

PIONEER ONLINE

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EDITORIAL

PICKETERS KEPT AWAY AT FUNERALS

Senior Staff Writer Jeremy Cloud says Oklahoma lawmakers and the governor deserve praise. See why he feels this way.

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CAMPUS LIFE

EMERGENCY PERSONNEL VISIT OCCC

OCCC was treated to a close-up view of Oklahoma City's emergency response teams as part of First Responder Day on campus. See pictures and read about it.

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RECREATION

LASER TAG GOES ON DESPITE RAIN

Despite a day of rain, Laser Tag visited the OCCC campus on April 27, bringing a day of fun to students. Find out who participated and what they thought.

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CAMPUS LIFE

PROFESSOR JOINS CIRCLE OF TRUST

Steve Morrow has taken his classroom philosophy a step further by joining a group that promotes integrity. Read more.

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PIONEER

APRIL 29, 2011

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

OCCC changes student grade appeal process

The revised procedure keeps professors from having final say about a grade dispute

HOLLY DAVIS WALKER

Community Writer
communitywriter@occc.edu

The President's Cabinet voted to approve changes to "Procedure 4030: Student Appeal of a Grade" at a meeting April 11. Academic Affairs Vice President Felix Aquino said the change will take effect immediately, although earlier reports said changes would likely not take place before fall.

"Part of the issue was that new policies go into the student handbook, and the student handbook has to be printed."

The new appeals process now allows for a committee to make the final determination in changing a final grade that a student disagrees with, whereas the former process gave the professor who gave the grade the final say.

According to the revised policy, the first step in a grade appeal is for a student to meet with the instructor who assigned the final grade within 90 calendar days to attempt to resolve the matter.

If the grade is not changed and the student continues to disagree with it, the student may submit a completed "Student Appeal of a Grade" form to the appropriate division office.

The division dean will then request information from the instructor and review the case before meeting with the student.

The dean will make a recommendation to the instructor based on the findings and notify the student in writing by certified mail of the instructor's decision.

If the student still believes the grade is incorrect, then the student may request an appeal hearing before a Grade Appeal Committee in writing, directed to the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. The request must be within five working days of receipt of notification about the instructor's decision.

Under the new policy, the committee is composed of six faculty members, one from each division, not to include the instructor

Planting history



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Left to right: OCCC's Executive Vice President Jerry Steward, President Paul Sechrist, and Green Task Force members Jenny Kellbach and Brandon Isaak plant a OKC Bombing Survivor Memorial American Elm sapling with ceremonial gold shovels during Earth Day April 19. The sapling was grown from seeds of the Survivor Tree that stands at the Oklahoma National Memorial and Museum in downtown Oklahoma City. Kellbach said anyone can purchase one of the memorial trees at www.historictrees.org.

LARRY LUNDY WORE SEVERAL HATS AT OCCC INCLUDING STUDENT

Security veteran dead at 58

WHITNEY KNIGHT

Online Editor
onlineeditor@occc.edu

OCCC Safety and Security Sgt. Larry Lundy, 58, died Saturday, April 23, following an emergency procedure at Integris Southwest Medical Center.

Lundy worked at OCCC for 17 years, said Human Resources Assistant Jo Burris.

English Professor Bertha Wise said she first met Lundy not as a security officer, but as a student.

"I first got to know Larry when I took over teaching a literature class from a colleague who was too ill to continue," Wise said.

"We began studying poetry right when I took over, and Larry was a little bit negative about that. He didn't think anyone needed to study poetry.

"I listened to his comments about old, dead, stuffy poets ... and I assured him I



Larry Lundy

would make it as enjoyable as possible," she said.

"After four weeks of reading, writing, and discussing poetry, he admitted that my choice of poems and poets were 'not so bad' and he thought maybe I'd like to read something."

Then, Lundy handed Wise a sheet of paper on which he had written a verse.

"I don't recall the words, but I could tell his poem was from his heart and he

had something to say," she said.

Over the years, Wise said, Lundy would occasionally share more poems he had written with her.

"A few years ago, when he and (Lundy's wife) Debbie celebrated one of their anniversaries, he proudly announced that he had all sorts of plans, including a poem for his wife."

See **APPEAL** page 9

See **LUNDY** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | Oklahoma needs more politicians whose job is to represent their constituents

Government actually listening to voters

Hold on to your head gear, folks. After all the ranting this writer has done about ineffective and useless politicians, here's a shout-out to two of that profession who actually do their jobs, and do them well.



Jeremy Cloud

In November of 2010, the friends and family of 26-year-old Sgt. Jason McCluskey gathered for his funeral in McAlester.

But as they tried to pay their last respects and grieve for the fallen soldier, members of the radical Kansas group Westboro Baptist Church staged a protest just 500 feet away.

WBC members believe God kills soldiers for defending a nation that allows homosexuality.

This inhumane behavior, which heaps more pain onto an already grieving family, has been upheld by the Supreme Court as a valid expression of free speech.

But Oklahoma State Sen. Josh Brecheen (Coalgate-R) decided enough was enough after a call from one

of his constituents alerted him to the issue.

Sen. Brecheen introduced Senate Bill 406, which prohibits protests two hours before or after a funeral and pushes the protesters 1,000 feet away from the funeral instead of the former 500 feet away.

Brecheen said he felt the bill was necessary in light of recent statements made by WBC members.

"After their recent Supreme Court win, the Westboro members said they were going to quadruple the number of protests and pickets," Brecheen said.

"As close as Oklahoma is to their base, I hope that further limiting what they can do in this state will make us a less tempting target for their activities."

In an astounding show of competence, the bill was voted through both houses unanimously, before being sent to the governor's desk.

And there's the second shout-out: Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin signed SB 406 into law on April 18.

This is what we need more of. Politicians who know their job is to represent their constituents and then actually do so.

So many thanks and much praise to the legislators of Oklahoma, and Gov. Fallin and Sen. Brecheen in particular.



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

Keep doing good work like this and this writer might just have to find someone new to aim his pen at.

—JEREMY CLOUD
SENIOR WRITER

YOUR VOICE | Attempt to recruit sponsors, members for club failed

Writer says Environmental Club failed to get off ground

To the Editor:

In answer to the letter to the editor in the April 22, issue concerning the disappearance of the Environmental Club of OCCC:

Several years ago I was asked to take over presidency of the Environmental Club, and get it back up and active once more.

I placed ads in the Pioneer attempting to renew interest. The club adviser

“We attempted to get sponsor for the club, or even a few members, but to no avail.

—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
OCCC PIONEER

had T-shirts made with the club logo.

We attempted to get sponsors for the club or even a few members, but to no avail.

Two students asked to be members but did not show up for our first

scheduled meeting or any subsequent meetings.

Since a club cannot exist without membership involved in activities, and I was unable to rally support at the time, I was forced to let the project die.

Beginning any club on campus is not just a matter of wanting it to happen.

There is much involved and many rules that must be followed.

As a student about to graduate, I gave it all I could.

But I also had other obligations and no time to jump through all the necessary hoops when there was such a lack of interest on the part of

other students.

Feel free to look into this project if you wish — and if you have the time to see it through to its fulfillment.

Perhaps the timing is right now that there is a better awareness of environmental issues.

—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
OCCC PIONEER

WANTED: STUDENT VOICES

Do you have news to share? Maybe you know of an OCCC student worthy of a mention or have an opinion about something you've read. If so, contact Joey Stipek at editor@occc.edu or call 405-682-1611, ext. 7409.

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Joey Stipek.....**Editor**
Jeremy Cloud.....**Senior Writer**
Morgan Beard.....**Staff Writer**
Erin Peden.....**Staff Writer**
Christy Johnson.....**Staff Writer**
Holly Walker.....**Community Writer**
Jacob Chambers.....**Sports Writer**
Rachel Morrison.....**Photographer**
Yasmin Shirali.....**Photographer**
Cynthia Praefke.....**Advertising Manager**

Whitney Knight.....**Online Editor**
Bonnie Campo.....**Podcaster**
Caleb Barrette.....**Videographer**
Robert Bolton.....**Online Writer**
Keraya Hassan.....**Online Writer**
John Weis.....**Webmaster**
Azizakhon Mansuri.....**Graphic Design**
Ronna Austin.....**Lab Director**
Shawn Stawicki.....**Lab Assistant**
Sue Hinton.....**Faculty Adviser**

7777 S. May
Oklahoma City, OK 73159

phone:
405-682-1611, ext. 7409

e-mail:
editor@occc.edu

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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 in room 1F2 on the first floor of the Art and Humanities Building, 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 at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

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COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

REVIEWS | Paul delivers out-of-this-world laughter

Alien fugitive captures laughter, fun

Anyone with a pulse who enjoys laughing out loud should seriously consider watching "Paul."

This movie intertwines science fiction with brilliantly written comedic elements around nearly every turn.

This is the unlikely story of an alien on Earth named Paul, (voiced by Seth Rogen) who crashes on Earth 60 years earlier and has been in the hands of the U.S. government since.

Paul realizes his usefulness is nearing completion and understands the next option his captives are planning involves extracting his brain.

Needless to say Paul decides it's time to hit the ground running. Paul stumbles upon a couple of U.K. nerdy comic book



fanatics, (Simon Pegg and Nick Frost) traveling across the U.S., visiting comic book conventions

on a once-in-a-lifetime road trip. After this trio becomes acquainted they soon begin traveling

across the heartland of the America.

Soon after their improbable meeting, the Englishmen learn Paul is a fugitive from the U.S. government and running for his life.

The movie is literally laugh-out-loud funny with costars Kristen Wiig and Jane Lynch lighting up the screen.

This movie is rated R for language and some mild violence, but for those who already curse like sailors, you will greatly enjoy the erratic storyline that does not fail to please.

As soon as "Paul" hits the shelves, buy or rent it immediately. I plan to buy it to watch again and again.

RATING: A

—JACOB CHAMBERS
SPORTS WRITER

YOU asked FOR IT

Q: I noticed some of the classrooms in the VPA have no blinds and it is difficult to focus. Will we be receiving blinds soon?

A: Blinds have been ordered and will be installed soon.

—FELIX J. AQUINO, PH. D

VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Q: Is there a possibility of installing lockers for students?

A: The idea of lockers in various locations around campus has been discussed. However, since we are a commuter college, there is no identified need.

—J. B. MESSER

DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Q: Why can't the computer lab hours in the health professions building be extended?

A: Present budgetary constraints prevent us from expanding hours. If there is a sufficient demand for expanding, we will consider it.

—FELIX J. AQUINO, PH. D

VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Q: Should OCCC post fliers in elevators showing how much weight people would lose if they took the stairs?

A: As we plan activities, we will take it into consideration.

—LIZ LARGENT

DEAN OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

REVIEWS | You don't know relief until you have massage

No More Knots unties all stress

With finals fast approaching, many students are desperate for a little stress relief. And what better way to relax than with a full-body massage?

No More Knots/Burton Chiropractic located at 3820 N. Rockwell in Bethany, has been in business for about 20 years. But don't be fooled by the numbers — they just translate into experience for Dr. Barry Burton, who has dedicated his career to providing relaxation and pain relief techniques for his customers.

After all, there's got to be a reason why Burton's patients range from college students to a Beverly



Hills interior designer.

Upon walking into No More Knots, customers are greeted not by a team

of amateurs fresh out of cosmetology school, but instead by a cozy, home-like reception area and

calming water fountain.

When it's time for your appointment, you are escorted to your own private massage room, where you choose from a large selection of soothing tunes to relax to. Then, the magic begins.

Marti, a registered nurse with about 10 years of experience as a masseuse, has a smile that is seconded only by her magical hands.

For \$35, she will treat your body to a 30-minute massage that rejuvenates, revitalizes, and downright feels amazing.

The time may seem short, but keep in mind that Marti can accomplish in a half hour what those beauty school nov-

ices couldn't pull off in two.

By the time she is done, you probably won't remember the meaning of mathematics — or that you have a huge chemistry final next Monday.

In addition to the wonderful massages, No More Knots also offers a revolutionary technique perfected by Dr. Burton himself.

Dr. Burton also offers cutting-edge muscular skeletal pain relief, a painless procedure that provides fast, all-natural relief for all types of muscular aches and pains.

Depending on the in-

tensity of your injury or problem, each session can cost between \$40 and \$80.

Although No More Knots is appointment-only, it's easy to schedule a session with hours available Monday through Saturday.

To schedule an appointment, call 405-787-6363. Whether you stop in for some one-time stress relief or you become a regular customer, you don't know relief until you have No More Knots.

RATING: A+

WHITNEY KNIGHT
ONLINE EDITOR

OCCC's regents add two new members

JOEY STIPEK
Editor
editor@occc.edu

The OCCC Board of Regents has added two members — Devery R. Youngblood and Tony J. Tyler.

With the U.S. and Oklahoma state flags as a backdrop, Youngblood was sworn in Monday, April 18, in the Al Snipes board room.

Youngblood has been appointed for four years to fill the unexpired term of current Oklahoma Secretary of Commerce Dave Lopez.

Tyler has been appointed to serve a seven-year term to replace regent Robert Jenkins, whose term ended April 22.

OCCC Regents Chairman Ben Brown said OCCC is pleased with Gov. Mary Fallin's appointments.

"Gov. Mary Fallin has given us an excellent members for the Board of Regents," Brown said.

Youngblood has served in the role of Community Affairs Manager for the Chickasaw Nation since 2007 and was senior adviser and district director for U.S. Rep. Ernest Istook, where he led efforts to secure funding for the realignment of Interstate-40, build the new Federal Building downtown, and helped restructure the

tax code to help bring about the Skirvin Hotel renovations.

Youngblood also has spent eight years leading private sector development efforts surrounding Oklahoma City's original MAPS Program, with more than \$1 billion of private sector investment created during Youngblood's tenure.

Youngblood led redevelopment after the Murrah Bombing as founding president of Automobile Alley, led massive Bricktown development that included Bass Pro and Harkins Theaters, and developed the Downtown in December promotion and holiday season ice rink.

Brown said the selection of Youngblood helps bring diversity to the board.

"We wanted the regents and student body to be representative of the total population," Brown said.

"He brings an element of knowledge and experience from the Native American community that we've lacked. I think that is an additional benefit to the college and students."

OCCC President Paul Sechrist said he views Youngblood as a tremendous asset to the regents.

"It's always wonderful to have a highly respected member of the community join the



HOLLY DAVIS WALKER/PIONEER

Janice Phillips administers the oath Devery Youngblood must take to be on OCCC's Board of Regents.

board," Sechrist said.

"Mr. Youngblood is well respected through his political affiliations as a community leader and now, bringing the Chickasha Nation into what he represents.

"He is a person who understands the value of education in terms of the economic development of the state."

Youngblood said he never imagined he'd have such an opportunity.

"When I was approached, I was completely blown away," he said.

"I believe so strongly in the mission of OCCC."

Youngblood said being appointed to the OCCC regents is personal as well.

"My daughter went to OCCC at a time when she was not ready to go to college," he said.

"She needed this interim step and it was truly life changing for her."

Youngblood and his wife Karen live in Yukon where, he said, their lives include a lot of time on the go with family and friends. They have four chil-



PHOTO COURTESY WWW.OKCATHOLICBROADCASTING.COM

Tony J. Tyler

dren and four grandchildren.

"The opportunity to come and be a part of this and give back in some way means a great deal to me."

Tyler has a background in media.

He is the vice president of Tyler Media and also serves on the South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

Sechrist said this also is an appointment that will benefit OCCC.

"Regent Tyler is highly respected in the business community," Sechrist said.

"Coupled with his strong ties to southwest Oklahoma City, he will bring a business and community perspective to the governance of OCCC."

Attempts to reach Tyler for comment about his appointment were unsuccessful as of press time.

Lealon Taylor works to increase scholarships

ERIN PEDEN
Staff Writer
staffwriter2@occc.edu

A former employee for the state education department is bringing his expertise to OCCC. Lealon Taylor recently joined the administration, replacing Pat Berryhill who recently retired.

Taylor, OCCC's new executive director of Institutional Advancement, arrived in January, just in time for the spring semester.

Previously, Taylor was employed by the Oklahoma State

Department of Education where he served as Chief of Staff for the agency and worked daily for promoting public education.

Taylor said when he heard about the position at OCCC, he was more than excited to take on the challenge.

"When I first heard about this job opportunity, I knew immediately I wanted to be part of the tremendous success that OCCC has accomplished so far," Taylor said.

"I also knew that Dr. Paul Sechrist had an excellent reputation as a college president

and wanted to be a part of his team."

As Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, it is Taylor's job to help organize and create events that will help benefit students financially.

His office works in partnership with the OCCC Foundation, which primarily funds scholarships for students.

It also oversees the marketing and public relations of the college, and coordinates grant opportunities from government and private sources.

Big Truck Taco day, which was held on campus April 7,

was just one of the special events Taylor organized as a fundraiser for the Foundation.

Taylor said being able to promote all the positive aspects of OCCC is very rewarding.

He said his goal is to inform everyone of the excellent educational and cultural opportunities offered, and show that OCCC really cares about its students and success.

"We have a great reputation, and I want to continue that positive image in the greater Oklahoma City community," Taylor said.

"I also want to grow the

OCCC Foundation, which will expand student scholarship opportunities."

Taylor said he is most excited about the low-cost tuition and small class sizes offered to students.

"I am amazed at the quality staff, faculty and student body at OCCC," Taylor said.

"I am proud each and every time I tell someone I am employed at OCCC."

For more information on student scholarships, you can contact Lealon Taylor at ltaylor@occc.edu.

SB 858 ISN'T DEAD YET, JUST DORMANT

Campus weapons bill fails this session

JOEY STIPEK

Editor

editor@occc.edu

Brittany Williams, veterinary medicine major who opposes guns on campus, can rest easy for now since Senate Bill 858 — “The Firearm Owner Privacy Act,” that would permit citizens with concealed carry licenses in Oklahoma to bring concealed weapons onto college campuses — is now dead, at least until the next legislative session.

The bill passed the Oklahoma Senate 44-4 but was never heard by a House committee, according to the Oklahoma State webserver.

Williams said, in particular, she fears the possible actions of irrational thinkers and heroes should the bill eventually pass.

“I think you need the time — if you have a gun — to think about using it,” Williams said.

Senate Bill 858 was authored by State Sen. Steve Russell (R-District 45, Oklahoma City).

According to House rules, it’s considered dormant this session but could be considered again next year.

A few other states, including Colorado, Michigan, Utah, and Virginia, permit firearms on campuses.

Russell cited Colorado State University as an example on how concealed carry on large college campuses can work.

“What about the five-foot, two-inch college professor walking out late at night after class who has no

recourse to defend herself?” he said.

Russell said he thinks the rights of every American should be assured.

“If people think the mere presence of firearms is evil then America has lost its way. I owned firearms and kept them in my dorm room [at Ouchita Baptist University in Arkadelphia Ark.] for hunting purposes.”

Gov. Mary Fallin has yet to take a stand either way on the bill.

In an e-mail, Alex Weintz, Fallin’s communications director said, “Gov. Fallin is waiting to review what legislation, if any, makes it to her desk before offering a commitment.

She is, however, a strong supporter of 2nd Amendment rights and supports the principle behind open carry.”

Jerry Steward, OCCC executive vice president, said he thinks about the safety of OCCC students, faculty, and staff every day but doesn’t agree with SB 858.

He said OCCC leadership has consistently stated there is no evidence that having people carrying guns on campus makes the general population safer.

“It has been the consistent position of the leadership of this institution,” he said.

“It is the constant position of the leadership of every other public institution of higher education in Oklahoma. It has been the consistent position of the state regents and the Chancellor (of Higher Education) Glen Johnson. It continues to be our position.”

Steward said he has spoken with numerous legisla-

tors over the years, talking to them about concealed weapons on campuses and OCCC’s position on them.

“Everyone recognizes this isn’t a perfect world and we cannot absolutely guarantee everyone’s safety but we need to do everything we can to make sure people on campus are safe.

“We believe they will not make us safer, (and) will make us less safe if we have people carrying guns,” he said.

Steward said he knows the bill has many supporters and, as a result, the bill will continue to be pushed.

“I would anticipate the individuals who believe otherwise and even those individuals who are trying to have weapons allowed on our campuses will continue to pursue their belief (that) it’s better for us to have people allowed to have guns concealed or open.”

Steward said regardless of which position is taken, it’s important for everyone to contact their senator or representative to voice their opinions on weapons bills.

“If you’re opposed to having guns on campus or if you’re for it, contact your senator, contact your house representative, and let them know how you feel,” he said.

“Whether it’s pro or con, don’t sit quietly and assume it will all work out OK.”

For further updates on bills in the Oklahoma Legislature, visit <http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/textofmeasures/textofmeasures.aspx> or follow the Pioneer online at www.occc.edu/pioneer.

HOUSE BILL 1419 CAUSED ALARM FOR EMERGENCY WORKERS

EMS students converge on state capitol

JOHN ABSTON

News Writing Student

Emergency Medical Sciences students from OCCC learned the value of communicating with the State Legislature this semester. A bill that would have replaced some EMS workers on ambulance crews failed to win legislative approval this session after the students voiced their concerns to lawmakers in March.

About 50 OCCC students went to the state Capitol to speak to lawmakers about House Bill 1419 that would have allowed a registered nurse to replace an EMS worker on a two-person ambulance team.

Program Director Leaugeay Barnes said she took a personal leave day to accompany the students.

Barnes said some aspects of House Bill 1419 caused her concern, particularly since EMS paramedics are paid much less than registered nurses. She

said she feared that nurses could be less effective than paramedics in some emergency situations.

“Nurses are trained and educated on a broad range of subjects,” Barnes said. “They have a wide but comparatively non-specific instruction.

“EMS students receive training that is custom fit for the autonomous rigors of the first responder experience.”

Barnes said she took the students to the Legislature because EMS workers are not as adept as other groups at making their voices heard with lawmakers.

Because EMS teams work in twos, it is less likely they would gather in numbers to discuss their needs and then act collectively, she said. A nurse or firefighter is surrounded by co-workers every day. They are more likely to organize and speak as one, Barnes said.

Ambulance teams respond to everything from gunshot wounds to slips and falls, she said. They are the first medically licensed help to see an individual

in an emergency.

“EMS responders operate under a supervising physician’s license,” Barnes said.

Consider that your back-up is a phone call away rather than in the next room, she said. This is only one of the challenges unique to EMS training.

Also significant is the fact that an injured individual in a rural or remote location, such as any point along Interstate-44, could wait 30 minutes for medical treatment.

In these very critical first 30 minutes, Barnes said, the injury could quickly become a fatality. This is why it is necessary that specifically trained first responder paramedics be required for EMS service, she said.

House Bill 1419 was sponsored by Rep. Dennis Casey (R-Morrison) and state Sen. Bryce Marlatt (R-Woodward).

Casey and Marlatt said they believed this bill would have increased the overall number of available paramedic care-

givers, which in turn would increase the deliverance of care to those outside of the hospital setting

House Bill 1419 was geared to benefit rural areas.

Casey’s district contains four counties directly north of Oklahoma City on the Oklahoma-Kansas border.

Marlatt’s district includes the Panhandle plus a few other northwestern counties.

Increasing the number of available and properly qualified first responders should be the goal, Barnes said, but the legislation would have done nothing to address this issue. This was one of the problems Barnes had with this proposed legislation.

She said OCCC is one of the top eight EMS programs in the nation.

“We are helping to shape the future of paramedic certification,” Barnes said.

She holds a master’s degree and has 20 years of EMS experience, and 13 years as a Flight Paramedic.

VOICE OF KKNG SAYS HARD WORK AND GOOD ATTITUDE PAY OFF

Student works dream job while attending OCCC

JACOB CHAMBERS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

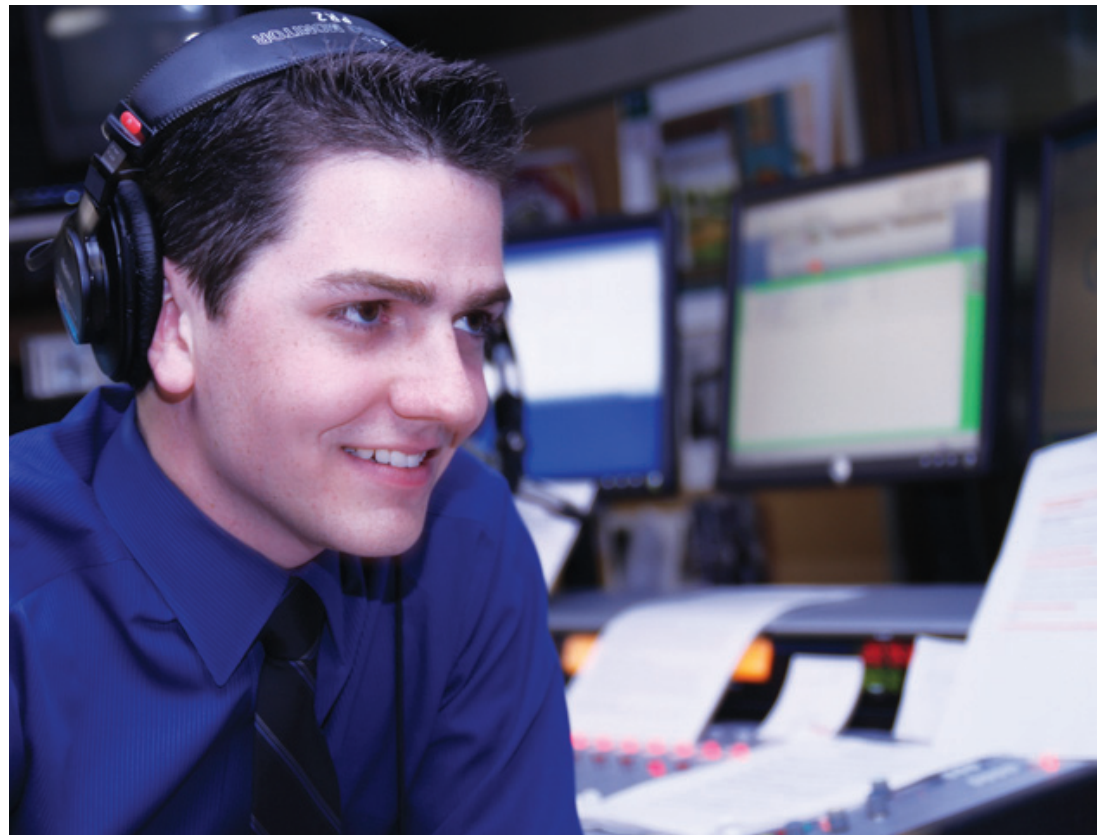
"I am not a cowboy cause I can't rope and ride. I can ride but I can't rope," Owen Pickard said. Pickard, 19, is the disc jockey for KKNG country from 2 to 7 p.m. weekdays.

Rummaging through his grandparents' closet, Pickard stumbled across a black-and-white photo of his dad working as a college disc jockey for KGO, and said he thought, "I would like to do that."

Pickard said it all started as an English assignment his junior year at Moore High School. He called KKNG country and asked if he could shadow one of the disc jockeys for about an hour, and ended up staying the remainder of the day.

Pickard said he apparently made a great first impression and was given the opportunity to return the following summer.

During his junior year of high school, Pickard became a country music performer, playing at the Rodeo Opry in Oklahoma City. Not long after, he and his parents moved to Nashville.



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

OCCC broadcasting major Owen Pickard goes live on the air at 97.3 King Country April 18. Pickard joined Tyler Media in 2008 and works part time while finishing his degree.

This is where Pickard got his start performing at a local joint called Tootsie's Orchid Lounge off the Broadway strip in Nashville. "I mainly played for tips and food," Pickard said.

Family, a cheaper education, and a girlfriend ultimately brought Pickard back to Oklahoma after a short stint

in Tennessee.

When he returned, he continued to work for the station he loves. Pickard said he has been a part of the KKNG family since 2008 and hopes to be there long into the future.

"I look forward to going on the air," he said. "It is always exciting."

Before going on air Pickard said he thinks to himself, "Let's pump these people up, not like Richard Simmons but country style with less spandex."

Pickard said the 3, 4, and 5 p.m. hours are live, while the 2 and 6 p.m. hours are mostly recordings unless breaking news occurs.

Pickard said the highlight of every work day is when one of his regulars, a blind 84-year-old woman named Olivia calls him right at 3 p.m. on the dot.

"It makes my day every time," he said. "She is so sweet."

Broadcasting professor Gwin Faulconer-Lippert said she is proud of Pickard.

"He is the only student I have ever had that has his own billboard, that reads 'Owen Pickard afternoon drive on KKNG,'" she said.

"Owen Pickard is so talented. He won second in the statewide commercial competition for a 30-second commercial about Libby's Cafe in Goldsby," Faulconer-Lippert said. "He should have won first. He wrote the jingle and voiced the spot. He was robbed, in my eyes."

Pickard said he would like to move into television, but hopes to always keep radio part of his career.

"I'm just very fortunate to work in radio," he said.

"But (even) if you are working at Ace Hardware or Wal-Mart, do everything you can to show those employers that you are a hard worker and willing to do anything with a good attitude."

STUDENTS RECEIVE VALUABLE INFORMATION AS WELL AS FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

Nursing program graduates wait for pin

JACOB CHAMBERS
Sports Writer
sportswriter@occc.edu

Another class of nursing students has earned their associate degrees and will receive their ceremonial pins May 12.

The nursing pinning ceremony is a milestone for the 42 nursing students and is the next step toward their careers, said Nursing professor and Assistant Program Director Terri Walker.

During the ceremony, faculty will speak about the importance of this landmark

and welcome the graduates into the nursing profession, Walker said.

The traditional ceremony starts at 6 p.m. and the Career Ladder Pathway ceremony starts at 7:30 p.m. in the dining area of the Student Union.

In the past, male nursing students would receive a stripe on their shirt, while the females would receive hats. Walker said the pin is a more unisex symbol for a more modern ceremony.

The pin is symbolic of the momentous achievement, she said.

Second semester nursing

"I can't wait for the day I'm pinned. It is one of the main things nursing students are working toward."

—HOLLY HUDSON
NURSING STUDENT

student Holly Hudson believes the pinning ceremony is special for students because it's not only a graduation but also a success acknowledgement.

"I can't wait for the day I'm pinned," Hudson said.

"It is one of the main things nursing students are working toward."

OCCC ranks among the national leaders in its pass rate for the program, nursing professor Kay Wetmore said.

The nursing program class consists of a 9-credit-hour course per semester, Wetmore said, but students may spend up to 23 hours or more weekly of just hands-on time, not in-

cluding studying.

"Being a former student of this program, it is exciting to watch students receiving their pins," Wetmore said.

Walker agreed, saying it's a great feat for nursing students because, upon completion, they are eligible to work in the real world or pursue further education in the same field.

It could be considered a steppingstone toward advanced degrees.

For more information about the college's nursing program, visit www.occc.edu/health/nursing.

STUDENTS RECEIVE VALUABLE INFORMATION AS WELL AS FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

First Responder Day leaves lasting impressions

JOHN ABSTON
News Writing Student

New technology to alert students of an emergency on campus was introduced on First Responder Day April 20 in parking lot A near the library.

"The event served as a meet-and-greet for students and the first responder community," said Dave Anderson, Information Technology and Infrastructure director at OCCC.

Anderson was at the event to introduce computer software that would cut into a student's computer and alert the student in case of an emergency on campus. The program is provided by Alertus through grant money, Anderson said.

"The program will temporarily interrupt the computer the student is using on campus, or their PC, if they choose to sign up for the service," Anderson said.

"It would alert the student in case of a fire, severe weather threatening OCCC or any security issue."

He said the system should be up and running by fall semester.

For the Oklahoma City Police Department, the event created a recruitment opportunity, said J. Latta, OCPD officer and recruiter.

"The OCPD hopes to recruit 50 new recruits by September 2011," Latta said.

"A college degree increases the likelihood of acceptance to the program, as

well as military experience, but neither is necessary. We are here to meet the students and say hello.

"Also there's a squad car, the bomb squad and a police surveillance helicopter here on display."

Lt. Charles Avery from the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department also was representing local law enforcement. Avery said he too, was there for recruitment purposes, and like the police department, was there to display some of the technology his department employs.

"We've got one of our fully loaded Ford Mustang units here to break the ice with the students, but our high-speed unit is a Dodge Challenger," Avery said. "The Mustang draws in the attention, but the Challenger actually chases offenders."

Avery, a Cameron University Business Administration graduate, said he started with the department when he was 23 as a traffic officer.

Now 33, Cameron said he has reached his current position with some diligent hard work.

"There is a tremendous amount of room for advancement for any hard-working go-getter," he said.

"Anyone with a sound work ethic can

advance in the department."

The local ambulance service, EMSA, was represented by Raymond Farrow. A graduate of Martin Community College in Kansas, Farrow said he has been an EMSA paramedic since 2001.

"I love my job," Farrow said.

He said he likes the constant activity of moving quickly from call to call. Farrow said EMSA was there to display the equipment he uses on a daily basis.

The event satisfied an Occupational Safety and Health Administration

requirement for safety training for college employees, said Roger Owen of the Oklahoma City Fire Department.

"They can come out here, have the necessary paperwork signed by the exhibitors and avoid sitting through a more mundane meeting," Owen said.

"This setting is far more hands-on than a certification in a classroom setting."

Jennifer Hurt, pre-nursing student, said First Responder Day was interesting.

"The inside of the EMSA ambulance is fascinating, and the mobile command unit is enormous," she said. Hurt also was impressed by Air One, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol helicopter.

Left: Student Employment and Career Services director Debra Vaughn tours the Oklahoma Highway Patrol Mobile Communications Command Center during the Meet Your First Responder Day April 20. Several patrol officers and other communications personnel showed students and faculty the computer and communications systems which assist during an emergency. The event included an Oklahoma City fire unit, local and state bomb squad units, highway patrol mobile and air communications units, The Central Oklahoma REACT team, EMSA, Red Cross, Eagle Med and OKC stormwater units.

PHOTO BY RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER



PHOTO BY RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Above: Sport and Recreation Specialist Eric Watson gets a hotdog from Carson's Catering server Doshia Rollerson during Meet Your First Responder Day April 20. Students and faculty came out to enjoy the event.



SPORTS



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Computer programming major Kody Manharth sets his sights on an opponent with his uzi-style laser gun April 27 during a laser tag game in the college's gym. Mobile Laser Forces Inc. provided all the guns and equipment which used infrared technology to keep score for the nine squads that entered the contest, said Recreation and Sports Specialist Eric Watson.

INTRAMURALS| NEW SPORTS MAKES INTRODUCTION INTO INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Laser tag tourney draws nine teams

JACOB CHAMBERS

Sportswriter

sportswriter@occc.edu

On a rainy afternoon in the OCCC gym on April 27, Laser Tag stormed onto the scene in full force.

Mobile Laser Forces sponsored the event, and provided the weapons and obstacle course.

"This is the first time that OCCC (has had) Laser Tag as an Intramural sport and I'm really excited with the turnout," said Eric Watson, Recreation and Sports specialist.

Nine squads consisting of five members per team competed in the occasion.

Team OCCC1 dominated Ginyu Force in a professional fashion during the first round 5-0.

"I have played Laser Tag a couple times and I can't wait to play again," OCCC1 team member Ryan Campbell said.

Pathways High School student Sean Phillips played for the second place Power Rangers.

"It was really fun," Phillips said. "I really enjoyed dominating."

Overall champions Testosterone escaped with a win by the skin of their

nose.

The final match came down to two members of Testosterone attacking one member of the Power Rangers.

One false move, and Testosterone claimed victory.

"Being quick and fast were keys to victory for us today," said Devin Thompson, Testosterone team member. "Staying agile, mobile and hostile definitely helped our team declare victory today."

"I believe this new addition to intra-

“ Staying agile, mobile and hostile definitely helped our team declare victory today...”

—DEVIN THOMPSON

TESTOSTERONE TEAM MEMBER

mural sports will have a bright future here on campus," Watson said.

The champions were presented with Intramural League Champion shirts and bragging rights until next spring.

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



UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

• **May 2:** Boot Camp class, \$20 monthly for students, Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:15 - 5 p.m. Class located in the OCCC Wellness Center room 005. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 2:** Cardio Kickboxing class, \$20 monthly for students, Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:25 p.m. Class located in the OCCC Wellness Center room 005. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 2:** Abs Express class, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:05 to 5:25 p.m. in the Wellness Center room 004. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 3:** Bosu Blast class, \$20 monthly for students, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. Class located in the OCCC Wellness Center room 010. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 3:** Hatha Yoga class in the Wellness Center room 005. Classes are on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 5:** Extreme Cross Training course in the Wellness Center room 005. Classes are on Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

• **May 6:** Zumba class, \$20 monthly for students, Fridays from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. located in the OCCC Wellness Center room 020. For more information call the Wellness Center desk at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

**Have sports news?
Pioneer sportswriter.
e-mail Jake at
sportswriter@occc.edu**

Security receives reports of solicitors, stolen tools

JEREMY CLOUD
Senior Writer
seniorwriter@occc.edu

OCCC Security officers were kept busy the last two weeks handling everything from solicitors on campus to damage from the recent high winds.

At 5:37 p.m. April 19, Officer Brandon Wheeler responded to a report of a man soliciting in the plaza.

When approached, Martin Grey, 24, gave a church ID card to Wheeler and told the officer it was the only identification he had on him. Grey was escorted to the security office and Oklahoma City Police were called.

On arriving, the police told Wheeler they were unable to take any action other than to ask Grey to leave the campus.

Grey was informed that soliciting is not allowed on

campus and he left of his own accord.

At 3:10 p.m. April 17, Officer Jeffrey Porter noted wind damage at the John Massey Center while on routine patrol.

The north side of the fence around the propane tanks and generator had blown down.

Porter contacted Sgt. Kevin Tipton to make sure the damage was to OCCC property. Tipton wasn't sure, but advised

him to file a report anyway.

Review of the Massey Center's cameras did not reveal when the damage had occurred.

Pictures were taken, and a report was filed.

Finally, at 8:23 a.m. April 20 Officer Jacob Roby responded to a report of missing tools in the Aquatic Center.

Darren Cook, 41, a Facilities Management employee, re-

ported tools were missing from his work area in the Chemical room there.

The tools, a multimeter, screwdriver bit set, and a screwdriver with bits attached, were last seen around April 4. Cook said he first noticed the tools missing April 19.

The missing tools are valued collectively at \$501.

To report a crime on campus, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7691.

Appeal: Process now involves more steps than previously

Continued from page 1

involved, and three students, selected by the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services.

The committee will listen to the student and the instructor and request any relevant information before coming to a decision in a private meeting following the hearing.

If the committee unanimously votes it is 'highly probable that the assigned final grade is incorrect,' according

to the official policy, the grade will be changed.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs will notify the student and instructor within five working days of the committee's decision.

Some students shared their thoughts on the changes.

Lindsey Huddleston, psychology major, said students should get whatever grade the professor feels they earned but that it should be an unbiased decision.

"The teacher shouldn't be

able to decide, 'well, I'm just going to give you this grade or this grade because I just don't like you or something.'"

Brandon Roberts, Computer Aided Technology major, said he likes the revised process because it will weed out any biases. "I think if you got a bad grade and it wasn't one you deserved, it should be changed. But if you earned a bad grade, it should not be changed."

Dansi Rushing, premed major, said he liked the old way.

"I think it probably should be

the teacher's final say," he said. "I guess it just depends on the situation, on how it should be handled."

Timara Williams, computer programming major, said it may make a difference for those who get a bad grade under circumstances that can't be helped.

"My sister had to appeal a grade once and they denied her appeal. It was a different school but they wouldn't even accept her doctor's note and she'd had surgery."

Daniel Köehlor, mathematics and biology major, said he believes it levels the playing field for students.

"Yeah, I think that would be a little more fair, depending on if the student thought the teacher was being a little biased

or playing favorites," Köehlor said. "However, I think it might cause a little controversy with students who are maybe a little more disagreeable."

"I think that the way that [teachers] grade is fair for the most part and grades are generally a reflection of the student's ability. I can see how there might be the rare case where that gets skewed."

Aquino said he agrees with all of the changes made on the policy.

"[I want to] thank the [Instructional Administrative Procedures Committee] for their hard work on this. They struggled with this for the better part of this academic year."

The full policy can be found at www.occc.edu/policy/4030.pdf.

Lundy: Remembered as a 'caring man'

Continued from page 1

She said it is that thoughtful passion she will miss the most.

"I always loved seeing his friendly face," Wise said.

"He was so helpful. He wanted to help everyone, whether it was by bandaging a knee or unlocking a locked car."

Another friend Lori Lowe, Shipping and Receiving clerk, said she witnessed that kindness firsthand over the 12 years she worked with Lundy.

"He was a very caring man," Lowe said. "There were times when I was down on my luck and unable to have lunch, and he would call me up to make sure I had enough to eat."

She said Lundy was like an

uncle to her.

"If I was having a bad day, he was able to tell. He would always fix me up."

"He wasn't judgmental, he wasn't critical," Lowe said. "Everybody was his friend."

Former OCCC student Chelsea Cisneros said talking with Lundy was always a pleasure. "When I worked at the Math Lab and people forgot their belongings, I'd take them down to the security office," Cisneros said.

"It was as though he had a rule not to let people leave without a smile on their face."

Funeral services for Lundy are to be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Draper Park Christian Church at 8500

S. Walker in Oklahoma City. Rev. Ted Conway will officiate.

Interment will follow at Union City Cemetery in Union City.

Survivors include his wife, Debra Lundy; son, Timothy; daughter, Jennifer; father, Paul; and two brothers, Jerry and Joey. He was preceded in death by his mother.

An online guestbook for Lundy can be signed by visiting www.vondelsmithmortuary.com.

In addition, the Pioneer invites anyone who would like to share comments and memories of Lundy to visit www.occc.edu/pioneer or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer.

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QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?

EDITOR@OCCC.EDU



CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Baby trees given away for Earth Day



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Green Task Force member Brandon Isaak gives Communications Lab Assistant Nick Webb a Loblolly pine tree sapling during the Green Task Force Information Fair April 19 in the Student Union. Several booths provided information about helping the environment.

COMMUNITY | Parker Palmer training promotes respect for all

Prof chosen to lead Circle of Trust

JILL SODOWSKY

News Writing Student

Students in English Professor Stephen Morrow's classes learn the importance of respect for everyone's opinion right from the start.

Morrow said he believes philosophy goes beyond words and should be converted into actions.

The way he handles his classrooms is one way in which Morrow shows his caring personality.

"All of my classrooms are cooperative settings," Morrow said. "When someone talks, everyone listens."

He said it is important that his classroom be a place where students feel safe to voice their opinions and learn more about themselves.

Creating this environment is a product of extensive training which he said, will continue at an even higher level.

Recently Morrow learned he is going to be the first trained Parker Palmer Circle of Trust facilitator on campus. Morrow was chosen from applicants from the U.S. and Canada to be on a team of 16 for the 2011 and 2012 Team for Courage and Renewal.

The Circles of Trust are a part of the Parker Palmer Institute's efforts to help people find their inner voice and be able to speak with it honestly, Morrow said.

"The Circle of Trust is meant to help professionals find strength, integrity and the voice of their best selves and bring that into the workplace," Morrow said. "These circles are a safe place to be."

Morrow said he has attended several of the Parker Palmer retreats and has seen the difference that made in his life.

"I have found a connection and a purpose," Morrow said. "I want to bring that back to our campus, to our students, and to my colleagues."

Parker Palmer started by helping educators to be their truest selves in the classroom in order to have the healthiest working environment for students, Morrow said. He is hoping to do the same.

It has been quite the journey for Morrow to reach where he is today on the Team for Courage and Renewal, and it has just begun.

"To apply, I had to do two years of Courage and Renewal retreats in North Texas," Morrow said.

Applicants were not selected solely because they had attended retreats.

"Palmer is very selective in who he lets lead a Circle of Trust because it is the work of souls," Morrow said.

Being chosen to be a facilitator for a Circle of Trust is an honor that Morrow treasures. "I feel like the luckiest person in the world."

Over the next two years Morrow, along with his 15 teammates, will complete more training involving retreats and extensive homework.

This educator will be getting his own education from one of his heroes.

In 2013, when Morrow has finished his training with Parker Palmer, he will start his work by setting up Circles of Trust with faculty, then students.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Elements of Fiction Writing

Lydia Rucker will share her secrets to writing compelling fiction during this workshop hosted by the Communications Lab. The workshop will be at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, May 2, in CU2 in the College Union. For more information, please call 405-682-1611, ext. 7678 or visit www.occc.edu/comlab.

Christians on Campus meeting

Christians on Campus will meet at noon on Monday, May 2, in room 2P7 of the Main Building for a Bible study. Members will discuss 1 Corinthians. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact James at 405-314-7739.

Graduate Pinning Ceremony

OCCC students who graduated in Fall 2010 or will be graduating in Spring or Summer 2011 are invited to attend a pinning ceremony at 4 p.m. on Monday, May 2, in the general dining area of the Student Union. Graduates will also be photographed as a class.

Brown Bag series-Finals Prep

Attendees will learn techniques to help them study effectively for upcoming finals in this workshop at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, in CU1 of the College Union. Participants should bring their own lunch. Drinks are provided and attendees can register to win a Nintendo Wii and LCD TV. Contact Student Life at 405-682-7523 or stop by their office in the Main Building for more information.

Finals Breakfast

Student Life will bring in a catered breakfast from 8 to 9:30 a.m. on Monday, May 9, for students to enjoy at the beginning of finals week.

OCCC Foundation Scholarships

There are two scholarships available for the Fall semester. The Gamel scholarship is for \$500-1000, with applications due June 1. The Chesapeake scholarship is for \$500/semester, with applications due June 30. Applications are available from the OCCC Foundation office in 1A4 in the Arts & Humanities building, near the Bruce Owen Theater and the office of Academic Affairs. For more information, contact Jennifer Harrison at jharrison@occc.edu or 405-682-7591.

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 in 1F2 of the Arts and Humanities building, just inside Entry 2.

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.

ELECTRONICS

FOR SALE: 19" Samsung television with remote. Older model. Cable ready. Works well and has great color. \$35 Call: 405-501-8777.

EMPLOYMENT

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Several new projects require the help of an organized person with office skills and knowledge in advanced communications to work 5 hours each Wednesday. Web page set up, power point, and editing skills are a must. Call Gene at: 405-202-5833.

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CLASSIFIED ads are free to ALL OCCC students and employees. Call Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674, for details.

"89ER DAY" FUND RAISER: Saturday, April 30 at the Moore Lindsay Historical House, 508 N Peters, Norman. 11A.M. to 5 P.M. Music, food, vendors. Land run exhibit.

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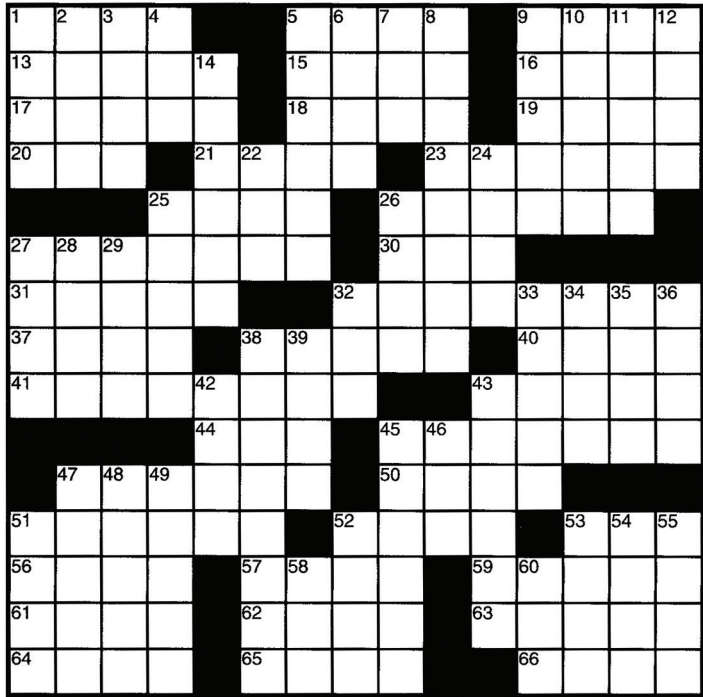
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5 Anchor
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13 Jungle charger
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17 Buffalo
18 Witnessed
19 Nothing more than
20 Mineral spring
21 Capri, for one
23 First game of the season
25 Pepsi's 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.
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28 It could be

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Choirs preparing for musical performance

JESSE HIGH

News Writing Student

Choral composer Joseph Martin will work with OCCC's three choruses on campus before they perform some of his music in concert at 7 p.m.

Friday, May 6, at the Wilmont Baptist Church, 6400 S Santa Fe in Oklahoma City.

Martin is a music industry professional based in Austin, Texas, whose work includes both sacred and secular themes, according to his web

site www.martin88.com.

Martin's pieces on the program include "The Awakening" and "The Invitation," said music professor Ron Staton, who directs OCCC's choral music program.

Martin, known for his choral compositions such as "Canticle of Hope" and "A Noble Theme," will speak to music students from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then again at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in room 132 in the VPAC building.

"He will speak to the students about how to get in the business, composing, recording, how to get music published, and just touch on the business side of making music," Staton said.

Staton said they are expecting big numbers at their concert, which is why they perform off campus.

"We have at least 500 people show up to our shows," Staton said. "The school's auditorium only holds 280."

The choral department is

"You learn a lot of things you never would have on your own. And our concerts are really fun."

—VICTORIA HAZBOUN
OCCC STUDENT AND CONCERT CHOIR MEMBER

comprised of three different choir groups.

The Concert Choir is open enrollment for any student and currently has 33 voices.

The Chamber Singers also is made up of students, but this group requires an audition.

"But it is also one of the choir groups that allows students to get tuition fee waivers," Staton said.

The largest group is the Symphonic Community Choir, Staton said.

It has about 75 members consisting of college students, teenagers, and others from the community.

The difference between the Concert choir and the Symphonic is the Symphonic involves people who are inter-

ested in choir, but may not be working on a college degree.

"The youngest in the community choir would be 16 and the oldest 84," Staton said.

There are no prerequisites for the Symphonic Community Choir and Concert Choir, Staton said.

Victoria Hazboun, an OCCC music student in Concert Choir, said the vocalists in the different choirs become attached to one another.

"You learn a lot of things you never would have on your own. And our concerts are really fun."

For more information, contact Staton at rstaton@occc.edu, call 405-682-1611, ext. 7249 or visit www.occc.edu/AH/musicgeneralinfo.

Jazz band teams with Grammy winner for May 4 campus concert

IFEOLUWA IDODE

News Writing Student

OCCC's jazz bands will be performing "Precious," a single from Esperanza Spalding's latest album, in a free concert at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 4, in the Bruce Owen Theater on campus, said David Traxler, jazz band drummer. Spalding is this year's Grammy Award Winner for best new artist.

Traxler said he and other jazz fans were surprised when Spalding won the Grammy because she is not as popular as Justin Bieber, who also was nominated for the same award. It is unusual for a jazz musician to receive such recognition.

"Precious" will be one of many tunes on tap for the night of soulful jazz and rhythm-and-blues music, Traxler said.

Ryan Edward Miller, bass guitarist for the band, said he is excited about the concert.

"I am looking forward to this upcoming night of fun through music," the music major said at rehearsal recently.

The nine-member band is comprised of two groups of jazz musicians who will share the stage. One group practices on Tuesday afternoons and the other practices on Wednesday afternoons. They have been preparing since spring break for the performance, Traxler said.

Traxler is the only one who has been in the band for more than three years. He said he will be graduating this spring, with a degree in Diversified Studies with a music emphasis.

Music Professor Michael Boyle composed one the songs for the night, Traxler said.

"He wrote the song for me since I will be graduating this semester," he said. "The jazz music concert is an avenue for us to show what we have been working on for the past few weeks."

Boyle said the jazz bands were created for students and have been doing concerts on campus, usually twice per semester, since 2006.

Boyle is the band director and plays the keyboard during rehearsals. His expertise in music was felt when the band rehearsed one of the songs to be performed during the concert, Roberta Flack's hit single, "Killing Me Softly with his Song."

Other members of the jazz bands are Brittany Foos and Zach Lebo, bass guitar; Jose Gabaldon, electric guitar; Paul Collins, saxophone; Brittney Ragland and Victoria Hazboun, vocals; and Charlie Williams, drums.

The bands are open to all students who are interested, and musicians do not have to be music majors, Boyle said.

For more information concerning the jazz bands, contact Boyle by e-mail mboyle@occc.edu.

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Transfer Students

We know your schedule is hectic, so we're open late to help meet your needs.

- Bring your transcript and see how your credits fit an OBU degree plan
- On-the-spot admission decision
- Financial aid details
- Campus tour available
- Free meal
- Get your questions answered
- Enroll for classes

View more details or register online at okbu.edu/L8til8

For more information call **275.2850** or email admissions@okbu.edu.

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