



HIS PATH TO PRESIDENCY

Read about OCCC President Paul Sechrist's journey from a small town in New York to becoming the leader of the college.

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EDITORIAL

OFTEN, PUBLIC PROFILES DAMAGING

The Pioneer's Bishal Malla says while social networking sites can be fun, too much fun and games can be detrimental to students' entry into the professional world.

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INTRAMURALS

VOLLEYBALL CHAMPS NAMED

All Mixed Up defeats Gremlins to take top spot at volleyball tournament.

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ORGANIZATIONS

CLUB AIDS NEEDY DOGS

A campus club collected dog food, cleaning supplies and blankets to donate to the Tulsa Boxer Rescue. Learn more inside.

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PIONEER

APRIL 30, 2010

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Students support 'modest' tuition hike

State regents hear students on funding

ETHAN HENDRICKS
Staff Writer

Student leaders conceded that a tuition increase probably would be necessary next fall, given the gloomy outlook for state funding. The students spoke April 27

at a public hearing before the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in downtown Oklahoma City.

Prior to the hearing, Oklahoma Student Government Association Chairman Matt Heggy said he would speak on behalf of student bodies regarding tuition. "We've spent the last week calling student body presidents

and asking them their opinion on a tuition increase," Heggy said.

"The opinion we've gathered is that most student bodies approve of a 'modest tuition increase.'"

Heggy said he was unable to define what amount constitutes a "modest increase" since the Oklahoma Legislature has not yet appropriated higher education funds.

State Regents Chairman Stuart Price said that while Oklahoma has had a lower tuition rate than the national average, the need to preserve quality education in trying economic times has forced the state regents to consider the possibility of a tuition raise.

"The regents take tuition rates

See **TUITION** page 9

1, 2, 3 step



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Carolina Vasquez, business management, and Kevin Mendoza, Spanish major, demonstrate salsa dancing April 27 in the courtyard. Learning how to salsa was part of the World Languages and Cultures Center's Blue Sky Lab.

CONCERT TO INCLUDE MANY STYLES, DIRECTOR SAYS

OCCC choirs to hold year-end performance

ALISSA DAWSON
News Writing Student

The final choral concert of the semester will be at 7 p.m. May 6, at Mid-America Christian University, 3500 SW 119th St., said music professor Ron Staton, choral music program director.

The Chamber Singers, the Symphonic Community Choir and the Concert Choir will perform.

Staton said the concert will offer a variety of music.

The selections will include music from "Ragtime," "Pippin," George Gershwin, Robert Frost, a composer from Nova Scotia and a special song written for the people of Oklahoma City in remembrance of the April 19, 1995, bombing.

Each choir includes students from OCCC, but the 75-voice Symphonic Community Choir also includes vocalists from the community, Staton said.

The Chamber Singers is an audition-only choir comprised of 28 students. The Concert Choir, which includes 42 singers, is open to any student with no audition required, he said.

The concert typically draws large crowds which is why it will be held off campus, Staton said.

If you go

WHAT: Choral concert

WHEN: 7 p.m. May 6

WHERE: Mid-America Christian University, 3500 SW 119th St.

COST: Free

Summer work available

JENNIFER MASSEY
Staff Writer

Students in work-study positions are allowed to extend their employment six weeks after the spring semester ends.

Harold Case, Student Financial Support Services dean, said the college has enough money

to keep work-study positions funded through the fiscal year, which ends June 30.

The job extension is limited to work-study employees because their funds come from a separate budget, Case said.

While work-study jobs are

See **JOBS** page 9

OPINION

OUR VIEW | Beware of sending wrong idea

More than just your friends catch glimpses of you online

These days when I open my Facebook account, I see my friends either slaughtering chickens in Farmville or killing somebody in Mafia Wars.



BISHAL MALLA

Some are receiving their daily horoscope from Anita, the online psychic, and others are busy checking their daily luck.

No doubt, Facebook has become one of the fastest-growing social networking websites on the Internet.

Though countless people sign into Facebook every day, how many people really use it in a professional way?

How many people use it as a means to learn something?

Not very many, I guess.

On a professional level, Facebook can be used as a great communication tool.

When you work at a corporate level, social networking sites can be used as a means of communication with your co-workers, bosses and public figures.

However, in a corporation, who do you think will be interested in knowing how many chickens you have harvested or how many characters you killed in Mafia Wars?

No one you're trying to impress professionally wants to know what you ate for dinner last night or where you spent your weekend.

Everybody likes to update their status on Facebook with witty humor or an account of how they spent last night or your mood today, but beware of what you write. You never know who may see it.

There are many bad incidents that take place due to offensive and unpleasant status updates in Facebook.

An article at www.jobweb.org list many examples of ways social networking sites have cost or nearly cost someone a job.

For that reason, it's good to have two Facebook accounts — one personal account that is set to private, and one professional account.

Even then, you may face potential problems.

One jobweb example tells of someone who almost lost an important internship because his private Facebook page was accessed by his potential state employer "under the auspices of the Patriot Act."

Jobweb states, "More than one-quarter (26.9 percent) of the employers reported they have Googled candidates or reviewed job applicant profiles on social networking sites, according to a recent poll conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)."

So, while social networking sites can be used for fun,



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

be mindful not to use them in a way that could ruin your professional career.

And, for the nearly 700 students about to graduate from OCCC in May, Facebook can be an important tool for their career build up.

Students can look for people working at a corporate level and make them friends. These friends can help them to find a job and communicate with people.

So, share your personal thoughts and pictures only with your friends who will be in your personal account.

Share the ideas of work with your colleagues and bosses on your professional account.

This will not only help you to not ruin your career but also maintain your behavioral status among the friends and coworkers.

YOUR VOICE | Nothing beats the real thing

Student embraces Italy's historically sound landscapes

To the editor:

Having stepped off the metro bus, we watched the bus drive down the road.

We were standing on a cliff 450 feet high, located in the hill country outside of Rome.

We had not seen another car in sight in any

direction. It was clear that this area was just what we thought it was, perfectly peaceful.

Looking forward, with houses built onto the side of the cliff, we knew we were in the right place.

The town was called Calcata, a town of me-

dieval origins that would have been nearly forgotten had it not been for local artists and hippies.

After going through the old castle-like entrance that was too small for a car, we entered the main square of the town.

It was a sight that is almost unbelievable at

first, as there are no towns of the sort in America.

While walking around, it was clear that this was a town straight out of the imagination.

Local shops and restaurants were closed until the weekend, and only a couple were left

open during the week.

No matter whether the building was completely abandoned, the locals decorated them with flower pots, and wall decorations.

With dogs running through the streets playing, and a just a small handful of people doing

day to day chores, it was clear that this was the perfect picturesque town through which the real Italy can be seen.

It was all too perfect, a place that remains elusive from the everyday tourists of Rome.

—STEVEN WARD
OCCC STUDENT

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 | The elite drop the ball

Explosive movie lacks brilliance

“The Losers” is one of those movies you will either hate or well, dislike.

An elite force of U.S. Special Forces is on a mission in Bolivia to take down a drug dealer at his base.

The team is comprised of its leader Clay (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), Jenson (Chris Evans), Rogue (Idris Elba), Pooch (Columbus Short) and Cougar (Oscar Jaenada).

The plan is to mark the target, known as “painting,” so bombers can finish off the bad guys.

Unfortunately, after the team leader Clay gives the green light to bomb the bad guys to smithereens, a truckload of children arrive on scene.

Clay tries to call off the bombing to save the kids, but a mysterious “Max” (Jason Patric) comes on the radio and overrules Clay.

The team attacks the village and tries to save the children before they are bombed, but things go wrong and the team is left for dead.

The team members fly under the radar for a while in Bolivia, waiting for their chance to get revenge on Max.

Along comes Aisha (Zoe Saldana), who has tracked down Clay and his team.

After a violent and rather destructive scuffle in a hotel room, she tells Clay she can get him and his team back to the U.S.,

thus allowing them to get revenge.

The only thing she wants in exchange is Max.

The rest of the film consists of the team promptly proceeding to blow up, shoot, punch and kick all the bad guys to pieces.

Comedic relief comes in the form of Jenson with his attempts to pick up women and interactions with the other team members.

Aisha provides the female element to the movie, including her ability to look hot and kick butt at the same time.

The villain of the movie, Max, is a bit too cliché and lacks criminal

genius.

He’s decadent, flip-pant, condescending to his henchman and has no qualms about killing.

All the typical elements you stuff in a bad guy when you don’t feel like being creative or original.

When watching the movie, however, one must keep in mind that it is a film adaptation of a comic book.

As such, a certain amount of leeway should be given while viewing.

However, some producers and directors go too far and abuse that leeway.

Rating: C+

—ETHAN HENDRICKS
STAFF WRITER

YOU asked FOR IT

Q: Are transfer intramural scholarships available?

A: “On the collegiate level, athletic scholarships are the only ones available. Student athletes would need to contact the university’s athletic department they are transferring to about receiving a scholarship.”

—ERIC WATSON

RECREATION AND FITNESS SPORTS
SPECIALIST

Q: If my car’s license plate changes, do I need to get a new parking sticker?

A: “Yes. Your decal number is directly connected with your car’s license plate, so if that changes, you need to get a new decal. It doesn’t cost anything. Just come to Records and fill out a brief form.”

—SHAUN RICHMOND
RECORDS WORKER

Q: When is the last date to enroll the classes for summer and fall of 2010?

A: “Students can enroll right up until the time classes begin. That is June 7, for summer and Aug. 23, for fall but nothing can be guaranteed about the availability of the classes at that point because they may be full. We do accept the students right up until the time classes start and even possibly the first week of classes because sometimes students might drop or change classes at the first week and that might be available for other students who will be looking for enrollment. So, we always encourage people to apply as early as they can.”

—LAURA CASE
CAREER SERVICES ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT

GAME REVIEW | Battle through with the mind of a ninja

Wii makes you sweat it out, fist to fist

In the past, Nintendo has managed to squeeze the real-life thrill of high-intensity sports such as basketball, archery and even skydiving into one small, sleek package: the Nintendo Wii.

That unique legacy continues with martial arts, the Wii’s latest venture into the world of extreme sports.

“All Star Karate,” Nintendo’s first interactive karate game, punched and kick-boxed its way into stores April 20.

In “Karate,” players control a young martial arts novice whose valiant attempt to save a seemingly helpless old man from a pack of ninjas brings him face to face with a wise old sensei.

The cantankerous master offers to train the youngster in the ways of martial arts, including ancient disciplinary principles and the fun stuff — real karate moves.

Beneath the sensei’s tutelage, the player will work through different challenges and mini-games, unlocking a rainbow of belt colors until the ultimate achievement — the black belt — is

reached. In addition to this career mode, players also can spar against friends in challenge mode and create customized move sequences with the special Kata Editor.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NINTENDO

“Karate” is fully-interactive; meaning all of this is accomplished by use of either two Nintendo Wii remotes or the combination of a remote and a nunchuk.

Not only does this add a healthy dose of realism to the game, it also creates a high-energy, fun way to get in a daily dose of exercise.

In true Nintendo fashion, “Karate” manages to appeal to both the young and the old with its brightly colored, cartoonish characters,

simplistic-yet-enjoyable storyline and easy-to-learn karate moves.

It also adds a touch of lighthearted fun to an otherwise serious sport.

Throughout the game, players are presented

with random challenges, such as catching buzzing flies in the palm of their hands and slapping awake their sleeping sensei.

Whether you are new to the world of martial arts or an experienced master, you will find something to enjoy about “All Star Karate.”

For only \$19.99 — a downright steal compared to most Wii titles, which retail at \$49.99 — there is not much to lose.

And it may just be the closest thing you’ll ever have to a real fighting dojo in your living room.

Rating: A

—WHITNEY KNIGHT
STAFF WRITER

OCCC BOOKSTORE SELLS MULTIPLE LOGO-WEAR ITEMS INCLUDING T-SHIRTS, BACKPACKS, SWEAT PANTS AND MORE

Zebra shirts are popular item, employee says



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Terracina Gerald (left), child development major, talks to Ashly Allen, OCCC student, April 28 while wearing their zebra-print OCCC logo T-shirts. The shirts are sold in the Bookstore for \$9.99.

KENDACEY WHITTAKER
News Writing Student

Being a college student usually means your bedroom closet is filled with an abundance of logo wear.

Here at OCCC, the Bookstore is the empire of logo wear, including T-shirts, sweat pants, backpacks and more, said Ashley Allen, Bookstore sales associate.

The most popular item of apparel is the T-shirt with wide zebra-print block lettering that reads OCCC, she said.

The shirts come in crayon-bright colors of red, green, blue, hot pink and black with the black and white lettering outlined in contrasting colors.

The second favorite item in the store is the hooded sweatshirt with colored block lettering.

Bookstore employee Pam Simmonds selects the logo wear for the bookstore, Allen said.

"We sell about four or five (of the T-shirts) a day," Allen said.

The shirts also are inexpensive — only \$9.99, she said.

Terry Cryer, OCCC student, said the shirt is one of his favorites and he wears it frequently.

"Considering the fact that I wear and wash it all the time, I think its in great condition and stands up to washing very well," Cryer said.

Students who visit the Bookstore to check the shirts out might see staff members wearing one, Allen said.

"Everybody in the store owns one," she said.

Online interview simulation program available to students

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Staff Writer
staffwriter1@occc.edu

Acing a job interview could be as easy as preparing online, thanks to a little-known Web program called Optimal Interview, said Judith McGee, Employment Services coordinator.

The program is available at no cost to OCCC students and former students, McGee said.

"It's one of the greatest practice interview tools I've ever come across," she said. "And I've seen quite a few."

Robert Briggs, game design major, said he has used the program to perfect his interviewing skills.

"It is a really cool program," Briggs said. "Nobody likes going out and interviewing, but it really helped me get my confidence up."

By visiting the website at occc.optimalresume.com, current and former students can sign up using their student ID or social security number, in addition to an e-mail address of their choosing.

From there, McGee said, potential interviewees can visit the Document Center, where the interview program is located. Then, they can create a new interview scenario out of three customizable options.

First, the interviewee chooses from eight interview types, including initial, panel and high-pressure interviews, as well as a build-your-own option that allows users to mix and match interview types.

Users then select the length of the interview — anywhere between one and 20 questions. Users also choose between four recording formats: spo-

ken and video, spoken only, written text and no recording at all.

McGee said the recording option allows interviewees to go back and review their performance when the interview is done, if their computer is Web cam-enabled.

Finally, users are asked to select an interviewer from four potential choices.

After customizing the interview to their liking, users are met with a video feed of their chosen interviewer, who begins asking questions.

Questions range from the mundane, such as honors and awards achieved in school, to the more difficult and thought provoking, like why the interviewee believes some companies flourish while others fail.

In addition, McGee said, at any time during the interview, users may seek help from

"It's a really cool program. Nobody likes going out and interviewing, but it really helped me get my confidence up."

—ROBERT BRIGGS
OCCC STUDENT

a virtual coach, who helps them better understand the proposed question.

"Sometimes, interview questions are worded in a way that makes them hard to understand," she said. "The coach helps break them down and let interviewees know what their interviewer really wants to hear."

McGee said the program helps its users learn how to respond to interview questions promptly and professionally, as well as better prepare for tough questions.

"There are questions on there that most people would

never think about," she said. "Even if they never come up, it's good to be prepared."

Not only does Optimal Interview sharpen interview skills, McGee said, it also serves as a confidence booster.

"If you run through the sample interviews a few times, you will probably start feeling better about it," she said. "If you feel better, you'll do better."

For more information about the program, contact McGee at 405-682-1611, ext. 7369, or visit the Student Employment and Career Services website at www.occc.edu/es.

FROM SMALL-TOWN CHILDHOOD TO LEADER OF THE COLLEGE, PAUL SECHRIST CARRIES HARD-WORKING ATTITUDE WITH HIM

OCCC president — more than an educator

MARK SMITH

Feature Writing Student

During the middle of the lunch, the normal hustle and bustle of Carson's Cafeteria came to a halt as gentle, soothing music filled the air.

People gathered around the dining area stage to see a man play the piano for tips to support the United Way campaign. This man was Paul Sechrist, OCCC president.

In addition to leading one of the state's largest community colleges, the president is known as an amateur pianist.

Sechrist said his interest in piano sparked around 3 or 4 years old.

"I would pretend to play," he said.

However, formal training would not come until he was 6.

"I only took lessons for one year because my piano teacher moved away and there were not many options in the small town where we lived," Sechrist said.

When Sechrist continued his music education in grade school, he said the piano brought so much joy to him he would take extra measures outside of the classroom to learn on his own.

"I enjoyed playing, so I worked through many of the lesson books on my own."

Looking back, however, he remembered not all lessons were fun and games. "One of my teachers used to

hit my hands with a ruler when I made a mistake. I am not sure it made me play any better, but it sure made me not want to go to lessons."

Sechrist said this teacher's style was to correct him whenever he made a mistake.

"She would hit your hand, not really hard to hurt you,

but hard enough to get your attention, when you made a mistake," he said.

Though it has been a life-long passion, Sechrist said he never aspired to become a famous player.

He said he considers the piano to be something that he does for himself.

However, when the need arises to help someone else with his music, he does not decline.

EARLY LIFE

As a child growing up in a family of five on a dairy farm in Holland, N.Y., Sechrist said he learned to share, compromise, support each other and have fun.

"My parents were excellent examples of working hard, working through hardships and making the most in life despite all of the obstacles life can put before you," he said.

After his family moved to Yorkshire, N.Y., Sechrist started his education at Pioneer Central High School in a consolidated school district with about 20 small cities.

While attending high school in the small town of 400 people, Sechrist focused his attention on science and literature.

"I was the kid who wanted a chemistry kit for my birthday," said the self-described science geek.

Grades did not come easy for Sechrist. "I made great grades early on, but I slacked off some of the time in high school."

For Sechrist, slacking meant a greater involvement in extracurricular school activities such as junior class president, student council and marching band.

"Sometimes, activities were more important than grades," he said.

Sechrist did, however, have a love for learning new ideas. Frank Woods was a favorite teacher of his who taught the pilot honors class, "The

Social, Psychological, and Economic Implications of Current American History," he said.

In the class, he learned not only how to analyze current events, but also to trace those events back through history and to apply them to his life.

These are the skills he said he would take with him on the road to a higher education.

COLLEGE AND ON

Wanting to be on his own, he left New York in 1972 with high school diploma in hand, and traveled to Oklahoma in order to continue his education, he said.

Sechrist's university requirements were simple: He wanted to attend a



Paul Sechrist

faith-based institution with a solid educational reputation. The obvious choice to him was Southern Nazarene University (formerly known as Bethany Nazarene College).

It was at SNU, Sechrist said, where he developed a passion for communication. In fact, he attributes the freshman speech communication course as the reason he declared communication as his major.

"I found that the study of human communication intrigued me, and I wanted to learn more," he said.

Even though Sechrist made As and Bs during his undergraduate training, he said college was not an easy road. "Since I was paying my own way through college, I, like many students today, worked while I was in college to not only pay tuition, but to pay the rent and other living expenses."

Though it was tough, Sechrist learned more than academics. SNU taught him to have a balance in life.

Being involved in the musical gospel team, speech club and honors societies, he said he learned how to set priorities, budget his time and not to sweat the small stuff.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in Speech Communication and Education in 1976 and his masters' degree in Education 1977, Sechrist was hired as a teacher at Yukon Middle High School.

Sechrist said he enjoyed teaching journalism, debate and speech courses at Yukon; however, he had the desire to continue his own education.

In 1977, he applied for the communications graduate program at the University of Oklahoma to earn his doctorate degree in communication. He was awarded his Ph.D. in communications in 1989.

PATH TO PRESIDENT

Sechrist was hired as Business and Computer Science dean at OCCC in 1995.

"I felt [OCCC's] mission of providing opportunity to everyone fit my personal mission of what I wanted to be part of professionally," he said.

During his time at OCCC, Sechrist has served the college as vice president for Academic Affairs, provost, acting president and now as president.

Even though he has won many awards, including "Outstanding Young College Teacher Award" from the Oklahoma Speech Association and recently the "Most Admired CEO" from The Journal Record's large nonprofit category, he describes himself as balanced, caring and humble.

Sechrist not only strives for his success, but also takes joy in seeing others succeed.

“My parents were excellent examples of working hard, working through hardships and making the most in life despite all of the obstacles life can put before you.”

—PAUL SECHRIST
OCCC PRESIDENT

Figure drawing offered at OKC Consortium



JENNIFER PEARSALL/PIONEER

Milow Johnson, art major, sketches a portrait of model Michael Jay during a Figure Drawing class held in the Downtown Art Museum that features local models. Ruth Charnay, Communication and the Arts Department director, said Figure Drawing will most likely be taught on campus next spring. "It's not the type of class where we have enough students every semester," she said. "It is an advanced class and students need a prerequisite class to enroll." Most participating students are art majors but it is not a prerequisite.

KATIE OSTER

News Writing Student

OCCC art students have the option of taking some of their coursework off campus at downtown Oklahoma City locations, including the art museum, said Ruth Charnay, Communication and the Arts Department director.

One of the classes taught at the Consortium this spring is figure drawing, Charnay said.

"The benefit of having classes at the Downtown Consortium," Charnay said, "is that it gives the larger community access to our programs."

Students in the figure drawing class sketch nude male and female models. The reason for sketching both genders is artists need diversity in their ability to draw human figures, she said.

Figure drawing has been successful on campus in the past, Charnay said. It was offered last in the spring 2006.

Charnay said Figure Drawing will most likely be taught on campus next spring. "It's not the type of class where we have enough students every semester," she said. "It is an advanced class and students need a prerequisite class to enroll."

Asked if the nude models being used make a difference as to where the class is held, Charnay said no.

"The class has been held on the campus before and there is no rule that it cannot be offered because of undraped models," she said.

She emphasized that when the class is held at OCCC, they do make sure no one can accidentally wander into the classroom where a nude model is posing for students.

The decision as to when the figure drawing class will be offered again will be made later in the year, Charnay said.

As the department director, Charnay said, she will consult with Arts and Humanities Dean Susan VanSchuyver and the art faculty as to which classes are put on the schedule and in which rotation. The class is limited to 30 students.

Charnay said Figure Drawing is not required to earn a degree in Visual Arts, but is a major elective course that students can take to satisfy degree requirements.

Art professor Doug Blake declined to be interviewed for this story.

Students find enjoyment in the human figure

KATIE OSTER

News Writing Student

The woman is pale and long of limb, her red hair a stark contrast to the beige drape and pillows surrounding her on the raised platform.

She is posed in the middle of a classroom at the Individual Artists of Oklahoma Gallery in downtown Oklahoma City while soothing music plays in the background.

Across the room, Teresa Clayton, OCCC Visual Arts major, captures her image of

the model in a sketch.

Clayton is one of 20 students attending a Figure Drawing class, offered through the Oklahoma City Downtown College Consortium.

The class normally meets at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, where the models usually pose nude, said adjunct professor Jeff Stokes, who also is the IAO director.

On this day, however, the room at the Museum of Art was unavailable so the class is being held at the IAO, where there is not a room private

enough for a nude model, Stokes said, so the woman is posing in a skin-tight tan-colored leotard.

Stokes is a local painter and sculptor who said he wanted to teach the class because he enjoys teaching and "wanted to stay involved in some way."

He said the class is diverse.

"This class has a mix of older people and younger people."

"Most of the older people are going back to school, so that is why they are taking this class."

Student Joneta Vezey said she recently returned to school

after taking some time off.

She is currently enrolled at the University of Central Oklahoma.

"I'm not great at this class, but I do enjoy taking it," she said.

"This is one of my favorite classes."

OCCC student Samantha Dawes said she finds the class challenging but fun.

"I want to get my bachelor's degree at the University of North Texas, then go to the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York to do my

graduate studies," Dawes said.

The Figure Drawing class will most likely be offered again in Spring 2011.

"We have had great feedback from the students of this class," Stokes said.

"I am very hopeful that it will be offered every year during the spring term."

For more information about this class and others being offered through the OKC Downtown College, call Director Gus Pekara at 405-232-3382 or e-mail gpekara@downtowncollege.com.

ART, FOOD AND MORE FOUND AT OKLAHOMA ARTS FESTIVAL

Downtown Arts Festival draws OCCC students

JENNIFER PEARSALL
Special to the Pioneer

Students visited the Oklahoma City Art Festival as homework April 22 as part of an eight-week humanities class called “Understanding Art in OKC.”

Offered through the Downtown Consortium, the class usually meets in the downtown Museum of Art.

The class was required go to the festival to listen to a panel discussion that included artists who had work on display. Then, the students were sent to observe the art.

Alisha O’Lague, accounting major, is a student in the course.

“Our homework every week is to go to an art gallery, exhibit or museum and find a piece of art — whether it be a sculpture, painting or any other kind of media — and write a critique.”

O’Lague said she preferred this particular day because of the panel discussion.

“We got to listen to the artist panel and then go to their tents and see their work,” she said.

“Before, we didn’t get to meet the artist. I think meeting them helps to evaluate and critique their work.”

Her daughter accompanied O’Lague on her trip to the festival, which is always full of art, live entertainment and, of course, food.

“My favorite part is always the food,” O’Lague said. “I enjoyed an Indian taco for dinner.”

With the semester coming to an end, O’Lague said she feels this class will benefit her in the future.

“As a business major, it helped me to realize how alive the art community is in Oklahoma City,” she said.

“As I become a leader in the business community, I think I’ll be more supportive of the art community and be more active.”

Veronica Chodur, undecided major, views a Darrell Thomas piece. Chodur described how local businesses have first view of the art and will purchase pieces before the festival begins. She said many pieces were bought by JP Morgan Chase bank.

photos by
Jennifer Pearsall



Above: Alisha O’Lague, accounting major, views art by Bert Seaborn in the South Henry Hudson Tent during the Oklahoma City Art Festival.

Left: O’Lague shows her daughter glass artwork by Douglas Becker. O’Lague, who graduates this May, said coming to the arts festival is part of the requirement for her Understanding Art in OKC class.



SPORTS

INTRAMURALS | Three teams compete in volleyball tournament



LANDA MCCLURE/PIONEER

Gremlins' Michelle Kellogg and Brittney Hillbern wait to see if teammate David Martinez's hit makes it over the net during the first round of the intramural volleyball championship April 22. Gremlins defeated Kick Ass 25-11.

All Mixed Up wins volleyball tourney

Intramural athletes show off volleyball skills during championship tournament

LANDA MCCLURE
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

The intramural volleyball team All Mixed Up walked away with the championship in the end-of-season tournament April 22.

The final round saw All Mixed Up defeating Gremlins in two of the last three games.

Gremlins seemed to have the upper hand by winning the first game 25-23, but its reign was cut short when All Mixed Up defeated them 25-21 in the second game.

All Mixed Up defeated Gremlins 16-14 in the last and final game of a best-of-three series to become the champions.

All Mixed Up included captain Jaleesa Robinson and players Jamaal

Surrell and Andrew Self.

First round of the double elimination tournament pitted Kick Ass against Gremlins with Gremlins coming out ahead 25-6.

Kick Ass players included Jessica Lounsbury, Cassie Goff, Ethan Hendricks, Lindsay Berny, John Steele and Rachel Newell.

Gremlins' members were Michelle Kellogg, David Martinez, Brittney Hillbern and Eric Montoya.

The opening game started with Kick Ass player Steele serving the ball first.

A quick hit back from Gremlins caused Kick Ass member Berny to miss the ball, which resulted in the first point going to Gremlins.

Hillbern from Gremlins served and was able to score two quick aces before serving the ball out of bounds and giving Kick Ass their first points.

Berny served the ball, and Montoya from Gremlins looked to set up an attack, but miscalculation ended up with the ball being hit out of bounds.

Another serve from Berny resulted in the ball being hit by Gremlins' Kellogg to team member Martinez who hit the ball back to Kick Ass member

Hendricks who was able to hit the ball to teammate Goff.

Goff missed the hit, giving a point to Gremlins.

After numerous serves from Gremlins' captain Martinez, Kick Ass called a time out with Gremlins leading 16-2.

In its second game Gremlins once again defeated Kick Ass to eliminate the team 25-11.

Kick Ass seemed to be determined to keep pace with the Gremlins but within the first 10 minutes of the game, Gremlins pulled away with a 7-point lead.

Several aces by Gremlins' Martinez sealed the teams victory over Kick Ass.

This qualified the team to take on the number one team, All Mixed Up. In the preliminary round All Mixed Up triumphed over Gremlins in both games, winning 25-16 and 25-21.

Charlie Tarver, Recreation and Fitness sports assistant, said the players seemed to have fun and enjoyed themselves.

Tarver said he and the players would be looking into another volleyball tournament during the summer season.

The intramural volleyball tournament was a one day-event.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **May 3:** Combo aerobics class from noon to 12:55 p.m. Classes are held in the Wellness Center.

• **May 3:** Zumba class from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Classes are held in the Wellness Center.

• **May 3:** Shallow water exercise class from 7:45 to 8:40 a.m., noon to 12:55 p.m. and 5:30 to 6:25 p.m. Classes are held in the Aquatic Center.

• **May 3:** Deep water exercise class from 10 to 10:55 a.m. Classes are held in the Aquatic Center.

• **May 4:** Zumba class from 10:30 to 11:25 a.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Classes are held in the Wellness Center.

• **May 4:** Youth sports: Coaches meeting for Mighty Midgets T-ball.

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

• **May 7:** Youth sports: Registration for Mighty Midgets t-ball ends. League fee is \$60 and includes the team jersey. Ages are from 4 to 7 years old. Games are held Tuesdays and Thursdays.

• **May 16:** Basic water rescue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Aquatic Center. Fee is \$30.

• **May 17:** Beginning golf classes begin and will be held from 5:30 to 6:55 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday until June 23. Classes will be held at the Earlywine Golf Course. Fee is \$30.

• **May 27:** Youth sports: Mighty Midgets T-ball season starts. Games are held Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

Tuition: State regents to decide June 11

Continued from page 1

very seriously,” Price said during the opening of the hearing. “The cost of college education has risen in America over the last several years with the exception of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma was one of two states that did not raise college tuition in 2009, Price said.

He said while it is unfortunate, it is becoming clear that a tuition increase is needed to continue providing students with a quality education.

Tonya Kiper, University of Oklahoma student association representative, told state regents that students understand the need for a rise in tuition prices, but they also have trepidations.

“Students understand that in these difficult times, colleges need to raise tuition rates to provide quality education,” Kiper said.

“However, they are afraid that a rise in tuition will only make it harder to attend college without amassing a large debt by the time they graduate.”

In an interview after the meeting, Kiper said she personally believes raising tuition might be a necessary evil that would have to be tolerated.

“I recognize money is tight,” she said. “I know raising tuition will bring more money to the colleges and allow them to provide quality education.

“But at the same time, I think raising tuition will make it harder for students to get higher education in Oklahoma.”

Glen Johnson, chancellor for the state regents, also said he would not be able to say or guess by what percentage the tuition rate would increase.

“It’s too early to know,” Johnson said. “Right now we are busy trying to convince the

Oklahoma Legislature that a 10 percent cut in college funding would be disastrous.”

Once the Legislature publishes the state budget May 28, the regents will meet to discuss the amount allocated to higher education and then will make a decision about a tuition increase on June 11, he said.

Price said he appreciated the students’ input and that the state regents would take into consideration their opinions and the opinions of student bodies when they make the decision.

It’s important the state regents and the colleges work together to find creative ways to keep tuition rates from skyrocketing and provide quality education at the same time, he said.

“It’s just tough out there,” Price said. “It’s a very difficult time right now. State revenues are down. Budgets are being cut.”

WEEKLY CRIME REPORTS

Stolen cell phone, vehicle larceny keep security busy

JUSTIN COMBS

Senior Writer

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Vandalism of a women’s feminine napkin machine April 21 in the third floor women’s restroom drew the attention of Safety and Security Officer Jeff Porter.

According to the report, Porter arrived on the scene to find the Kotex machine had been broken open, and an unknown amount of money and Kotex pads were missing.

According to the report, no suspect information was available.

That same day Porter responded to the Wellness Center on a report of a stolen cell phone.

According to the report, the victim, Jacob Kniffen, arrived in the Safety and Security office at 6:37 p.m. saying his cell phone had been stolen from the gym.

Kniffen said he left his phone at 5:30 p.m. in the gym on the bench by Court 3, next to the emergency exit doors that lead out to the College Union.

At 6:25 p.m., Kniffen noticed his Apple iPhone was missing and notified the Wellness Center staff who then called the Safety and Security office.

When Kniffen arrived in the office, Porter reviewed security camera footage for any suspects.

Porter noticed on camera that at 6:12 p.m., two men sat on either side of Kniffen’s phone.

According to the report, it appeared the man on the right picked up the phone, walked away from the bench and toward the camera.

The subject appeared again at 6:14 p.m. leaving the gym’s main entrance into the College Union.

At 6:16 p.m., the subject was in view of the College Union

security camera wearing a gray shirt with some writing on it with black shorts and white shoes.

Security cameras continued to follow the suspect as he got into a red car bearing a single yellow stripe.

The suspect then left the vehicle and made his way to the entrance of the Main Building.

Cameras followed the suspect going back to the gym where he met up with another man.

At 6:38 p.m. both suspects left the gym and made their way through the College Union and at 6:43 p.m., exited the building through the entrance of the Main Building and got into the red car with the yellow stripe.

Kniffen said he would press charges, so Sgt. Kevin Tipton notified Oklahoma City Police where Sgt. David Mosier took a report over the phone.

Porter also responded to a case of vehicle larceny in parking lot A on April 20 involving a broken passenger side window of a black Toyota Tacoma belonging to Nathaniel Rankin.

Porter and Officer Chad Clingman arrived on the scene at 6:45 p.m. and found a piece of a flat head screwdriver laying on the running board of the truck.

A witness said the suspects left in a green Chevy Tahoe bearing the tag number 215-OPC.

Rankin said his radar detector and sunglasses were missing.

Tipton reviewed security camera footage and noticed the green Chevy Tahoe came in off May Avenue, pulled next to the Tacoma and smashed the window then immediately left the property.

At 7:15 p.m. Sgt. Mosier arrived on the scene to take a report. Rankin told Mosier the total value of the missing items was \$220.

Jobs: Employment Services offers help

Continued from page 1

traditionally only offered during the fall and spring semesters, he said, this would give students the opportunity for six additional weeks of work.

Patrick Chism, who works at the Welcome Desk through the work-study program, said he will take advantage of the extra time.

The work-study program has provided a balance between academics and finances, said Chism, sociology major.

“It’s worked out great and has allowed me to continue to have my grade point average at the level it is and keep money in my pocket,” he said.

“I’m a single dad, so that way I don’t have to go out and get a full-time job.”

Kevin Mendoza, World Languages and Cultures Center lab assistant, said he was unaware work-study students could work until June 30.

“That will be good,” said Mendoza, Spanish major. “I

would take advantage of the extra six weeks.”

Students interested in finding a seasonal summer job are encouraged to use the benefits that Student Employment and Career Services have to offer including help with résumé writing and tutorials on how to apply for a job, Case said.

Since students can remain in their work-study positions, on-campus jobs may not come available as often during the summer, said Judith McGee, Employment Services coordinator.

However, there are many other possibilities available to students, McGee said.

She said areas with job availability are sports activities, food services, aquatics and movie theaters, among others.

Frontier City, White Water Bay and Allison’s Fun Park in Moore are always looking for OCCC students to fill summer positions, McGee said.

In addition, she said, retailers like Kohls, Macy’s and many others are looking to

To search for employment opportunities, visit:
collegecentral.com
/occc

fill retail and customer service positions.

She said there also are a variety of city jobs available.

Students can access any city position by typing in www.cityof, followed by the name of that city .gov, McGee said. For example, Oklahoma City’s website would be cityofoklahomacity.gov.

There applicants can find all of the job postings available for that city.

“If you don’t find what you are looking for, then just type in the name of another city,” she said.

For more information, visit www.collegecentral.com/occc or visit Student Employment and Career Service located on the first floor of the Main Building, next to Student Life.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Hugging it out

Katie Williams, Advocates of Peace co-president, shares a hug with Centerria Wright, visual arts major, April 28 in front of the OCCC Coffee Shop. The club gave out hugs as a part of Free Hugs Day, an event organized to promote the embracement of peace and diversity.

LANDA McCLURE/PIONEER

ORGANIZATIONS | Donated goods will go towards helping boxer rescue

Student club raises pet food, supplies for canines in need

President says donations make a big difference

WHITNEY KNIGHT
Staff Writer
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Nearly 40 furry friends will receive some much-needed relief after a campus club raised several boxes full of dog food, cleaning supplies and blankets.

For two weeks, the Psychology/Sociology club raised goods for Tulsa Boxer Rescue, said Laurie Thornton, club sponsor.

Three large donation

boxes decorated with names and pictures of boxers such as Auggie and Mugsy were placed around campus during the drive, which Thornton said she organized out of her passion for pups.

"I've always been a boxer lover," she said. "Boxers never have a bad day."

Thornton said she frequently volunteers for the nonprofit organization, where she adopted her own boxer, an 8-year-old male named Gator.

"Volunteerism is one of the most enriching things you can do with your life," she said.

"Students need to realize that doing your schoolwork isn't always the only way to better yourself."

Although the drive is over, Thornton said, students who would still like to donate items to the organization can bring them to her office in room 1H4 of the Social Sciences Center.

She said though the drive raised many cleaning items such as bleach and hand sanitizer, basics such as food, treats and blankets are still in high demand.

"Things like those never go out of demand, no matter how many we

receive," Thornton said.

Robin Wood, Tulsa Boxer Rescue president, said she greatly appreciates the effort OCCC students made in helping the organization.

"We are a nonprofit organization composed entirely of volunteers," Wood said.

"Without donations, we wouldn't be able to rescue and care for these dogs.

"Every little bit truly does help," she said.

For more information, contact Thornton at 405-682-1611, ext. 7359, or visit the Tulsa Boxer Rescue website at www.tulsaboxerrescue.net.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Pinning ceremony to be held

Fall, spring and summer graduates are invited to attend the Student Life Pinning Ceremony, held from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, May 3, in the College Union. Graduates will receive a commemorative pin as well as a special gift courtesy of the OCCC Alumni Association. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or e-mail dbehara@occc.edu.

Employment Brown Bag scheduled

Learn about summer employment opportunities throughout Oklahoma City with the Summer Employment Brown Bag, held from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 4, in the College Union. Drinks will be provided. Students may bring their own lunch. Proof of attendance will be given to students who participate in the lecture. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or e-mail ktreadwell@occc.edu.

Hispanic club to hold taco sale

The Hispanic Organization to Promote Education will host a taco sale from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, in the College Union. Spanish rice and refried beans also will be served. Proceeds will be used to fund a trip to the National Council of La Raza in July. For more information, contact Paul Burkhardt at 405-682-1611, ext. 7280, or e-mail pburkhardt@occc.edu.

Finals breakfast to be held

Student Life will serve a special finals pancake breakfast from 8 to 10 a.m. May 10 in the College Union. For more information, contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or e-mail dbehara@occc.edu.

Honors society to host game night

Phi Theta Kappa will host a night of games and fellowship from 5 to 9:30 p.m. May 14 in room 2A7 of the Main Building. Snacks will be provided. Guests are asked to RSVP before May 7. For more information, contact Tamara Carter at 405-682-1611, ext. 7167, or e-mail tcarter@occc.edu.

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 or e-mail cverschage@occc.edu.

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.

APPLIANCES

FOR SALE: Maytag Atlantis washer and dryer. Matching set. Fully working. \$450 OBO. Call: 405-921-0837.

NOT PRETTY JUST HARD WORKING: Frontloading washer. Selling for \$200. Call: 405-882-3731.

FOR RENT

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

FURNITURE

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

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

FOR SALE: New car seat. Still has tags on it. \$40. Call 405-882-3731.

TEXTBOOKS

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

Business Card Ads \$25 per week. Call: 405-682-1611, ext. 7674. Or e-mail adman@occc.edu.

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TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Norway's capital
- 5 Anchor
- 9 Daisy Mae's creator
- 13 Jungle charger
- 15 Act like a wolf
- 16 Flu symptom
- 17 Buffalo
- 18 Witnessed
- 19 Nothing more than
- 20 Mineral spring
- 21 Capri, for one
- 23 First game of the season
- 25 Pepsi's rival
- 26 Slim
- 27 Word with the opposite meaning
- 30 Paving substance
- 31 Impends
- 32 Toss overboard
- 37 Melody
- 38 Yawning
- 40 Singer McEntire
- 41 — but: by no means
- 43 Coral or poppy
- 44 Pie — mode
- 45 Filmmaker
- 47 Soft fabric
- 50 Scurries
- 51 Thin coat
- 52 Bogs
- 53 Small amount
- 56 Still-active volcano
- 57 Fiery stone
- 59 Luau welcome
- 61 Move swiftly, as clouds
- 62 Astronaut
- 63 Passenger
- 64 The one here
- 65 Gentlemen
- 66 Circular roof

DOWN

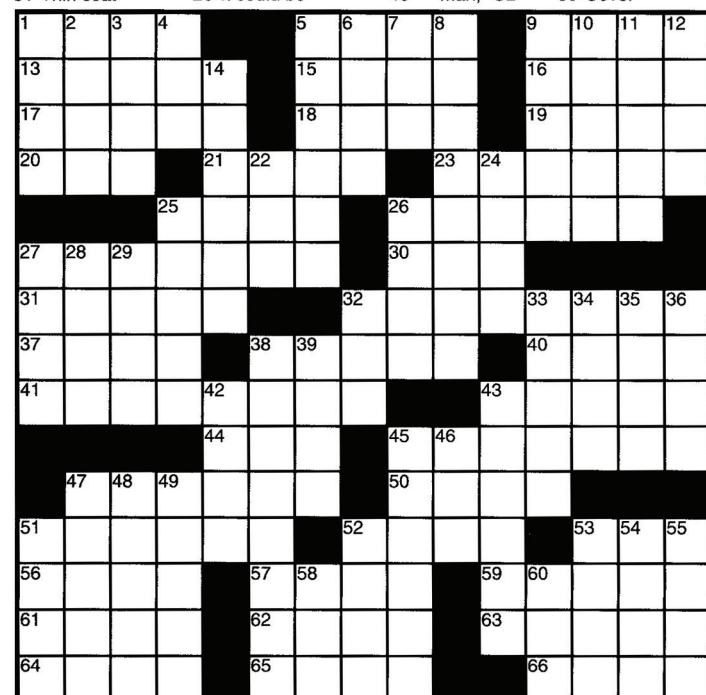
- 1 Spheres
- 2 Freighter
- 3 Mona —
- 4 Lennon's love
- 5 Islam follower
- 6 S-shaped molding
- 7 Bullfight cheer
- 8 Restore to an earlier condition
- 9 Desert animal
- 10 Representative
- 11 Fruit pulp
- 12 Look closely
- 14 Liver and —
- 22 Shade of blue
- 24 Sassy
- 25 Hale-Bopp, e.g.
- 26 Pace
- 27 Can. province
- 28 It could be

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

LOGO	SKATE	INNS
OMIT	UNLIT	COOP
PERT	BELLE	IOTA
ENDORSE	TRACKER	
MOO	NIL	
TITANIC	TALENTS	
ANON	LABEL	SORE
MAN	RIP	BOA
ENID	PONES	PLUM
DECIBEL	EYELETS	
OAR	MOA	
HATRACK	OBSURE	
OSHA	HIPPO	ARIA
AHEM	ETHEL	TABS
XENA	SHINS	ELSE

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