DEBRA VAUGHN
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER SERVICES DIRECTOR

ously filled with the usual extras, such as commentaries and deleted scenes, but they are about as entertaining as the flick. "2012" isn't even worth the gas money you will spend driving to buy or rent the DVD. However, if

you do decide to brave the end of the world, at least remember to bring the nacho chips with you — the movie supplies plenty of its own cheese.

Rating: F

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
STAFF WRITER

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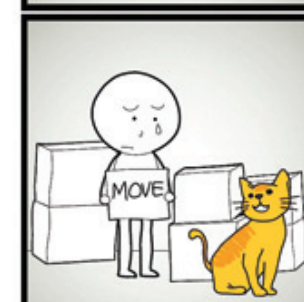
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OKLAHOMA CITY RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN FUNDRAISER

Student plans to shave head for children's cancer research

LANDA MCCLURE
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

St. Patrick's Day usually has people wearing green clothing, but participants involved in the St. Baldrick's Foundation will line up to get their heads shaved at 2 p.m., March 28, at VZD's Restaurant and Club.

Kenneth Meador, nursing major, is one of 51 volunteers in Oklahoma to agree to shave their heads in return for donations to the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

Meador said he has a long way to go before he reaches his goal of \$1,000.

The foundation was started to raise money for cancer research for children, he said.

Meador said he attended church with the late Fletcher Vines, who was diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma at age 8.

"Vines and his family started the first St. Baldrick's event in Oklahoma City eight years ago," Meador said. "I'm participating this year in honor of him."

He said participants link to a child.

Meador said this is his first year to participate and he's eager to see how it turns out.



Kenneth Meador

"The fundraiser is for a good cause," he said. "I've been raising money for the past two weeks and so far I only raised \$50."

Meador said he will set up a donation table outside of OCCC's cafeteria a few days before the event.

People interested in donating can visit his participant page at St. Baldrick's Web site — www.stbaldricks.org.

Meador said the overall total raised so far by Oklahoma participants is more than \$11,000.

The event at VZD's is open to the public and people will be able to donate at the head shaving event, he said.

Carrie Hulett, St. Baldrick's volunteer, said there will be dancing such as Irish folk dancing and belly dancing. Food and drinks also will be available, she said.

"The St. Baldrick's event is fun, heart warming and I strongly encourage ev-

eryone to come," Hulett said. She said bands will play March 26 at The Blue Note and March 27 at The Hi Lo.

The cover charge is \$5 and proceeds will go towards the foundation, Hulett said.

To contact Meador, e-mail kenneth_meador@yahoo.com.

For more information about St. Baldrick's, visit www.stbaldricks.org.

ESL class exposed to state history

JIAPENG SONG
News Writing Student

Twelve international students went to Lawton to discover the wild and unique history of Oklahoma.

A buffalo calf grazing next to the road attracted the attention of the English as a Second Language students on a field trip to the Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge.

"That is so cute. It's a baby," said Hoa Hoang, a student from Vietnam. "Buffalo are kind of silly looking though."

Abra Figueroa, English as a Second Language professor, stopped the van and let students take pictures of the buffalo and get a closer look.

Earlier in the day, the students had sighted buffalo, but from a distance. Most of the students

had never seen buffalo so they were excited as they looked for the big hairy beasts.

They also spotted a herd of longhorn cattle.

"They are from Texas," said Hue Phung, another student from Vietnam.

The first stop of the field trip was Mount Scott, one of the tallest mountains in Oklahoma. On the way to the top of Mount Scott, a panoramic view started to unfold.

"Oh, that is so pretty," Phung said. Then she took out her camera and started to take pictures.

Phung said she would share her photos with the people in the van who could not get a good angle.

Before the bus arrived at the top of the mountain, Figueroa decided to stop and let the students take more pictures.

On the top of Mount Scott, it was windy and cold that day. But nothing could stop the students from enjoying the scenery. They ran around exploring happily.

Later, arriving at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge visitor center, all the students watched a short film that discussed the history of the Wichita Mountains area and its wildlife.

The last stop was at Fort Sill National Historic Landmark Museum. They learned how Indian tribal languages were used to send coded information during wars.

"That was amazing," said Liem Nguyen, student from Vietnam. "There are languages that nobody could understand but the tribal people."

Hoang summed up the day. "I really enjoyed the trip and I wish there could be more."

PEACE CLUB PLANS CANDLE SALE TO HELP LOCAL SCHOOL PROVIDE EDUCATION TO HOMELESS CHILDREN

Students to raise funds for needy children

BONNIE CAMPO
News Writing Student

Advocates of Peace members will sell candles after spring break to raise money for needy children.

The candles will sell for \$5 to \$7 each and the organization will donate its proceeds to Better Tomorrow — a school for homeless children, said Annalyn Gill, club president.

The money will help improve conditions for the children, Gill said.

Lindsay Whelchel, journalism major and club member, said she chose to participate as a way to reach out.

“I think it is important to show compassion in every way possible, both globally and locally,” Whelchel said.

Club members have been making candles out of recycled tin cans with peace signs drilled into the sides and a small candle placed at the bottom. The peace sign will be illuminated when the candle is lit, Gill said.

Better Tomorrows serves about 35 stu-

dents who are in kindergarten through fifth grade, Gill said. It is located in Oklahoma City, near Classen and NW 23rd Street.

The school supplies children with an education and meals, she said.

Gill, pre-law major, said she has volunteered at the school for almost a year.

She said she wants to help these children receive an education through volunteering and fundraising efforts.

Many of the students have no other opportunity for an education, Gill said.

Most public schools require proof of residence from a household bill in order to attend. Even if admitted, these students would struggle to find transportation or afford supplies, Gill said.

She said the school is within walking distance for most students within the community.

Gill said Advocates of Peace is all about promoting a better community.

For more information or to join the club, e-mail Gill at annalyn.v.gill@email.occc.edu.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BONNIE CAMPO

Annalyn Gill, Advocates of Peace president, helps Stephen Deckard, club member, prepare to hammer holes in his can. Club members have been making candles out of tin cans and will sell them after spring break as a fundraiser for a local school that provides an education to homeless children.



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Meteorologist stresses being prepared

CASSANDRA KOLENDA
News Writing Student

Oklahoma County is the number one place in the world to get hit by a tornado, a local meteorologist said March 10 in the College Union.

Emmy Award-winning meteorologist David Payne said, for that reason, it is important to be fully prepared at all times.

Payne spoke on campus, and shared his knowledge on Oklahoma's tornados and severe weather.

Payne, nationally renown for his storm-chasing video footage, has been the lead meteorologist on KFOR NewsChannel 4's Morning Show for more than a decade.

Since the El Nino currents are strong this year, he said, the amount of severe weather in the state could be greater than usual this spring.

“I think the number of tornados we have this year will be on average or slightly above average, probably about 50 to 52,” Payne said.

He said Oklahoma had one of its most extreme tornado seasons on May 3, 1999.

“Nearly 70 tornados hit northern Oklahoma and Kansas in one day; whereas, on average, there are about 50 per year,” Payne said.

A tornado's strength is hard to determine, especially since its intensity can change within minutes, he said.

“One minute it can seem almost nonexistent and about five minutes later, you look at it and it's on the ground,” Payne said.

He said because of a tornado's quick-changing nature, people typically haven't had much time to prepare in the past.

He said in recent years, however, this preparation time has improved.

The advancement of satellite technology and equipment has given scientists the ability to measure tornados more accurately. Therefore, the warning time has become longer and longer, Payne said.

He said by chasing storms, he is better able to warn people of an incoming tornado. By being close to the tornado, Payne said, he can pinpoint the exact location of the tornado and can even tell the exact direction it is heading.

Payne said if people get close enough, they can actually see where a tornado is starting to form.

“Before a tornado begins to spiral up, you should be able to see a thick layer of what looks to be fog forming near the ground and, if you look closely, you can then see currents flowing through this fog,” he said.

These currents are what make up a tornado, Payne said.

He also said it is possible to have invisible tornados, which are visible in the sky but do not go all the way down to the ground.

Payne warned his audience to be careful around these tornados because, even though they aren't in the typical shape, they are just as strong and can do just as much damage as any other tornado.

“You do not have to have a cloud on the ground for it to be called a tornado,” Payne said.

Reports detailing Feb. 26 incident released

STAFF REPORTS OCCC Pioneer

A safety and security incident report, released March 8, along with a second incident report released by the President Paul Sechrist's office March 10, reveals further details of an incident that took place Feb. 26 that resulted in a report of a gunman in the college Library and a gun misfiring by an OCCC security officer.

Events started to unfold the morning of Feb. 26 when a bulletin indicating a threat had been made toward college campuses of a possible shooting that day was circulated outside of the Safety and Security office.

According to college officials, the alert was not state specific or even campus specific. It did, however, have an attachment of a photo of the person who had made the threat.

According to the president's report, because of a swim meet taking place on campus that day, Safety and Security Officer Brandon Wheeler shared the information with several Aquatic Center employees, including Recreation and Fitness Director Roxy Butler, and Aquatic and Safety Training Specialist James Hensley, suggesting they review the Aquatic Center's emergency procedures.

Wheeler stated in a report he filed that he told his supervisor, Maj. Keith Bourque, he shared the information with Butler because "there could be up to 900 people ... in the building for the swim meet that would not be aware of the procedures for an incident."

Butler, in turn, consulted with her supervisor, Acting Vice President for Community Development Jessica Martinez-Brooks as to what steps needed to be taken and who at the meet might need to be notified.

Martinez-Brooks, who declined comment because of an ongoing investigation into that day's events, gave Butler the go-ahead to inform "certain swim meet officials" but no one else.

The president's report shows Martinez-Brooks then contacted Adult Learning Center Secretary Tina Arzate and "informed [her] of a possible threat that Safety and Security had received."

The president's report showed Martinez-Brooks told Arzate to review the shelter in place instructions in her area — the fourth floor of the college library.

Arzate, who also declined comment, instead referring reporters to Executive Vice President Jerry Steward, then shared the information with other employees in her area, including a work-study employee, identified in the Safety and Security incident report as Mary Teter.

Teter, who is on vacation and could not be reached for comment, reportedly tried to contact Martinez-Brooks to ask if she should notify any other employees on the library's fourth floor.

When she couldn't reach Martinez-Brooks by telephone, Teter reportedly called Barbara Fulton, administrative assistant to Pat Berryhill, executive director of Institutional Advancement, asking what she should do.

Fulton, who also declined comment pending the investigation, reportedly then consulted with Berryhill.

According to the report, Teter told Fulton the phones in her area had an "active shooter on campus" message, and asked what action should be taken.

In the report, Fulton said she told Teter she should "move to appropriate shelter," if that message was being relayed by the college's IT phones.

Teter reported that Fulton also "agreed that the teachers should be alerted as well as other OCCC personnel working and meeting on the fourth floor of the Library at that time."

Math Professor Ernest Gobert was among the people Teter notified.

Gobert called Safety and Security, telling them what he had

been told by Teter and asking for confirmation.

OCCC Safety and Security Dispatcher Patricia Keasling took the call.

She reported that, in his phone call, logged at 10:12 a.m., Gobert said there was a man with a gun in room 402 of the Library.

There is no recording of the call, according to the president's report.

Wheeler responded to the call, along with Officer Tim Densmore.

In his report, Wheeler said when the officers approached Gobert in room 402, he told them he didn't know who had a gun, but that "a lady named Mary" had come to his classroom saying there was a person with a gun on campus.

Gobert also declined comment because of the ongoing investigation.

At the time Gobert called, Safety and Security Director Ike Sloas "attempted to send an armed intruder alert through the IP phone system," the president's report reads.

"The alert was not sent because Mr. Sloas failed to properly activate the alert."

Believing there was a mechanical failure, Sloas sent a second alert. However, this time, he sent out a fire alarm alert to the Main Building.

As people spilled out of the Main Building, Sloas realized the mistake and sent yet another alert — this time the correct one. The time was 10:19 a.m.

In the meantime, the report shows Teter returned to her office and was told by Arzate the report had been false as verified by Martinez-Brooks.

Teter was told to backtrack and tell all those she had reported a shooter on campus to that it wasn't true.

In his report, Wheeler said he also notified his fellow officers that the report was false after the fourth floor had been cleared.

Still, he determined, "we needed to do an entire search of the library, floor to floor."

It was during this search that Bourque joined several other officers on the Library's third floor "to do a detailed search."

It was also there that Bourque accidentally fired his gun, sparking a second panic — one that included the Main Building.

Wheeler's report reads: "We proceeded to the first door (multimedia room 300) where Maj. Bourque drew his service weapon. Officer Densmore opened the door and as Maj. Bourque went to enter the room, his weapon discharged."

"Maj. Bourque proceeded to clear the room and came out. He holstered his weapon and advised over the radio that there had been an accidental discharge."

The president's report shows the gun was fired as Bourque pointed his gun into room 300 with his right hand and took his flashlight into his left hand, raising it.

"Maj. Bourque's left hand holding the flashlight struck his right hand holding the service weapon. [He] then accidentally discharged the weapon. The bullet struck the wall in room 300."

Bourque, who was reached by phone, said he wasn't able to comment because of the ongoing investigation.

Facilities Management Director Chris Snow heard the shot and reported over his hand-held two-way radio, "A shot has been fired. I repeat, a shot has been fired."

Snow also declined comment on the incident.

Based on Snow's alert, Sloas sent out another armed intruder message — the second of the day.

Not long after, Bourque radioed in that he had fired his gun accidentally.

By this time, Oklahoma City Police officers had arrived on campus and were informed the report was false.

The report reads: "After OCPD officers and OCCC Safety and Security personnel searched the Library and after

confirming that the shot was a shot fired accidentally by Major Bourque, it was determined there was not a 'shooter on campus' nor was there any shot fired except for the shot fired by Maj. Bourque."

However, the OCPD advised college officials to close the campus for the remainder of the day so a thorough search of all buildings could be conducted.

At 11:06 a.m., one final message of the day was sent via the IT phone system, saying OCCC was being closed for the day.

The swim meet was allowed to continue.

Sechrist said a "top-to-bottom comprehensive review" of the incident is in progress.

"This review will examine our safety, security and emergency procedures, and our campus security plan, including our response to perceived or actual security threats."

Sechrist said an outside firm has been brought in to conduct the review.

"We have engaged the services of an outside firm, 3CI Consulting, LLC, to assist and provide a third-party and highly knowledgeable analysis, review, and recommendations," he said in a letter.

3CI is a security consulting firm based in Oklahoma, he said.

Sechrist also has asked that a task force — comprised of students, faculty and staff — put together an emergency communications review. The group is called the Timely Emergency Communications Task Force.

Sechrist said recommendations from both the consulting firm and task force will be made available to him by May 7.

Millie Tibbitts, Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action director, confirmed there is an ongoing investigation but said she could not comment on the details.

See both incident reports in their entirety at the Pioneer Online: www.occc.edu/pioneer.

Also, watch for any further updates to this story at the Pioneer Online.

SPORTS

INTRAMURALS | Students lose intramural privileges after physical confrontation

Fight results in suspension

ETHAN HENDRICKS

Staff Writer

staffwriter3@occc.edu

A physical confrontation between Jar Heads' Richard Sango and Back To Back Champs player Micah Johnson, caused the intramural basketball game between their two respective teams to end 30 seconds early March 5.

Eric Watson, Sport and Recreation specialist said both players had been barred from further intramural play this term.

The Back To Back Champs were awarded the victory due to being in the lead when the game was called, Watson said.

"They broke our policy against fighting in intramurals," he said. "As a result, they have been suspended from intramural sports for the rest of the semester."

The Jar Heads and Back To Back Champs have developed a heated rivalry, with back-and-forth comments about who would come out on top in intramural play.

When last Friday rolled around, the two teams clashed in a fast paced, heated game that went back and forth across the court.

Both teams seemed to have saved their best for this game as, time after time, they made seemingly impossible shots and daring steals.

At halftime, the score stood 29-24, Champs leading and it looked as if the game would be a repeat of their previous match up, which the Champs won.

The Jar Heads, however, seemed determined to come out ahead.

Time and again the Champs would pull away in the second half, only to have the Jar Heads quickly close the gap.

With a minute left to go in the game, the score was 56-55.

The Jar Heads grew frustrated with their inability to gain the lead and began missing shots and dropping passes.

The Champs capitalized on these mistakes and began pouring on the heat.

Sango's frustration became evident after referee Collin Gentry charged him with a technical foul.

Upset at the ruling, Sango began arguing with Gentry.

Head referee Charles Tarver backed up Gentry's call to which Sango responded by arguing with Tarver.



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Jay Phillips, Back To Back Champs player, rushes ahead of Josh Vanover, Champs captain, to set up the Champs' offense. The March 5 game between the Champs and Jar Heads was called with 30 seconds left after members from both teams displayed unsportsmanlike conduct.

Tarver charged Sango with his second technical foul, disqualifying him for the rest of the game.

Sango refused to leave the court and launched into a tirade, striding up and down the court, swearing and yelling.

Johnson, of the Champs, attempted to settle him down.

Sango then berated Johnson with a racial slur and got in his face.

The two players began shoving each other as their respective team members jumped in to separate the two adversaries.

Watson called the game with 30 seconds left and ended the day's basketball activities.

Jar Heads captain, Matthew Scott, said afterwards he did not think the referees were calling a fair game.

His team agreed.

"I like coming out to play usually," said Demetrius Merckerson. "But they were

getting the calls today and we weren't."

Team members from the Champs had mixed opinions on the game.

"Shit happens," said Jerrell Gill. "I've seen worse."

Ezra Bitseedy said he thought the referees were not calling fouls the way they should have.

"I think the referees let it get out of hand," Bitseedy said. "And because of that, the emotions boiled over."

Also in intramural basketball,
Untouchables defeated Crusaders
March 5. For a recap
of the action, visit
www.occc.edu/pioneer

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER
Online
www.occc.edu/pioneer

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **March 15-20:** Recreation and Fitness Center closed for Spring Break. Recreation and Fitness will reopen 6 a.m. Monday, March 22.

• **March 15-April 15:** Aquatic Center closed for renovations.

• **March 22:** Adult volleyball: Skippy's Mistake vs. Brookwood - 2 7 p.m. Court 1. The Bow-Legged Pirates vs. Can You Dig It 7 p.m. Court 2. Garder vs. All Sets Are Off 8 p.m. Court 1. Brookwood - 1 vs. Serendipitty Slammers 8 p.m. Court 2. All Sets Are Off vs. Garder 9 p.m. Court 1. Serendipitty Slammers vs. Brookwood - 1 9 p.m. Court 2 in the Wellness Center gym.

• **March 29:** Adult volleyball: All Sets Are Off vs. Brookwood - 1 7 p.m. Court 1. Skippy's Mistake vs. The Bow-Legged Pirates 7 p.m. Court 2. Brookwood - 2 vs. Skippy's Mistake 8 p.m. Court 1. Can You Dig It vs. The Bow-Legged Pirates 8 p.m. Court 2. Garder vs. Brookwood - 2 9 p.m. Court 1. Serendipitty Slammers vs. Can You Dig It 9 p.m. Court 2 in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 5:** Adult volleyball: Serendipitty Slammers vs. Skippy's Mistake 7 p.m. Court 1. Brookwood - 1 vs. All Sets Are Off 7 p.m. Court 2. All Sets Are Off vs. Brookwood - 2 8 p.m. Court 1. Garder vs. The Bow-Legged Pirates 8 p.m. Court 2. Brookwood - 1 vs. Can You Dig It 9 p.m. Court 1. Brookwood - 2 vs. Garder 9 p.m. Court 2 in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 12:** Adult volleyball: Can You Dig It vs. All Sets Are Off 7 p.m. Court 1. Skippy's Mistake vs. Brookwood - 1 7 p.m. Court 2. Can You Dig It vs. Serendipitty Slammers 8 p.m. Court 1. The Bow-Legged Pirates vs. Skippy's Mistake 8 p.m. Court 2. The Bow-Legged Pirates vs. Brookwood - 2 9 p.m. Court 1. Garder vs. Serendipitty Slammers 9 p.m. Court 2 in the Wellness Center gym.

For more information, contact Recreation and Fitness specialist Eric Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786.

Forum: Students, staff voice concerns with incident

Continued from page 1

"If there had been a real shooter on campus, people would have been walking right back to him," the audience member said.

The accidental discharge of a firearm also was discussed.

Audience members voiced their concerns about campus security guards' training and what would be done to prevent it from happening in the future.

Sechrist said college administrators want to learn from the event.

"Today, what we're doing is listening to you," he said. "Each of you has a unique perspective on what happened. I welcome and encourage your feedback, comments and observation."

Sechrist said administrators want to use the incident as a learning tool.

"We have an opportunity that I don't want to miss, to help

create a safer college, which is always my first priority," he said.

Some students and faculty complimented their teacher's or their division staff's reaction to the scare.

Sechrist said he has heard numerous accounts of how professors knew what to do and had their students organized.

"It wasn't perfect — we know that — but it's nice to know there were many people who worked together to secure themselves, protect themselves and do what they thought was necessary to keep themselves safe," he said.

Sechrist made it clear that safety is his first priority.

"We cannot have learning and teaching if we do not have a safe environment," he said.

Sechrist encouraged students and staff to continue to speak their minds about the event by sending messages to him through e-mail at safety@suggestions@occc.edu.

Former student dies after being hit by car

CYNTHIA PRAEFKE

Staff Writer

adman@occc.edu

Georgia Missel, 64, OCCC alumna, died March 2 when a car hit her in the 4000 block of North Portland Avenue.

Missel was on her way to a bus stop at 6:20 a.m. when she walked into the side of a moving car. She was taken to OU Medical Center, where she died, said Oklahoma City Police Master Sgt. Gary Knight.

Missel graduated from OCCC in 2008 and transferred to the University of Central Oklahoma to take courses in creative writing.

Donna Sartin, manager of the Newport Granada apartments where Missel was a long-time resident, said Missel would leave before dawn, to catch her bus for class.

Kim Jameson, English pro-

fessor, said Missel was a source of inspiration to other students.

"Her drive and determination were something that I admired along with her commendable work ethic," Jameson said. "Ms. Missel was a shining example of an individual who strove to reach her goals and fulfill her dreams. She will be missed."

Clay Randolph, English professor, echoed Jameson's thoughts.

"Georgia was one of those lovely students... the kind who was always in class, loved writing and was not afraid to say why she thought as she did," Randolph said.

A memorial service was held at the Newport Granada Apartments on March 7, where neighborhood children planted wildflowers in Missel's memory.

Theater: \$2.8 million still needed, VP says

Continued from page 1

Strickler.

"We're a community college so everyone kind of sees us a step below everyone else," said Aken, psychology major. "In my opinion, this new theater will help raise our image among the colleges in Oklahoma City."

John Boyd, vice president of Business and Finance, said the college has raised \$13.2 million for the theater.

About \$8 million will come from issuance of student revenue bonds, Boyd said. Sarkeys Foundation donated \$1 million and the Inasmuch Foundation gave \$500,000.

Private gifts have raised another \$548,000 and another \$3.2 million will come from OCCC capital funds.

However, Boyd said, the col-

“We’re a community college so everyone kind of sees us a step below. In my opinion, this new theater will help raise our image among the colleges in Oklahoma City.”

—PHILIP AKEN
PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

lege needs another \$2.8 million in order to reach its goal of \$16 million.

To achieve this goal, the Performing Arts Theater Committee launched the Performing Arts Theater Campaign the day Phase 1 was dedicated, said Susan VanSchuyver, dean for Arts and Humanities.

The committee is using several methods to raise money, VanSchuyver said. One method being the Buy-A-Seat Campaign — where for \$200 to \$500, anyone can buy a seat and have

his or her name placed on it.

VanSchuyver said she was excited about the prospects of the new theater. She said it will open new opportunities for the college.

For instance, VanSchuyver said, OCCC's choirs are too large to perform in the Bruce Owen Theater. With the new theater, they will no longer have to go off-campus to perform.

"I'm really thrilled for all the people who can use the theater and what it will do for the college and the community."



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CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Walk the line

Nate Garnett, OCCC student, tries to keep his balance walking the Beer Goggles Course on March 8, outside the Communications Lab. Student Life hosted the event, which simulates drunkenness during a sobriety test, as a part of Student Appreciation Week.

THEA SLAVIN/PIONEER

CLUBS | Black Student Association attends Big 12 event; OCCC only state two-year school represented

Teamwork touted at regional conference

BONNIE CAMPO
News Writing Student

The value of teamwork was one message students brought home from the Big 12 Black Student Government Conference held at the University of Texas in Austin.

Eight members of the Black Student Association attended the event, which was held Feb. 25 to 28, said Centerria Wright, club president.

Wright said OCCC was the only two-year college from Oklahoma at the conference.

Keynote speaker Gwen Webb-Hasan, multicultural education professor at Texas A&M University, talked about the impor-

tance of joining together to accomplish more.

"I believe it takes an entire village to make each of us better servants ... we must work together collaboratively," she said, according to the university's Web site.

Approximately 900 students attended the conference, Wright said.

Events such as Gospel Extravaganza allowed students an opportunity to represent their school with musical performances, she said.

Another was the Beyond Measure fashion show, in which students were encouraged to let their alter ego empower them.

All of the OCCC stu-

dents at the conference attended the Extravaganza, Wright said, while two — Dayshawn Burns and Ashley Thomas — participated in the fashion show.

Wright said she stayed busy attending workshops hosted by the University of Texas.

One of her favorites was motivational speaker Kyle Clark, she said.

Wright said Clark's message was how, at the end of the day, a person is only remembered for his or her actions.

The visual arts major said she came home feeling energized.

"I hope that we really learn from these experiences and push ourselves

harder than we have ever done," Wright said.

Other attendees were Vice President Reva Hammons, Public Relations officer Essence Harris, Activities Coordinator Shana McLaughlin, Treasurer Renitta Server, and member Ramell Morrison.

Burns said she almost backed out because she hadn't been feeling well, but she was glad she made the trip.

"We're definitely going again next year," Burns said.

For more information about the BSA, e-mail Wright at cwright@occc.edu or visit the club Web site at www.occc.campusgroups.com.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Check on degree progress

Graduation advisers will be on hand to talk to students about their degree plans and their progress toward graduation at "Degree Check-It-Out" from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday on the first floor of the Main Building, across from the Coffee Shop. Students can drop in to speak personally with an adviser. No reservations are needed. For more information, call 682-7547 or e-mail Kyrn Smoot at ksmoot@occc.edu.

Nursing advisement to be offered

Nursing students who are interested in transferring to East Central University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program will have the opportunity to meet with an adviser from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday in room 215A in the Health Professions Center. For more information, contact Claire Echols at 405-682-1611, ext. 7729, or e-mail cechols@occc.edu.

Transfer basics Brown Bag scheduled

Check out transfer basics to make sure you're prepared for academic life after OCCC with the Transfer Basics Brown Bag, held from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday. Proof of attendance will be given to students who participate in the lecture. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Business club to hold fundraiser

The Students in Free Enterprise will host a snowcone and popcorn fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday in the College Union. For more information, contact Germain Pichop at 405-682-1611, ext. 7285.

Engineering club to host field trip

The Engineering Club will host a field trip to the University of Central Oklahoma's Department of Engineering and Physics to view their facilities and learn about undergraduate opportunities from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday. Club membership is not required. Sign up sheets and waiver forms are available in the Engineering Center. For more information, contact Greg Holland at 682-1611, ext. 7163.

International club to host cultural fair

The International Student Organization will host the annual International Cultural Fair from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, in the College Union. For \$5, students will be able to sample foods from countries around the world, watch PowerPoint presentations, enjoy native costumes, and dance and participate in an eating competition. For more information, contact Camille Njeugoue at 405-445-8697.

All Highlights are due Monday by 5 p.m. 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.

CLASSIFIEDS

Pioneer classified advertising is free to all enrolled OCCC students and employees for any personal classified ad. Ad applications must be submitted with IDs supplied by 5 p.m. Mondays prior to the publication date. For more information, call the Ad Manager at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

AUTOMOTIVE

FOR SALE: 2001 Mazda Milenia. 88k mi. 4-door, automatic, 6-cylinder. White with sunroof. Great condition. \$4,500. Call: 405-408-8102.

FOR SALE: 1996 Isuzu Rodeo, V6, auto, tinted windows, runs well. \$2,800 OBO. Call: 405-882-3731

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2 bed 2 bath 1,500 sqft. Close to OCCC. Includes central heat and air, dishwasher, disposal, and 2 car garage. \$800/mo. \$800 deposit. Call Clay 405-627-6659.

HOME FOR SALE: 7717 South Sherwood. 90k. For more information call: 405-401-1254.

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WANT TO BUY: Used copy of "Casegrader" Microsoft Excel 2007. For class CS 1343. Call: 405-682-1611, ext. 7397.

"THE RED BACKPACK": OCCC Nursing Program Kit. \$99. Call: 405-701-5931. Leave a message.

MISCELLANEOUS

READY TO SHAPE UP FOR SPRING? Body shaping "Step and Flex" machine. \$40. Call 405-682-1611, ext. 7765.

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TODAY'S
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Smelting residue
 - 5 Old cattle town
 - 10 Similar
 - 14 Beneficiary
 - 15 Happen again
 - 16 Fizzy beverage
 - 17 Loosen
 - 18 Where to get a haircut
 - 20 Breakfast bread
 - 22 Treat with contempt, slangily
 - 23 Knolls
 - 24 Church council
 - 26 Farm animal
 - 27 Puppy's "hand"
 - 30 Gold medalists
 - 34 Pencil end
 - 35 Frost
 - 36 "Norma —"
 - 37 Lauer or Groening
 - 38 Gamut
 - 40 Roam about
 - 41 Southwestern Indian
 - 42 Ali —
 - 43 Required
 - 45 Lull
 - 47 Majestic
 - 48 Exploit
 - 49 Native New Zealander
 - 50 Passport requirement
 - 53 Have lunch
 - 54 Large quantities
 - 58 Gulf of Mexico fish
 - 61 Lamb's pen name
 - 62 Dairy-case buy
 - 63 Life of —: easy street
 - 64 Blue shade
 - 65 Bridge
 - 66 Play part
 - 67 "— the night before . . ."
- DOWN**
- 1 Fastened securely
 - 2 Letterman's rival
 - 3 Verdi opera
 - 4 Most disgusting
 - 5 Sphere
 - 6 Grassland
 - 7 Bitter
 - 8 Centers
 - 9 "— we having fun yet?"
 - 10 Give out (homework)
 - 11 Eye makeup
 - 12 Adulated one
 - 13 Sleeps
 - 19 Cologne's river
 - 21 Use a keyboard
 - 25 Tell (a story)
 - 26 Olive stuffing
 - 27 Thighbone
 - 28 Speak formally
 - 29 Prices
 - 30 False hair
 - 31 Crumble away
 - 32 "Bolero" composer
 - 33 Dilapidated
 - 35 Genetic initials
 - 39 Honest —
 - 40 Reserved in style
 - 42 Herd animal
 - 44 All —: attentive
 - 46 Dons
 - 47 Glossy fabric
 - 49 Kind of syrup
 - 50 Experts
 - 51 Lend a hand
 - 52 Concert halls
 - 53 On a grand scale
 - 55 "There ought to be —"
 - 56 Callas, e.g.
 - 57 Utters
 - 59 "— Poetica"
 - 60 Deli bread

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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EROS BOLLWEEVIL
NON BOOT ORWELL
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**LAST WEEK'S WINNERS OF
THE PIONEER TREASURE HUNT:**
Christine Harris and Karen Perea

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WEEKLY SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORTS DETAIL INCIDENTS ON CAMPUS

Damaged vehicles, theft keep security busy

JUSTIN COMBS

Senior Writer

seniorwriter@occc.edu

High winds apparently caused a parking lot light fixture to fall from a 60-foot pole March 5, scattering shards of glass on a vehicle below, according to an incident report.

The accident happened in parking lot B, said Safety and Security Officer Tanya Vroenen.

According to the report, glass fragments were spread over six parking spots.

Chris Snow and Gary Belcher, Facilities Management employees, arrived on the scene to assist Vroenen with setting up barricades and caution tape.

While cleaning the glass from the ground, workers found the bulb fixture, which appeared to have exploded, causing the glass cover to explode as well, according to the report.

The campus security office contacted Jay Sheldon, the owner of the vehicle, to inform him of the damage.

According to the report, the top and

hood of Sheldon's Chevy Aveo were covered in dents and scratches where the glass from the light cover had hit the vehicle.

The National Weather Service reported winds from the south at 25 mph, gusting up to 33 mph that day, according to the report.

The same day, Vroenen responded to a hit-and-run accident in parking lot A.

Jacob Taylor, the owner of the damaged vehicle, told Vroenen the driver-side rear bumper of his 2002 Chevy Silverado had been damaged, according to the report.

The damage to his bumper was six to nine inches in length and one-half to one inch deep, and appeared to be from another bumper, the report stated.

Sgt. Larry Lundy reviewed video footage of the area where Taylor parked and found a silver or gray SUV had backed into Taylor's vehicle.

The occupants of the SUV got out of their vehicle and looked at their back bumper then left the property.

On March 2, Jenifer Pate reported to the Safety and Security office her metallic blue iPod Nano had been stolen from the

women's locker room while she showered after her workout. The value was estimated at \$150.

Lundy reviewed video of the area from the time Pate entered and left the locker room. He said he discovered footage of four other women leaving the locker room, but none appeared to have Pate's property in her possession.

On Feb. 24, Officer Chad Clingman responded to a student's complaint that his credit card was stolen in the Wellness Center gym.

Josh Vanover said he arrived at 6:30 p.m. to the gym to play basketball and placed his belongings in the middle cubbyhole to the far right in the gym.

Vanover said as he was leaving he noticed his cell phone was missing.

He said he checked his wallet to discover his credit card was missing as well.

Sgt. Kevin Tipton reviewed video of the area while Vanover called his bank to see if any charges had been made on his card, which none had.

Vanover said he would check back with campus security at a later time.

JOHN MASSEY CENTER SELLS FOR \$2.6M

The John Massey Center recently sold for \$2.6 million to Chesapeake Land Development, and the proceeds of the sale will be applied to the construction of a new building on the main campus, said President Paul Sechrist.

He said during the time of construction, the staff will remain in the John Massey Center, at 11919 S. I-44 Service Road.

"Our sale agreement allows us to continue to lease and occupy the building rent free for 24 months," Sechrist said.

The college can stay there up to 30 months if necessary he said.

"This should give us enough time to design and build a new building on campus," Sechrist said.

—JUSTIN COMBS/PIONEER

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scholarship video contest at **BUCK** the norm .com

Grand Prize:
\$2000 scholarship and a MacBook!

Tell us about it: **"What'd you buy today?"**

What's a day in the life of your wallet? Does your money burn a hole in your pocket or do you keep your spending cool? Is there a secret monster eating all your earnings? (Video games, lattes, shopping.) Or are you resisting temptation and saving for that One Big Thing?

Visit **BucktheNorm.com** for complete contest rules.
Deadline to enter is March 25, 2010!

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