

PIONEER ONLINE

To comment on stories, or to access the latest news, features, multimedia, online exclusives and updates, visit occc.edu/pioneer.



EDITORIAL

SOARING GAS PRICES MAKE LIFE DIFFICULT

Staff Writer Cynthia Praefke believes fluctuating gas prices should be regulated more clearly and effectively. Read her thoughts inside.

OPINION, p. 2

CAMPUS LIFE

SURVIVING A SMOKELESS CAMPUS

Staff Writer Sara Hussain talks to various departments to get their take on the new regulations, how they'll be enforced and how to survive not smoking on campus.

NEWS, p. 5

RECREATION

STAYING SAFE IN SUMMER TAKES WORK

Experts sit down with Sports Writer Sean Tolbert to offer advice and tips on how to stay cool, stay healthy and play safe during the summer.

SPORTS, p. 8

CAMPUS LIFE

KIDS PROGRAM ENDS WITH BROADWAY

College for Kids ends its summer theater program with the Junior Broadway version of the classic "Godspell."

COMMUNITY, p. 10

PIONEER

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JULY 22, 2011

WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

COVERING OCCC SINCE 1978

Childcare program convenient option

Enrollment opens for college childcare program Aug. 8th

SYNDI HUDSON
News Writing Student

For parents of small children, going to school and working towards a degree can seem impossible at times. Students at OCCC who are facing that challenge have affordable day and evening child care available at the college's Child Development Center and Lab School, located at 6500 South Land Ave. That's just one mile north of campus.

There are openings for the fall, and students are encouraged to attend open enrollment at 9 a.m. Aug. 8 through 12. Available positions are expected to fill up quickly, especially for infants and toddlers, said Mary McCoy, director.

The student-scheduled child-care program accepts children from 6 weeks to age 5 in the daytime program and up to 8 years old in the evening session. All classrooms in the Center are led by teachers who hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, elementary education, or child development, McCoy said.

The program was started three years ago with one little boy named Camden. It has now grown into a program of more than 40 children with a waiting list for more,

Raindrops keep falling ...



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Amy Alexander, sociology major, gets caught in the sudden downburst last week while leaving work. Alexander is in the work study program on campus. She works in the Art and Humanities department.

McCoy said.

Despite a 6 percent decline in state appropriations for the next budget year, the college has decided to add more teachers to expand the program. The only new positions in the college budget next year are three teaching positions at the Child Development Center for the classroom that is being added for the fall semester.

"I think it speaks well for the college," McCoy said. "They are just very committed to the success of the students, and student

"We're really excited when [students] graduate, because we feel we had a part in it."

—MARY MCCOY
CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER DIRECTOR

parents have trouble getting to school."

The program also accepts state-paid childcare and Native American assistance through the Muskogee tribe.

See **CHILDCARE** page 9

ATTENDING TWO SCHOOLS AT THE SAME TIME CAN HELP STUDENTS GET THE BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE, EXPERT SAYS

Concurrent enrollment sound option

PRISCILLA COLLEY
Staff Writer
staffwriter3@occc.edu

Students have more options than attending one school. Concurrent enrollment is when a student attends classes at the same time at two different schools.

Being concurrently enrolled is, in many cases, a good option for college students, said Student Ambassador Kelsea Burton.

"Students applying for concurrent enrollment are admitted as regular students, they must complete the application for admissions as usual and bring their transcript from the other school so we can transfer the credits," Burton said.

"You must speak with an adviser from both colleges to make sure all the credits transfer," she said.

"Sometimes schools prefer their credits to ours (OCCC) so they will make you retake

the course at their college."

Concurrent enrollment is not the only option one has. For those looking to transfer schools, it would be best to complete your degree at OCCC.

Because if you have a degree, universities must accept all your credits. If you don't, it's at the discretion of the other school whether they accept your credits or not, Burton said.

See **CONCURRENT** page 9

OPINION

EDITORIAL | No one in industry accepts responsibility for high gasoline prices

Prices at pump source of distress

When it comes to gas prices, it is hard to know who to believe these days.

On July 5, an Ocala, Fla., news headline read, "Gas Prices Expected to Continue Falling."



Cynthia Praefke

The reason given was the U.S. Department of Energy is set to release 30 million barrels of oil from the national reserves. Yay!

However, the L.A. Times on the same date featured quite the opposite opinion with, "Gas Prices Aren't Likely to Drop Much More This Summer." Huh?

The amusing thing is that the price of gas in Florida is averaging \$3.497, while Californians are paying a whopping \$3.794 per gallon. Optimism could be in the eye of the beholder.

Oklahomans may find this interesting because on June 29, they were able to fill up at most gas stations in town for \$3.18 per gallon. Of course, if the public did not take advantage of that price, they awoke to a 17-cent escalation the following day.

Perhaps that increase was the result of the impending holiday weekend but isn't that price gouging? Not so, says the law. "Gouging is an unreasonable price increase during times of a civil emergency."

If that is not an unreasonable price increase at a time when the economy is plummeting, perhaps "unreasonable" has another meaning to the powers that be.

"An increase in gas prices encourages suppliers to send more gasoline to the area, thereby avoiding a shortage at the pumps," is what the suppliers say.

"We have to raise our prices because we are being charged more by suppliers," say the distributors.

Blah, blah, blah. Stop passing the buck and settle on a price please. It's hard to budget with this fluctuation.

Even though the price per barrel of oil has declined on a national level, \$30 can no longer fill the average tank with fuel.

Whether the rising costs are blamed on tax increases, supply and demand, storage or market volatility, the facts remain the same: Oil companies want to make a profit and people who own vehicles need gasoline. There is no choice but to pay the price or start walking.

That cost is now up to \$3.49 in Oklahoma, an in-



MARK PARISI/OFFTHEMARK.COM

crease of 31 cents in less than one month.

If this continues, \$50 for a pair of New Balance walkers is looking very tempting.

—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
STAFF WRITER

YOUR VOICE | Readers discuss importance of laws, fallout of infamous trial

Gay marriage editorial contradictory, reader says

To the Editor:

Regarding Priscilla Colley's recent article on gay marriage, I felt compelled to write.

Your reasoning is absurd. If there is such a thing as right and wrong, then, of course, it makes sense for the convictions we possess of what constitutes right or wrong to enter into our worldview.

You said, "It is the height of hubris to think one has the right to tell another what they can or can't pursue ..."

Surely you realize that laws exist so that some people aren't able to pursue things that would be detrimental to society.

Should these laws be abandoned simply because they interfere with what some people would define as happiness?

You further say "it is only logical to live by your own standards and moral code."

So, is it OK for me to believe that homosexuality is wrong and vote that way?

I don't care what two people do because I realize that the same laws that apply to their privacy also apply to mine.

But honestly, I am going to have to hear far more compelling arguments from the side that promotes gay marriage

before I jump in.

It's the height of hubris to be intellectually dishonest or bash others for holding absurd logic

by using absurd logic. Aren't we capable of more than that?

—ZACH SUMNER
BUSINESS MAJOR

Freedom has its unexpected benefits

To the Editor:

It has been announced in the press that [Casey] Anthony, along with various family members of, have been negotiating deals for multi-millions for books, films, interviews, and [more] in

reference to the trial.

I suppose some people feel that being — as the reporter for the Pioneer stated — "ostracized" comes at a very nice price.

The ability to pay for anything you want has a very healing effect for de-

pression and exclusion.

As for the self-loathing, what kind of a statement does what they did make to the easily influenced public about lying to the authorities and others in general? It didn't seem to make a huge affect on

them during the trial.

We heard no apologies for the lies to the authorities, the public, or for leaving the child's body where it was for that long period of time.

—NAME WITHHELD
BY REQUEST

OKLAHOMA CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PIONEER

Vol. 39 No. 40

Holly Davis Walker.....**Editor**
Jeremy Cloud.....**Senior Writer**
Christy Johnson.....**Staff Writer**
Sarah Hussain.....**Staff Writer**
Priscilla Colley.....**Staff Writer**
Emily Schorr.....**Community Writer**
Sean Tolbert.....**Sports Writer**
Rachel Morrison.....**Photographer**
Cynthia Praefke.....**Advertising Manager**

Whitney Knight.....**Online Editor**
Casey Akard.....**Videographer**
Robert Bolton.....**Online Writer**
John Weis.....**Webmaster**
Cybele Hsu.....**Graphic Design**
Aaron Donahue.....**Circulation Manager**
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

The **PIONEER** is a publication of Oklahoma City Community College through the Division of Arts and Humanities. It is published weekly during the 16-week fall and spring semesters and the eight-week summer session.

Opinions expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the **PIONEER**, the college or the publisher.

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.

Color printing this semester is paid for, in part, from a grant from OPUBCO Communications Group.

COMMENTS AND REVIEWS

REVIEWS | Cameron Diaz brings her 'A' game

'Bad Teacher' makes the grade

"Bad Teacher" is a risqué hit where a beautiful woman wreaks havoc on a middle school.

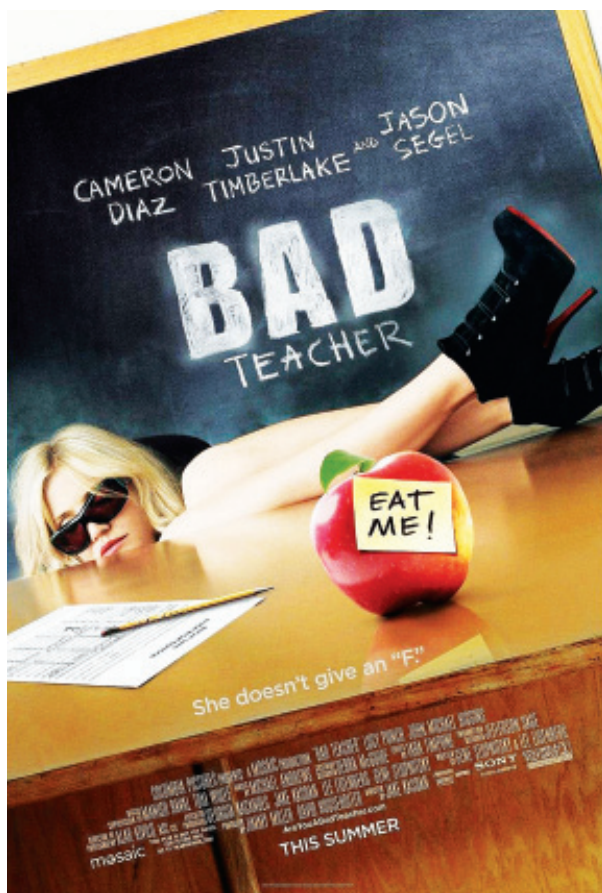
There's no hint of how nasty Elizabeth (Cameron Diaz) can be when you first see her tucked into a dreary field of other teachers, standing out with her joyous persona — but not for long.

As her true colors begin to show, her filthy rich fiancé and his mother notice. She is dumped and left with what she had when she met him: nothing.

Elizabeth, who smugly spouted on her last day of teaching before her nuptials that she would not teach again, is back at Jams middle school for another eventful school year.

She definitely does not bring her "A" game but she does bring the mini bar and plenty of pot.

She sleeps during class and shows movies. Ms.



Squirrel (Lucy Punch), one of the top teachers at the school, is not impressed with this type of behavior.

Elizabeth is simply looking for a meal ticket,

not a career or the attention of some deadbeat gym teacher, Russell (Jason Segal), whose advances she dodges.

When the handsome, wealthy new teacher in

the hall, Scott Delacorte (Justin Timberlake), arrives, Elizabeth suddenly becomes more involved with her students — and with wanting a larger chest size.

"Bad Teacher" possesses zero morals and many of the jokes have a raunchy punch line. However, the movie keeps theatergoers laughing.

Elizabeth's main goal is to get a boob job and become Mrs. Delacorte.

This is not the movie that will change a person's life, teach a lesson, or make a person feel warm and fuzzy.

This movie does do what most movies lately have not: show the lives of the characters without portraying them to be anything they are not, especially something along the lines of an upstanding citizen.

Rating: A+

—EMILY SCHORR
STAFF WRITER

REVIEWS | From Lil' Kim to Jay-Z, aging rappers still making hits

Artists over the hill, not out of the game

With so much talk within the hip-hop community regarding young rappers versus old ones, many ask the question: how old is too old?

Arguing the predisposition in hip-hop that rap itself is only for youngsters, it seems only fitting to make a list of the top "oldies but goldies" who are still making a big mark in the rap game:

First to the stage is **Tech N9ne**, who will be 40 this November. Tech's new album "All 6's and 7's" is currently on the Billboard 200 chart at 59 and climbing.

Shawna, 33, is best

known for her hit song "Gettin' Some."

She is one of the best female rappers of all time and is currently working on a new album. This rapstress of D.T.P. first appeared on the scene in 2000 as famed rapper Ludacris's female protégé with the hit "What's your Fantasy?"

Lil' Kim is 37. She made her trademark on the world in the early '90s as the lieutenant of the Notorious B.I.G.'s hit group Junior Mafia.

Kim proved to be more than a mistress to Mr. Smalls when she branched out on her own

in 1994 with the hit "I Need You Tonight."

She surprised the world when she, shall we say, pulled Nicki Minaj's, 26, gangsta card in reference to Minaj's, obvious visual swagger jackin'.

Lil' Kim is losing her lyrical flow and did take the famous "PayPal" shot at the Minaj-ster but she still needs to be given an "E" for effort for trying to protect her famous Queen B crown.

Debuting their first hit "Playa's Ball" in 1993, **André 3000** and **Big Boi**, who make up the super duo southern rap group **OutKast** are both 36.

Unfortunately, many young hip-hop artists today belittle the fact that many of these old heads who opened lyrical doors for them are still relevant in the game.

Hip-hop mogul **Jay-Z** is 41 and married to **Beyoncé** — OK? Beyoncé.

Method Man is 40 this year and is still a card carrying member of Wu-Tang Clan.

With all of these old cats and kittens still going hard in the game, it begs the question... wait, what was the question again?

—CHRISTY JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

ADVISER'S 411

Fall classes filling fast as summer ends

June and July have been busy months in the Office of Academic Advising.

Summer classes are quickly coming to an end, and for those who have not yet enrolled for fall semester, it is important to get enrolled as soon as possible.

Classes will be filling up soon and optimal times and days for those on a restricted schedule will be difficult to find soon.

Likewise, for students planning to attend in the fall, this is a great time to meet with one of the faculty advisers working in our office for the summer semester.

Faculty advisers can help you in the selection of your faculty-approved electives, career exploration and a variety of other needs particular to your major.

For international students who will be traveling within the U.S. and abroad this summer, it is important to come in and meet with an academic adviser to set up your fall courses.

By doing so, international students ensure their enrollment and degree/course planning is done and they can spend the rest of their summer worry free about finding the appropriate courses at the right times for their schedules.

Students who wait until the last minute to enroll may find that class availability at times that are convenient with their work and personal schedules are more difficult to find.

Enrolling early also allows you to ask important questions and get informed responses.

Students often want to know: What classes do I have left to take? Can I take an intersession course? What is online coursework like, and is there online help if I have trouble? Can I enroll online? Do I need to test for course placement? When do I apply for graduation?

These are all questions the Office of Academic Advising can help you to get the answers to.

Therefore, planning ahead and meeting with an academic adviser now may ensure optimal course placement and course availability.

To set up an appointment for summer to meet with an academic adviser or a faculty adviser call 405-682-7535.

—MELISSA AGUIGUI
ACADEMIC ADVISER

HAVE A MOVIE YOU'D LIKE TO SEE REVIEWED?
E-MAIL EDITOR@OCCC.EDU

FILM REVIEW | Epic series ends on a high note

Get set for gripping final chapter

On Thursday, July 14, fans waited in line for several hours, braving the heat, to see the last episode in the Harry Potter series, "The Deathly Hallows: Part 2."

It was almost midnight and young people were dressed in costume celebrating their favorite character from the volumes at Hogwarts.

There were many cell phone games being played, calls to friends who were not able to attend and much chatter about the events of the day.

But when everyone was seated in the theater, the lights went down and when the familiar music began the room went from relieved applause to absolute quiet, and remained that way for much of the next two hours.

For many, this movie marks the end of an era. For 10 years, these fans have grown up with the H.P. franchise, and "Deathly Hallows" is like a rite of passage for them as well as for Harry and his friends.

The \$43.5 million brought in by the midnight shows proves the popularity of the franchise.

As to the movie itself, expect a wild ride. From the opening scene where Harry buries Dobby in the garden of

Shell cottage to the closing shot (not telling), the storyline, action and graphics keep the viewer on the edge of his/her seat.

There is no reason to dwell on the acting ability of the cast, because after eight movies, the players have that mastered and prove it once again in this film.

Perhaps it was the 3D glasses, the amazing special effects, or the love for the characters that pulled the audience into the story. The combination was as magical as Harry himself.

With a character worth \$7.4 billion — yes that's a "b" — it's difficult to believe this is the swan song of the dynamic trio.

Warner Brothers Studios said it is the "highest grossing franchise in movie history."

The final movie, may not necessarily be the end of the world for Potter devotees.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" may mark the end of



this series, but the saga will remain in the hearts and minds of fans forever, and may spur interest in the books and DVDs to a whole new, or older, generation.

J.K. Rowling is a smart, talented and extremely rich woman. Don't rule out

TOP 20 MOVIES

weekend of July 15 through 17
www.yahoo.com

1. *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2*
2. *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*
3. *Horrible Bosses*
4. *Zookeeper*
5. *Cars 2*
6. *Winnie the Pooh*
7. *Bad Teacher*
8. *Larry Crowne*
9. *Super 8*
10. *Midnight in Paris*
11. *Bridesmaids*
12. *Mr. Popper's Penguins*
13. *Green Lantern*
14. *Monte Carlo*
15. *X-Men: First Class*
16. *The Tree of Life*
17. *The Hangover Part II*
18. *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*
19. *Kung Fu Panda 2*
20. *Beginners*

another series.

Rating: A+

—CYNTHIA PRAEFKE
STAFF WRITER

VIDEO GAME REVIEW | Old character plus new robots equals a different game

Numerous twists and turns abound in 'Portal 2'

I have found "Portal 2" to be a very interesting game, mainly because of its many surprises.

GLaDOS, the main computer of the Aperture Science facility, is properly insulting throughout the first half of the game. You discover she (GLaDOS) has been around since the '60s.

Over the course of the game, you go from being called a fat orphan by GLaDOS in some of the most clever ways possible to being the best thing ever for her (it? I'm just going to call GLaDOS 'her' for reference.)

In this second installment, there are two robots.

Wheatley, the helper at the beginning, is extremely foolish and the game explains why he is that way. This not only makes sense in the context presented, but the way it's told is hilarious.

GLaDOS maintains her wit throughout the game, as well as her malice.

I almost feel a little bad for her toward the end. I suppose Valve Games did a really good job with the storytelling in

that regard.

If you can make the player feel bad for the antagonist, that means you have one hell of a story. This is certainly the case in "Portal 2."

The puzzles range from somewhat easy to murderous, though I was slightly disappointed with the lack of spiked walls.

In general, the story is in-depth, explaining the back story of the Aperture Science center.

Just a warning: the entirety of the old "Portal" complex is funny.

Cave Johnson (the creator) goes from science machine to crazy as hell over the course of one or two chapters, and



GLaDOS starts to get more and more into his ranting and raving.

It's beautiful, actually. It also explains why the psychotic overseer of the Aperture Science Center is the way she is.

The comedy aspect of "Portal 2" gets an A, malicious as it may be with just a hint of gallows humor.

The action gets a B, as most of the story is calculated, and you can actually go through the game and only get damaged by one

thing if you're good enough.

The game itself is rather challenging at times, too.

You would have to be insane to be able to figure the challenges out immediately so, A for challenge.

The music is alright, though having

GLaDOS sing to you at the end of the game (again) is icing on the cake.

Speaking of which, she has the voice of a mechanical angel. Seriously, it is beautiful.

I like the game a lot and would recommend it, although some of the puzzles are brain busters.

If you like puzzle games with a hint of action, I suggest this game.

However, if you aren't patient, I would not suggest it.

Rating: A-

—ROBERT BOLTON
ONLINE WRITER

**HAVE A
COMMENT,
A SUGGESTION,
A REVIEW IDEA?
send it to:
editor@occc.edu**

Smokers warned policy will be enforced

SARAH HUSSAIN

Staff Writer

staffwriter2@occc.edu

In 10 short days — Aug. 1 — OCCC will become a tobacco-free environment, making it the 17th Oklahoma college or university to become such.

According to the OCCC website, the purpose of this policy is “to promote the health, well-being, and safety of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors ... Smoking or the use of any tobacco products is prohibited on OCCC property.”

Police Chief James Fitzpatrick said his office will enforce the policy which also includes electronic cigarettes.

“No one, not even the FDA has come out and said [an e-cigarette] is a smoking cessation or substitute.

“Until somebody comes out and tells us a little bit more about what they are, there’s no point allowing them to be used all over the campus,” he said.

“It could be more dangerous than what the cigarette smoke does.”



COURTESY WWW.JOYBAUER.COM

“

Anyone that’s in violation is going to be talked to.”

—JAMES FITZPATRICK
OCCC CHIEF OF POLICE

Fitzpatrick said there will be no leeway.

“We realize that this is a change for everybody and our enforcement action is going to be appropriate for the fact that it is a significant change, but we’re not going to ignore the violations.”

He said those who ignore the new rule will be dealt with on a case-to-case basis.

“Anyone that’s in violation is going to be talked to.”

Many things will be taken into consideration when the security and safety officers interact with someone in violation, he said.

“Everything that we do will be directed at gaining compliance to this policy.

“We take our responsibilities seriously.”

Learning Support Specialist Mary Turner is part of the Tobacco Task Force on campus.

“I do encourage individuals who want to quit to contact 1-800-QUITNOW, get smoking cessation products, get a stop coach, all of those kinds of things,” Turner said.

She said OCCC’s goal in going tobacco-free is to support the community in becoming cleaner, which “will benefit many.”

Lucas Seymour, a newly enrolled student, said she will be fine with the new policy.

“I feel that if someone needs to smoke that bad then they just need to stop smoking.”

Tax-free weekend approaching Aug. 5 through 7

MICHAEL RUNYAN

Newsriting Student

It’s almost that time of year again — tax-free weekend, when everyday shoes and clothes costing less than \$100 will be untaxed.

On Aug. 5 through 7, clothing and shoes costing less than a \$100 per item are required by law to be exempt from sales tax during that period.

Anything from belts to scarves will qualify, according to the Oklahoma Tax Commission’s website.

Disqualified are accessories and special athletic and protective gear.

The law was passed in 2007 to boost the economy, but consumers benefit also because it reduces their cost at the cash register.

The college takes part as well.

For students looking to buy T-shirts or other college

clothing, there will be a small window to use the discount on campus, said Kim White, Bookstore Finances and Student Accounts coordinator.

OCCC’s bookstore will be open from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday of that weekend, she said.

White, who has worked for the bookstore for more than 20 years, said the sales tax in Oklahoma City is 8.735 percent. So, for the non-math majors reading this, you can save up to \$8.74 per \$100.

She said the bookstore sells a little more clothing on that day to “the people who are aware of (the Tax free weekend).”

However, she said, the time of year — August intersession — is not a particularly busy time of year.

The Outlet Shoppes at Oklahoma City, located on Interstate-40 and Council Road, will open its doors for the first

time that weekend.

The mall includes many popular stores including Nike,

Under Armour, and Gap.

More complete information on the holiday can be found on

the Oklahoma Tax Commission’s website www.tax.ok.gov/stholiday.html.



Ever Get Somebody Totally Wasted?

READ THE PIONEER ONLINE
WWW.OCCC.EDU/PIONEER

Campus offers support for alcoholics

LINDSAY MALICOATE
News Writing Student

An unfortunate reality of college life is a culture that seems to encourage alcohol abuse. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 16.6 percent of college students can be categorized as problem drinkers.

That fact is not lost on the Student Support Services staff at OCCC. They work to prevent and treat alcohol dependency.

As young adults facing a new world of greater independence, college students can find it hard to balance their increasingly busy lives, said Jenna Howard, licensed mental health counselor at OCCC.

However, she said, it is detrimental to find a balance by abusing alcohol.

While partying and hanging out with

friends can provide a suitable environment for adult activity, Howard said, some college students take drinking past occasional use and become dependent on the substance. That's when many adverse effects can arise.

Bloodalcohol.info is a website that works to educate individuals about the negative ways alcohol affects the body.

According to the site, long-term abuse of alcohol can lead to health issues such as damage of the vital organs, including the liver, heart and pancreas.

Additionally, Oklahoma state law states that a first-time offender who is charged with drinking and driving can be fined up to \$1,000, a hefty amount for individuals who are typically juggling many other expenses.

Howard said some college students may turn to alcohol as a way to self-medicate due to many different factors

including social anxiety and stress.

For anyone seeking support as they try to escape alcohol addiction, Student Support Services offers morning and evening counseling appointments, Howard said.

In addition to counseling, she said, the Student Support Services website offers a mental health screening that may help those struggling with abuse realize that they should seek help.

"Being able to come and talk to somebody, being able to admit 'Hey, I think I have a problem,' is the first step to getting help," Howard said.

She said, in addition to providing short-term support for individuals, OCCC counselors can help people set up long-term support in community groups like Alcoholics Anonymous.

Long-term support, Howard said, is key to ending alcohol dependency.



For more information, call Howard at 405-682-1611, ext. 7621, or visit the website at www.occc.edu/support.

Theater classroom to get big makeover

KATIE JOHNSON
News Writing Student

Drama students will soon have a classroom decked out as they need it so they can act the way performers do.

By the time the fall semester rolls around, room IC5 in the Arts and Humanities building will have undergone a complete makeover. It will have changed into a theater lab.

The walls and windows will be painted black, the lighting will be replaced, and the still-in-progress movable stage will be added to the room.

Already the classroom's old desks have gone away. "We've replaced them with tables and chairs," said Brent Noel, professor of theater arts.

The classroom will not only be used for classes.

"We will use it for 'theatrical research,'" Noel said. "It will be a place where students will be able to perform, to try out new things. We will find out what works and what doesn't."

The room also could be used for activities such as poetry readings, said Susan VanSchuyver, dean of the Arts and Humanities Division.

The theater program will continue to use the other stage in the Bruce Owen Theater. Room IC5 will be used to experiment.

"The soon-to-be lab is an ideal spot for theater students and teachers," said Ruth Charnay, chair for the Communications and Arts Department. The prop rooms are adjacent to the classroom, she said, pointing to a door in the back corner that connects the room to the Bruce Owen Theater.

The black color of the room will do more than absorb light.

"It helps with the imagination," Charnay said.

Noel commented on how the dark color will allow both the performers and the audience to easily imagine the scene being performed.

Theater students also see the benefit.

"It's another space for us," said Mitch McFarland, a recent theater graduate who will return to campus this fall to complete a degree in physics. "During rehearsals there's nowhere to go."

McFarland explained that when the Bruce Owen Theater is being used for other functions, such as meetings or Cultural Arts programs, the theater students have difficulty finding places to practice. A classroom that is built for theater will be beneficial for those moments.

McFarland said he considers it a wonderful idea.

Shawna Roggow, another OCCC student who has participated in past theater projects, shares her thoughts.

"It makes me excited to go back," Roggow said. "It's awesome."

Theater students will not be the only ones to use the transformed classroom.

It will be available to other OCCC students as well. The room will usually be occupied, Charnay said.



“We will use it for theater research. It will be a place where students will be able to perform, to try out new things. We will find out what works and what doesn't.”

—BRENT NOEL
THEATER PROFESSOR

OCCC STUDENT MICKEY SHERMAN LEARNS MORE AMIDST LOVE AND ADMIRATION

Oklahoma veteran honored in Washington

ESSENCE BRANCH
News Writing Student

A trip to the nation's capitol as a tribute to World War II veterans was fun and educational, even if many of the 150 Oklahomans on the excursion constituted a "wheelchair brigade," said OCCC student Mickey Sherman.

At age 89, Sherman was one of the younger WWII veterans in attendance — and one of the few who could still walk alone.

For the trip, they were assigned attendants. Bill Teter, a private detective, was placed with Sherman.

On May 4, they all arrived in Washington D.C., to be greeted with open arms.

"Everywhere we went, people were willing to shake our hands," Sherman said. "It felt very good."

"I sat for at least an hour and answered people's questions over the war."

Throughout the two-day period, the veterans and their guardians visited points of interest, including Arlington Cemetery and the Korean and Vietnam War memorials.

The trip ended with an appreciation dinner at which the WWII veterans heard praise for their service.

"Veterans made it possible for our

life to flourish," said a guest speaker.

"That's the whole idea."

Just as in military service, a mail call was delivered with parcels for each veteran. They contained children's letters and pictures.

"This was a big deal," Sherman said. "That was an interesting way to end it."

Sherman said he served in the U.S. Army for six years during the war.

"I learned a lot from the service," he said.

"I am more patriotic now than when I was enlisted."

While many may know Sherman as a World War II veteran, there are other sides to the OCCC student.

A lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he was a national jitterbug champion in 1940 and taught Tai Chi for 12 years.

He has written a book, "A Swinging Affair: From Savoy to Cyberspace" and also produced a DVD, "Mickey Sherman Presents the Popular War."

"The trip was marvelous," Sherman said. While this may have not been his first Honor Flight, he said he learned things he never knew, and was shown love and admiration.

"I am very sympathetic to what they are doing," he said. "When you get to



PHOTO COURTESY MICKEY SHERMAN

World War II veteran Mickey Sherman visit the Oklahoma City Veteran's Memorial. Sherman served in the U.S. Army.

be my age, it is nice to feel appreciated."

The trip sponsor, Oklahoma Honor Flights, is a nonprofit organization

whose purpose is "solely to honor Oklahoma veterans for all of their sacrifices," Sherman said.

Adjunct professor stays true to writing passion

HEATHER WOOD
News Writing Student

Those who know adjunct Professor J. P. Johnson say it's hard to overlook the passion she shares for reading, writing, and helping students. Over the years, she has taught courses in English, humanities, and mythology.

"I really enjoy the fact that she'll go out of her way to help you," said student Julie Bragg, who is currently enrolled in Johnson's Modern Humanities course. "She's a really funny person, and she really knows her stuff."

Johnson said she grew up in a small town in Idaho, surrounded by some of the nation's most famous authors, such as Zane Grey and Ernest Hemingway. In her small town of 3,000 people, Johnson said she was always around those who loved the art of writing.

"It was a great place for a writer or an artist of any kind to grow up," she

said. "Nice library in the school, nice library in the town — a lot of people who loved to read and write."

While Johnson now enjoys her career as a part-time professor who reads and edits manuscripts on the side, she said it was at first a challenge to find the right path to her passion.

"I always thought I wanted to be a writer but people had discouraged me," she said.

Though she knew she loved writing, Johnson said she followed the advice of her peers and explored other possible careers in college. But with her passion for writing lingering, she quickly found her way back to journalism and enrolled at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, after moving to Oklahoma with her husband during the oil boom.

While still in college, Johnson began to work for several newspapers including the Alva Review Courier,

the Newsgram and the Oklahoma Election Service, a branch of the Daily Oklahoman.

As Johnson advanced her career in journalism, she said she also realized she had a passion for teaching after she accepted a job as a teaching assistant for a creative writing class at the University of Central Oklahoma.

"I had never thought of myself as a teacher because I'm really quite shy," she said. "As a journalist, I was very happy to sit there and interview someone else ... but being the focus of attention was really scary for me."

After Johnson realized teaching was about "channeling information for students," she discovered that her new-found passion worked well with her interest in writing.

Bragg said Johnson likes to use visuals in her teaching and even incorporates the game Jeopardy to help students learn.

"She tries to make the course a lot of fun and easier to understand," Bragg said.

Johnson began teaching part-time at OCCC in the early '90s. In addition to teaching, Johnson also worked as an administrator on campus for several years.

"I loved the variety of students," she said. "I loved that they were very intent on learning how to communicate better, and I was hooked. I was hooked on the college and I was hooked on teaching."

"I found I really enjoyed helping young writers become better at what they did," she said.

"Teaching requires that you like learning," Johnson said. "Teaching requires that you be curious. Teaching requires that you like people and working with people. It requires that extra step of enjoying learning how to help other people find their own voices, and that I love."

SPORTS

Warm Up laps



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Electronic engineering major Lan Nguyen swims laps in the Aquatic Center pool. Nguyen said he works out in the gym and then comes to swim in the pool at least two days a week to stay fit.

SPORTS | High temperatures mean extra precautions

Safety is key to battling heat wave

SEAN M. TOLBERT

Sports Writer

sportswriter@occc.edu

With extremely hot temperatures taking place across the state, exercising safety and prevention is even more important in order to keep these scalding days free of accidents and heat-related health issues, said OCCC Nursing professor Sarah Brown.

Brown said it is important that people exercise caution and take steps to limit sun exposure and to properly hydrate themselves when seeking respite from the heat.

"It is key for people out in this hot weather to wear hats for shade, drink large amounts of water, and stay away from sweet drinks," Brown said.

"Common effects of prolonged heat exposure are heat stroke, nausea, headache, dehydration and hyperthermia."

Not surprisingly, swimming is often the go-to means of diminishing the effects felt by heat exposure for many

families, but OCCC Senior Lifeguard Tracy Lister said there are inherent dangers that must be proactively addressed by parents and children before heading to the pool.

"The importance of teaching children about life jackets and universal pool rules can be a real lifesaver," Lister said.

These rules include not running, not diving into shallow water and never swimming alone, Lister said.

He said it's crucial that parents always know where their children are and to accompany them into the water if they are not proficient swimmers.

"Parents need to check out whatever pool their kids go to," he said. "If the child needs a lifejacket in the water, always get into the water with them."

Scrapes, bruises and chipped teeth are all potential injuries that may occur poolside, he said, but the most frequent is sometimes the most preventable: sunburns.

"This is the most common by far,"

Lister said. "We all hear about sun safety but are really bad about practicing it. Applying sunscreen 30 minutes before getting into the water can prevent sunburns."

"My advice is to put it on before you leave for your pool. If you get into the water and your skin feels slimy, that means the sunscreen is coming off."

Brown cites an increase in free time as another reason for the increase in injuries that occur during the summertime.

She said parents always being aware of where their children are and what they are doing can prevent a large percentage of injuries from occurring.

"We see a lot of broken bones during the summer months — especially in children," she said. "Parents watching their children is essential but unfortunately this is going to happen at a higher rate during the summer months."

For more on summer safety, visit www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/summertips.cfm.

UPCOMING INTRAMURALS EVENTS

July 1 - September 19: Registration for OCCC Flag Football League. Ages 7 to 8 and 9 to 11. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

July 25 - 29: Cheer and Dance age 6 to 14, 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

July 25 - 29: Flag Football ages 6 to 11 and 12 to 14, 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Aug. 1 - 5: Multi-Sport ages 6 to 11 and 12 to 14, 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Aug. 1 - 5: FITKIDS Camp "Wet n Wild", ages 6 to 12, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Aug. 1 - 5: Camp-Rec Youth Camp "Open Rec", ages 6 to 12, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Sept. 17: Pepsi: Punt, Pass, and Kick Competition, Girls and Boys age groups from 8 to 15. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Sept. 17: OCCC Youth Soccer. Ages 6 to 8 and 9 to 10. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Sept. 17: OCCC Youth Soccer. Ages 6 to 8 and 9 to 10. For more information, call the Wellness Center at 405-682-1611, ext. 7310.

Have sports news?
e-mail Sean at
sportswriter@occc.edu
or call 405-682-1611,
ext. 7676

JAPANESE WORD 'KAIZEN' DESCRIBES THE PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY OF DR. NAKIA WELCH

Speech professor welcomes competitive debate

KIANA BILLUPS
News Writing Student

Nakia Welch: his name conceals more than it reveals about his unusual ethnic heritage. He describes himself as Cajun French from Louisiana, and Japanese and Korean."

This award-winning adjunct speech professor just earned his doctorate in communication from the University of Oklahoma in May.

He was recognized as his department's outstanding adjunct professor at OCCC that same month.

In the sophomore year of his business administration program at Louisiana State University, Welch said, he took his first public speaking course

“I believe you should do anything and everything to improve yourself, situations, and others.”

—NAKIA WELCH
OCCC PROFESSOR

and found out he was really good at it. His professor told him he was a natural speaker.

During his junior year, Welch said, he took more communications courses and joined the debate team.

His debate eligibility had a limit of four years, which Welch used, letting him stay extra years at LSU.

"I loved the debate team that much," he said.

The added time allowed him to complete the coursework

for a triple major in Business Management, Marketing, and Communication.

The debate team only increased his passion for public speaking, he said, so he decided to continue with communication as his major in graduate school.

While getting his master's at Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas, Welch was offered a position to help debaters.

"So let me get this straight, not only do I get to teach how

to debate ... but you're also paying me?" Welch said he asked the person offering him the job.

"That was a great opportunity because I was earning my master's and getting paid at the same time."

At OU, Welch was a graduate teaching assistant and, later on, director of the public speaking program, overseeing the graduate teaching assistants.

He began teaching part-time at OCCC in 2005.

When Welch is not teaching public speaking, he said he enjoys family time.

For the Welches, that includes cooking and entertaining friends, playing games with his wife, and being a full-time dad to his 2-year-old daughter

and 1-year-old son.

"My wife and I can turn anything into a competition," he said. "We just love to compete with each other."

"We really love our sports teams. My favorite NFL team has to be the New Orleans Saints. I mean, come on, it's where I was born. For collegiate teams, I have to go with OU first and then LSU second."

Welch used the Japanese word "kaizen" to describe his personal philosophy.

"It means 'continuous improvement,'" he said.

"I strive to achieve continuous improvement."

"In other words, I believe you should do anything and everything to improve yourself, situations, and others."

Childcare: Students have affordable options through OCCC

Continued from page 1

McCoy said OCCC and the staff at the Child Development Center have committed to offering student parents reliable,

affordable and convenient child care so that they can obtain a college degree.

"We're really excited when they graduate," McCoy said, "because we feel like we had a

part in it."

Childcare is available Monday through Friday and parents have four different sessions to choose from to fit their schedule.

Daytime sessions are 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The evening session runs from 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and

is not available on Friday. Each session costs \$5. The lunch and dinner sessions include a meal for an additional \$3.

For more information on the program, call 405-682-7561.

Concurrent: Enrolling at two schools can be helpful

Continued from page 1

"When you're at university, it's good to take classes at a smaller school because it's cheaper and you get a better quality education with smaller classrooms instead of being considered a number [plus more time with the teachers,]" said OCCC student Antwan

Leon.

OCCC student Shawda Day feels concurrent enrollment is the best option for her.

"I like being concurrently enrolled because it's helping me graduate quicker."

For more information, visit the Advisement Offices on the first floor of the Main Building, call 405-682-7535 or visit www.occc.edu.



CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Lights, camera, action



RACHEL MORRISON/PIONEER

Actor Chris Kattan gets a face check from celebrity makeup artist Sharon Tabb and a wardrobe adjustment from costume designer Hannah Ainsley for production of the feature film "Just Crazy Enough" which was partly shot on location at OCCC.

COMMUNITY | College for Kids students put on final production

Kids gear up for last performance

KELLEN HARDY
News Writing Student

About 30 students in sixth through eighth grade are putting together the Broadway Junior production of "Godspell" during the last two weeks of July. The performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, July 28, and 3 p.m. Friday, July 29, in the college theater.

This will be the final production of the musical theater component of College for Kids this summer, said Brannon Dresel, community education coordinator.

The junior version of "Godspell" is a simplified history of the life of Jesus, performed in contemporary costumes. The original Academy Award-winning musical was created by Stephen Schwartz.

The musical theater program takes place on the main campus, Dresel said. The students will work on the production all day, every day, of those two weeks.

Earlier this summer, week-long musical theater options were offered to younger students. The first through third grade program was held in mid-June, and the last week of June, the fourth and fifth graders prepared for their performance.

The musical theater program involves many tasks for the students, Dresel said. He said they work with the instructors memorizing their scripts, rehearsing the scenes, developing the stage set, and making their costumes. The two-week program costs \$210.

Younger students in the week-long sessions paid

\$110. Each age group could enroll up to 30 students, Dresel said. The musical theater programs allow students with a flair for drama to put their talents to use.

The instructors of the program are all teachers involved with the music programs at their schools, including instructors from Heritage Hall and Moore public schools, Dresel said.

These instructors work with their school music programs during the school year, and then come to OCCC for the summer, he said.

Dresel said the College for Kids program has been very successful this summer, having more enrolled than ever before.

The program has had more than 2,500 enrollments this summer, compared with 1,850 last year, he said.

Each class a child enrolls in counts as an enrollment, so if the child enrolls in four different classes, it counts as four enrollments.

College for Kids is a summer program that offers several classes during the day to students going into first through eighth grade.

Among the offerings are Spanish, math, reading, guitar, piano, and sign language.

"It's pretty much like a day care with educational benefits," Dresel said. "Some parents prefer to enroll their children in a day-long collection of College for Kids classes, rather than sending them to child care programs or hiring a sitter."

For more information, visit www.occc.edu.

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

New Student Orientation

Student Life is currently providing many sessions of New Student Orientation. Upcoming sessions will begin at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 26, at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 27, and at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 28. All orientation sessions will be held in CU 2 and 3 located next to the college cafeteria. To register, go to Mine Online or contact Student Life at 405-682-7523.

Flow Art Exhibit

The exhibit "Flow" will be on display from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, through Aug. 11. Admission is free. The exhibit is located in the Visual and Performing Arts Center gallery. For more information, call the OCCC Cultural Programs office at 405-685-7576.

OCCC Garage Sale

The Faculty Association Committee will hold their annual Garage Sale this Fall. The sale will begin 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, in CU 1, 2 and 3. All proceeds will go toward student scholarships. If you would like to bring donations during the summer, contact Linda Boatright at 405-682-1611, ext. 7468.

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.

**PLS
DNT
TXT
+
DRIVE**

A Public Service Announcement
brought to you by your school + other drivers.

Designed and distributed by AlphabeticDesign.com

PSA2011

© 2011 All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission.

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.

CHILD CARE

NEED HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE ON CAMPUS WHILE YOU ATTEND CLASSES AT OCCC?
For more information contact:
Dr. Barb Carter at the OCCC CDCLS.
405-682-7561

EMPLOYMENT

MOM NEEDS HELP: Need responsible, clean female to help with light housework in exchange for room and board. No babysitting. NW 122nd and Council area. Good personal references a must. Call: 405-728-1710.

MISCELLANEOUS

NEED 10 STUDENTS INTERESTED IN ROCK CLIMBING: In order to petition to start a rock climbing club I need 10 students, and two faculty or staff sponsors. Contact James: 405-694-7779 or jamespear24@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE: Limited-edition wakeboard, still packaged: \$200; new, limited edition Jim Beam bean bag/cornhole toss game, \$150. 405-818-0083.

FOR SALE: This space for your business ad. Reach thousands of potential customers for just \$16 a week. Email your information to: adman@occc.edu. Or call Cynthia at 405-682-1611, ext. 7674.

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

HOW TO LIVE UNITED: JOIN HANDS.
OPEN YOUR HEART. LEND YOUR MUSCLE. FIND YOUR VOICE. GIVE AN HOUR. GIVE A SATURDAY. THINK OF US BEFORE ME. REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND

INFLUENCE
THE CONDITION OF ALL.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED

United Way

Ad Council

Want to make a difference? Help create opportunities for everyone in your community. United Way is creating real, lasting change where you live, by focusing on the building blocks of a better life—education, income and health. That's what it means to Live United. For more, visit LIVEUNITED.ORG.

Read the PIONEER ONLINE for ALL the LATEST in CAMPUS NEWS, online EXCLUSIVES and ARCHIVES dating back to 1998!
www.occc.edu/pioneer

BUY RECYCLED.

AND SAVE.

Thanks to you, all sorts of everyday products are being made from recycled materials. But to keep recycling working, you need to buy those products. For a free brochure, call 1-800-CALL-EDF.

Ad Council

SEPA

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND EDF

TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Mist
6 Breakfast order
10 Play group
14 Marry in haste
15 Stringed instrument
16 Lab-culture medium
17 Pries
18 Corsica's neighbor
19 Tree trunk
20 — and only
21 Hairstylist's tool
24 Quicksilver
26 Apartment-dweller, usually
27 Biddy
28 Alberta natives
30 Fourth dimension
33 Small amounts
35 Mink or sable
38 Foul-up
40 Over there
41 Choice group
43 Singer Starr
44 Wanderers
47 Sandwich cookie
48 Smelled bad
49 Coal scuttle
51 Even though
54 Ennui
58 Fall sky sight
61 Greek letter
62 Buffalo's lake

DOWN

1 Rattlesnake's weapon
2 Without help
3 Tough question
4 Unlock, poetically
5 Save
6 Each and —
7 Fish part
8 Mongolian desert
9 Tilted
10 Liner compartments
11 Greek market
12 Beauty —
13 English river
22 Coffee servers
23 Silly ones
25 Escottier, for one
26 Pond sound
29 Split
30 Expression of disapproval
31 "— jiffy!"
32 Spring month

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

LAST ALARM COBS
OGEE DECOY AMAH
CURMUDGEON RATE
KEEPS MAGENTA
OAF MESAS
HISS OWED USUAL
ONA LOAN AGENDA
VANDALS BLEDDOG
ENTERS MOOD IRE
LEASE CASH ODER
IDAHO ALL
DISFORE ADAGE
ANTI HEAVYMETAL
SCAN OSSIE SELL
HANG REACT TEAS

8-6-08 © 1998, United Feature Syndicate

34 Choir song
35 Evergreen
36 Colorado Indian
37 Antique auto
39 Loosen
42 Mother —; rich source
45 Not in the house
46 Drive away (birds)
48 Rigorous
50 Overly decorated
51 "Full steam —!"
52 Insect stage
53 Prickly plant
54 Filleted
55 Uses a dishcloth
56 Actress
57 Unlike a rolling stone
58 Waiter's burden
60 Masculine
65 Fleur-de- —

JOIN THE PIONEER SCAVENGER HUNT!

In each issue through July 22, readers will be given clues to a location at OCCC. Solve the clue, take a picture of yourself at the location and upload it to our Facebook at www.facebook.com/OCCCPioneer. The first three participants to solve the clues and upload photos of all five locations will win a prize!

THIS WEEK'S CLUES:

1. Where smokers are able to court their habit.
2. Oklahoma history unfolds before you.
3. 1x1, 1x2, 1x3, are neighbors, not math problems.

PIONEER SCAVENGER HUNT

OCCC ALUM BEAU LELAND IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON THE FEATURE FILM 'JUST CRAZY ENOUGH'

Film editor returns to college for on-campus film

EMILY MATTHEWS
News Writing Student

Although Beau Leland graduated from OCCC in 2004, he has been back on campus during July, working on a feature film that was shot here.

Leland said he is working hand-in-hand with professors from the program, as well as currently enrolled students.

His path to OCCC began at the University of Oklahoma.

"After spending three semesters studying film theory at OU, I came to OCCC in the spring of 2002 so that I could learn the craft of filmmaking," Leland said.

"It was one of the most important decisions I ever made. I wouldn't have the career I have today had I not [attended] OCCC," said Leland.

Leland currently owns his own post-production company called Invisible Arts, where he edits and occasionally shoots, videos for various clients.

He said he edits using Apple's Final Cut Pro 7, a professional editing software used in the film industry.

His company takes footage, sound and music from his client, and edits them together to create a finished product, Leland said.

Lance McDaniel, the director of the comedy "Just Crazy Enough," brought Leland on as editor.

McDaniel and Leland know one other through the deadCENTER Film Festival in Oklahoma City, Leland said. McDaniel is currently the festival's executive director.

"I really wanted to work with Beau Leland because his sense of timing as an editor is tremendous," McDaniel said.

"I have seen several different types of film that Beau has edited and they all have a great flow to them.

"Plus, he is a pleasure to work with and that is critical in an editor since you spend so much time sitting at a computer with them."

Leland said the editing lab he is using for to edit the video for "Just Crazy Enough" is new to him since it did not exist when he was a student at OCCC.

"I was blown away by all of the equipment OCCC had back in 2002, particularly in the editing labs," he said.

"At the time, there were about 29 edit stations in the two different classrooms.

"It was in those two rooms I discovered my love for editing," Leland said.

"The new facilities at OCCC today

are even more impressive."

Film production was a class offered to any student in the Film and Video Program program.

Leland described himself as an example of how the experience learned in this hands-on program can have a huge impact on students' future career.

"I must say it's been pretty cool being back at the college working on 'Just Crazy Enough' as the lead editor," he said.

"This is where it all began for me, and I hope that the students involved with the project are able to take something away from the experience that will shape their career paths as well."

Former student Beau Leland has returned to OCCC to help with post production on the movie "Just Crazy Enough" which was partly shot on campus.

PHOTO COURTESY BEAU LELAND



OCCC police department to upgrade uniforms

TREY MCCARRELL
News Writing Student

OCCC's police department is looking forward to a change of uniform soon, said campus Police Chief Jim Fitzpatrick.

The uniform design and patches recently won approval from the college Board of Regents.

As OCCC transitions to a campus police force, commissioned police officers will have a uniform that distinguishes them from armed security guards, who will continue to make up part of the college's law enforcement team, Fitzpatrick said.

The officers do not have to pay for the new uniform, he said. They will be provided by OCCC.

College police officers will wear dark navy blue trousers and gray shirts. They will wear a badge and patch that show they are part of a police force.

"People will see me in a uniform as soon as I have the materials to put it together and put it on," Fitzpatrick said.

So far, Fitzpatrick is the only commissioned police officer on the force.

Other officers will be commissioned right before the beginning of the fall semester, he said.

"The difference that you will see is that the campus

police officers will have a dark navy blue pant instead of the black currently worn by the armed security officers."

"The campus police officers will have a gray uniform shirt in contrast to the silver tan that you currently see with the armed security officers.

"I think everyone felt that it was important to have people readily recognize the difference between the campus police and the armed security officers," Fitzpatrick said.

College administrators made the decision to go to the gray and navy blue, he said.

Fitzpatrick said the patch worn by commissioned police officers will take the shape of a dark blue shield with wide bands of red outlining the borders and running across the center.

The words "campus" and "police" will appear in white on the red border, framing the college logo on the blue field, he said. Blue lettering on the red border will say "Oklahoma City Community College."

The design is basically the same as the patch worn by armed security officers, Fitzpatrick said. Just the wording and colors are changed.

He said although the color scheme of the uniform has changed, they are staying close to the uniform people

I believe you should do anything and everything to improve yourself, situations, and others."

—NAKIA WELCH
OCCC PROFESSOR

are familiar with.

"Actually, we are staying very close to the current design," Fitzpatrick said.

"The shirts and how they are constructed are pretty much the same. It's going to be a typical uniform shirt that you commonly see with police, fire and other emergency services."

It took a collaborative effort in order to choose the color scheme and style of the uniforms.

Fitzpatrick said he wanted his whole staff to be involved in the process.

"I asked them to help me and give me suggestions," he said. "So they have had a lot of input into the actual uniform, especially the patch and the badge that are going to be used by the campus police officers."

This is not the first time the OCCC campus security officers have changed their uniforms, Fitzpatrick said. The uniform has actually gone through many different changes in the past, he said.

"When I started here, we were in a white shirt and navy blue trousers," said Major Keith Bourque, Safety and

Security coordinator, who has been at OCCC for many years.

"We then progressed to a French blue shirt with navy blue trousers.

"About five years ago, we went to the silver tan and black," he said.

"Now the security officers are going to stay in the same uniform, with just a few modifications."

READ THE PIONEER
ONLINE AT
www.occc.edu/pioneer

THERE, YOU'LL
FIND:

•BREAKING NEWS•

•ALL THE LATEST
NEWS•

•ONLINE
EXCLUSIVES•

•ARCHIVES DATING
BACK TO 1998•

YOU CAN ALSO
FIND US AT
www.facebook.com/occcpioneer