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SERVICE DAY

Watch a video about OCCC students who spent a Saturday helping a local family.



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NEWS

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OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PIONEER

APRIL 9, 2010

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Nursing staff pushing students to eclipse national test average



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Tola Suleiman and Michelle Wolf, nursing majors, discuss what infections are shown on the foot model. Of OCCC's 206 nursing students who took the test in 2009, 91.75 percent of those graduates passed the national licensure exam on the first try — the second highest for the college in the last 11 years, said Rosemary Klepper, nursing program director.

TIM GRAVES

News Writing Student

In 2009, OCCC nursing graduates passed the national licensure exam at a rate that exceeded both state and national averages by more than 3 percentage points, said Rosemary Klepper, nursing program director.

The college graduated 206 nurses between December 2008 and May 2009. The pass rate for those graduates was 91.75 percent, which is the second highest for OCCC graduates in the last 11 years.

"Our goal is 90 percent or higher," Klepper said. "We have a darn good nursing program. In many ways, we have an outstanding program."

The NCLEX-RN is the national licensure exam for all registered nurses. The statistics measure the students who passed the test the first time they took it.

For 2009 the national pass was 88.42 percent, while the state pass rate was 86.67 percent.

Klepper said everyone has to become a

See **NURSING** page 9

ROWAN SLATED AS FINAL ACT IN 2009-2010 CULTURAL ARTS SERIES

Celtic music group set for Cultural Arts performance

ARIEL HUDSON

News Writing Student

A trio of Celtic musicians will take the stage at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, in the Bruce Owen Theater.

Although Rowan — a band from Lawrence, Kan. — plays Celtic music, it is a blend of styles from across the world, said Marianne Carter, one of the musicians.

"Most people, when they think of Celtic music, they think of Irish music," Carter said. "But we play a variety of Celtic music, including some from France and Spain."

Celtic music covers the traditional music of the Celtic countries — such as Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany (in France), Galicia (in Spain) — and areas which have come under the influence of those countries, ac-

cording to the band's Web site.

Doug Harvey, a founding member of the band, plays the cittern, which is a stringed instrument of the guitar family that dates back to the Renaissance era. Harvey also plays guitar and whistle, besides being a vocalist.

Carter plays the bodhran, a goat skin drum used widely in Irish music and also becoming popular in the other Celtic areas. Carter also plays the fiddle and guitar and sings.

John Thompson completes the trio. Thompson plays the accordion and also provides vocals.

Rowan, as a group, has been together for a number of years, playing and traveling

together, Carter said.

"We call Kansas home, even though we have lived in different places around the world," she said.

The band promises an enjoyable, family-friendly event, Carter said.

"It's going to be fun toe-tapping music, with a few jokes thrown here and there," she said.

Tickets can be bought online on the college Web site. There is a fee for purchasing online.

People also can buy tickets at the concert. The prices are \$22

for general admission; \$17 for seniors, faculty and staff; and \$10 for students and children.

For more information, call the Cultural Programs office at 405-682-7579.

Concert details

WHEN: 7 p.m. Tuesday

WHERE: Bruce Owen Theater

COST: \$10 for students and children. \$17 for seniors, faculty and staff. \$22 for general admission.

OPINION

OUR VIEW | Education is the best way to combat fear, misunderstanding of entire groups of people

Terrorism comes in all types

Fifteen years ago, the assault that took place in downtown Oklahoma City changed the lives of Oklahomans.

On April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal building, which shattered the dreams of hundreds of Oklahomans.



BISHAL MALLA

On Sept. 11, 2001, a terrorist group connected to al-Qaida, hijacked jet airplanes and crashed them into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, which is still fresh in the memory of thousands of Americans.

Attacks like these take place across the world all the time, and they change the lives of humanity.

No matter whether it's a small attack or big, one of the first things people ask themselves is whether it was a terrorist attack.

After assuming it is, people start making hypotheses about which religion, race, community or country the terrorist belongs to.

For many, the first thought that comes to the mind would be Muslims. Most of the people around the world still have so much hatred toward this religion.

If a woman is seen wearing a burqa — a traditional Muslim all-covering dress — in public, people look

at her in a suspicious way. If a group of people speak Arabic in a public place, people stare at them. If a guy named Muhammad is in the airport terminal, he is most likely going to go through the special security check.

After 9/11, this kind of issue increased tremendously, especially within American society.

People still think that terrorism is in the blood of Muslims, which is absolutely wrong.

Just because a certain group of Muslims became terrorists is not enough to accuse all Muslims in the same way.

Terrorism doesn't come in any skin color, religion, race or ethnicity.

We can see white extremist groups here in America too. Recently, nine members of the Hutaree Militia, who called themselves Christian warriors, were arrested in Michigan.

They were preparing for the end of time battles to keep the testimony of Jesus Christ alive, according to www.cnn.com

Just because followers of Jesus Christ committed such activities doesn't mean that all Christian believers should be accused and treated as terrorists.

The same principle applies to Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists too.

Anybody can commit a crime regardless of which religion they belong to. Crimes don't come from any particular religion, ethnicity, race or color of skin.

People need to be more open-minded in terms of



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

religion in order to prevent these kinds of activities in the community.

Education about religion and culture is the best way to get rid of all those negative thoughts.

OCCC did a very good job by opening an Arabic language class that started March 22.

This will help not only Muslims but also Americans, who want to know more about the Muslim culture and religion.

The hatred toward Muslims will go away only after people get to know more about them.

No religion tells its followers to kill people or commit crimes.

Abraham Lincoln said it best: When I do good, I feel good; When I do bad, I feel bad. That's my religion.

YOUR VIEW | Five-minute screening can help people learn where to draw the line

College to offer education, screening for alcohol awareness

To the editor:

It's hard to draw the line between use and abuse when you're playing beer pong, kings, pyramid, dizzy bat, quarters, flip cup or shotgun. While college students do drink alcohol, many drink in ways that can place themselves or others at risk, and yet a bit of knowledge goes far in learning to drink

responsibly.

Research reveals that four out of five college students drink alcohol, and about two out of five engage in binge drinking, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Binge drinking can cause acute alcohol poisoning, a serious medical condition that affects the body's central ner-

vous system, slowing breathing, heart rate and gag reflex and ultimately causes death.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month and OCCC will offer anonymous screenings online at www.mentalhealthscreening.org. The questionnaires are confidential and provide immediate feedback as well as information on how to get help

if needed.

Don't let binge-drinking, drunkenness and reckless decisions about alcohol mark your experience at college. The five-minute screening about alcohol use will help you learn where to draw the line, and provide you with referrals and resources on how to cut back on your drinking.

OCCC is offering this education and screening program as part of National Alcohol Screening Day, sponsored by the national nonprofit Screening for Mental Health. For more information, visit www.nationalalcoholscreeningday.org.

—**ARIELA EDELSON**
SCREENING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SPOKESWOMAN

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

the right to edit all letters and submissions for length, libel and obscenity. Letters should be fewer than 250 words. Students must list their major. OCCC staff and faculty must list their work title.

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 | Remake of 1981 film strays from Greek mythology



PHOTO COURTESY WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES

‘Clash’ falls short of Titanic hype

“Clash of the Titans” is a halfway-decent movie that takes old Greek myths and puts them together with modern graphics at the expense of intellectual dialogue and an anti-climactic ending.

Perseus (Sam Worthington) is the cast off son of Zeus (Liam Neeson), who was raised by a fisherman named Spyros (Pete Postlethwaite). The demi-god is raised without awareness of his origins and is content to live the simple life of a fisherman.

Unfortunately, and predictably, Perseus’ family is caught up in a confrontation between some soldiers of Argos and Hades (Ralph Fiennes), the god of the underworld, after the soldiers knock down the statues of Zeus in defiance to the gods.

Mankind has grown weary of serving and praying to egotistical and praise-hording gods who don’t seem to have any interest in bettering the life of their worshippers. Hades convinces his brother Zeus to let him punish the humans of Argos by releasing the Kraken upon the city so that the people will begin praying to Zeus again.

Unknown to Zeus, Hades gains power from the fear of man and he plans to use the fear generated by the Kraken to take over Olympus. He tells the people of Argos that the Kraken will not destroy the city if their beautiful Princess Cassiopeia is sacrificed to the Kraken.

Perseus becomes the champion of man after being told by Io (Gemma Arterton), who has been watching over Perseus all his life, that he can get revenge on Hades only by killing the Kraken. He then sets out with the soldiers of Argos, Io and the Djinn to kill Medusa and use her head to stop the Kraken.

If you have seen the original 1981 version of “Clash of the Titans” and you are planning to see the new

“If you have seen the original 1981 version of ‘Clash of the Titans’ and you are planning to see the new remake, do not get your hopes up.”

remake, do not get your hopes up. For those of you who have not seen the original, “Clash of the Titans” is good for a night at the movies when you have nothing else to do.

The movie leaves out several important facets of the original Greek myth, the worst of which is having Perseus fall in love with Io instead of Andromeda. This changes the story from what it originally was, a demi-god fighting to save the woman he loves, to a simple story of a demi-god wanting revenge.

In my opinion, if you want to see “Clash of the Titans,” stay home and rent the original for \$5 from a movie store.

Rating: C+

—ETHAN HENDRICKS
STAFF WRITER

COUNSELOR'S Corner

Time management essential to success

“We will always have time for the things we put first.” —Liane Steele

Time is one of the commodities that humans never seem to have enough of. We spend countless hours each year trying to find ways to make better use of our hours or to get more hours or to squeeze more into our hours, and usually with little success. We have only so much time in life and nothing that we do, not even pacts with divine entities, will give us more.

Since we cannot manufacture more time in the day in which to do all that we must do and all that we want to do, we have to learn to prioritize our tasks. The first step in this process is sitting down and honestly assessing where our time is currently going. When we do, we sometimes find that we have seriously over-committed ourselves and we need to let go of some of those obligations.

Other times, we might find that we have adequate time, but that we treat all tasks as though they are equal. The reality is that they are not. Thus, it becomes necessary for us to learn to prioritize. This process involves looking at the different activities and tasks that we have each day, and weighting them according to their importance and urgency.

Making prioritized lists is an excellent habit to develop. At the beginning of each semester, you can actually create a timeline showing what assignments and tests are due, and when you need to begin working on them. On a daily basis, you can create your list of things to do and systematically work through them. Ideally, you want to create a three-level list: an A list, a B list and a C list.

Those things on your A list are things that need your attention immediately. Whether they are related to school, work or your personal life, you need to do these things now. As you work things off your A list, move things up from the B list. These are important activities but they are not yet urgent. There should be constant movement as you work your A-list items off. Your C list consists of things that aren’t critical but that you want to do as you can squeeze them in.

As you become more effective in your prioritizing, you’ll find that you really do have the time that you need to get things done.

If you need help developing this skill, drop by Student Support Services. We’ll have you working off your A’s in no time at all.

—MARY TURNER
LEARNING SUPPORT SPECIALIST

OFFICIALS SAY MORE THAN \$40 MILLION IN AID WILL BE GIVEN THIS YEAR

Students encouraged to apply for financial aid

CHRISTIAN KOSTED
News Writing Student

Financial aid is on the rise as enrollment increases and the Financial Aid office expects to award more than \$40 million in aid this year, financial officials said.

About 44 percent of the student body receives some kind of financial aid, totaling about 14,000 financial aid applications a year, said Harold Case, Student Financial Support Services dean.

Given those statistics, it may be hard to believe that some students who qualify don't

receive financial aid. But it's true, Case said.

Even though the financial aid office serves more than 8,000 students per year, he said, some new and working students still fall through the cracks.

For some students, financial aid is essential to being able to attend college.

"Financial aid is so important because it enabled me to go back to school after being unemployed for six months," said Cheryl McGuire, student.

Case said one common

misconception for working students is that one must be a full-time student to receive aid.

Aid is available for part-time students as well, he said.

"Sometimes older students don't have a feel for how to get started," Case said.

Case encourages all students enrolled in at least six college credit hours per semester to fill out the Free Application for

Federal Student Aid.

Now is the time to apply for aid for the next school year, Case said.

Another group that doesn't take full advantage of federal student aid programs are students who are new to college.

Because these students may just be learning the ropes of an academic environment, new students may be unaware of what money is available to them, Case said.

Procrastination also is a common problem that may keep students from receiving the aid they qualify for.

"It may take the first cycle before a student realizes 'I'd better get started on my financial aid cycle because I missed out last semester,'" Case said.

There is a financial aid link on the OCCC Web site.

Also, pamphlets, available in the Financial Aid office, provide useful information for anyone in need of aid or for students who are already recipients but don't fully understand their options, he said.

Pell grants and student loans make up the vast majority of aid but other types of aid is available such as state student grants and work study programs.

Case said students should be filling out forms now for next year's aid if they have not done so already.



Harold Case



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Main Building, 1st Floor (Next to "Student Life")

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY BRINGS OCCC STUDENTS TOGETHER TO HELP LAY SOD, PLANT TREES

Students spend Saturday serving

CAMERON HEMPHILL
News Writing Student

OCCC students gave up most of their Saturday on March 27 to help complete three homes for families in the Oklahoma City area. Students worked through the cloudy and windy day, and pushed on even as the temperature dropped.

The workers carried and laid sod across the barren red dirt. They also dug holes and planted trees. The goal for the day was to focus on landscaping.

Katie Treadwell, Service Learning and Student Life programs coordinator, said on different days when they have worked for Habitat for Humanity, they have had different priorities. They have painted walls or helped with other outside work but that day

they were putting in grass. Treadwell said landscaping is important to the overall appearance of a dwelling.

“People sometimes overlook adding trees which makes a house a home,” said Treadwell. “I think Habitat does a lot for the Central Oklahoma community.” Treadwell said. She said Habitat for Humanity always makes landscaping a part of the project.

The students who participated in the habitat event had their own reasons for being there. Students from the Black Student Association came to lend a hand.

Centerria Wright, association president, said her experience was beneficial. She said the highlight of her day was when she met the owner of the house because the owner was so grateful for their efforts.

Owners are selected only after they

take financial classes and help work on other families’ homes.

“It was fun to come with my organization, but the overall picture was greater in the fact that we helped someone have a home,” Wright said.

Shana McLaughlin, BSA activity coordinator, emphasized the value of working together in a coordinated way to finish a project.

“Teamwork is a must,” McLaughlin said. “I feel I will leave with so much more, because community comes further than just one person.”

Ashley Thomas, BSA secretary, said she was cold but happy she came and helped out with her friend.

“My best friend, Shana McLaughlin, gave up time on her 21st birthday to give back to the community,” she said.

Other students came to support friends, just to help, or to complete

their community service requirements for the OKC-Go scholarship.


Esmeralda Seales said she came for the OKC-Go scholarship requirement. Meeting the family they were building the house for changed Seales’ way of thinking.

“It changed my view on volunteer work,” Seales said.


Seales said she now has a more positive attitude and learned the value of teamwork.

Students sat in a circle during their lunch break and participated in an activity that summarized what they learned, accomplished, and grew from.


Students interested in attending future community service days should contact Treadwell at 405-682-1611, ext. 7683, or e-mail her at ktreadwell@occc.edu.



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VISITORS SPEND TIME AT OCCC GATHERING IDEAS TO TAKE HOME



Professor Gerardo Acosta and Professor Ismael Gastelum, visiting from Sonora, Mexico, answer questions from students in Professor Sue Hinton's News Writing class.

Mexican professors visit, share culture

JIM MURRAY
News Writing Student

Two professors from the Universidad Tecnológica de Hermosillo in Sonora, Mexico, visited OCCC for two weeks in early April with hopes of taking back some of the practices used at OCCC.

The Technical University of Hermosillo is roughly the equivalent of an American two-year college. It is located approximately 200 miles south of Tucson, Ariz.

Professor Ismael Gastelum has expertise in computer technology and computer aided design, while Professor Gerardo Acosta teaches business management there.

These two professors helped journalism students understand more about Mexico's living conditions and education.



Sonora has a total population of 2,183,108, making up 2.2 percent of the national percentage of the Mexican Republic. Sonora, with Hermosillo as its capital, borders Arizona. (www.houstonculture.org/mexico/sonora)

Gastelum said tuition for the UTH is roughly \$125 a year, one of the lowest in the country. Programs are designed so that 70 percent of instruction is hands-on, while only 30 percent is theory, or lecture.

Acosta said in Sonora, the average family income per year is roughly \$10,000. In most

cases the father, mother and sometimes the oldest children all work to contribute to the family.

He said most of the students at his university are between 18 and 20 years old. Total enrollment is about 4000 students, most of whom graduate in two or three years.

Through visiting OCCC and the University of Oklahoma, these professors hope to make improvements to their university by seeing how U.S. colleges and universities work.

Gastelum said he would like to get his students more involved on campus and have teachers more available to assist the students when needed.

Upon returning home, Gastelum said he hopes to have a conference with fellow faculty members, explaining to them the possible changes that could



Oklahoma City Community College

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OPENS IN THEATERS APRIL 16

help improve their university.

While in the U.S., Gastelum sent daily memos of what they experienced at the different places they visited.

Gastelum said they chose to visit the University of Oklahoma, partly because of former Oklahoma basketball

player Eduardo Najera, one of the few Mexican-born players in the National Basketball Association.

As far as culture is concerned, Gastelum said, while in the States, he looked forward to going to a Thunder basketball game the most.

THREE SIDEWALKS ENLARGED BY FOUR FEET TO ACCOMMODATE HIGH TRAFFIC

Campus sidewalks undergo widening

DARREN COOK
News Writing Student

Three of the college's major sidewalks have been widened from the original four-foot width to eight feet, in order to accommodate the number of pedestrians who use them, said J.B. Messer, Facilities Management director.

The most recent upgrade carries traffic from the parking lot to the north entrance of the library. The work was done over spring break to minimize the disruption of classes.

"Going back in history, most of our sidewalks were built four feet in width, unless they were major thoroughfares," Messer said.

The Arts Festival Oklahoma site was the first to receive the eight-foot upgrade, he said.

"When we relocated the site, we designed those sidewalks at four feet, but we found out they just weren't wide enough."

The sidewalks near the college union entry also have been widened. People could not navigate the old ones without walking all over the grass, Messer said.

Heather McConnell, an Emergency Medical Science major who is finishing

up her second year at OCCC, said she believes the college's money could be spent on more important things.

"As far as I can tell, the sidewalks are all in good shape, except for the area in front of the school," McConnell said.

That front entrance to the Main Building is part of a concrete replacement project that Messer is working on. A 10-year-old section of sidewalk froze before it had time to cure.

Facilities Management will bid the replacement of the sidewalk, and schedule it at a time that is the least disruptive to college foot traffic, Messer said.

"Over time concrete just doesn't hold up as well as you would like it to," Messer said. Other areas on the project include the loading docks for food service and for shipping and receiving.

McConnell said she sees other places should college should work on.

"Maybe they should spend the money on repairing the potholes and re-striping the parking lot," McConnell said.

Messer said he agrees – and is working on that too.

Facilities Management typically accomplishes one large campus pavement repair project each year, Messer said. Normally it is scheduled at the end of the spring semester, and the beginning



PHOTO BY LANDA MCCLURE

Three of the college's sidewalks have been widened from the original four-foot width to eight feet, in order to accommodate the number of pedestrians who use them, said J.B. Messer, Facilities Management director.

of the summer semester

"As we move forward, we need to make sure we are looking more closely at places where we have that major traffic flow, so we don't have to go back and do it again," Messer said.

It is the responsibility of the Facilities Task Force to make recommendations

to the Board of Regents so it can approve moving forward on capital construction projects such as these.

"The greatest thing about it is our college administration realizes the need, is supportive, and provides us with the resources we need to make these changes," Messer said.

Jazz concert set for April 15

ARACELY BAEZA
News Writing Student

A double bass recital featuring New Testament jazz will be performed by music professor Michael Boyle at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 15, in the Bruce Owen Theater on campus.

New Testament jazz is rooted in the type of jazz played by musicians such as Bill Evans and Scott Lafaro, Boyle said.

"They approach jazz from a more collective improvisational dialogue type of approach," he said.

Boyle will be accompanied by pianist Elad Katz and drummer Hal Corn during the free concert.

"It takes a special group to pull off these pieces," Boyle said. "Hal and Elad are trusted colleagues and are up to the task of performing this music."

"It's very difficult stuff but they have the talent and dedication to the groove to pull it off."

Boyle said his musical interests are "all over the place."

"I'll start listening to something and just start digging deeper. The results can be unpredictable, but it's always fun."

Boyle said he has a great passion for his instrument, the double bass, a stringed instrument also known as the standup bass.

It takes him about two months to prepare for a recital like this, he said.

"I have been working on this narrow slice of jazz with one of my closest colleagues, Elad Katz, who is the piano player in this recital," Boyle said.

"We've been working on a new approach to how we play jazz."

"This is a style of jazz that

normally doesn't get performed in the clubs and that is why we're playing it — because we don't get to play this when we play professional."

Boyle said people should attend the performance to hear something different from the jazz they've heard before.

"It's a chance to hear great music that they normally wouldn't get to hear unless they really seek it out," he said.

This will be Boyle's third recital since joining the OCCC faculty in 2006.

Previous recitals have featured music from Baroque, Romantic, and Twentieth Century composers, as well as jazz.

Music professor Michael Boyle is the featured jazz performer at a free concert Thursday, April 15, in the Bruce Owen Theater.

FILE PHOTO



SPORTS

Feel the burn

William Knight, literature major, pushes through the pain as part of his workout routine.

The weight room is open to students from 6 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

INTRAMURALS | Students can still register to play volleyball

More players needed for April 22 volleyball tourney

LANDA MCCLURE
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

Students have time to get with three of their best friends and sign up as a team for the intramural volleyball tournament to be held from noon to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 22, in the Wellness Center gym, said Charlie Tarver, Recreation and Fitness sports assistant.

Tarver said the tournament was originally scheduled for Wednesday, April 14, but had to be rescheduled due to conflicts.

He said three teams are already signed up to play, but there is time to register more teams.

The minimum number of players per team is four, Tarver said.

"We let teams play with three mem-

bers last semester, but that was during the volleyball league and we're only having a tournament this semester so teams will need four players," he said.

The deadline to sign up for the volleyball tournament will be 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, he said.

Tarver said with the current lineup, the tournament will consist of single elimination, but if more teams sign up, then it will be double elimination.

"Anyone can play," he said. "Intramurals are about all students participating and enjoying themselves."

Coed sports are also offered.

Eric Watson, Recreation and Fitness sports specialist, said volleyball is one of the more popular intramural sports offered to students.

"A lot of students get involved with volleyball," Watson said. "Basketball

and flag football are two other popular intramural sports."

Members of the winning team will receive a free T-shirt from the Recreation and Fitness Center.

Intramural volleyball rules will apply to the tournament.

To get a list of the rules, visit the Recreation and Fitness Center office.

Students who want to sign up can register at the Recreation and Fitness Center office or e-mail Tarver at ctarver@occc.edu or Watson, at ewatson@occc.edu.

Students who sign up by e-mail will need to state what intramural sport they are registering for.

For more information, contact Watson at 405-682-1611, ext. 7786 or the Recreation and Fitness Center at 405-682-7860.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **Monday:** 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. Games are held in the Wellness Center gym.

• **Thursday:** Men's basketball: Head Bustas vs. Ballerz 6 p.m. Court 2. OKC Chiefs vs. N UR Window 7 p.m. Court 2. Express vs. Rock Solid 7 p.m. Court 3. Fam Bam vs. Dream Team 8 p.m. Court 2. Ballaholics vs. BBDC 8 p.m. Court 3. Games are held in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 19:** Adult volleyball: Brookwood - 1 vs. Garder 7 p.m. Court 1. Can You Dig It vs. Skippy's Mistake 7 p.m. Court 2. Can You Dig It vs. Brookwood - 1 8 p.m. Court 1. Brookwood - 2 vs. All Sets Are Off 8 p.m. Court 2. Serendipitty Slammers vs. Brookwood - 2 9 p.m. Court 1. All Sets Are Off vs. The Bow-Legged Pirates 9 p.m. Court 2. Games are held in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 22:** Coed intramural volleyball: Tournament to be held at noon in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 22:** Men's basketball: Express vs. Dream Team 6 p.m. Court 2. Head Bustas vs. Ballaholics 7 p.m. Court 2. Ballerz vs. N UR Window 7 p.m. Court 3. Rock Solid vs. OKC Chiefs 8 p.m. Court 2. Fam Bam vs. BBDC 8 p.m. Court 3. Games are held in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 26:** Adult volleyball: Games start at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. Games are held on Courts 1 and 2 in the Wellness Center gym.

• **April 29:** Men's basketball: Games start at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Games are held on Courts 2 and 3 in the Wellness Center gym.

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

EMS program receives third accreditation

MALLORY DODSON
News Writing Student

The OCCC paramedic program is the only nationally accredited program in the state of Oklahoma, said Harvey Conner, emergency medical science professor and the receiver of the 2009 EMS Instructor of the Year award.

The paramedic program staff recently learned the program has been reaccredited for the third time.

"This is a tremendous commitment by our college, by our division, and by our program because the requirements to meet accreditation are a lot more than what it takes to just be certified by the state of Oklahoma," Connor said.

"Because of that, the rigor that the students go through in this program is comparatively greater than other programs."

The paramedic program also has won awards from the Oklahoma EMT Association and the Oklahoma Ambulance Association, Conner said.

Connor has worked at OCCC in the paramedic program since 1979.

Before that, he was a paramedic supervisor at Midwest City EMS.

"Technology has changed the face of EMS tremendously," Connor said.

"Technology has extended the capabilities of what paramedics are able to do and how they take care of patients."

Conner said he has grown old with these advances. The paramedic program at OCCC is the only program in the state that trains its students to use a LIFEPAK 15, one of the most advanced portable defibrillator monitors available, he said.

The LIFEPAK 15 is state-of-the-art technology, Conner said. It allows the paramedic to monitor a patient's heart rhythm along with their blood pressure and oxygen levels.

"The LIFEPAK 15 also al-

lows the paramedic to perform what is called a 12 Lead ECG which is used to determine if a patient is having a heart attack, and then transmit that ECG to the physician in the emergency room or directly to the cardiologist on their Smartphone.

"This is done through new technology and is fairly unique to the LIFEPAK 15," Conner said.

The products the paramedic program uses are of the highest quality, he said. "We utilize that equipment so that the students on our campus are using the very best equipment that's available to them in learning how to take care of patients."

Conner said the paramedic program is a two-year associate degree program. It also offers a certificate of mastery.

"Upon completion of the two years of education, students can license in the state of Oklahoma as a paramedic."

"They also receive national registration as a paramedic that allows them to move to other states and continue to practice as a paramedic," he said.

The program has been selected as one of a group of pilot programs around the country by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Techni-



Harvey Conner

cians to pilot a new series of skills that will be in place in the next three years, Conner said.

"Our students are working on helping to refine the skills-testing sheets that the reg-

istry will use to register paramedics and EMTs across the country."

Watching the students' excitement, desire, and growth is the greatest reward of working in the paramedic program, Conner said.

"I know that our students are going to go out and make a difference every day and take care of people that are in need."

For more information about the paramedic department, contact Conner at 405-682-1611, ext. 7304, or e-mail hconner@occc.edu.



Student Life
will host a blood drive
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, April 21,
in the College Union.

correction

Information provided by college Attorney Nancy Garrity and reported in the April 2 issue was mistated: An e-mail from Garrity states the correct information is as follows: "Smokers who smoke inside a building or within 25 feet of an entrance are currently committing a misdemeanor, whether at OCCC or on a completely smoke-free campus. However, on a completely smoke-free campus, a smoker who smokes more than 25 feet from a building entrance is NOT guilty of a misdemeanor. This means that, on campuses that are completely smoke-free (which OCCC is not), students who violate the smoking policy are subject to different punishments depending on where they smoke. The proposed bill would make everyone who violated the smoking policy on a completely smoke-free campus subject to the same penalty."

Nursing: 91.75 percent of '09 grads pass license exam

Continued from page 1

critical thinker to become a registered nurse.

Interviews with nursing professors in the Career Ladder Pathway program made it clear that they use a team-teaching approach and they emphasize active learning. The Career Ladder Pathway program is designed to meet the needs of the currently licensed LPNs or Oklahoma licensed paramedics who seek to be licensed as registered nurses.

Nursing professor Karen Jordan said she thinks this year's graduates will do just as well or even better than last year's.

"This group is a perfect example of how nurses are committed to life-long learn-

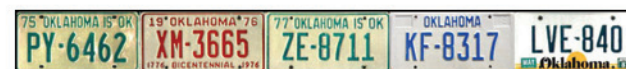
ing, and career development," Jordan said.

Emmanuel Attah, who is in his last semester in the nursing program, said professors expect students to be prepared every day when they come to class, so class time can be more for critical thinking.

This is a very challenging program with a lot of material to cover, he said.

"Professors can't help the ones who are not willing to help themselves," he said. "You have to put in the extra effort, but they supplement the material very well in class."

For more information about the OCCC nursing program, contact Klepper at 405-682-1611, ext. 7289, or e-mail rklepper@occc.edu



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CAMPUS COMMUNITY

ORGANIZATIONS | Students in Free Enterprise wins award at regional event



PHOTO COURTESY OF SIFE

Students in Free Enterprise members Tino Ceballos, Koby Payne, Manuela Kwinkwa, Alisha O'Lague, Maria Garcia and Monica Reyes stand with their Rookie of the Year award March 30 during a regional SIFE competition. The club competed against SIFE organizations from across the nation during the event, which is held every year in Dallas, Texas.

Club wins rookie award during regional business competition

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

What's in a name?

For one student organization, the answer is award-winningly clear: Everything.

Students in Free Enterprise, formerly known as the Business Professionals of America, took home one of three Rookie of the Year trophies March 30 during a regional SIFE competition held in Dallas.

The club competed against more than 50

other student organizations from across the nation, said Alisha O'Lague, club president.

O'Lague said she, along with five other students and two club sponsors, competed in the event.

"It was nice to be able to organize all of our team members, direct them to a common goal, and see them awarded for it," she said. "We are so proud."

Last semester, O'Lague said, SIFE converted from BPA in hopes of opening up more opportunities for club members.

Both SIFE and BPA are

non-profit organizations dedicated to helping college students develop skills to someday become responsible business leaders, she said.

"We just felt like we had more opportunities with SIFE," O'Lague said.

She said while the club could have participated in competitions with BPA, it would have required journeying to the west coast.

"We would have had to travel to California," O'Lague said. "This was just a better fit for us."

The club is already

planning a return trip for next year, she said.

"This year was a learning experience," O'Lague said. "Now we know what to expect."

She said the goal of SIFE is to impact college students, as well as the community, by speaking out about free enterprise.

"We just want to make a difference," O'Lague said.

For more information about SIFE, e-mail O'Lague at alisha.d.olague@email.occc.edu, or visit the website at www.occc-sife.campusgroups.com.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Cultural series to end with music trio

Celtic music trio Rowan will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, in the Bruce Owen Theater as a part of OCCC's Cultural Arts Series. Tickets may be purchased online at www.occc.edu/cas. For more information, contact the Cultural Programs office at 405-682-7576.

Stress Brown Bag scheduled

Learn stress management techniques before finals week and the end of the semester with the Stress Management Brown Bag, held from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Thursday, April 15, in CU1. Drinks will be provided. Proof of attendance will be given to students who participate in the lecture. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Textbook author to present lecture

Psychology textbook author Don Hockenbury will speak to students about sleeping disorders from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 16, in Room 215 of the Health Professions Center. For more information, contact Yuthika Kim at 405-682-1611, ext. 7715.

Tuition fee waiver applications available

Tuition fee waiver applications for the summer 2010 semester are now available in the Financial Aid Office. Completed applications must be submitted before 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 20. For more information, contact Student Financial Support Services at 405-682-7525, ext. 7188.

Bombing memorial event planned

Join Student Life in remembering the 15th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, April 19, in CU3. A live feed of the downtown memorial service will be shown and a memory board will be provided. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-6523.

Blood drive to be held

Student Life will host a blood drive from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7532.

Baptist club offers free lunch

Baptist Collegiate Ministries will offer free lunch and Christian fellowship to all students, faculty and staff members during their meetings this semester. Lunches will be held from noon to 12:50 p.m. Mondays in the Bruce Owen Theater, and from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. Thursdays in room 3N0 of the Main Building. For more information, contact Mark Barnett at 405-323-0583.

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.

ANIMALS

FREE TO A GOOD, LOVING HOME: 2 adorable ferrets with a 4-story wire cage. Sweet and fun. Play well with other non-aggressive pets. Call for information: 405-996-0552.

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tis washer and dryer set. Fully working. \$450 OBO. Call: 405-921-0837.

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ROOMMATE WANTED: to share SW OKC home. Prefer female. Must have references. Pets are ok. No smoking or drugs. Would have own room and room around the house. Call Kelli at 405-205-0740 after 6 p.m. or email poohbear73084@hotmail.com.

FURNITURE

KING SIZE BED FOR SALE: Wooden headboard and footboard. Mattress and box spring. GC. \$200. Includes mattress

cover and 3 sets of sheets. Call: 405-691-6511.

FOR SALE: Kitchen table and four matching chairs. \$125. All in good condition. Call: 405-921-0837.

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

TEXTBOOKS

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.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

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7 Where cranberries grow
10 Nip
14 Souvenirs
15 Atty.'s org.
16 Dutch treat
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19 Phoenician port
20 Where to get a perm
23 Cries like a baby
26 Negative votes
27 Like the ocean
28 Curved molding
29 Hullabaloo
30 Cloth layer
31 Lynx, e.g.
33 Wye's follower
34 Tavern drink
37 Wing of a building
38 Blvd.
39 Be in debt
40 Friday or Dirty Harry
41 — Moines, Iowa
42 Top
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45 Peach center
46 Mom's dessert?
47 Seabird
48 David Copperfield's

DOWN

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2 Type of bath
3 Onassis' nickname
4 Snacked
5 Bob and Elizabeth
6 On the ocean
7 "— Fink"
8 Follows orders
9 Show shock
10 Double-cross
11 Romantic interlude
12 Seer's deck
13 Manicurist's board
21 Banded together
22 In dreamland

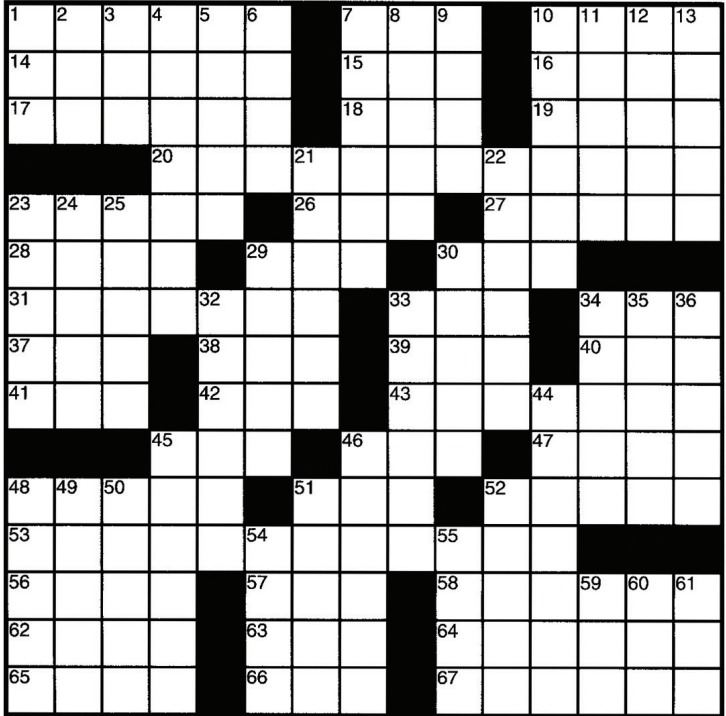
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ALAS	SIGMA	LAMA
RAPT	INS	HYMNAL
	ERGS	SLOE
DACRON	PAINTERS	
IRONY	BETA	SKEW
SIN	GORES	IVE
KEGS	HITS	WINED
SLAPDASH	GAGGLE	
	LOSE	BARN
SPRINT	JAM	IDLE
ALEC	LOUSE	TIER
LONE	YODEL	EVEN
EYED	POSY	DARE

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